

2021
2022

Grosse Isle School

Safe Return Plan 2021 - 2022



PRINCIPAL: CHRISTIE CROW

GROSSE ISLE SCHOOL | Grosse Isle School is in Treaty 1 Territory, the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.

September 2, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

On September 9th, 2021 we will be welcoming our students back to Grosse Isle School for the 2021-2022 School year. Our goal, as always, is to provide a safe and welcoming school community for our students and staff. The attached plan outlines the procedures and expectations we have developed in accordance with the [Manitoba K-12 Restoring Safe Public Schools Guidelines](#). While this year's restrictions are **currently** in an easement, it is our hope that if we all continue to work together we will stay healthy and in school this year. I hope that our cautious and careful planning will help all members of our school community feel safe and supported.

All members of the Grosse Isle School community are encouraged to visit the divisional website regularly at www.interlakesd.ca for updates, and to view current information from the province at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19.

In order to keep us all safe, we would like to remind everyone about the importance of the basics:

1. **Stay home when you are sick**
 - o [\[COVID-19 Screening Tool\]](#) [\[Screening Questionnaire\]](#)
2. [Wash or sanitize your hands](#)
3. [Wear a mask](#)

Our school plan reflects a cautious and careful approach to create a safe teaching and learning environment for our staff and students. While we look forward to more opportunities for our school community this year, many things will continue to be different. Some events or programs may still not be possible based on current public health orders, and there are even a few things we learned to love last year and have kept! As a staff team, we are committed to continuing as well as, finding new and creative ways to make Grosse Isle School a safe, fun, and respectful place to learn, grow, and work together!

Our plan has been organized into three sections:

1. **Teaching and Learning:** *How will in-class learning take place?*
2. **Building Operations:** *How will we continue cleaning and operations so we are safe at school?*
3. **Family Preparedness:** *What is my responsibility as a parent, guardian or caregiver?*

Our collective efforts to follow the public health measures will help ensure that our students and staff have a safe and enjoyable school year. The first day of school will be September 9th. Our open house has been cancelled however we are hoping to come up with an alternative plan to welcome you into our building in safe ways in the coming months!

As always, I welcome you to contact your child's teacher or myself if you have any questions or concerns either by email [ccrow@isd21.mb.ca] or phone [12044672560].

Sincerely,

Christie Crow [she/her]

Principal – Teacher, Grosse Isle School

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<https://gi.interlakesd.ca/>

Teaching and Learning 2021 – 2022 at Grosse Isle School

1. Student Learning Preparedness: *How will Grosse Isle School...*

a. Masks

- i. **Provincially, masks are required for all staff and for students in grades K-12.**
- ii. **Masks are required at all times while indoors (including the gym)**
 - **Proper mask wearing means that the reusable or disposable mask covers the nose, mouth, and chin and is sealed as best as possible on each of the sides.**
- iii. Students may remove their masks:
 - To eat and drink when SEATED at their assigned spot during scheduled nutrition breaks
 - or when outdoors for classes or recess.
- iv. **Masks must also be worn on school busses** to and from school each day.
- v. Parents are asked to supply masks, however there are masks available at school if needed.

b. Cohort students

- i. Due to the population of Grosse Isle School [46 students; 10 staff], we will be operating as **one** cohort
- ii. What is a cohort: [Cohorts](#) involve keeping groups of students (groups less than +/-75 students) together and avoiding interactions with other groups. (Manitoba's Restoring Safe Schools, 2021)

c. Learning materials and manipulatives

- i. Students can now share toys, equipment, tools, supplies, and manipulatives in classrooms if proper hand hygiene is used before and after use, and for items that can be sanitized.
- ii. Our library is open for use again.

d. Classes, Classrooms, Homerooms, Seating plans?

- i. To minimize risk, teachers, students and classes will be asked to limit their travel to their scheduled classroom and to have learning experiences outdoors as much as possible.
- ii. The 5/6's (22 students) – Homeroom teacher: Ms. Chelsea Dutkiewich; Room: 112
 - The 5/6's will spend the day together for all classes except **3/6** of their math classes, during which they will be separated by grade level

