

Dr. John G. Egnatoff School

Eagle News

School Opening Plan

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We recognize the importance of this highly anticipated document. Our main goal is to keep our Egnatoff family healthy, happy, and learning. We are confident we can accomplish this together, with you.

We have used the Parent and Caregiver Handbook as our starting point and have built a plan specific for our school.

We have divided our plan into various headings, but you will see a great deal of overlap. This is for quick reference as you communicate expectations with your child while you are at home together, or are seeking clarification from a staff member.

In the coming days you will be receiving a call from one of our teachers to reconnect and help answer any general wonders you may have. I also welcome communication from you. As I stated in my Aug. 21 email I believe that together we will make this work. And that involves open constructive conversations.

As we enact this plan we will need to adapt it. Better ideas will arise and we want the flexibility to incorporate the best. Please know we will communicate the changes to you and our rationale, so you can help your child understand when they are asking questions.

Sincerely, Genevieve (Gen) Wood, Principal & DRJ Staff

Anyone exhibiting cold or flu-like symptoms must stay home

The health and well-being of students, staff members, and families is our top priority. Every morning before your child leaves for school, please check to see if they are experiencing any of the symptoms outlined on page 4 of this newsletter. If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms do not send your child to school. Contact Healthline 811 for assistance and contact the school to report your child's absence using school messenger, or by phoning our office (306) 683-7190.

YMCA Before & After School Care Program

Our Before/After School Program will run as usual, with some refreshed guidelines in place. Families dropping off/picking up from the program will need to enter through the front door.

Parents will be required to wear a mask, and sanitize their hands. YMCA staff will be there to meet you at the front doors so it is an efficient drop off.

While in the program, all K - gr. 8 students will be required to wear masks. Cohorts will be kept together.

Please see communication from the YMCA for more information.

The Parent & Caregiver Reopening Handbook

Please refer to the [Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook](#) for general information on Saskatoon Public Schools reopening plan.

The guidelines of the Parent Handbook will be adhered to by our school along with elements specific to our school.

Please note that the plan is subject to change at any time based on direction from Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer. Changes will be communicated as they occur.

Mask Use

All students are required to wear masks while riding the bus. All visitors must wear masks.

Saskatoon Public Schools will provide one reusable mask for each student. Additional disposable masks will be made available to students when needed and required. Students are welcome to bring their own masks.

Students in grades 4-8 are required to wear a mask upon entering the building and hallways. Masks are required at all times during the school day where physical distancing is not possible, including within the classroom.

Students in kindergarten to grade 3 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask. This is also strongly encouraged when they are in our halls and shared spaces.

There may be times in the day where a "mask break" is possible, e.g. during outdoor learning when properly spaced.

In some situations, wearing a mask may not be possible for a student. In these instances, school staff members will work with parents/caregivers to consider accommodations. More information can be found on the [CDC website](#).

All staff members will wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible. Some staff may choose to wear additional protective wear such as a face shield over their mask. A face shield is not a substitute for a mask, but may be worn in addition.

Our staff will provide educational opportunities for students on proper usage of masks with assistance from the [CDC Guidelines](#) and [Public Health Agency of Canada](#).

We encourage families to practice mask use at home and in public spaces as well.

Our Safe Solitary Place: The Nest

If a child has been identified as showing COVID-19 symptoms they will be escorted to "The Nest". We will contact home immediately and ask that you pick up your child as soon as you can. "The Nest" will be a safe, comfortable, supervised area in one of our empty classrooms where students will wait until they are picked up by a family member. They will be required to wear a mask and we will ensure they are an appropriate distance from other individuals.



School Opening Plan



Promoting Hygiene

We recognize that the best method to protect yourself against COVID-19 is to practice everyday preventable actions, such as proper and frequent hand washing with soap and water. When soap and water is not readily accessible the use of hand sanitizer is recommended.

Signage will be available at hand washing stations (sinks) as a visual reminder of proper hand washing practices. We will be explicitly teaching proper handwashing techniques. In the near future we will put clocks in bathrooms to help students monitor how long they are washing. We will also be teaching our students songs that they can sing as they wash their hands—when they get to the end of the song they know they have washed for long enough. We can make this important task fun!

