

# **PEIGAN BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLAN AS OF JUNE 30, 2021 UPDATED AUGUST 19, 2021**

## **WELCOME BACK STAFF & STUDENTS 2021-2022**

Since March 2020, PBOE administration and school staff have worked to ensure educational learning opportunities were offered to students and families. This included advanced Covid 19 response protocols such as cohorted in-class learning, online/remote learning activities, and at-home learning packages when needed. PBOE schools sent to students and families wellness packages to support food security, physical activities, and mental wellbeing throughout the year.

**Currently, Alberta Education's schools are operating in Scenario #1: In school classes have resumed with near normal with health measures. PBOE schools will resume in-school classes August 30, 2021 for all students with *enhanced* health measures.**

If there are any changes to the current Covid 19 health measures within the Province of Alberta or Piikani Nation the following measures will be put into effect (with continued consultation from Aakommkiiyii Health Services):

Scenario #2: In school classes partially resume (with additional health measures)

Scenario #3: At-home learning continues (in-school classes are suspended/cancelled)

### CoVid19 Monitoring

Although there are measures that Peigan Board of Education can take to reduce the transmission of CoVid19, PBOE and Alberta Education cautions all stakeholders (parents and their children, staff, board of trustees) that ***“the return to in-class learning is not without risk of infection transmission”*** (Alberta Education, June 2020). Monitoring of CoVid19 cases within Piikani First Nation (South Health Zone) will continue and is the responsibility of Alberta Health Services/AKHS. If a CoVid19 watch and/or outbreak occurs, Alberta Health Services will be the designated authority to temporarily suspend in-person classes for a group of students where the outbreak occurred or to close the entire school. This is done to ensure the safety and health of all students and staff.

**Due to continued CoVid Variant Risk (Delta), PBOE highly recommends that all students:**

- 1) receive CoVid test prior to school start up date,**
- 2) receive CoVid19 vaccinations (for those 12-18 years of age) prior to school start up,**
- 3) continue to wear face masks and to follow CoVid 19 protocols until such time that all children have access to vaccinations.**

For Scenarios #1, the following CoVid19 precautions will be taken:

- Staff and students will be mandated to wear PPE (masks). Only medical grade masks will be accepted and will be provided by PBOE. (No cloth masks). Staff are strongly recommended to dispose/replace mask very two hours. Students are strongly recommended to dispose/replace mask mid-day.
- Routine screening for all staff and students
- Enhanced environmental cleaning and disinfecting (touchpoints, desks, bins, water bottles, etc)
- Strict stay at home policy for any students or staff exhibiting CoVid19 symptoms
- Reorganizing classroom spaces for more physical space; continued use of desk protectors for students and staff
- Hand hygiene expectations (washing and/or hand sanitizing) when entering and exiting the school, classrooms, auxiliary rooms (library, gym, etc)
- Hand hygiene expectations (washing and/or hand sanitizing) before and after eating
- Teaching/using respiratory etiquette (sneezing/coughing into elbows, avoiding touching face, disposing of tissue, then washing and/or hand sanitizing)
- No sharing of school supplies or other classroom items
- If sharing is required (i.e. gym equipment), ensure that equipment is disinfected immediately after use.
- Directional markers showing pathways, physical distancing, hand sanitizing stations, etc. will be placed throughout school.
- Outdoor assemblies are permitted; no joint school assemblies will occur. Rotunda and other gathering areas will be closed until further notice.
- Water bottles will be provided by PBOE for student use at school. Water bottles will be washed on a daily basis. Students will be allowed to refill water bottles from designated water faucets/dispensers.

