Thunderbird News

September 14 - 18, 2020

Picture Day and Re-Takes



We had a very safe and successful photo day. In about 10 days, your child will have proofs of their school photos. At that time you will be able to go directly to https://my.lifetouch.ca/mylifetouch/#/ and even have the photos ship directly to you rather than the school, should you choose. Your portrait ID will come with the proofs, and Aurora's Access Code: QI040167YP will be active once proofs are sent. Re-takes will be Wednesday November 4, 2020.

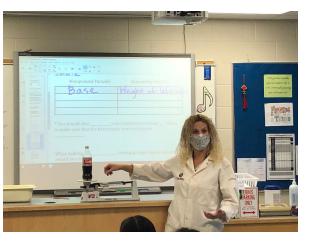
Pre-Order Lunch and Snack Cards

All lunch orders must be made by midnight on the **Saturday before** that week of school. Go to https://nlsd.schoolcashonline.com/ to order for lunches or for concession cards. We aren't using any physical cards for our 'concession cards', so note that each **Tuesday morning**, any funds you've added to your child will be added to your child's card in the cafeteria. The snack list should be now online and will be updated accordingly. If you need to register for this service, Please Register Online:

- Step 1: Go to School Cash Online
- Step 2: Register by selecting the "Get Started Now" and following the steps.
- Step 3: After you receive the confirmation email, please select the "click here" option, log in and add each of your children to your household account. To do this, you need your student's last name and Alberta Student Number (ASN), which is listed on their report card and on PowerSchool (in the upper left hand corner of the screen).

Step 4: If you want to receive email notifications when new fees are added, please ensure the notification box is checked in the Manage Your Notifications section. If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please select the SUPPORT option in the top right hand area of the screen.

All students must receive their food while masked and proceed to their homeroom to eat in their designated desk. The breakfast program is now running and is free to all students on a daily basis! If you have not pre-ordered by the weekly cutoff date, please send your child with a lunch and snacks.

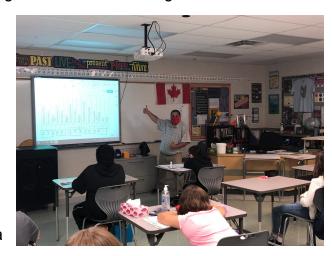


Learning continues at Aurora

While many things look different this year, one thing remains the same -- Aurora Middle School has passionate teachers enthusiastically sharing their love of learning! With all the safety precautions in place, these dedicated professionals are bringing literacy and numeracy back to the forefront of our focus. Teachers will use Google Classroom to help support your child when ill or self-isolating, so we don't have to get far

behind while away. We ask that our parents and guardians help us in keeping the school as healthy as possible. Last week, Aurora had to contact many parents to have their child picked up from school early, as they were exhibiting symptoms from the Alberta Health Services provided self screening tool. Please review it again and be sure not to send your child to school sick; it can be found at https://www.nlpsab.ca/download/292274.

Parents do not need to submit any paper copies of screenings, but should go through the checklist on a daily basis before sending your child to school.



Send your child to school only if they are healthy and exhibit no signs of illness and



pass the screening tool's questionnaire. It is absolutely essential to have a pickup plan for your child in the case they begin to exhibit any of the listed symptoms during the school day. Students will be removed from class and isolated with a caring staff member until the parent, guardian, or designated emergency contact can pick up your child. Under no circumstances will your child be permitted to ride the bus home, so a child should never be sent to school without a pickup plan in place. Confirm your emergency contact information with the school, and also inform these contacts that they may be required to pick up your child.

PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS All pre-existing illness or

health conditions must be reported to the school prior to the start of the 2020-2021 school year. If a student with pre-existing illness or health conditions is exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 they will be required not to come to school until they have been tested for COVID-19 and received a negative test result. If the result is

negative, the student can return to school and does not need to isolate unless the symptoms worsen or new symptoms develop.

STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS You are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if you have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition. The mandatory isolation period is 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer.

TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 You are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if you have tested positive for COVID-19.Isolation period is for 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer. You will be required to show proof of a negative test result prior to returning to a school building.HAVE SYMPTOMS BUT

TESTED NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19 If you tested negative and have known exposure to COVID-19, you are legally required to isolate for 14 days. If you tested negative and have no known exposure to the virus, you are not legally required to isolate. However, it is important to stay home until your symptoms resolve so that you do not transmit your illness to others. Unless you have a pre-existing illness or health condition, you will be required to be symptom free prior to returning to a school building.

close contacts of confirmed cases You are legally required to isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms if you are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 (provides care, lives with or has close physical contact without appropriate use of personal protective equipment, or comes into direct contact with infectious body fluids). If you become sick with cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat during this time, you must isolate for an additional 10 days from the beginning of symptoms or until you are feeling well, whichever takes longer.

When a Child Gets Sick at School

If a student shows symptoms at school:

- student will wear a non-medical mask and be isolated in a separate room where they can be kept at least 2 metres away from others; the school has several 'infirmary' areas ready for students
- parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up the child immediately; it is
 imperative that you ensure the school has up-to-date contact information,
 including current emergency contact information; you are required to have a
 pick-up plan each day; students will under no circumstances be permitted
 to ride the bus home.

If the school has a confirmed positive case:

- the zone medical officer of health will work with school authorities to quickly:
 - identify when symptoms developed
 - identify and contact people who had close contact with the person who tested positive, offer testing, and set the isolation measures:
 - people are legally required to <u>isolate</u> for 14 days if they live with or are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19
 - only people in direct contact with a confirmed case need to isolate
- each school authority will:
 - notify staff and parents if a case is confirmed at school
 - support students and staff to learn or work at home if they are required to self-isolate

If a school has 2 or more cases:



- the school would be considered to have an outbreak
- medical officers will assess the spread and exposure risk to determine if it affects multiple grades and areas, or is confined within close contacts of a confirmed case, and provide specific recommendations – an outbreak will not automatically lead to school closure
- For more information, go to the <u>Resource guide for</u>
 <u>COVID-19 outbreaks in schools</u> at

https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/covid-19-in-school-k-12-resource-guide-for-school-s-before-during-and-after-a-covid-19-outbreak

Drop Off and Pick-up

We ask that parents who drop off their child do so at the cafeteria doors as in years past; however, students who arrive early will not be able to gather in any common space (like the cafeteria or library). Students will need to sanitize their hands and head directly to their homeroom class to await the start of the day; there, they should touch only their own desk area to avoid unnecessary contamination. Because of this, we ask parents avoid dropping off their child prior to 8:20am.

When students are entering the school off their bus, the Grade 4,5,6 students will enter through the main entrance front doors and the Grade 7 and 8 students will enter through the north side entrance doors (close to the caged hockey area). Students will proceed directly to their classroom and sanitize their hands. Pick-up at the end of the day will continue to be outside the cafeteria beginning at 3:30pm and ending at 3:50pm. Students remaining at 3:50pm after the buses have all departed must be picked up at the front office. Students must remain masked.

Leaving the School During the Day

Consider Aurora Middle School a mostly-closed campus for safety purposes. We recognize that students sometimes have various appointments and must be picked up early or dropped off late. We require parents to communicate with the homeroom teacher and front desk staff when this is necessary, and we strongly encourage parents to avoid this practice wherever possible. Consider that reasons such as 'taking your child out to lunch' pose an unnecessary risk of increased exposure, and that we want to avoid increasing risk to our school community whenever possible. Contact the school at 780 623 4129 if you have any other questions!