

February 19, 2021

Re: Changes by Fraser Health to the COVID-19 notification process

Dear Families and Staff:

I am writing to advise that you may notice some changes to the letters from Fraser Health that schools distribute on behalf of the health authority. Effective immediately, Fraser Health is implementing an updated notification process in the event of a COVID-19 exposure at a school. These changes apply to all school districts located in the Fraser Health region, including the Burnaby School District.

The new process will consist of only one notification letter and follow up letters, as deemed necessary by Fraser Health. As before, follow up letters may include a self-monitoring letter and/or self-isolation letter, as needed. Previously there were three notification letters and a school bulletin. Fraser Health advises that the changes streamline the process and decrease the number of emails sent to families and staff.

In short, the revised process is as follows:

- When a case has been identified and includes an individual who was in a school during their infectious period, a notification letter will be distributed to the school community.
- If the case is linked to one or more classes, a self-monitoring letter will be issued to the affected classes.
- Additional self-monitoring or self-isolation letters will be issued in the course of contact tracing, as needed.
- Contact management will be completed within 48 hours. School exposures will continue to be posted on <u>Fraser Health's school exposures page</u>.
- Families and staff may receive more than one letter, as described.

Once again, I wish to express my gratitude to everyone – staff, students and families – for each doing your part to support our collective safety and well-being. Please continue to stay vigilant by doing daily health checks, maximizing physical distance, wearing a mask when required, and cleaning your hands frequently. These remain some of the important ways we can work together to keep our schools and communities as safe as possible.

With appreciation,

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Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent

