



Dear Families:

We at Salt Springs Elementary hope you and your family are enjoying a safe summer. School is back in session on September 8, and after almost 6 months apart, we are excited to welcome you back.

With COVID-19 rates at low levels, students will return to school following the full opening model outlined in Nova Scotia's Back to School Plan. To learn more about the plan, please visit www.novascotia.ca/backtoschool.

We know you have a lot of questions. We do not have all the answers yet, and the answers we give now may change depending on the health of Nova Scotians. If conditions change, our approach will change, including a possible move to either a blended learning model or at-home learning model. The direction to move to a different learning model will be given by Public Health as they assess COVID-19. Should this happen, we will let you know as soon as possible.

As you may have already heard, there are some key changes coming to school in September. This includes:

- Mask use for all students who ride a school bus.
- Mask use for all students in grades 4 to 12 and all staff, when they are unable to physically distance
- Enhanced cleaning in our schools
- Increased handwashing and sanitizing as students enter and exit school and throughout the day.

While these measures will become commonplace in schools across our province, I want to provide you more details about what your child's day will look like for this year in the attached PDF document called, **Back to School 2020-21 Information Sheet**. **Please review this important document as it does highlight significant changes you and your family should be aware of for the upcoming school year.**

I will be sharing more specific updates that concern our school before September 8th. We realize there is a lot of information about new routines and changes. But, there are some things that haven't changed. We are still committed to providing the best education and support for your child. Our school will continue to be a welcoming space where we focus on positive relationships between students and staff. When you are talking to your child about coming back to school, please let them know we are excited to see them again.

Working together, we can all help students feel safe and supported when they return to school. Let's keep the lines of communication open to make this a positive year. Please reach out if you have specific questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Rob Nelson
Salt Springs Elementary