Hand washing schedules will be established for all classrooms. We will access sinks in classrooms, bathrooms, the gym kitchen, and music room to maximize what we do have.

Sanitization stations will be set up at all entrances / exits and in classrooms, the library, and the gyms.

Critical times we will emphasize hand hygiene will be when students enter / exit the school (arriving at school, recesses, going home) and before and after eating.

We will teach, monitor, and reinforce proper handwashing and use of hand sanitizer throughout the course of the day for our students.

Each classroom will have a continuous supply of disinfectant in a spray bottle. Teachers will ensure the appropriate and safe use. See the Parent Handbook for additional details.

Changes to Entry and Exit Policies

When students and visitors enter the building we request they follow the arrows on the floor for proper flow of traffic, practice appropriate physical distancing and ensure they sanitize their hands.

For Parents / Caregivers:

We know you will understand the need to limit the number of people in our school. This helps to promote the health and well-being of our students and staff. For this reason we are asking:

- * parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact the main office to make an appointment if they need to come to the school. At this point, we request this occur only if necessary. Appointments can be made by contacting the school
- * students should be dropped off outside the school, or walk/ride their bikes to and from school
- * visitors will be required to sanitize their hands and wear a mask upon entry
- * if entry is required, parents or caregivers are asked to use the front door where they will fill out a health questionnaire via a QR code posted on the door
- * paper copies of the QR code questionnaire and extra masks are available at the front entry if you require one



For Students:

We will be utilizing all entry/exits in our building to promote better social distancing in our hallways and boot rooms. Each homeroom will be assigned an entrance/exit door, a place to store outdoor footwear, and an "outdoor muster point" to gather until it is their turn to enter the boot room.

On Friday, Sept. 4 homeroom teachers will email out detailed instructions for the students in their class regarding where to play prior to school starting (if they arrive early) and where the muster point is when they hear the first bell. We do ask that students arrive as close to the bell as possible.

Supervisors will meet students at their muster point and escort them to the doors when it is their turn. Students will go directly to class and homeroom teachers will direct them to their lockers as appropriate. This will ensure proper physical distancing can occur. Grade 4-8 students are required to wear masks when waiting at their muster point and entering the school.

Students Arriving Late

- * are asked to come in through the front doors and check in with Mrs. Fehr, our secretary
- * they can then proceed to class

Traffic Flow

Green arrows are affixed to the floor to indicate traffic flow. Generally students and staff are asked to "stay to the right" when walking in the hallway.

There are also markers on the floor indicating the need for physical distancing when there may be a line, such as at the secretary's desk, the water bottle filling stations, or the library circulation desk.



Washroom Use

Students will be able to access the washroom throughout the day, as they require. If the washroom is full we ask that they wait in the hall until a person comes out. We believe it is best if students wear their masks into the washroom. Teachers will be reminding students about proper handwashing, and we will post signage beside the sinks to remind students of important considerations when washing their hands.

Our caretaking staff will do their best to keep our washrooms clean and sanitary. We know our students will do their part by flushing the toilet and throwing their paper towels in the garbage can.

We will have staff checking the washrooms periodically to ensure they are clean, and will also encourage our students to let us know if they notice anything.

School Opening Plan



Recess and Lunch Procedures

Students who can go home for lunch are strongly encouraged to every day. Limiting the number of students who will eat in each classroom will help us better follow health guidelines.

Students will be assigned "play zones" and cohorts which consist of 2 classrooms of similar ages that are able to play together throughout the day. We will help students with this new routine and create a large school bulletin board as a teaching visual. Play zones and student cohorts will remain consistent, as per health guidelines. Students will be assigned designated entrances/exits to minimize congestion.

Our staff will work with students to introduce new creative games that will add to their recess repertoire. Students will sanitize their hands before and after recess and before and after lunch. There will be time daily to wash their hands.

In order to minimize the number of students entering / exiting our school at one time we have created an enhanced schedule which allows for expanded play areas, appropriate breaks and minimal time waiting to enter & exit the school. Half of our students will be outside for recess at any scheduled time. Please see schedule to the right.

Important note: school start and end times remain the same as last year (9:00 & 3:30)



Snacks and Lunch

Students will eat lunch in their own classroom, sitting at their desk. Students will bring their own snacks and lunch (if they are not able to eat at home). Due to health recommendations, sharing of food will not be permitted.

