

## Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik COVID-19 Operations Summary for the 2020/21 School Year

Aanii, Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik families.

We understand the importance of keeping you informed about our upcoming school year, and we will continue to talk with you on an one-on-one basis as often as possible. We enjoyed speaking with many of you during the community and school-age Good Food Box deliveries and appreciated the suggestions that many of you made. Throughout the summer, staff have been making plans for the safe return of your child(ren) to school and are committed to making continual revisions as the Covid-19 situation evolves. Due to the frequent updates and changes regarding Covid-19, we are continuously meeting and updating our guidelines. Please be assured that we have the health and safety of our students and the community at the forefront of our planning. Presently, modifications to the school are underway (i.e. additional handwashing sinks and coat hooks, new window screens to facilitate more outdoor air circulation, etc.) to maximize physical distancing and ensure frequent handwashing, and so on. Please review this quick summary of our most recent guidelines for the upcoming school year. **Please note that this is a working draft document, and is subject to ongoing revision, based on your input, questions, concerns and suggestions.**

*[Families do have the option to keep their children at home, and to continue to engage in alternative learning activities. We will be contacting all of our parents/caregivers to determine whether they intend to exercise this choice.]*

### Student Registration and Contact Numbers

- Parents/caregivers will provide updated contact information to the school, so in the event of an emergency, the school can contact parents/caregivers quickly.

### Classroom Cohorts

- To ensure maximum physical distancing, students will be organized into smaller groups. We will start the school year with a maximum of 10 students per classroom. Family groupings will come on the same day. (e.g. Group A will attend 2 days in a row, and alternately, Group B will attend 2 days in a row. (i.e. AA, BB, AA, BB, AA, BB, etc.). Class groupings will be shared shortly.

### School Entry

- Parents must assess the health of their child(ren) before coming to school. Parents will be provided with a COVID-19 Checklist to complete before children get on the bus or before they drop them off, and will send the completed checklist with their child. Each student must hand in a completed COVID-19 checklist before entering the school. Please note that the school will take the temperature of each student before they enter the school.
- If your child is ill, has any symptoms of illness, or has been in close contact with someone who has symptoms, they **must** stay home. Parents/caregivers should contact the Wasauksing Nursing Station or the NBPSDHU (Parry Sound Health Unit) regarding next steps. Students will not be able to return until 14 days after the onset of symptoms or until a negative COVID test has been obtained.
- Before entering the building, all staff, parents/caregivers (who must have a scheduled appointment to enter), and other essential staff (who offer specialized services), will complete a COVID-19 checklist, wash hands, and put on a mask.

### Student Transportation on Buses

- If transportation is provided, the Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik school bus will have staggered pick up and drop off times as required (i.e. multiple runs, potentially) to ensure physical distancing on the bus.
- Parents/caregivers are encouraged to drive their child(ren) to school.
- Students will be assigned a specific seat to ensure physical distancing. Students from the same household can share seats if space is limited. The seat behind the bus driver must remain vacant at all times.
- Masks must be worn at all times by students in Grades 4 and up while on the bus.

## School Setting

- Students in grades 4 and up will be required to wear a mask when appropriate physical distancing cannot be maintained. \*\* Please note, Grade 3 students in the Grade 3, 4, 5 classroom are encouraged to wear masks if possible. While students in Grade 4 and up are required to wear a mask, we strongly encourage all students from Kindergarten - Gr.8 to do so.
- Handwashing stations and hand sanitizer will be set up outside in the playground, and inside the hallways so students will have frequent opportunities to sanitize their hands throughout the day.
- Classrooms will be frequently disinfected, and ventilated with opened windows.
- Only the classroom teacher, classroom EA and essential support staff will interact with their cohort of students throughout the day. The Anishinaabemowin Teacher will interact with all students, and the Ojibwe classroom will be disinfected before the next class enters the classroom, and wherever possible, activities will take place outdoors. As well, the Literacy Teacher (SSLT) will disinfect the student work area in the Resource Room before individual students enter.
- Education staff will take students outside more often for meaningful outdoor learning activities, as well as ensure that physical distancing standards are maintained in the classroom.
- Each student will be given their own school supplies. These supplies will be placed in separate plastic bins, and will only be used by the student.
- Staff will take all necessary precautions to minimize student contact in the hallway and coat area (e.g. allowing small only groups in these areas under close supervision; designated spots clearly marked in hallway, etc).
- Washroom access will be carefully monitored to ensure only one student utilizes the washroom at a time.
- Recess and outdoor activities will always be staggered to limit the number of students in the schoolyard at one time.
- Students need to bring indoor running shoes and water bottle. All other school materials will be supplied by the school.

## If COVID-19 is Present

- If the school is advised of a presumptive case of COVID-19 in the school setting, then the school will follow the advice of the Wasauksing Health Department to determine next steps.
- More policy and procedures will be shared as available.

## When Do We Move to Full Time Classes?

- To ensure physical distancing and to guide students in establishing new routines at the beginning of the school year (i.e. handwashing frequently, wearing and storing masks, remaining 2 metres apart, etc.), Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik has decided that a gradual full-time reopening will ensure the success of a safe and healthy school/community. The school will continually assess the current health trends, seek feedback from the Wasauksing Health Department, follow any advice given, and, as needed, update our guidelines.

## At Home Learning

- Students who will not be returning to school at this time will receive teacher supported learning remotely.
- During our gradual reopening, while students are not in the class setting full-time, students will be provided with learning activities they will be able to complete from home.
- Where possible, online streaming of instruction **may** also be provided.
- Teaching/resource staff will be in regular contact with students and/or families to guide in the learning process.
- A minimum of 2-3 hours of student learning will be completed each day.
- More detailed information on at home learning will be shared shortly.

For more detailed information regarding all our health and safety measures, you can review the full document on the WFN website. Please direct feedback, questions or concerns to [school@wasauksing.ca](mailto:school@wasauksing.ca) or 705-746-5663 or contact your child's teacher. We look forward to welcoming your children back to school!

Miigwech,  
Wasauksing Kinomaugewgamik Staff/ Team