

March 13, 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

**Re: COVID-19 Update**

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division is committed to the health and wellness of its staff and students. We will take our direction from AHS and will continue to respond and act in-line with their recommendations.

The Board of Trustees has cancelled all school-organized student travel both internationally and within North America until future notice.

We will work responsibly, as information from AHS is known, to make decisions to protect our community.

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division is encouraging all staff and families to follow the guidelines outlined by [Health Canada](#) and [Alberta Health Services](#).

If your child is sick, do not send them to school. Please call the school to report their absence.

If you or your child have symptoms such as fever, cough and difficulty breathing, have travelled outside Canada or have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, stay home and call Health Link 811.

Administration and the Board will be monitoring events as they are unfolding.

Everyone can assist in stopping the spread of the virus by using the following precautions from Alberta Health Services. The Division encourages families to share this information with their children and promote these practices for everyone's health and well-being.

- Self-isolate if you're feeling sick
- Wash your hands frequently
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face

As the pandemic is highly unpredictable at this time, GYPSD may make other recommendations during the course of the outbreak.

The Division has increased sanitizing of schools and buses, charter bus services have been cancelled, and larger school activities and events will move forward at the discretion of the principal.

Please keep informed by visiting the website at [www.gypsd.ca](http://www.gypsd.ca), and monitor the Division's social media accounts.

For more information, please visit the Alberta Health Services website on the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).

Sincerely,

*Carolyn Lewis*

C. Lewis  
Superintendent of Schools

