



# Prairie Rose School Division

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**TO:** PRSD Parents/Guardians and Staff  
**FROM:** Terry M.J. Osiowy, Superintendent/CEO  
**DATE:** October 31, 2020

## **RE: COVID-19 – PRAIRIE ROSE SCHOOL DIVISION (PRSD) UPDATE**

On Friday, October 30, 2020, Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's Chief Medical Officer, informed Manitobans that all schools in the province will move to Restricted Level Orange within Manitoba's Pandemic Response System.

Restricted Level Orange requires that all schools meet the following guidelines:

- Schools must ensure two metres of physical distancing to the greatest extent possible and adjust classroom space as necessary; excess furniture must be removed from classrooms to create additional space; other spaces within schools must be repurposed to accommodate more distancing (e.g., multipurpose rooms, empty rooms, shared spaces, common areas, and libraries).
- Extracurricular activities are only permitted if all learning and distancing requirements have been met. If these activities continue, established guidelines must be followed and, in the case of sports, participants should maintain distance when not active.
- Teachers and staff who move across cohorts of students, including substitute teachers, are required to wear medical masks. Medical-grade disposable masks have been issued to all schools. N95 masks are not required.
- Indoor choir and the use of wind instruments, band programs, are not permitted.
- All field trips must be postponed or cancelled.
- Blended learning (in-class and online) for grades 9–12 where distancing cannot be achieved will continue as per status quo.
- K–8 students may be offered a temporary remote learning option for the duration of the Restricted level (Orange).
- All other public health measures are still in effect.

Friday's announcement now means that Region A and C schools; Miami School, Carman Elementary, Carman Collegiate, Elm Creek School, Roland School, and St. Laurent School will now join Region B schools: École St. Eustache, St. Francois Xavier School, and St. Paul's Collegiate and will operate under Restricted Level Orange guidelines.

Beginning **Monday, November 2, 2020**, Region A and C schools will review and update their current classroom and cohort plans to ensure two metres of physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. This review is to include further repurposing of school space such as gymnasiums, libraries, and multi-purpose rooms.

For Region A and C high schools, Carman Collegiate, Elm Creek School, Miami School, and St. Laurent School, alternate day and/or blended learning programming for Grades 10 – 12 students may need to be implemented to ensure that the two metres of physical distancing is in place at their respective schools.

Final Restricted Level Orange operational plans for Region A and Region C schools will be communicated by principals to their parents/guardians and staff by **Thursday, November 5, 2020**. These plans will come into effect **Monday, November 9, 2020**.

This pandemic clearly demonstrates what we know to be true. Our schools are a reflection of the community we live in and are as safe as the actions we take together to look after our children and each other.

Thank you for your vigilance with complying with public health orders that will keep our students and our staff safe as we live and learn during this pandemic.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Stay safe and stay well.