

June 11th, 2021

Dear Parents:

We are writing to provide an update on COVID-19 activity and processes in Prairie South. Our hope is that this will be the second last letter you receive from us this year!

Although we continue to be successful in our efforts to prevent transmission at school, we have had significant COVID-19 activity recently emerging from home and community transmission. While most of our staff and students older than 12 have received an initial vaccination, few people in our schools are fully vaccinated and we continue to be concerned for the health and safety of students and staff as we move through June.

Details of COVID-19 activity in Prairie South Schools are included below. At this time, we have had 130 positive COVID cases where we have supported the contact tracing process in our schools.

Month	Positive Case Count	Grade Level	Positive Case Count
September, 2020	0	PreK/K	6
October	2	1/2	10
November	18	3/4	9
December	5	5/6	13
January, 2021	4	7/8	8
February	11	9/10	23
March	17	11/12	36
April	28	Staff	25
May	38		
June	7		
TOTAL	130	TOTAL	130

As detailed above, we are not yet at a place where the safety restrictions we have in place at schools can be reduced and we will be continuing with these restrictions until the end of June. During the summer we will work with local and provincial partners from the Saskatchewan Health Authority to determine whether any restrictions will be necessary in the fall. At this time, we are hoping for a relatively “normal” start to the 2021-2022 school year.

We are doing important work in schools in June and hope to have as little disruption as possible during the month. It is still very important that if your child has any symptoms of COVID-19 you request a test at 811 and **ensure that your child does not come to school**. Principals will continue to send students home immediately if they have symptoms of COVID-19. Thank you for doing your part to keep our schools healthy and safe.

We have been providing administrative support to the Saskatchewan Health Authority connected to their youth vaccination program, and we appreciate those parents who have helped get their 12-17 year-old children to the clinics in Moose Jaw, Assiniboia and Gravelbourg. We still anticipate some school-based vaccination opportunities later in the month in areas where students have not been able to access other vaccination opportunities, and we will let you know when these opportunities exist.

In spite of the complexities connected to COVID-19, we have had a good year in Prairie South. For the most part, this is due to the commitment of our staff and our partnerships with parents and families. Prairie South is grateful to have the opportunity to serve your children.

Have a great June! Get outside, follow the public health restrictions, wash your hands and stay safe. We will be in touch one last time before the start of July.

Respectfully,



Anthony D. (Tony) Baldwin
Director of Education



Robert Bachmann
Chair, Board of Education