W.R.D.S.B. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

eUpdate

The Latest Information to Keep YOU Informed



Hello Everyone,

I hope you were able to have some relaxing time during the break.

I realize that there is a lot of confusing information being shared and I wanted to clear up what I can.

The Minister of Education has declared that students with complex special education needs are permitted to attend schools in person during this time. This is a very broad definition and it was left up to each Board to interpret what that means for them.

Our Board has decided that this means that students that are already enrolled in the ACE program will be able to come to school starting on Monday. This means ONLY ACE students, which is different from what we had in place during the last shutdown. Some Boards started these students as of Wednesday, we delayed until Monday in order to get things in place and organized.

Each family was contacted and told of the safety concerns and they were given the choice whether to stay home or return in person. Many have chosen to return in person. This boils down to a Human

Our Board is expecting a delivery of N95 masks by Friday, many Boards have already received masks. These masks come from the ministry through central ordering. This means we are hopeful these masks will be available to staff going in on Monday. If they are not there yet the Board approved a motion enabling people to provide their own N95 masks as long as they meet the requirements stated below. If you choose to, you can still wear the blue masks we have had all along.

> If you do not have access to an N95 mask and have concerns about your safety you may do the following:

- *Email your Administrator indicating why you are feeling unsafe (using wording/terms from the COVID-19 Health, Safety and Wellness Handbook for Staff.*
- *Follow the reporting health & safety concerns direction in the COVID-19 Health, Safety and Wellness Handbook*

I hope this answers some of your questions. If you have more concerns please reach out to me at lwilsoneaa@gmail.com

Lynn Wilson
Health & Safety Officer of the Educational Assistants Association

Click the following for more information:

Directions to Staff choosing to wear their own Health Canada approved respirator:

Work Refusal Process

Resources:

https://staff.wrdsb.ca/hr/files/2020/04/Raising-Safety-Concerns-for-Workers-Apr-2020-FINAL.pdf
https://staff.wrdsb.ca/hr/files/2020/04/Raising-Safety-Concerns-for-Administrators-Apr-2020-FINAL.pdf

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