



ШКОЛА R. F. MORRISON SCHOOL SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 04, 2020

Working, Learning and Growing Together

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WELCOME BACK!

We are looking forward to resuming in-class learning for all students. September 8th and 9th will be orientation days. We encourage you to attend orientation days as they will be a valuable opportunity to connect with your child's teacher, to learn more about the measures we are taking to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, and to share information that will help us plan for your child's return to school. The first day of classes for all students is Thursday, September 10th, 2020.

A SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL

Guidance may change as our current public health situation evolves. The Seven Oaks School Division "Restoring Safe Schools" document can be found on the divisional website at www.7oaks.org under "COVID-19".

We would like to provide you with additional information about our school-specific plans to reduce risk and ensure the safety of students and staff. Please read the entire document, as this will help us work together. This document also provides links to other Provincial and Divisional resources that are better suited to answer frequently asked questions about COVID-19 related topics.

Remember that the most important step to keeping our school safe starts at home with daily self-screening. You can find the most up to date screening criteria here:

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

No one should enter the school when symptomatic. If you or someone in your family is symptomatic, call Health Links at 204-788-8200 and follow medical advice.

Please have a plan in place to pick up your child if they develop symptoms while at school.



UPDATES – September 4th, 2020

Orientation Meetings

We encourage all families to attend orientation meetings. Teachers are eager to find out how students and families have been doing over the last few months. We are taking precautions to make sure your visit is safe. Please note the following:

- Use the front door to enter. Other doors will be locked.
- Wear a mask. If you do not have a mask, we will provide a single-use mask at the door. Students in Grades 4 and up will receive 3 reusable masks at their orientation.
- Be on time. Families that arrive early will need to wait outside. Meetings will not be extended for those who arrive late.
- Only visit your child's classroom. We ask that families refrain from stopping to meet and socialize in hallways or common areas inside the school and leave after meetings are complete.
- Maintain physical distance. Self-screen and do not attend if you are sick or symptomatic.

Designated Doors

Please see the map on page 6. Updates are highlighted. We have made changes to designated doors to reduce the number of students entering and exiting at the front of the building. Parents may accompany students to these doors at drop off and pick them up at dismissal.

We have had a few questions about siblings. Older siblings can help younger siblings find their areas and get into line before proceeding to their own doors.

Late Arrivals

ALL school doors including the front will be locked shortly after 9:00 a.m. If you are bringing your child to school later than 9:00, accompany them to the front door so we can let you in. Also call ahead to let us know if you need to visit the school at any point during the day. Office staff will let you in and assist you.

Extra Precautions

Since we sent out our safety plan, we have put several additional safety measures in place.

- **Reusable masks** have been delivered to classrooms for students Grades 4 and up (including all students in grade 3/4 classrooms). The division will deliver masks for younger students who may wear them at the discretion of parents/caregivers.
- **Plexiglass barriers** have been provided for all classrooms that cannot separate individual student desks (classrooms with tables).
- **Hand sanitizer** has been provided to all classrooms and permanent dispensers will be installed soon.
- **Floor decals and wall signs** have been ordered. Directional arrows, 6 ft markers, occupancy limits on bathrooms and handwashing instructions will be posted.
- **Increased recess duty** has been assigned to teachers to help manage transitions.
- **Individual supplies** are being provided to students. We continue to provide all school supplies for a modest student fee.
- **Physical Education classes will not change clothes.** Most Phys Ed classes will be taking place outdoors. Students will not be changing clothes or using change rooms.



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The Basics: A layered approach to returning safely

Under the direction of public health officials, we are taking a layered approach to safety as we return to school and resume in-class learning. Together, these layers help to significantly reduce the risk of viral transmission in a controlled school setting. These fundamentals include:

1. **Daily self screening:** Families are asked to use recommended tools to self screen every morning and STAY HOME if symptomatic.
2. **Hygiene:** Follow the recommended guidelines by washing hands properly and frequently, cough or sneeze into your elbow, and ensure that you use, wash and dispose of PPE properly.
3. **Cleaning:** Increased cleaning regimes and frequent disinfecting of commonly used surfaces are in place.
4. **Physical Distancing:** Children will be reminded to consistently practice physical distancing whenever possible by staying at least 2 meters apart in common settings and at least 1 meter apart in cohorts.
5. **Cohorts:** Interaction with people at school throughout the day will be limited. In the school, a cohort is made up of 1 classroom. Recess will be staggered to reduce congestion and limit the number of students outside at one time. Students who bus are also part of a transportation cohort. Cohorts make it possible to track close contacts in the event of viral transmission.
6. **Mandatory Masks:** Students in Grade 4 and above as well as all adults must wear a non-medical mask when physical distancing is not possible. The school division will provide one reusable cloth mask for every Gr. 4-12 student and disposable masks will be available if required. Students under Grade 4 can choose to wear masks.



