



Clayton Elementary

7541 184 Street
Surrey, B.C. V4N 3G5
604-576-6411

Principal: Mrs. L. Fenrick
Head Secretary: Mrs. D. Copan



January 5th, 2022

Hello Clayton Cougar families,

I just wanted to send an update about what is happening with school. At this time, we will be fully open on Monday, January 10th, for all students. I know this week has been a challenge for many families as the school closure this week affected many of you who have to go to work. The changes in public health orders to cope with the surge in COVID cases is once again changing how things are looking at the school level.

Health and Safety:

Our goal once students return on January 10th is to keep all classes in person and to have enough staff to operate each day. There are a few things you can do to help us:

- Keep your social circle small
- Get vaccinated
- Follow public health orders and guidance

And most importantly – keep your child home if they are at all sick.

Other changes for the school site:

- We can no longer have any parents or caregivers enter the school, including parent classroom volunteers or during drop off and pickup
- We ask that if you need to get a hold of the office or talk to your child's teacher, you do one of two things:
 - o Call or email the office at 604-576-6411 and clayton@surreyschools.ca (preferred)
 - o Come to the front entrance and ring the bell – many of you will remember this procedure from last year
- A reminder that all adults need to wear a mask while on our school grounds

On Monday, our staff will be reviewing our health and safety protocols with our students, including mask-wearing, hand washing, and keeping distance. We will need our students, families, and staff to be prepared to follow the protocols and ensure that we all do our part **to be able to maintain face-to-face instruction.**

Functional Closure and Possible online schooling:

This week the Minister of Education closed schools to give teachers time to prepare for a possible “functional closure” of schools. Our school would have a functional closure if there were not enough teachers available to deliver meaningful instruction. These decisions are made at the district level.

If your child or child's class is required to self-isolate or we have a functional school closure, families are asked now to think about how you might handle this situation so that you and your child are better

prepared. At this time, in the event of a functional closure, the school building will be completely closed to all students and staff. Families will be notified of a closure through email and our website. Please check those regularly.

A functional closure would most likely look like this:

Day 0 – district decides the school needs to close due to lack of adequate staffing – families are notified through email and the website alerts

Day 1 – teachers are sending emails to families, picking up resources, setting their prepared online schooling plans in motion

Day 2 - ?? – online schooling begins

As you know, directions and policies are constantly changing. We want all families to be as prepared as possible for what may come. We look forward to regular, in-person instruction starting on Monday, January 10th, and we hope that we don't have to experience a functional closure or class in self-isolation. We can't wait to reconnect with all our students and their families. We thank you for your help and cooperation and completely understand the significant challenges the ongoing uncertainty has on your family.

As always, please reach out to me or your child's teacher with any questions. I will do my best to answer them or get the answers if I'm not sure.

Take care and stay well,

Lauretta Fenrick

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604-576-6411