

YORKTON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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April 21, 2021

YRHS Parents and Guardians,

As you are aware, on Monday, April 19, 2021 our students and staff recently returned to face-to-face learning after experiencing remote learning for the third time this school year. During the Easter Break and into last week, we were made aware of eleven (11) cases of Covid-19 among our students. Many of these cases were deemed to be the Variants of Concern (VoC), by Public Health.

Throughout the pandemic, GSSD #204 and the YRHS have consistently put the safety of our students and staff first. In keeping with this practice, we recently decided to institute additional measures to ensure the safety of students and staff so that face-to-face instruction can continue without further interruption.

My letter is intended to share what our additional measures are. As a staff we have monitored them over the past two days to ensure our changes are reasonable, sustainable and being followed by both students and staff. We did not want to share these new procedures with you until we were certain that they were feasible. Please see the newly instituted procedures below:

1. Class Breaks:

- a). beginning on Monday, April 19th student 10-minute breaks shall still be observed in all classes with one major change:
 - i). teaching will continue to cease for the 10-minute break time, and students shall be allowed access to their phones and classmates,
 - ii). students shall no longer be permitted to leave their respective rooms in one big group for the break,
 - iii). staff are being asked to monitor the number of students leaving their classroom during the break time and limit those numbers to two (2) students at a time leaving for water, or the washroom.
- b). this change in break time procedures is being done to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus when large groups of students are congregated in open spaces within the school and outside of the main entrance



- 2. Noon-Hours:
 - a). students that leave the school for lunch will need to report to their pm class upon arrival back to school
 - b). students will now eat in the room where they have their morning class and stay there for the first 30 minutes, if finished eating in less than 30 minutes students may head outside for some fresh air
 - i). this is being done to allow our Facilities Staff to sanitize the classrooms that are not in use during the morning period
 - c). after 30 minutes students need to access Lysol wipes, supplied in the classroom, to clean off their eating surface
 - d). upon cleaning their desk top the student then reports to their next classroom
 - e). there is no eating in the gym, except for the phys. ed. classes that were in the gym during the morning
 - f). there is no eating of lunches in the hallways and all large common meeting areas have been closed
 - g). students that wish to leave the school grounds for the noon hour are encouraged to do so
 - h). likewise, students that wish to congregate outside of the school may do so while maintaining safe social distancing practices

Thank you for your continued support as we endeavor to keep our students and staff safe! Your patience and understanding is much appreciated as we attempt to navigate waters we have never experienced before.

Take care and stay safe.

Mike Haczkewicz Principal - YRHS