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November 20, 2021

RE: PUBLIC HEALTH DECLARES OUTBREAK AT R.L. BEATTIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Public Health Sudbury & Districts has advised Rainbow District School Board that another case of COVID-19 has been reported in the Grade 5 class in Room 203 that has already been dismissed. There are currently four confirmed cases at R.L. Beattie Public School.

The individual is currently self-isolating and being monitored by Public Health Sudbury & Districts. The school is being cleaned and disinfected this weekend.

As a result, Public Health Sudbury & Districts has declared a COVID-19 outbreak at R.L. Beattie Public School. An outbreak in a school is defined as **two** or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in students or staff (or other visitors) in a school where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the school.

Public Health continues to investigate the situation and if any further risks to the school community are identified, they may direct additional measures.

R.L. Beattie Public School remains open for in-person learning.

The school will follow up with affected students to ensure continuity of learning.

The following remains in effect:

Public Health has extended the isolation period for students in the Grade 5 class in Room 203 by five days to and including November 27, 2021. Direction for staff is based on immunization status.

By direction of Public Health, students in the Kindergarten class in Room 107 are required to self-isolate to and including November 27, 2021. Direction for staff is based on immunization status.

By direction of Public Health, students on the morning elementary bus run on Route N458 are required to self-isolate to and including November 27, 2021. Students on the afternoon elementary bus run on Route L812 are required to self-isolate to and including November 22, 2021. These bus runs are cancelled. N458 will resume on Monday, November 29, 2021. L812 will resume on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

For students and staff who have not been asked to self-isolate as part of this confirmed case, the following applies:

- Simply passing by an infected person in the hallway is not considered close contact, and the risk of spreading the virus this way is extremely low.
- Remember to screen for COVID-19 daily. Continue to use the **COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care** <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> to monitor for symptoms and follow the direction provided. **Anyone who is sick must stay home.**

Remember to follow the critical ongoing COVID-19 prevention measures:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Stay home and [isolate](#) if symptoms appear.
- Practise two-metre physical distancing.
- **Wear a mask** at all times in indoor public spaces.
- When outdoors, students are encouraged to maintain physical distancing.

We continue to work closely with Public Health as we implement ongoing health and safety protocols to limit the spread of COVID-19.

We will monitor our school population closely for any signs of COVID-19 and follow the guidance from Public Health.

Updated information will be posted on the Board's COVID-19 Advisory Section:
<https://www.rainbowschools.ca/parents/covid-19/covid-19-advisory-2021-2022/>

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 or the measures taken to address COVID-19, please visit www.phsd.ca/COVID-19 or contact Public Health Sudbury & Districts at 705.522.9200 ext. 524.

Thank you for working together to keep everyone safe.

Sincerely,



Bruce Bourget
Director of Education