



County Central High School
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SCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLAN

September 2020

Introduction:

On June 10, 2020, Alberta Education - in conjunction with Alberta Health Services - released a tentative re-entry plan for schools in Alberta with three possible scenarios for the 2020-21 school year. On July 22, 2020 it was announced that Scenario # 1 will be enacted. This means a return to in-person classes for students.

The staff at County Central High School is excited to welcome our students back and we are looking forward to the start of another school year. In preparation for the return to school, we have prepared this document to provide some guidance and some reassurance to our families. Please note that this re-entry plan is flexible and subject to change based on direction from the Palliser School Division, Alberta Education, and Alberta Health Services. Our plan is based upon the following foundational principles:

- The safety of children, students and staff comes first.
- Student learning will continue.
- Provincial funding is still flowing to schools.
- School authorities have flexibility to do what is best for their community.

All measures outlined below are in addition to, or in conjunction with directives provided by Alberta Health Services and Palliser Regional Schools. For more information, we invite you to review the [Palliser Regional School's Guide to Re-entry](#), and the [Government of Alberta Guidance for School Re-Entry - Scenario 1](#).

Palliser's Three Key Strategies for Re-entry:

The Palliser School Division has emphasized three key strategies to minimize the risk of transmitting COVID-19 within our school communities and division. The three key strategies are:

- **Follow Expert Advice** – It is an expectation that we all become knowledgeable about the protocols, guidelines and directives for school re-entry from Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services

- **Keep the Virus Out** – The first and most important action we can take is to prevent anyone that is ill, has COVID-19 symptoms or is at a higher risk for getting the virus (i.e. close contact with someone who has COVID-19, international travel, etc.) from entering schools, Division-owned facilities, or Division buses.

- **Prevent the Spread** – In addition, we must take steps to reduce the possibility of transmission if someone who is ill, has COVID-19 symptoms, or is asymptomatic but able to spread the virus is in a school, a Division-owned facility, or on a Division bus.

If we can follow these three basic strategies and apply sound professional judgement we will greatly decrease the likelihood of transmitting the virus within our schools and throughout the Division.

School Start-Up:

In an effort to help students ease back into the building, we will be having a staggered start to the school year:

- **Grades 7 & 12** **Wednesday, September 2nd**
- **Grades 8 & 11** **Thursday, September 3rd**
- **Grades 9 & 10** **Friday, September 4th**
- **All Students in Class** **Tuesday, September 8th**

During the first three days, students will come to school for one day as per the above schedule. All students are then expected to be in regular classes as of Tuesday, September 8th. It is our hope that this

schedule will allow us to go over COVID-19 protocols, safety measures, and expectations for students in smaller groups, and will allow us to provide a proper orientation for our new students - especially our Grade 7s. (Buses will be running as usual on these days.)

Cohorts:

Cohorts are designed to minimize contact and cross-contamination between groups of students and to aid in contact tracing should the need arise. Students in Grades 7-9 will be in homeroom cohort groups. Each homeroom group will be assigned a classroom and will remain in that room, with the teachers moving to each class. The exception will be if students need to go to a different room for CTS, Foods, Fine Arts, or PE. Students are to remain with their cohort and not mix, even if they are in option classes or on lunch break. During breaks between classes, students will remain in their designated classrooms.

Grade 7	Room 215
Grade 8A	Room 212
Grade 8B	Room 207
Grade 9	Room 208

Students in Grades 10-12 will not be in homeroom cohort groups, as they are in different class groupings throughout the day. They will, however, be discouraged from mixing between grades as much as possible and will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing when this is not possible (i.e. mixed-grade option classes).

Busing:

Students who ride the bus are required to put their masks on prior to boarding and will sanitize their hands as they board. They will be assigned a seat and must remain in that seat facing forward for the duration of the ride. At this time, students will not be able to take a bus other than their own (i.e. riding home with a friend).

Arrivals & Departures:

Our school day begins at 8:35am. Students will arrive between 8:15am - 8:30am and will enter through the main doors at the front of the building. They will report directly to their assigned classroom (Grades 7-9) or their Period 1 classroom (Grades 10-12). Students are to avoid congregating or milling about in the hallways. Students who arrive late to school must sign in at the Main Office.

For dismissal, students in Grades 8 and 11 will be dismissed from their classes at 3:25pm, while all other students are dismissed at 3:30pm. This measure is meant to avoid crowding in the hallways and exits. Students in Grades 7-9 will use the Junior High stairwell and West exits, and students in Grades 10-12 will use the North stairwell and East exits. Students needing to leave school early must sign out at the Main Office.

Hallways:

Hallways have been marked with arrows to indicate directional travel. Students are expected to move single-file and keep to the right of the hallway or stairwell while maintaining a physical distance of two metres. Masks are to be worn while in the hallways and stairwells. Students in Grade 7-9 will remain in the second floor Junior High hallway area except when going to Foods, CTS, Fine Arts, or PE, or if they are going outside or to a common area during lunch. Students in Grades 10-12 will remain on the first floor and will only go upstairs to designated classrooms as required to avoid mixing with our younger students.