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Arrival and Dismissal: Safely dropping off and picking up children

Students should arrive at school between 8:30 – 8:50 a.m. Do not arrive before 8:30, as there is no supervision. Children are expected to practice physical distancing while outside. We will continue to actively teach this skill as school begins.

Students will be allowed to enter the school at 8:50, using a designated entrance. Students will go directly to their classrooms to wash or sanitize their hands. The school day will begin at 9:00.

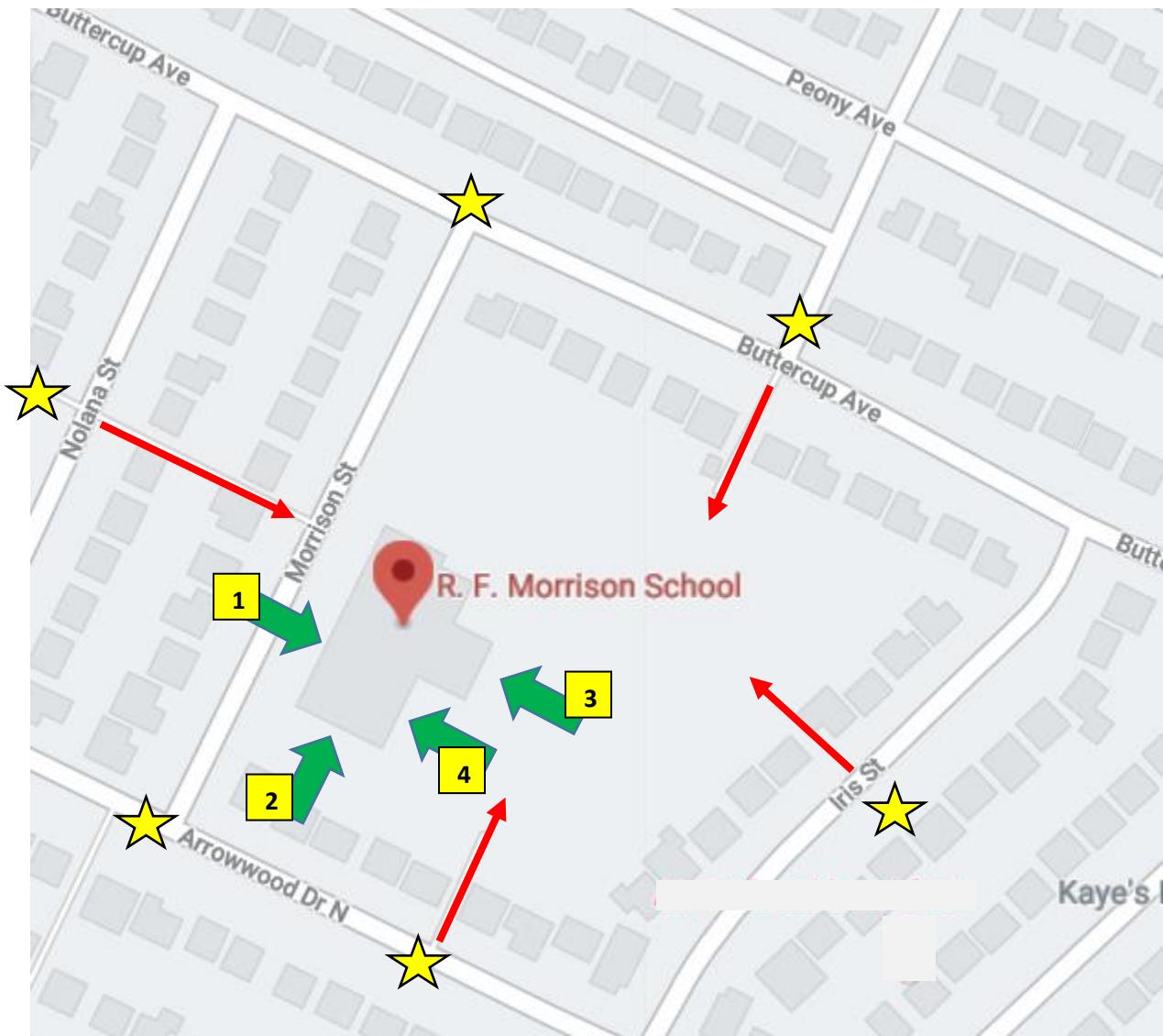
Students will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. Students who are being picked up by a guardian should be picked up no later than 3:45.

