



**Media Release
August 6, 2020**

Announcement

Return to School in September 2020

Yesterday the Minister of Education and the Provincial Health Officer announced that enhanced safety measures and additional resources will enable most students in grades K-12 to return to school on September 8, 2020. Students will return to full-time in-class learning as the province moves to Stage 2 of B.C.'s Education Restart Plan.

One of these safety measures will be the creation of learning groups, which will be a consistent group of students and school staff. These groups will minimize the risk of the virus spreading. Other safety measures will include increased cleaning protocols and the provision of cloth masks for those who want to use them. Use of masks is not mandatory.

Board Office staff will be working over the next month to prepare our schools for the safe return of district students in September. Further information will be available on the Ministry of Education's website, and on the district's website, www.rupertschools.ca and its social media pages.

"The Board is pleased the Ministry has provided early notice of the plans for school in September," said Board Chair James Horne. "Our staff will develop a plan that will ensure the safe return of students, while continuing to ensure that each student completes their education with a sense of hope, purpose and control."

"In-person learning best meets the social and emotional needs of students," said Superintendent Andrew Samoil. "We will be working very hard over the summer to ensure that parents and students will know what to expect when they return to school in September."

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