Classrooms:

Each classroom is set up to maximize spacing between desks. All desks face forward so that students won't be facing each other, and all soft furnishings have been removed from the school (i.e. fabric couches and chairs, rugs). Extra furniture, such as tables and bookcases, have been moved where necessary to accommodate physical distancing in the classrooms. In some cases, classes will be moved to a larger space - such as the gymnasium, Learning Commons, or Flex Room - to allow for greater physical distancing.

Lockers:

Student lockers are not available at this time. Students are encouraged to use a backpack to carry their belongings with them and may not leave bags or backpacks in the hallways. Students in Grades 7-9 may be permitted to leave some items in their cohort classrooms.

Washrooms:

Students are asked to adhere to a limit of two students per washroom at any given time. If a student enters a washroom and notes that there are already two students present, they must wait outside until one of the other students leaves. Students in Grades 7-9 are asked to use the second floor washrooms only, and students in Grades 10-12 are asked to use the main floor washrooms.

In-Class Learning:

- Teachers will spend time during the first three weeks ensuring that students are trained in and understand the online learning tools that may be used in case of a school closure and possible return to universal online learning.
- For the first three weeks of school, classes will focus on review and filling in any learning gaps to ensure students are up to speed after the school closure in the spring.
- PE: Students will not have access to the changerooms for the time being and as such are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing to school on the days they have PE. The first several weeks will focus on low impact physical activity and will take place outside as much as possible. Hats and sunscreen are encouraged. The PE program will be modified and activities will be selected to keep the possibility of transmission low.
- CTS: Students working in the construction or welding shops will be required to wear masks at all times and will be asked to maintain physical distancing whenever possible. All shared equipment in the shops will be wiped down before and after each use.
- Foods: Students will be permitted to continue taking Foods classes with restrictions around sharing ingredients, sharing prepared food, and physical distancing. Masks must be worn at all times when cooking, and all shared equipment will be thoroughly cleaned before and after each use.

- Band: Programming and activities in Concert Band or Rock Band classes will be modified to prevent transmission of the virus. Classes will focus on strings, percussion, composition, and appreciation until such time as wind instruments are permitted.
- Art: Students will not be permitted to share any materials. The teacher will ensure that each student has their own set of materials and tools, and desks will be spaced apart in the classroom.

Safety & Hygiene:

Hand sanitizing stations will be available at every entrance/exit point, in each classroom, and on each bus. Masks are mandatory in all common spaces or where physical distancing is not possible. Students are expected to abide by the following protocols:

- 1) At the beginning of each day, students must complete the self-screening checklist. Students must not come into the building if they answer YES to any of the questions on this checklist. A copy of the AHS self-screening daily checklist will be shared with families to be used each day: [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist/Screening Questionnaire](#)
- 2) Prior to leaving the house each morning, students must wash their hands.
- 3) Masks are mandatory, as per the Government of Alberta directive. The Province will provide each student with two reusable non-surgical masks, but students are invited to bring their own masks as well as long as they meet the basic requirements. Students are encouraged to sanitize their hands before putting on their masks as well as afterwards.
- 4) Masks must be put on before entering the school, and must remain on whenever physical distancing is not possible (i.e. in the hallways, on breaks, in common areas). Once students are seated in their classrooms, and if the teacher determines it is safe to do so, students may be permitted to remove their masks.
- 5) Students must sanitize their hands upon arrival at the school as well as arrival to each classroom.
- 6) Students will sanitize their hands prior to leaving the building at the end of the day.
- 7) Students are not permitted to share supplies or materials at this time in order to prevent transmission, nor will teachers be able to supply materials to students.

Signs have been posted throughout the school to remind students and staff to follow proper hand washing/hand sanitizing protocols, correct respiratory etiquette, the proper use of masks, and the importance of maintaining physical distancing. Cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces will

take place throughout the school day. Any shared spaces, seating and desks, or tools (such as Chromebooks) will be sanitized between uses.

Lunch:

Junior High and Senior High lunch breaks are split, with Grades 10-12 taking their break from 11:15am-12:00pm, and Grades 7-9 taking their break from 12:05pm - 12:50pm. Students are encouraged to bring their lunch and will be asked to eat in their designated classrooms unless they are going home for lunch. Students should not share food. Students choosing to leave campus for lunch are strongly encouraged to remain within their cohorts or grade groups and follow all AHS guidelines around physical distancing, hygiene, and masks.

Once their lunches have been eaten, students may stay in their classroom, or they may put on their masks and go to a common area or take a quick walk outside of the school. Students are strongly encouraged to avoid mixing with other cohorts or grade groups. There will be no activities (such as intramurals, shooting hoops, etc.) available in the gym during breaks for the time being. It is expected that students will behave in a responsible manner during the break and will maintain social distancing and keep their masks on. Our lunch breaks have been shortened, so there will not be much time for other activities.

*Please note students will not have access to microwaves, nor will the concession be available for the foreseeable future.

