



October 30, 2020

### **PINE CREEK SCHOOL DIVISION – TRANSITION TO MODIFIED ORANGE COVID-19 RESPONSE**

As you may be aware, Manitoba reported a record 480 cases of COVID-19 today. The number represents a backlog in data entry, but it is still an indication that community spread is at a high level, and that further steps are needed.

We were notified at this morning that all Manitoba schools will now move into a “Modified Orange” response over the next week.

#### **What does this mean?**

Modified orange response is an evolving set of guidelines to introduce additional safety measures for staff and students in schools and PCSD buildings.

During an orange response, all students are spaced a minimum of two metres apart in the learning environment (classroom).

We continue to emphasize the basics:

- a) Daily screening for symptoms (nobody with symptoms on buses or in schools)
- b) Frequent handwashing
- c) Physical distancing
- d) The use of masks

There will be several other minor modifications to current practices to further prevent to spread of COVID-19. Where needed, some older students will learn from home more often to make room for younger students to be spaced 2m apart.

In addition, families will be offered the option to have [children learn from home](#) for the duration of the orange designation.

Here at PCSD we know that our staff have worked very hard to ensure the best place for students to learn is at school. Schools are clean and regularly disinfected, the learning environment is rich, and we have no evidence of COVID-19 spread in our schools.

We continue to encourage students to attend school face-to-face wherever possible.

You will have many questions about the new guidelines. Please continue to watch for further updates and surveys as we take the next week to transition into a new level of response to the pandemic.

I wish you a safe and happy Hallowe'en weekend.

***“Learning For Living”***