

August 30, 2021

Dear Andrew School Families,

We would like to welcome our new Andrew families to our school, as well as welcome back our returning families. We are so thrilled to have you all as part of our school community!

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work on our new COVID-19 operations guidelines. Parents will be able to link to both the Elk Island Public Schools and Andrew School documents here, as well as find out relevant information on our [school website](#).

Staff have been working hard preparing for the start of the school year. As we tour the building before students arrive, we are proud of the hard work our Custodial Team and EIPS Facilities have put forth to ensure the building is safe, clean, and ready for our students to return. Along with information linked in this messenger, Andrew School staff will be contacting families through email to share information about what they can expect the first day of school.

### Staffing Update

- We would like to welcome the following new staff members to Andrew School:
  - Ms. Melissa Kerr, our new principal!
  - Ms. Kristen Rutteman, our new kindergarten teacher!
  - We are currently hiring for both a new Library Technician, as well as a new Educational Assistant.

### COVID-19 Protocols

- In alignment with [Elk Island Public Schools Operations Guidelines 2021-22](#), Andrew School has established specific protocols and guidelines to support families. Please note that the information contained within the Andrew School Operations Guidelines, is subject to change as new information and guidelines are released.
- The Andrew School Operations Guidelines 2021-22 can be found [here](#).
- We ask that you please review this plan prior to the start of school, as it shares important information regarding before school, during, and after school protocols.

### Masks

- Students in kindergarten through Grade 6 must wear a mask or face-covering.
- Masks should be worn by students as they wait to enter the school.
- All students riding the bus will be required to also be wearing masks.
- As per EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021-22, those who have an underlying medical condition may be exempt from wearing a mask.
  - A note is required from a medical practitioner indicating your child is unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition. A face shield is recommended for those who cannot wear a mask.

- Physical distancing requirements will be enforced to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19.
- If you have a note from a medical practitioner for a mask exemption, please scan and email it to Mrs. Andruchow ([marie.andruchow@eips.ca](mailto:marie.andruchow@eips.ca)) prior to school starting. Those students who do not send in a note prior to the start of school are asked to come immediately to the office on their first day and submit a note from their physician.
- Students will be expected to wear a mask unless/until a note is provided.

### Entrances & What to do on the First Day

- Entrances and exits have been designated for specific grade levels.
  - Kindergarten (Mrs. Rutteman): Southeast Entrance
  - Grade 1/2 (Mrs. Horon): Southeast Entrance
  - Grade 3/4 (Ms. Shulko): Northeast Entrance
  - Grade 5/6 (Miss Patmore): Entrance off on Room 110
- Please note that our Breakfast Club will not start until Tuesday, September 7 and that classrooms do not have microwaves for student use at lunch.

### School Supplies

- School supply orders should be ready for students on Wednesday, September 1 from classroom teachers, for those families who ordered last spring. We apologize for the lateness of pickup, but we have not received all of the orders.

### Early Dismissal

- Please note that September 1, 2021, is NOT an early dismissal day. It will be a regular school day. Our first early dismissal day will be Wednesday, September 8. Dismissal will be at 2:01pm.
- We will return to our regular early dismissal day, the first Wednesday of each month, in October.

### Andrew School Council Meeting

- The first meeting this year will be Tuesday, September 21, 2021. We will send specific information closer to the date.

As mentioned, it is important that you review our [Operations Guideline](#) prior to the first day of school. We look forward to an exciting year working with you and your children.

See you on Wednesday!

~Andrew School Staff