

This is important information. Please have this translated.

هذه الرسالة مهمة جداً . يرجى الطلب من شخص ما بترجمتها لك .

請找人替閣下翻譯這重要通告。이것은 중요한 통지입니다. 꼭 번역하여 읽으십시오.

यह बहुत ज़रूरी नोटिस है एसका हिन्दी मे अनुवाद कराईये।

Ito ay importanteng impormasyon. Mangyaring isalin ito sa Tagalog.

February 19, 2021

Dear Surrey Schools community,

We recognize that this has been a difficult year, and I'd like to reassure you that the health and safety of our staff, students and families remains our district's highest priority.

Our Provincial Health Officer views the full and continued operation of schools to be critical to a healthy society and we are committed to ensuring our students can continue to learn as safely as possible. To ensure we are taking every preventative measure necessary to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our schools, our district has been collaborating with Fraser Health to assess district health and safety plans to determine if any other actions are necessary. This includes environmental assessments of individual schools.

To date, we have conducted 3 assessments (Ecole Panorama Ridge Secondary, Cambridge Elementary and Newton Elementary) collaboratively with Fraser Health. Each assessment included a physical review of each site, along with interviews with key staff at the site and a review of procedures and protocols.

Fraser Health's final reports of each assessment are attached. All three of the assessments conducted to date found our schools to be in compliance with provincial protocols and reiterated critical areas of focus to continue limiting the spread of COVID-19. It's important that as you read the assessments, you recognize our district's commitment to transparency about COVID-19 exposures in our schools and our protocols.

As you are no doubt aware, our schools have had a number of exposures (that are community acquired) and that have not resulted in school-based transmission – this is a testament to the fact that our staff and students are following protocols consistent with public health guidelines and recommendations. I want to personally commend our staff and students for being vigilant, working within the guidelines and taking all the necessary steps to ensure safety. The reports clearly demonstrate that it takes all of us working together, at every level of the protocols, to ensure that we keep safe.

Our schools are safely open and this is largely due to the caring and dedicated professionals who are working hard at each site and remain committed to the health and safety of our students.

If you have any questions about this report, please email us at comm-office@surreyschools.ca.

Sincerely,



Jordan Tinney
Superintendent of Schools/CEO

Joint Site Visit Report in Response to COVID-19

School: Cambridge Elementary

Introduction

In response to an outbreak closure of Cambridge Elementary due to COVID-19, a joint visit between the Surrey School Board, the Cambridge Elementary administration team and Fraser Health representatives was conducted on November 26, 2020. The intent of the visit was to identify recommendations that could be implemented before the school is re-open to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 from reoccurring. A further visit was conducted on December 8, 2020 after the school had re-opened. The intent of this visit was to review the changes made by the school.

Methodology

On the day of the visit, the team consisted of a Fraser Health Public Health Nurse and an Environmental Health Officer, Surrey School Board representatives and administration team for Newton Elementary School including members of the Site-Based Health and Safety Committee. Based on the Ministry of Education Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings (September 3, 2020), Ministry of Health and BCCDC COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings (September 11, 2020) and the Surrey School Board Health and Safety Guidelines for COVID-19 (2020-2021), Fraser Health developed a COVID-19 assessment guide for the team to use. A copy of the assessment guide is attached in (Appendix 1). The intent of the assessment guide is to provide the team with a consistent approach in assessing potential risks related to COVID-19.

The assessment guide is divided into seven main categories, each with its own sub-components. Each component was either marked off as satisfactory, discuss improvements, or not applicable. The seven main categories are:

- cohorts,
- physical distancing,
- awareness/education and communication,
- screening/monitoring,
- personal/environmental hygiene,
- personal protective equipment, and
- setting where cohorting or physical distancing not feasible.

As a validation tool, the following methods were used:

- documentation on-site within the school office,
- documented in the Surrey Schools and Covid Safety Plan,
- observations by the team, or

- questions from the Fraser Health Population and Public Health team to the staff were used as validation tools for the assessment guide.

On the day of the visit, the team had an opportunity to view indoor and portable classrooms, common areas, staff only areas, gymnasiums, and review the COVID-19 disinfection procedures.

Observations

The following general observations noted at the time of visit were aligned with the Surrey Schools Health and Safety Guidelines for COVID-19, BCCDC & Ministry of Health COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings and the Ministry of Education Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings:

- Size of learning groups were within the provincial guidelines.
- Majority of the desk arrangements within the classrooms were forward facing to limit students from facing each other.
- Students were in assigned seating arrangements within the classrooms.
- Individual students supplies were stored separate from each other within the classrooms.
- Cleaning and disinfection protocols of the classrooms were within established guidelines.
- Review of hand hygiene protocols were within established guidelines.
- Itinerant staff follows established guidelines when interacting with students.

