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Aug. 14, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Rocky View Schools' (RVS) priority is the safety and wellbeing of our 26,000+ students and 2,500+ staff and we are confident by working together, we can minimize risks and provide a safe and caring learning environment in 2020/2021. We appreciate that families have questions on what the new school year will look like—and we are working hard to answer them as quickly as possible through this [Parent Q&A](#). Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we finalize plans and respond to as many inquiries as possible. Over the next two weeks school admin teams will be back and can communicate directly with parents and guardians to answer specific questions about your situation or school.

In last week's update we announced we would be providing more information about our new RVS Online Learning option for families who are uncomfortable having their children attend school in person. We are pleased to provide you with these details today. RVS understands that this is a difficult decision for some families and we have provided the attached package [RVS Online Learning information package](#) and [Q&A](#) document to help inform your decision.

To ensure there is time to prepare for both online learning and face-to-face instruction offered by each school, we need to hear from you by 9 a.m. on Aug. 24, 2020. We are asking every RVS family to tell us what your intentions are for each of your children through this [online form](#). If we do not hear from you, we will assume your children will be attending face-to-face instruction at their registered school. It is important to note that families will have a one-time opportunity to change from either online or face-to-face learning (Feb. 1, 2021).

We would also like to let you know about a small adjustment to the school calendar. At RVS, we want to support our students in transitioning to school life by gradually reintroducing them back over Sept. 2, 3 and 4, with approximately a third of students attending each day. This allows the school to have smaller groups to walk students through various new safety protocols including school entry and exiting, traffic flow, accessing washrooms, riding the bus, and others. Schools will let you know which day your child(ren) is assigned to on or before Aug. 28 and it will only be one of Sept. 2, 3 or 4. All Grade 1 - 12 students will attend as of Sept. 8. As in the past, Kindergarten students will have a slightly modified schedule for the first few weeks as provided by your school.

Our website remains the central repository for RVS school re-entry information. Please routinely review the site including the regularly updated [Q&A page](#) and [Scenario 1 School Re-entry Plan](#). The RVS re-entry plan continues to be guided by provincial direction, Alberta Health Services and the feedback we receive from parents, students, and staff. We are also prepared to respond quickly and adjust our plans as needed. More COVID-19 information can be found on the [Government of Alberta's website](#).

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the form. Whatever the choice is for your family, we look forward to welcoming your children back and wish you all the best in the 2020/2021 school year.

Sincerely,

Fiona Gilbert  
Board Chair

Greg Luterbach  
Superintendent of Schools