- When they are together – they will be in room 112
 - Grade 5's separated – they will meet in room 101
 - Grade 6's separated – they will meet in room 112
- iii. The 7/8 (24 students) – Homeroom teacher: Mrs. Monica Baldwin; Room 110
- The 7/8's will spend the day together for all classes except **5/7** of their math classes, during which they will be separated by grade level
 - When they are together – they will be in rm 110
 - When the 7's have math – they will meet with Mrs. Baldwin in room 110
 - 8's will have their instruction in room 111
 - When the 8's have math – they will meet with Mrs. Baldwin in room 110
 - 7's will have their instruction in room 101
- iv. **All spaces will have a seating plan** – students will be expected to adhere to the seating plans as this is a requirement of Public Health should there be a positive COVID-19 case. Seating plans are revisited throughout the year

e. Lockers

- i. We have assigned each of our grade 6-8 students a locker, and our grade 5's have either been assigned a locker or a classroom cubby.
- ii. Locker assignments are staggered to ensure that when two grades access their lockers that there is some distance between students.
- iii. Lockers will be accessed at staggered times throughout the day to ensure that congestion or crowding in hallways is limited as much as possible.
- iv. Based on how lockers have been spaced out and assigned,
 - Grade 6 & 8's will access their lockers at the same time
 - Grade 5 & 7's will access their lockers at the same time
 - Students can individually access lockers, IF needed throughout the day, although students will be encouraged to limit their travels.

f. Recovery Learning and Transition planning

- i. Our first priority in our return to school is always to focus on classroom culture and routines, the rebuilding of community, and strengthening relationships. That remains our priority this back-to-school season!
- ii. Transition planning took place for our students, May/June 2021.
- iii. Teaching and learning needs that are identified as we progress through the year will be addressed with communication and collaboration between: last year's teacher (if needed), the current teacher, learning support team, and in collaboration with students and their families.
- iv. Our teachers will use their existing initial assessment processes along with the information from our transition meetings in May/June 2021, as well as the June 2021 report card.
 - Additionally, each home room class has been scheduled one period each cycle in which students can seek support or additional time for ongoing or outstanding assignments, organizational and prioritization support, or if students have had areas of need identified where they may have the

opportunity to have some 1:1 support.

- v. Parents and guardians are also welcome to contact teachers with additional information and questions about programming.

g. Outdoor Learning, Physical Education, and Activity Breaks

- i. **CURRENTLY masks will not be required outdoors. They will be required AT the entrances, so that students and staff are able to meet the public health order of masks ON in all public indoor spaces.**
- ii. Use of our playground, yard, and community spaces for physical education and outdoor learning is strongly encouraged at Grosse Isle School.
- iii. When students arrive at school **each** morning, they will play outdoors until we begin a staggered entrance at 8:45am at their designated entrance.
 - 5's → Front Door → Ms. Dutkiewich will call them second with the 7's
 - 6's → Front Door → Ms. Dutkiewich will call them first with the 8's
 - 7's → Yard Door → Mrs. Baldwin will call them second, with the 5's
 - 8's → Yard Door → Mrs. Baldwin will call them in first with the 6's
- iv. All students will be required to go outside during activity breaks.
 - Indoor activity breaks occur with inclement weather (pouring rain, extreme winds) or -27C and colder, otherwise **we ask that students are dressed (or have clothing with them) to be safely outside AT LEAST 2-3 times daily.**
- v. If your child has been screened at home as healthy to attend school, the expectation is that they will participate in the outdoor portions of the school day.
- vi. To further separate students, entry will be staggered to increase physical distancing and students will be required to wash their hands (or sanitize) upon entry into the building or when moving learning spaces, as well as various other times during the day.

h. 7/8 Lifeskills at WCI has been reinstated!

- i. Day 2 afternoons, students will leave by bus at 1:05 and will return at the end of the day 3:40pm
 - Students will have a seating plan on the bus which they will have to adhere to
- ii. Grosse Isle students will remain a cohort of 24 while at WCI
- iii. Grosse Isle students will spend half of the school year in each of the lifeskill programs offered at Warren Collegiate:
 - September 2021 – January 2022: Home Ec with Mrs. Andrea Schutz aschutz@isd21.mb
 - February 2022 – June 2022: Industrial Arts with Mr. Mark Hnatuk mhnatuk@isd21.mb.ca
- iv. [Here is the link to the Warren Collegiate re-opening plan](#)

i. Extra Curricular activities

- i. Extra-curricular programs and activities including sports and field trips are **currently** permitted.
- ii. They must follow public health orders, and the MHSAA return-to-play guidelines for each sport.
- iii. In the fall, we traditionally have Cross-Country and Volleyball. Please know that we will likely take at least the first half of September to work our way through back-to-school procedures and protocols, before extra-curricular activities commence.

j. MS Teams and Office 365

- i. Learning may continue to look a little different and will continue to include technology.
- ii. This will ensure that our students are as prepared as we are able in the event of either a hybrid (remote and in-school) or a fully remote instructional structure that MAY occur during this school year, dependant on the recommendations of public health.
- iii. This way students and staff are better prepared and practiced with the technology.
- iv. The same four core courses (Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies) will be set-up on Teams by the end of September, if not sooner. And remaining classes may have a presence on Teams if reasonable for the teacher.
- v. This will allow teachers and students to learn the platform alongside curricular outcomes.

