



School District No. 60

PEACE RIVER NORTH

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

10112 - 105 Avenue, Fort St. John, British Columbia V1J 4S4 Phone: (250) 262-6000 Fax: (250) 262-6046
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dear Parents,

January 7th, 2022

Thank you for your patience during this delayed start. **Regular instruction resumes this Monday.** This past week, staff have been developing further health and learning contingency plans as well as accommodating in-person supervision and care for the children of essential services workers and for vulnerable students.

As you have certainly noticed across the region and province as covid transmission increases, staff shortages in all sectors are causing disruption and will likely get worse before it gets better. Information on the particular nature of the Omicron Covid variant, which appears to have a shorter incubation period, higher rate of transmission and less serious outcomes, can be found [here](#). What's critical is to carry out the [daily health check](#) and stay home if you're sick.

With staff absenteeism due to illness likely to increase significantly, we foresee the need for functional closures. These closures will not be district-wide but will instead take place at specific schools where we are unable to provide instruction and operate safely due to a lack of staff. In these cases, students will stay home and the learning will move to a remote delivery. Similar to the Spring of 2020, teachers will be in contact with students and families virtually and through their Learn60 gmail account. Some schools will also be using paper-based resources and packages. Instruction and learning will not look the same, but it will continue. It is also important to note that some bus routes may be canceled from time to time because of a lack of replacement drivers.

School principals will notify you of a functional closure as soon as possible. In the event there is insufficient supervision in the morning, parents will be contacted and students sent home. However, every effort will be made to communicate with you the day before a closure. While the duration of the closure and staff availability are hard to predict, it will likely be in the range of 5-8 calendar days. Staff will take the first day to organize the move to online delivery for all classes and then will be in contact with families the following day. The supervision of children of essential services workers and families in need will still be available as long as supervision levels are adequate.

Thank you for your understanding,

Stephen Petrucci, EdD
Superintendent/CEO