



**Muir Lake School**  
Mail Bag 500 Stony Plain AB T7Z1Y5  
P: 780.963.3535 F: 780.963.3536  
Website: <http://muirlake.psd70.ab.ca>

To: Muir Lake Parents/Guardians  
Fr: Murray Marran and Heather Brownlee  
Re: Friday Memo for October 16th, 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

Good Afternoon Muir Lake Families:

I trust that Thanksgiving long weekend was restful and time was spent connecting as family amid this pandemic craziness.

This brings me to my central and most important message of this week's Friday memo: Part of our secretaries' job duties is to investigate **WHY** your child has been called in absent or sick. Impertinent and abusive behavior is neither warranted, nor will be tolerated at Muir Lake School. Please help us create a pleasant working environment for these ladies that are on the front lines of managing this pandemic response.

Let me be perfectly clear: I do not make the rules. Parkland School Division does not make the rules. That being said, it is my duty and responsibility to implement and enforce these rules that are set out by Alberta Health Services and the Ministry of Education. Individual circumstances and explanations are not permission for individuals to be exempted from these rules.

For a list of A Symptoms and B Systems, please re-read the information connected to [THIS](#) link

## **1. Mask Policy: Updated Information**

1. For Parkland School Division's mask policy, please click [THIS](#) link.
2. **ALL ADULTS COMING ON TO PSD PROPERTY MUST WEAR A MASK - NO EXCEPTIONS**
3. If there is a medical reason preventing you from wearing a mask, please phone the office and we will make arrangements to accommodate you in a safe manner that complies with our mandated regulations.
4. Students must wear masks in common areas and bus transfer sites. Students in grades 4 to 9 must also wear a mask on the bus at all times.

## **2. Student Drop-off and Pick Up: Updated Information**

1. **Parents, we ask you to park in the Community Hall Parking Lot and to wait for your child in the parent muster area which is located in the blue fence in between the Community and the school.**
2. If driving your child(ren) to school, please drop them off at the crosswalk at the **south end** of the school
3. If you are late and dropping your child(ren) off, please drop them off at the **north end** of the school by the main office doors
4. **Please do not cut through the staff parking lot to jump the line of cars waiting to drop off children in the drop lane**

### **3. Dropping Off Student Items Including Lunches: New Information**

We are receiving an increased volume of requests for parents to drop various items for students during the day. Initially, we accepted the occasional drop as a means of being reasonable and to try and accommodate families, however we can no longer do this.

It is **mandated** that we do not accept dropped off items in order to minimize the number of people coming to the school on a daily basis.

We will no longer accept any drop-offs. This includes lunches, water bottles, coats, toques, backpacks, runners, etc. We have cold lunches in the school that can be provided for any student that has forgotten their lunch.

### **4. Halloween Celebrations at Muir Lake: Repeated Information**

1. Students can wear their costumes to school. This ensures that teachers are not helping students get costumes on, etc. This is specifically being done to minimize unnecessary contact.
2. Masks are encouraged.
3. There will be no school-wide "Halloween Parade". Cohort celebrations (including classroom parades) will take place in individual classrooms.
4. No **shared** outside food, candy, or snacks will be permitted. Parents please do not send any food items to be shared.
5. Toys, novelty items, or other non-food items cannot be sent as teachers will not have the time to sanitize all of these items.
6. There will be no junior high dance.
7. All festivities will start in the afternoon after lunch is eaten.
8. Junior High students will have regular classes for the entire day.
9. Cohorts will not be mixing

### **5. News from the Westview Public Health: Repeated Information**

Alberta Health Services will be updating immunizations throughout the school year.

This will include last year's grade 6 students (now grade 7), for whom we were unable to complete the immunization series due to school closures. These students turned in consent forms last year, so AHS will not be requiring new consent forms.

We will also continue with the programs for the current grade 6 and 9 students. Grade 6 will be immunized on December 9, 2020. Please put this in your calendars if you have a child in grade 6. Consent forms and information packages will be sent home shortly.

Grade 9 students will be vaccinated on the same day, December 9, 2020. Consent and information packages will be coming home shortly.

Each class will receive a 20 minute presentation on the vaccinations and it will be an opportunity for the students to ask questions regarding vaccinations.



Finally, as time allows, AHS will try to catch up any students in other grades who missed immunizations somewhere along the way. Most likely, parents will have to phone AHS and make an appointment at a local clinic in order to get the vaccination.

**Please note immunization consents provided last year remain valid until immunizations are completed.**

If your child has anxiety regarding vaccinations, parents will not be able to sit with their child during vaccinations. You will have to contact your local health unit and make an appointment in their clinic for the missed vaccination.

For tips on preparing your child for immunizations, please refer to <https://www.immunize.ca/pain-management-kids-and-adolescents>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the **Westview Public Health School Team at (780)968-3700 and press 3.**

## **6. School Council: Repeated Information**

Our next School Council meeting will be held on October 20th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. We will hold the election for President and Vice-President. If you plan on attending the meeting please RSVP your attendance by filling out [THIS form](#).

Please consider becoming a member of this important advisory committee that helps shape and guide the vision and mission of the school.

Our next meeting will be a virtual meeting and links to the meeting will be emailed to you the day of the meeting.

## **7. Lifetouch School Photos (Re-takes): Updated Information**

Retakes are scheduled for Tuesday November 17th.

## **8. School Foundation: New Information and Corrected Information**

In our last memo, I reported that there would be a School Foundation meeting on October 20th, 2020. This information is incorrect. School Foundation will be holding meetings every second month as there are no fundraising activities that are going on in the foreseeable future.

Everyone is invited to attend Foundation meetings, the fundraising society that works to support many worthwhile causes at Muir Lake. We strongly encourage parents to be part of Foundation as one can make meaningful and long lasting contributions to the school. If you plan on attending the next meeting please RSVP your attendance by filling out [THIS form](#).

Our next meeting will be held November 24th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Please join us for this virtual meeting.



## **9. Report Cards and IPPs: New Information**

Report Cards will be available online on Friday, December 4th, 2020. We will not be printing report cards any longer as they are available online. Please access PSD's [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) in order to access report cards.

IPPs will be sent home at the beginning of November. Please review them, sign the signature page and return that page to school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Brownlee.

## **10. Music Classes: New Information**

We are re-introducing singing in music classes in a limited capacity. Students will sing with softened voices and will be required to wear masks at all times while they are singing.

Further, Mrs. Gottenbos will require that students are socially distanced and staggered when they are singing.

For students in grades 1 to 3, Mrs. Gottenbos will invite students to wear a mask and participate in the singing activity. If a child cannot wear a mask, they will have to refrain from the singing activity at that time. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Mrs. Gottenbos at the school.

Mrs. Brownlee and I would like to take this opportunity to wish a restful and replenishing weekend, and hopefully there will not be too much of that "white stuff" on the ground.

Be kind and stay safe.