k. Remote Learning:

- i. Occasional, or Sporadic Remote Learning will be available in some capacity for our students who are home because of a **short term** public health requirement ([isolation/quarantine](#)) or are [symptomatic](#). Similar to last year, students would reach out to teachers via teams for work or class instruction access IF they are able.
 - This would be organized **per student, and per incidence**, as this process (like last year) evolved as the year progressed.
- ii. Full-time, on-going Remote Learning will be available for students who are **medically** advised not to return to in-class learning due to COVID-19 related factors either for themselves or someone they live with. The Manitoba Remote Learning Support Centre will provide remote learning for students in Kindergarten to Grade 8. For further information about remote learning or to register your child, please contact Mr. John Bock, ISD Program Support, via email at: jbock@isd21.mb.ca
- iii. Full-time, on-going Learning from Home for families who may not meet the medical requirements but whose personal beliefs or comfort levels would be best met through home-based learning are required to register through the [Home School Office of Manitoba Education and Training](#)

Building Operations 2021 – 2022 at Grosse Isle School

1. Building Operations Preparedness: *How will Grosse Isle School...*

a. Plan for increased cleaning, sanitization, and hand hygiene?

- i. Public health has determined that COVID-19 transmission from surfaces is low, however we will continue to clean and disinfect high touch surfaces and washrooms, with an increased frequency.
- ii. Our school custodian, Mrs. Manchulenko, will keep her hours as before and will continue to work evenings to ensure that the building is cleaned and sanitized each evening.
- iii. During the day some custodial time has been shared with Mrs. Breckman. She will sanitize washrooms and high touch points in particular (ie: doorknobs, light switches, locker handles, pushbars, etc). Staff will also assist if needed.
 - When students are moving learning spaces, staff will sanitize surfaces and students will sanitize their hands.
 - The current timetable reduces student movement as much as possible. This is an effort to reduce hallway movement and allows sanitizing to be focused.
- iv. Students will be required to wash or sanitize their hands:
 - a. Upon each entry into the building
 - b. when moving learning spaces
 - c. after coughing, sneezing, or blowing nose
 - d. after using the washroom
 - e. before and after eating
 - f. before and after the use of shared items/equipment
 - g. before getting on the bus to go home
 - h. when necessary
- v. Sanitizing pumps will be available in every space.
- vi. We will put a limit on the number of students in the bathrooms to 3 students at a time, which will mean that students have adequate space while in the bathroom and to avoid congregating.

b. Physical Distancing

- i. There is CURRENTLY no provincial or public health requirement for physical distancing in schools, but they have provided the following:
 - a. [Provincial Recommendations for Physical Distancing in Schools:](#)
 - Schools should encourage physical distancing to the greatest extent possible
 - **Schools will manage the flow of people in common areas**, including hallways and washrooms to minimize crowding and allow for ease of people passing through.

- **They will implement the practice of staggered entrance and exit times, or use of separate entrances** (if feasible)
 - Schools will be prepared to implement physical distancing requirements of 1-2 meters when recommended or directed by public health officials.
- ii. We will be implementing strategies to minimize hallway congestion and congestion in washrooms. At high-traffic times, students are asked to use their assigned door, otherwise front door access is reasonable.
 - iii. Our staff will supervise and stagger entry at each cohort entrance to ensure physical distancing and proper sanitization.
 - iv. Students will keep personal belongings (such as their lunch, backpack, and outdoor gear) in their lockers during class time – during breaks, students will be asked to ensure their desks are cleared so that classrooms are able to be sanitized while students are outside.
 - v. Water fountains will be turned off but bottle filling stations will remain open.
 - vi. Students and staff will use assigned lockers and shoe rack spaces as provided.
 - vii. We recognize that strict physical distancing at all times, particularly with young children, is very challenging in the school setting and that everyone is learning new ways of doing things. Staff will do their best to adhere to these guidelines while using a safe and caring approach with students.

c. Ventilation

- i. Our Ventilation system was updated through the summer has been set to frequently introduce fresh air.
- ii. Staff members are encouraged to keep windows and/or doors open and to hold classes outdoors **when practical and possible**.

d. Transportation, Drop-offs, and pick-ups

- i. Our school bus transportation will return to pre-COVID policies and practices with additional cleaning used.
 - Students will be required to sit in assigned seats and will wear masks for the duration of their travel.
 - [Bus Ridership expectations](#)
 - [Rules for transported students](#)
- ii. Transiting remains similar to last year:
 - Rosser and WCI students will wait in separately marked spots at the front of the school or will be asked to stay in their parent or guardian's vehicle until the buses arrive and they are marshalled onto the buses.
 - a. Rosser 'bus stop' will be beside Grosse Isle's shed, and
 - b. WCI students will have their 'bus stop' to the right of the front door
- iii. During the school day drop-off or pick-up
 - Our exterior doors are locked during the day, if you are picking up a student please call the school (12044672560) to indicate that you are here, or ring the door bell (left hand side of the door) which is linked to a camera and mic and we will send out your child(ren).