To support physical distancing and to limit congestion when entering and leaving the building, we have developed a drop-off/pick-up plan for families and students to follow (*refer to the map on the next page*):

- Students who live within walking distance are encouraged to walk to school. Walking to school is a healthy and active way for students to start their day. We recommend that younger students walk with an adult or an older sibling. Walking to and from school with a group is encouraged if physical distance is maintained.
- Use safe drop-off/pick-up points located away from the front of the school at the indicated times. Please leave the front of the school for busses and pedestrians.
- Stop, Drop and Go! Whenever possible, we encourage parents to drop off children without parking to avoid congestion. Supervisors and/or patrols will be near the indicated drop-off points to direct children to their designated entrance.
- If you park on a side street, you may walk your child to their designated entrance for drop-off/pick-up and then return to your vehicle.
- If it is necessary to park and pick up or drop off your child at the front of the school on Morrison St. or in the loop, please call the office to notify us of your circumstances.



Map of Drop-Off/Pick-Up Locations and Designated Entrance/Exits



	Drop-Off/Pick-Up Location (Supervision and/or patrols will be stationed near these locations to help direct students).
	Walking Path to School (these fenced paths lead directly to school property)
	<p>Assigned Entrances and Exits – 8:50 am/Recess/3:30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Front Door – Kindergarten (all), Rm 3 (Ilyniak)2. Side Door – Rm 7 (Dutka), Rm 9 (Klimenko), Rm 11 (Gray), Rm 12 (Matwichyna)3. Back Door – Rm 13 (Tesluck), Rm 14 (Dahl), Rm 15 (Grant)4. Library Doors – Rm 4 (Suchy), Room 5 (Oakley), Rm 6 (Harder), Rm 8 (Borys), Rm 10 (Deneka)



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Recess, Lunch and Nutrition Breaks

To reduce congestion in hallways and at doors and to limit the number of students playing outside at once, we will be using a staggered recess schedule. “Group A” students will have nutrition break/lunch followed by recess and “Group B” students will have recess followed by a nutrition break. Supervisors will provide reminders to physically distance. Assigned playground areas may be part of the morning announcements to further encourage distancing while outdoors.

Example of a staggered recess schedule:

	Nutrition Break	Recess
10:35 -11:00	Group A (6 classrooms)	Group B (7 classrooms)
11:00 – 11:25	Group B (7 classrooms)	Group A (6 classrooms)
	Lunch	Recess
1:00 – 1:25	Group A (6 classrooms)	Group B (7 classrooms)
1:25 – 1:55	Group B (7 classrooms)	Group A (6 classrooms)

Students will continue to have nutrition breaks and lunch in their classrooms with their cohorts and Teacher. Supervising adults will direct and oversee handwashing/hand sanitizing before and after eating.

We will continue to provide a Breakfast Program that is free and accessible to all students, however, students will not gather in the nutrition room. Prepared, individual portions of food will be made available to students in their classrooms when required.

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Home and School Communication

Guidance from the Province, School Division and School may change as the situation evolves. The resources in the following section are reliable sources of information. We encourage you to check them frequently to stay up to date.

It is extremely important that your contact information is up to date in Parent Connect and that we can reach a parent/guardian if your child becomes sick at school. Children who become sick or start to exhibit symptoms at school will be isolated and must be picked up as soon as possible. At such a time, we will advise you to call Health Links and follow medical advice, including when your child can safely return to school.



For day-to-day issues and classroom questions, your child's teacher is the best source of information. You can reach them by calling the school or by email.

For questions about school plans and operations, you can contact school administrators by phone or email. We will do our best to answer your questions and address your concerns. If you have COVID-19 or health related questions, you are encouraged to call Health Links or visit the Shared Health website.

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Resources

PROVINCIAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

Province of Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html>

Shared Health: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/>

Manitoba Education: <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html>

SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION COVID-19 RESOURCES

Seven Oaks School Division Main Site: <https://www.7oaks.org/>

SOSD COVID-19 Updates: <https://www.7oaks.org/Bulletins/Pages/default.aspx#/>

MANITOBA EDUCATION PARENT RESOURCES

My Child in School: <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/mychild/index.html>

My Learning at Home: <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/mylearning/index.html>

Information for Parents: https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/info_parents.html

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