



ÉCOLE ROCHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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June 25, 2020

Dear Rochester Parents:

Our thanks for your support during the current health crisis. We know the situation was challenging for many families in our community. While the school year began normally the transition over Spring Break to something very different in the wake of COVID-19 meant challenges for all. The Ministry of Education has since outlined Five Stages of responses to the COVID-19 pandemic for public education. We began this school year in Stage 1 (regular face-to-face educational delivery) and moved to Stage Four after Spring Break (remote learning) and shifted to Stage Three (a combination of remote learning and face-to-face learning based on family choice) on June 1st. We end this school year in Stage Three.

At this time, we await direction from the Ministry of Education on what our September start-up will look like. We have been told that we may need to shift between the various response stages depending on COVID-19 infection rates. The Ministry of Education, under guidance from the Provincial Health Officer, determines the stage of educational delivery.

At this time, we do not know what school will look-like in September. Plans will likely not be finalized until late August. I believe that even if we return to Stage One, there will likely still be new protocols on how we operate school (physical distancing, hand washing expectations, health screening, etc.). We ask that you monitor our school district website (<http://www.sd43.bc.ca>) and Twitter site (@sd43bc) for information later in the summer.

We will communicate with you via e-mail at the end of August to provide the most up-to-date school-based information for September start-up. We do hope for a 'regular' return to school but we are preparing for any possible stage of return and ask that you consider this for your September planning and beyond.

We hope that everyone has an opportunity re-charge and remain healthy this summer. We wish all our families and their children who are moving on best wishes in their new endeavors and we look forward to working with our new and returning families when the new school year begins.

Have a wonderful summer.

Regards

John Goheen