### **Scenario #1: In-School Classes Resume With Near Normal with Health Measures**

#### School Calendar

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| <b>School Administration Start Date:</b> | August 18, 2021  |
| <b>New Teacher Orientation</b>           | August 23, 2021  |
| <b>Staff Operational Start Date:</b>     | Tuesday, August 24-Thursday, August 26, 2021               |
| <b>Student Start Date:</b>               | Monday, August 30, 2021<br>(Monday to Friday/Full week)    |
| <b>Monday, September 6, 2021:</b>        | Labor Day Holiday– No School                               |
| <b>Tuesday, September 7, 2020:</b>       | Normal school operations with students entering new grade. |

**School Bell Schedule – Start Time:** Start time 8.35am.  
Staggered bus drop off/pick up at school in effect.

**School Bell Schedule – End time:** End time 3.30pm

**Wednesday Early Dismissal:** Cancelled - Teachers and students encouraged to work towards increasing instructional time.

**Friday Early Dismissal:** 1:10pm dismissal time for students.

**K4/K5 Classes:** Start date will be the same as Grades 1-12. K5 students will be attending full days and will ride big busses.

Transportation (School Drop off/Pickup)

**Bus Pick Up/Drop Off:** Staggered bus drop off in effect; posting of bus schedules will be placed in classrooms, hallways, and on website.  
Masking is required on busses by both driver and students.  
Drivers may use additional measure such as face shield or partitions.

**Back Packs/Bags:** Students will not be allowed to bring backpacks or bags onto bus (or into school).

Student Fit for School Screening (Home)

PBOE will remind parents at all possible times, that if their child(ren) have CoVid19 symptoms (this includes symptoms of even a mild cold – runny nose, coughing, sneezing - or allergies), to keep them at home and contact the school. PBOE staff will ensure that their child will have at-home learning support for school instruction. Again, we are attempting to keep Covid 19 Variant out of our schools.

Student Fit for School Screening (School)

Upon entering school, students will physical distance on markers and be asked CoVid19 routine screening questions, have temperature taken, and hand sanitize at entryway. If routine screening is passed, students will be directed to classroom. Masks will be provided to students.

Students exhibiting any symptoms will be immediately isolated in designated room and parents will be contacted for immediate pick up of child. Parent will be asked to follow AHS guide for CoVid19 testing. Student will not be allowed to return to school until cleared by AHS (alternate for Piikani Nation - Aakommkiyii Health Services).

### Instructional Time

Due to loss of instructional time, teachers will use majority of instructional time for core classes (language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, Blackfoot language & culture outcomes) as a means of building foundational learning outcomes.

Teachers will instruct student on safety measures and hygienic practises to ensure that CoVid19 transmission does not occur.

Teachers will focus on the mental health and wellbeing of students.

### At-Home Learning (AHL) Request

Parents who have requested a continuation of at-home learning will be supported through AHL packages. Teachers will develop packages for two week of instruction in core subjects. Additional instruction in student mental health and wellbeing will be included. Schools will develop pick up/drop off procedures for AHL packages (including online instruction).

Parents requesting AHL will be required to have their child(ren) remain with this option for the duration of one calendar month. Parents will not be allowed to move child(ren) in/out of programs for health and safety reasons. Parents must request in writing (by text, email, or by letter) as soon as possible to Schools Principals.

### Intra-curricular Classes

Intracurricular classes (phys. Ed., CTS/CTF, art, etc) will be assessed by September 30. Enhanced sanitization protocols will continue; face shields are highly recommended

### Recess/Breaks

Physical distancing guidelines apply at all times. Re-entry to school and classrooms requires proper hand sanitizing.

### Breakfast/Lunch

Students will be eating all meals in homerooms.

### Fields Trips/Sports Activities

All field trips (extra/intra-curricular) will be reassessed by September 15, 2021.

### Learning Support

**Students Requiring Specialized Support:** PBOE Schools must be prepared for participation of students who required specialized supports and services. School Principals and Learning Support

Teachers will determine what specialized support will be required prior to school start date and convey the learning plan and supports to parents.

### **Transportation Guidelines for Scenarios #1**

PBOE will provide bus drivers with PPE's and cleaning supplies for busses. Busses will be equipped with protective physical dividers (or mandatory face shields) ensuring safe physical distancing between students and driver occurs.

Bus drivers will be trained on how to properly sanitize bus seats and all touchpoints on busses.

