Alberta Health Services

29-May-21

Dear Parents/Guardians of students of **Beiseker Community School**;

RE: Notice of COVID-19 to Staff, Students and Visitors in a School Setting

Two or more cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed at the school named above. The Medical Officer of Health has requested Alberta Health Services (AHS) Public Health staff initiate an investigation. This investigation will determine who may have been exposed at your school to cases of COVID-19 during their infectious period.

The virus is passed from person to person through tiny droplets of liquid, spread by coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing and singing. This means that a person would need to have direct contact with droplets from a sick person or contaminated surfaces to be exposed to the virus. The risk of the general population in the school becoming infected because of these cases is low.

If staff or students have been identified as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, they will be notified via phone, email, or mail by either AHS or the school as per routine communication processes.

- If staff or students have not been identified as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case but develop symptoms as listed on the the COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist please isolate at home and complete the AHS COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool or call Health Link at 811 as soon as possible to arrange for COVID-19 testing.
- If you or your child require medical attention, please call ahead to your health care provider or call Health Link at 811 so that they can care for you or your child safely.
- If you need emergency medical care, call 911 and tell them that you or your child may have been in contact with COVID-19 so that they can care for you or your child safely.

To help minimize spread of any respiratory virus we always recommend the following:

- All household members should wash hands often with soap and water thoroughly for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty.
- Encourage household members to not touch their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in the garbage and immediately wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay home if you're sick. If your kids are sick, keep them home from school.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are touched often and shared by everyone in your home such as door knobs, light switches and bathroom taps.
- Practice physical distancing outside the home (at least 2 metres) and wear a mask in public spaces if physical distancing is not possible.
- Ensure your child's immunizations are up to date, including their annual influenza immunization.

For further information regarding COVID-19, please call Health Link at 811, and/or visit the Alberta Health Services website for COVID-19.

Thank you.

Public Health,
Communicable Disease Control