



February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Dear Highlander Families,

We are very excited for the return of in-person learning and to see all our students on Wednesday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, when Semester 2 begins! Thank you, students, and parents, for doing your best while learning from home, and continuing to pivot during these uncertain times.

It is important to note that we are returning during **Level 2 of the [School Winter Plan](#)**, and there will be additional safety measures in place at school compared to Level 1 (before Holiday Break). Our Superintendent sent out a message to all families last Friday. Please find additional information below that applies to high schools and our Highlander families.

### **Monitoring Symptoms**

Families must monitor their children for [symptoms](#) daily. If one new or worsening symptom develops, a student is not permitted to attend school until they have a negative rapid test (POCT). If a student has a constant and recurring symptom, for instance seasonal allergies, they may continue to attend school *after* they have received a negative POCT.

### **COVID exposure in schools**

NB schools will no longer be contacting families when there are confirmed cases in their child's class, school or team. Parents should consult exposure notices, accessible on the home page of [Anglophone East website](#), under [Covid 19 -Information](#).

### **Positive case: must inform the school and Public Health**

It is important that families monitor their children for [symptoms](#) daily. If one new or worsening symptom develops, a student is not permitted to attend school until they have a negative rapid test (POCT). If a student has a constant and recurring symptom, for instance seasonal allergies, they may continue to attend school after they have received a negative POCT.

If your child tests positive with a POCT or public health PCR test:

- Have your child [Isolate](#) immediately: [Positive result \(gnb.ca\)](#)
- Notify your **school** by calling and leaving a message at the school 856-3469 or by filling the online form: <https://forms.office.com/r/pEanJ4e782>
- [Report](#) your positive test to Public Health (if POCT rapid test was used).

### **Report absence**

If your child needs to stay home, continue to report absences via **School Messenger** and use the following codes:

- **Illness** - use this code if your child has COVID or is otherwise ill
- **Parent Informed Absence** - use this code if your child does not have COVID but is required to isolate



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Regardless of the reason home, students are responsible for keeping up or catching up with their assigned work. Teachers will continue to post work on Teams for their courses but will not be having Teams meetings during the same time they are teaching in-person.

## **Observe the measures in place and stay well-informed of changes**

Managing the pandemic is a shared responsibility. As we know, measures often change to meet the specific needs related to the pandemic. It is therefore important to stay well-informed about the [government measures](#) in place, in addition to those of our District and school.

## **Mask Use**

Students should have at least 2 clean masks with them every day. Masks are required to be **always worn**, including outside and on the bus. The only exception is when students are seated for eating and drinking in designated areas. Well-fitting three-layer masks are now recommended for students, as they offer better protection against COVID-19.

**\*\*\*\*Masks must be always worn properly, which means always covering both the mouth and the nose. For the safety of all, students who do not comply with mandatory mask wearing will first receive a warning and then will be sent home if they fail to comply. \*\*\*\***

We thank you for your patience and commitment over the past few weeks in supporting children in their home learning. Your collaboration with COVID protocols is not only appreciated, but also essential to a smooth return to school for students.

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## **What else will be happening at BMHS?**

- Tomorrow students will go directly to homeroom when they arrive to pick up their schedule and then an announcement will be made to go to period one.
- The BMHS cafeteria will reopen on Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The cafeteria will only be open at lunch. Students should bring their own snack for break.
- The biggest adjustment for our students in Level 2 is that they will **ONLY be able to eat and drink in designated locations (cafeteria and classrooms)** during the day and there will be capacity limits in common areas. Teachers and the administration will review this with students when they return.
- Grade 10 to 12 students will be permitted off-campus for lunch Semester 2 (except when a staff member requires to see them). Note: lunch remains 1 hour and COVID measures apply off-campus as well (masking, distancing, when possible, etc.). Students are not permitted to be sitting in cars/hanging out in the parking lot during lunch. Campus remains closed for all students during morning break.



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- The report cards during the turn-around days (Monday & Tuesday) and preparing for Semester 2 classes. Should students in Semester 1 courses need to be rescheduled in classes for Semester 2 because they were unsuccessful, you will be contacted.
- BMHS Athletics practices have already resume since Monday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. Leagues are working on adjusting and rescheduling games. Spectators are not permitted at practices. To limit the number of spectators at games, each player will be allowed to invite for 4 spectators. The spectators must be fully vaccinated, mask, and respect the distancing rule.
- BMHS extra-curricular activities (clubs) will resume once Semester 2 gets rolling. A reminder that participants are required to be fully vaccinated.

Thank you,

Mr. Daigle