Bus drivers will complete Fit to Work screening on a daily basis; adherence to PBOE guidelines will be expected.

Students should be instructed on safe hygiene practises on the bus: hand sanitizing upon entering, sneezing/coughing into elbow, discarding tissues, etc.

### **Operations and Maintenance of Buildings**

Peigan Board of Education prides itself on its operations and maintenance of facilities. In response to CoVid19, O&M staff have worked diligently to ensure the upkeep of buildings.

Prior to school start up, the following activities will occur:

- Thorough cleaning of school (touchpoints, doors and handles, fountains and water faucets, washrooms, carpet, chair, desks)
- Continued storage of all non-essential classroom items (teacher desks, bookshelves, toy bins, etc) allowing for safe physical distancing between students and staff
- Flushing all water systems so that stagnation does not occur with water
- Safe distancing and directional markers at bus drop off/pick up, entry/exit points, hallways, bathroom, classrooms
- Hand sanitizing stations at school entry points with physical barriers that persons cannot pass without first reading the safety guidelines (i.e. table)
- Drinking water fountains to be closed until further notice; refillable water bottle stations will be open.
- All areas where students gather will have barriers placed to discourage visiting (rotunda, boot rooms, locker rooms)
- Washrooms will reopen as normal (capacity limited to number of stalls); signage required on doors.
- Ensure that soap dispensers are operational and filled.
- **Lockers will not be open for student use.** Teachers may still use bins for each student that will be stored in classrooms.

- **All exit doors will be locked at all times** with posters stating that persons must call school office for admittance to school (including late arriving students). Both schools will be equipped with video doorbells prior to school start up.

#### Visitors to School – Parents & Family (Including Late Arriving Students)

- All parents must call into school office for admittance into school.
- No parents will be allowed past the school office (or other designated barrier)
- Parents must complete Fit to School screening prior upon entry.
- Late arriving students must complete Fit to School screening upon entry.
- Student will wait at office until cleared to move to classroom; teacher will be notified of incoming student.
- All parents and family members will be logged for contact tracing.

#### Visitors to School –Service and Delivery Personnel

- Service personnel will only be allowed entry if appointment has been scheduled; if possible schedule service personnel for after school hours.
- Service personnel must comply with Fit to School screening procedure (including mask/glove usage while in school buildings)
- Delivery personnel will only be allowed at front doors of school. School staff designated to receive deliveries must be masked and gloved to receive parcels.
- All delivery and service personnel will be logged for contact tracing.
- IT personnel (PM) will complete Fit to Work procedure at board office.

#### Visitors to School – Elders and Community Members

- PBOE encourages visits with Elders and community members in an open setting (i.e. outdoors); no indoor visits until assessed in September 30, 2021.

#### Visitors to School – SL/OT/PT and Counsellors (and other school personnel)

- All second level service providers must call into school office for admittance into school.
- No service providers will be allowed past the school office (or other designated barrier) without consent of Principal or designate.
- Service providers must complete Fit to School screening prior upon entry.
- All personnel will be logged for contact tracing.

#### Cafeteria

- No admittance to any persons (including all school staff and students)
- If delivery persons are in need of kitchen staff, they must notify them by telephone prior to entry. Kitchen staff must ensure that safety guidelines/screening is adhered to.
- All equipment cleaned daily.
- All meals will be eaten in classroom.

### Infirmery (Sick Room)

Establishing a sick room is necessary for the interim as PBOE responds to CoVid19. O&M will designate one room per school that will be an infirmery. All equipment in this room (i.e. desk, chair, waste bin) should be easily disinfected.

### Playground Equipment (including Ball Diamonds)

- Posters to use at own risk to be placed near playground and ball diamonds.

### Communication to Families, Elders & Community Members

With use of PBOE website and Facebook postings, PBOE response to CoVid19 has been completed in a timely manner and shared with Piikani Nation community.

- PBOE website, Facebook, and *Piikani Tsiniikssin* will be used to communicate school re-entry plan.