Recommendations:

Based on the guidelines used to complete the inspection processes, the following recommendations were provided to further help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission within the school. Cambridge Elementary re-opened its doors

All of the recommendations are within the scope of the BCCDC & Ministry of Health COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings (September 11, 2020), and Ministry of Education Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings (September 3, 2020).

Initial Visit Recommendations (Nov 26)	Re-Opening (2 nd Visit) Observations (Dec 8)
Classroom Setting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have all desk arrangements forward facing to limit students from facing each other. • Within individual classrooms, remove unnecessary supplies, toys, or equipment to create more space. • Encourage students to use their own water bottles and refill at the bottling stations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating arrangement have been modified to allow all students to be forward facing. • Staff are continuing to encourage students to bring their won water bottle.

Music Class	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When singing, students should be forward-facing in a single straight line, and not in a circle or facing each other. Singers should not be singing behind or above others, and should maintain physical distancing of 2m from others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students now sit on crates that are spread throughout the portable. Students are placed into 3 different rows. The students would be approximately 1 foot beside another student. The middle row is staggered so that the middle row students are not directly behind the first row of student. Likewise, the third row is staggered so the students are not directly behind the second row of students. Limited singing activity. If students are to sing, they would be asked to wear mask. No group dancing. If students are to dance, they would be dancing around their individual crates. The teacher may play the piano in front of the class. Piano is within 1 foot of the front row. Currently a substitute teacher is teaching the class and she would be masked.
Library	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate shared pencils, crayons, or other equipment or stationary in the library. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All shared pencils and crayons in the library have been removed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are asked to bring their own supplies. However, librarian advised that some teachers are sending all the individual student stationary boxes stacked together in 1 box. Asked if shared supplies in the library can continue to be used if supplies were to be quarantined for 3 days much like the library books.
Staffing Area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove any shared utensils or dishware in the staff area. Have social distance floor markers in potential areas of congregation such as teacher sign-in table and washrooms. The number of chairs in the staff room, office space, or rooms should be equal to the occupancy limit of the individual rooms. Couches should be removed or blocked off to discourage staff sitting within 2m of each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff lunch room occupancy limit decreased to 1 staff per table. Number of chairs equal occupancy limit. The sofa in the lunch room has been marked off. Additional common area in the open hallway and band room used as additional staff lunching area. Staff no longer share utensils and dishware. Floor markings placed for front sign-in area for staff. Staff are also required to mark off that they have done their daily health checks when signing in.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure hard surface disinfectant approved by Health Canada for COVID-19 is available in shared spaces. Signs should be posted to remind people to disinfect equipment after each use such as: fridge, toaster ovens, kettles, or microwaves. 	<p>Further recommendations (Dec.8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all staff are properly wearing masks while in the common area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On occasion, noted staff to be wearing a mask, but nose was not covered. ○ Noted 1 staff to be wearing mouth shields opposed to a mask, but was advised that this staff has issue in breathing when asked to wear the full mask.
Cleaning and Disinfecting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verify and obtain documentation from the manufacture of Clorox 360 to confirm that all surfaces of stacked equipment such as chairs, toys on tables, gym equipment can be properly disinfected for COVID-19. 	<p>Further recommendations (Dec. 8):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label chemicals properly. Spray bottle was available, but staff was unsure if it was a disinfectant or a cleaner. Chemicals need to be used based on their permitted use (i.e. cleaner as cleaner and disinfectant as disinfectant). • Ensure staff are using chemicals approved by the Surrey School Board and not bringing their own cleaner or disinfectant spray.
Areas of Congregation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease the occupancy limit for washrooms to two students to allow for physical distancing. • Develop strategies to limit the mixing or congregation of different cohorts during the start of school, lunch breaks and afterschool dismissals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupancy limit for washrooms has decreased to two students as opposed to three. • The whole school still has the same start time and end time. However, the school now has staggered recess and lunch. • The breaks are staggered in a manner that kids of similar age are not all together. • When weather is not good and kids are asked to same indoors, they are to stay in their classrooms. • When taking breaks outside, kids are asked to play in a specific area based on their grade.

Conclusion

The Cambridge Elementary administration team, teachers, and staff have demonstrated a high level of dedication to ensure the health and safety of everyone within the school community is maintained. Fraser Health would like to thank the Surrey School Board and the Cambridge Elementary administration team for providing the opportunity for the visit.