- If you have an appointment with a staff member, please know that you will be asked to sign-in and out, wear a mask, and sanitize.

e. Protocols for Staff and Students Exhibiting Symptoms at School

- Should a student become ill or exhibit symptoms at school, the parent or guardian will be notified and required to arrange for **immediate pickup**.
- Grosse Isle School will be in contact during the month of September with all parents to ensure an “urgent pickup plan” is in place.
- Parents are asked to create a family plan that ensures they, or the emergency contact person on file at the school, is available to promptly respond to a call and or pick up request from the school.
- Should a staff member become ill or exhibit symptoms at school, they will immediately isolate themselves and go home to monitor symptoms. Staff are strongly advised to contact **Health Links-Info Santé (1-888-315-9257)** for direction.

Family Preparedness 2021 – 2022 at Grosse Isle School

a. Attendance and in-school Participation

- All students will be expected to attend and participate in classroom learning and outdoor activities.
- Should you keep your child home due to illness or otherwise, please notify the school. Email: tbaldwin@isd21.mb.ca and ccrow@isd21.mb.ca
- Now more than ever, families are asked to communicate with the school via the means staff have established.
- As a school we will continue to use the School Messenger system to send texts and emails.

b. At-home Screening and Monitoring

- It is the responsibility of **each staff member and parent** to self screen (or screen their child) before coming to school.
- If a staff person or student is feeling unwell or displaying symptoms, or unwell, **STAY HOME** and consult:
 - [\[COVID-19 Screening Tool\]](#) [\[Screening Questionnaire\]](#)

c. Working Together

- Ongoing, **safe, and respectful communication** is needed now more than ever.
- Please know that we will be contacting parents via phone or email. Emails will either come from the School Messenger account or the staff person directly.
- I will continue to do my best to send out weekly emails with upcoming information, forms, and reminders

d. Role of Public Health and Access to information

- In the event of confirmation of a case of COVID-19 connected with our school, **public health will take the lead**. They will advise staff and students on next steps, self monitoring or isolation, and when return to school is safe.

Mental Health and Well-being Support

Our Learning Support (Mrs. Monica Baldwin) and Counsellor (Ms. Christie Crow) will check-ins regularly with our classes. There are community and divisional resources available for anyone needing assistance with their mental health. We are all in this together and it is important that communication about student wellbeing is shared so that we can provide supports.

Ask for help if you or anyone in your family needs it. Parents are encouraged to seek support through the principal, councillors, or through our divisional social worker. All of these caring and trained individuals can be reached through email, phone or a note sent with your child to school.

Christie Crow, Principal and Counsellor ccrow@isd21.mb.ca
Monica Baldwin, Learning Support mbaldwin@isd21.mb.ca

Need Help Now and don't want to go through the school?

Manitoba Farm, Rural & Northern Support Services

- www.supportline.ca - online counselling or 1-866-367-3276 (Hours Monday-Friday 10am-9pm)

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

CRISIS LINES

24 hour crisis line: 1-204-482-5419 or 1-866-427-8628

Mobile Crisis Services: 1-204-482-5376 or 1-877-499-8770

Adult 2:00pm-2:00am

Youth 17 and under 1:30pm-9:00pm

Crisis Stabilization Unit: 1-204-482-5361 or 1-888-482-5361

Community Mental Health Intake: 1-204-785-7752 or 1-866-757-6205

<https://pulse.seattlechildrens.org/helping-children-and-teens-cope-with-anxiety-covid-19/>

Thank you for taking the time to work through this document with your family. When we all have a shared understanding of the expectations it helps ensure student success.

Lastly, it is important to remember that these protocols and routines for our school community are based on **CURRENT** public health orders and recommendations. Over the past 18 months, we have come to expect that orders, rules, processes, procedures **will** change and evolve. I don't anticipate that this year will be any different. When there are changes that impact how we do teaching and learning at Grosse Isle School, I will update this document and notify families via email.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christie