Please send a full water bottle (or 2) with your child as all water fountains have been turned off. In their place we have 2 water bottle filling stations.

Hot lunches, school-wide meals, or activities involving food preparation at the school are temporarily suspended until health guidelines change.

As we learn more we will update you.

Bussing

Students who take the bus will be required to follow the seating plan created by the driver and wear masks. Students will load the bus from back to front, and exit from front to back. A supervisor will meet the bus in the morning and be at the bus stop at the end of the day to direct students.



Bell Times

As mentioned in recess and lunch procedures, we made a decision to amend our recess and noon times to control the number of students entering or exiting our building at one time. All students will begin their day at 9:00 and will be dismissed at 3:30 (bus students being dismissed first).

Warning Bell – 9:00

Classes Start – 9:05

Recess – 10:25 -10:40 or 10:50 - 11:05

Lunch – 11:55 – 12:45

(half of the students will eat first; the other half will go outside first)

Recess – 2:00 - 2:15 or 2:25 - 2:40

Dismissal – 3:30



School Supplies & Personal Belongings

Our students will continue to use lockers to store their personal belongings. We will limit the number of students at their lockers at one time. We will also require all of our grade 4-8 students to wear their mask while at their locker. We will strongly encourage our younger students to wear their masks while at their lockers.

Please feel free to send all of your children's school supplies with them. In addition please send 2-3 large Ziplock bags. These will be used to store their extra pens & pencils until they need them. Please write their name on the bags.

Please consider sending two full water bottles with your child daily. This will decrease their need to use the two water bottle filling stations that we have at the school.



Staggered Registration

Saskatoon Public Schools has made the decision that from Sept. 8 – 11 we will have a staggered start for all of our students in kindergarten - grade 8. The grade 1-8 schedule for Egnatoff is:

- students with a last name starting with the letters A-L attend Tuesday, Sept. 8 & Thursday, Sept. 10
- students with a last name starting with the letters M-Z attend Wednesday, Sept. 9 & Friday, Sept. 11

If this schedule does not work for your family please email or call us and we will do our best to make alternate arrangements for your child

Prior to students arriving at school on either Sept. 8 or 9 they will know who their homeroom teacher is going to be. Homeroom teachers will be communicating with each family on Friday, Sept. 4 to welcome your child into their class and answer a few of the questions you may have.

Please know homerooms may change in the coming weeks as we learn which families have signed up for online learning and our staffing changes accordingly.

Kindergarten

Staggered start information was emailed to you today from your child's teacher. Please be in contact with us as needed. We are very excited to meet your child and get them started on their educational journey!

School Opening Plan



Band, Extracurricular Sport, Clubs, and Activities

For the time being, band, a curricular program from grade 6,7 &8, will be put on pause. Parents will not need to rent instruments. We will be adapting our teaching as we develop our plan to deliver a band program in a safe, enjoyable manner.

At the direction of the Saskatoon Secondary Schools Athletic Directorate (SSSAD) fall sports will be cancelled (cross country, volleyball). This will be re-evaluated through the year.

Regular in-school clubs supervised by staff will not be able to meet in person (e.g. SLC, choir, Roots & Shoots). This plan will be reviewed and updated throughout the year.



Mental Health and Social-Emotional Supports

Well-being is one of the four student goals in our school division strategic plan. Opportunities to learn about and practice well-being exist across multiple curricular areas.



Students who need additional support for their well-being may receive support from our school counsellor, Brent Wachs. Parents who believe this support may be necessary can reach out to their child's teacher or administrator for discussion. The counsellor will work with the team to determine appropriate supports, which may include direct support and/or assisting students and families to access other services in the community.



How do you feel today?

Every morning before your child leaves for school, please check to see if they are experiencing any of these symptoms:

 Fever or chills	 Cough	 Headache	 Aches and pains	 Sore throat
 Runny nose or congestion	 Loss of taste or smell	 Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	 Fatigue	 Nausea or vomiting
 Diarrhea	 Conjunctivitis	 Dizziness	<p>If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms, do not send your child to school. Contact Healthline 811 for assistance.</p>	



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning