



DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT

Memo

To: Regina Board of Education

From: Lynne Devaney, Superintendent of Schools

Date: November 5, 2021

Re: COVID Mitigation and Prevention

Through Fall, 2021, Regina has followed guidelines outlined by the Department of Public Health with success. However, at this time, Regina data indicates it is time to adjust mitigation and prevention practices.

All Catholic schools of the Diocese of Davenport report all student illness on a daily basis to the Diocesan HR Director. Additionally, Catholic schools are asked to break out COVID-related illness. The Regina administration has consistently provided updates to the Diocese regarding COVID mitigation and prevention measures as well as infection rates. As infection rates increased, the Superintendent of Schools and Regina Head of School reviewed the data together. Based on that information, the Diocese makes the following recommendations to the Regina Board of Education.

Considerations taken into account by the Diocese to support the recommendation below include:

- Increases in the daily reported COVID infections;
- Increases in the daily reported other contagious infections (flu, RSV, norovirus);
- A review of the location of the reported COVID infections (localized or random throughout the school);
- A review and discussion on the needs of the identified medical fragility of faculty, staff and students and impact of current infection rates on them.

It should be noted that all contagious illnesses including COVID were reviewed as a consideration of overall health of the school.

The Diocese of Davenport recommends the following to the Regina Board of Education:

1. Adopt masking for all faculty, staff, students and visitors starting on 11/8/2021.
2. When masking is adopted, symptomatic students will continue to follow quarantine guidelines as outlined by their medical provider.
3. Due to the adoption of masking on November 8, 2021, asymptomatic students will quarantine after an exposure to COVID up until November 22 to ensure adequate prevention control; after that date, asymptomatic students will not be quarantined.
4. Maintain all mitigation and prevention measures related to infection control.
5. Encourage vaccination for all students ages 5-18.
6. These measures will continue until such time until the data is reviewed immediately after dismissal for the winter break. Families will be notified prior to their return on January 3, 2022 if masking with continue.

Locally, these recommendations were reviewed by the Regina Return to Learn Committee on 11/5/2021.



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At the Diocesan level, the recommendations above were reviewed by the Director of Human Resources (Tiara Hatfield), the Chancellor of the Davenport Diocese (Deacon David Montgomery), and the Bishop of the Diocese of Davenport, Thomas Zinkula.

These are difficult times for Board of Education members and educators. Please accept our thanks and gratitude for all your efforts to educate children in the Catholic faith. Blessing on you and your loved ones,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynne Devaney".

Lynne Devaney, Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of Davenport