Breaks & Spares:

Senior high students will be permitted to access the Learning Commons and gathering space during breaks and spares, as long as physical distancing rules are followed and masks are worn. Junior High students will stay in their cohort rooms during breaks, except when travelling to PE or options classes. Junior High students will be able to access the Learning Commons and gathering space during class time as arranged by their teachers, but not during the lunch break.

Illness:

Students, staff, or visitors will not be permitted in the building if they are ill. If a student or staff member is not feeling well or has any of the symptoms listed on the self-screening tool, they must stay

home and should be tested for COVID-19. If a student tests positive, we ask that you notify the school immediately - the school will then follow Alberta Health Services protocols.

****If a student feels sick or displays any COVID-19 symptoms, they must stay home.****

Should a student become ill while at school, they should notify staff immediately. We will then follow AHS protocols:

- 1) The student will be asked to put on a mask and will be escorted to one of the isolation rooms in the Main Office.
- 2) The student's parent or guardian will be contacted immediately to come and pick up the student. The student will not be permitted to ride the school bus home.
- 3) Families will follow the Alberta Health Services guidelines before returning to school.
- 4) The school will follow Alberta Health Services guidance for contact tracing and notification of families.
- 5) The affected classroom will receive a thorough cleaning before students return.
- 6) Students who are self-isolating will be able to access school work through their teachers' Google Classrooms to ensure that learning continues.

Should a staff member become ill while at school, we will ensure that the class is supervised prior to the staff member following the same protocols. Staff members have submitted emergency lesson plans to the Main Office and have put measures in place to maintain continuity of learning if they are absent due to illness or self-isolation.

Visitors:

Visitors to the school - including parents - must make an appointment in order to enter the building. Visitors will be required to complete the self-screening checklist and will not be allowed to enter if they have answered YES to any of the questions. All visitors will need to sanitize their hands upon entry, wear a mask, and will sign in at the Main Office. Delivery drivers and service personnel will call in advance of arrival and will follow the same protocols.

Extra-Curricular & Athletics:

There are no extra-curricular or athletics programs available until further notice.

Online Learning Options:

With the return to in-class instruction taking place this fall, Palliser Regional Schools recognizes that not all students are comfortable with returning; as such, Palliser has opted to offer online learning for students in Grades 1-12. Any families who are not yet comfortable sending their students back to school may choose to enroll in online learning. Parents and guardians are asked to contact the school if they would like to discuss the online learning options available. We are committed to helping all students access learning in a way that promotes safety, effective instruction, and overall student wellness and success.

Other:

- ❖ There will not be any field trips planned for the time being.
- ❖ Students are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles to school each day - there will be new bottle filling stations available for students to use.
- ❖ Students will not have access to the Bodyworks Gym until further notice, unless they hold memberships.
- ❖ Student medical files will be updated and any students with pre-existing conditions will be noted in the Main Office.
- ❖ Parents are asked to ensure that their contact information is correct and up-to-date and that we have the most current emergency contact information. Once the online verification forms are sent out, we ask that they be returned in a timely manner to aid with this process.

These protocols have been designed in accordance with the guidance provided by Alberta Health Services and the Palliser School Division. All guidelines and protocols are subject to change as new information becomes available. Families will be notified of any changes. We appreciate the cooperation and diligence of our students and their families in working together to keep our school community safe.

Daily Schedule:

<i>Prior to leaving home:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete AHS self-screening tool - Wash hands
<i>On the bus:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on - Sanitize hands as you get on the bus - Sit facing forward in your assigned seat
<i>Upon arrival:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on - Use the Main Entrance doors, maintain physical distance - Wash/sanitize hands upon entry - Move directly to your cohort classroom (Grades 7-9) or Period 1 classroom (Grades 10-12)
<i>In class:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sit facing forward in your assigned seat - Mask off (at teacher's direction) - No sharing or borrowing materials or supplies - Maintain physical distancing
<i>Bathroom breaks:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on - Only two students are allowed in each washroom at a time - Students in Grades 7-9 are only permitted to access the upstairs washrooms, while students in Grades 10-12 are to use the main floor washrooms
<i>During class changes:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on - Follow directional signs and maintain physical distancing when walking from class to class - Avoid congregating in the hallways
<i>At lunch:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on, except when eating or drinking - Students will eat lunch in their assigned areas or designated classrooms - Students who leave campus are being trusted to act responsibly and maintain physical distancing
<i>After school:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks on - Sanitize hands before leaving the building - Exit through designated doorways - junior high students use the junior high stairs and exit, while senior high students use the senior high stairs and exit. - Grade 8s and 11s released from classes 5 minutes before the bell to avoid crowding

Revised Bell Schedule:

Warning Bell	8:30am	Minutes
Period 1	8:35am - 9:50am	75
Period 2	9:55am - 11:10am	75
Jr. CHAT / Sr. Lunch	11:15am - 12:00pm	45
Sr. CHAT / Jr. Lunch	12:05pm - 12:50pm	45
Period 3	12:55pm - 2:10pm	75
Period 4	2:15pm - 3:30pm	75