



## PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Come grow with us.*

PARENT NOTICE  
September 21, 2021

5516 - 54 Street

403.845-2468

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff of Pioneer Middle School:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Pioneer Middle School community that we have surpassed a threshold of 10% student and staff absenteeism due to illness.

Following the protocols from Alberta Health Services we have reported this situation to them. They will now begin an investigation to determine if this absenteeism is the result of a respiratory or gastrointestinal outbreak. If they determine that this is an outbreak, Alberta Health Services will send a letter home to all parents with further information. They may also require the school to add additional health measures. This could include one or more of the following:

- Active health screening with questionnaires
- Increasing frequency of cleaning and disinfection
- Creating classroom cohorts
- Mask recommendations
- Limiting group/extra-curricular activities
- Localized rapid testing may be available for emergent situations that arise.

Our school continues to remain open and we are working closely with Alberta Health Services to ensure necessary measures are in place to protect all students and staff. Our current safety protocols include:

- Required ventilation in our schools
- Enhanced cleaning & disinfecting
- Requiring students and staff to stay home when sick
- Hand hygiene
- Respiratory etiquette
- Responding to symptomatic students and staff while at school
- Reporting high absenteeism rates to Alberta Health Services
- We also strongly encourage all eligible individuals that are connected to our school to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

We remind **all parents/guardians** to continue to closely monitor your children for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19. The Alberta Health daily checklist can be found [here](#). Please remember to complete the checklist each day. As a reminder, if you/your child has any of the symptoms of illness listed on the Alberta Health daily checklist, please fill out the online [Alberta Health Services COVID-19 self-assessment](#) or call Health Link at 811 and stay home/keep your child at home.

We will be sending updates to families as information becomes available. I want to thank families for following these protocols. If you have any immediate questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Patrick Wilbur  
Principal