



Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82

3211 Kenney Street, Terrace, BC V8G 3E9
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March 18, 2020

Dear CMSD82 Employees,

Thank you for your patience and understanding during a very challenging and complex time.

As the world deals with the rapidly changing situation around the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), I wanted to take a moment to address some important information and school district related procedures pertaining to COVID-19.

We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and adhering to the recommendations of the BC Provincial Health Officer, the Ministries of Health and Education and the Government of Canada. The Provincial Health Officer has advised British Columbians against all travel outside of Canada including the United States. In an effort to help minimize the spread of the virus or "flatten the curve" in reducing the impact on the health system, it is everyone's civic obligation to comply with these critical recommendations.

The Provincial Health Officer has further advised that those citizens who travel out of the country, including to the United States must self-isolate (stay at home and avoid contact with others in accordance to the BC Centre for Disease Control) for 14 days upon return to Canada.

School district employees who choose not to follow the Provincial Health Officer's recommendation and travel out of the country, including the United States, will be required to self-isolate upon their return to Canada for 14 days. In this instance, the employee may need to access their vacation or unpaid leaves of absence available to them. Information relating to Employment Insurance pertaining to employees affected or impacted by COVID-19 is available by accessing the following link:

[Employment Insurance Information Relating to COVID-19](#)

It is important to note that employees have obligations under the *Workers Compensation Act* to ensure reasonable steps are taken to protect their personal health and safety as well as others within the workplace. These basic expectations apply to all employees during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The following link provides information regarding the *Workers Compensation Act* as it pertains to COVID-19 and the workplace:

[Workers Compensation Act Relating to COVID 19 and the Workplace](#)

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The school district is working on finalizing plans for employees in light of the joint announcement by the Premier, Minister of Education and Minister of Finance held yesterday, March 17 regarding the immediate suspension of in-class instruction until further notice in order to stop the spread of COVID-19.

At this time, further information from the provincial and federal governments is required to finalize plan details. To that end, we may not be in a position to answer your questions immediately, therefore, we ask employees to email their inquiries to hr@cmsd.bc.ca. Email responses will be provided in a timely manner, once the required government information is received, and plans are finalized.

These are unusual and challenging times, and we must all work together to keep our students, staff, families and school communities healthy and safe. Please carefully consider the Provincial Health Officer's critical recommendations and take all the necessary precautions.

We will continue to post COVID-19 updates to the school district's website at www.cmsd.bc.ca and to the school district's Twitter feed @CoastMtnSD.

Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated as we continue to keep our focus on the health and safety of you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

Kiran Bath
Acting Director of Human Resources

- cc: Coast Mountains Board of Education School District 82:
- Ms. Janet Meyer, Acting Superintendent of Schools
 - Ms. Ginger Fuller, Secretary Treasurer

- Coast Mountain Teacher's Federation
- Ms. Kim Meyer, Co-President
 - Mr. Mike Wen, Co-President