

June 29th, 2021

Dear Parents:

We are writing to provide a final update on COVID-19 activity and processes in Prairie South for the 2020-2021 school year.

In spite of the pandemic, we have managed to have a successful year at Prairie South. We commend our staff for their work this year, and we commend parents for your support of your children and your schools. We are hopeful that the summer months will see ongoing vaccination activity so that students and staff can return to the safest environments possible in the fall.

We won't know until August sometime what the new school year will bring in terms of COVID restrictions. We expect to begin school in the fall with significantly fewer restrictions than are in place currently, however COVID activity during the summer months will determine exact plans. We will have a plan in place by mid-August, so you can watch for information about that later in the summer.

Each of us has been impacted by COVID in some way. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the families in Prairie South who have lost loved ones due to COVID-19, including the passing of a committed and caring staff member in April, 2021. As you spend time with your children this summer it is important to acknowledge that there will be some recovery time necessary for them and for you. We'd encourage you to do some thinking about how COVID has impacted your family and you as individuals; taking care of yourselves is an important part of taking care of your kids.

The end of the year has brought some good news for us, as we have had only 5 new positive cases of COVID in our schools over the past 2 weeks. We will be working actively with Public Health for the first 10 days of July in case there is contact tracing work necessary then, but we are crossing our fingers that this won't be necessary, as we know that students and staff are eager to get going on a well-deserved summer break.

Please help us acknowledge the Grads of 2021 and the staff who retired this year, as they have been more significantly impacted by the differences in the school year than many others have been. We wish them the best in whatever comes next and we are grateful to have had them as part of Prairie South Schools.

All the best,



Anthony D. (Tony) Baldwin
Director of Education



Robert Bachmann
Chair, Board of Education