

Date: February 2, 2022

Extra-Curricular Athletic COVID-19 Update for Parents/Guardians and staff

Dear Parents/Guardians and staff,

In my January 14, 2022 parent and staff update regarding extra-curricular athletics I committed to a weekly review regarding our position on spectators at our athletic games.

We know the benefits of athletics on our student's mental health, but we must also consider current provincial health guidelines

"It is recommended that at this time, school authorities limit opportunities for spectating at school performances and sporting events to reduce potential exposure to COVID-19"

and the implications of such activities on being able to keep schools open.

To date, we have had no classes transition to at-home learning, although we have had to cancel some classes due to staffing shortages. This has been possible due to the extraordinary efforts of our school administrators, teachers, and support staff who have stepped up when staff are ill. I wish to formally thank all our staff for their generosity and willingness to take on additional teaching and supervision duties when schools are unable to find replacement staff.

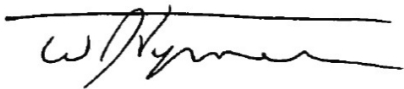
I also wish to thank parents for assisting us in keeping sick children at home and thereby slowing the spread of COVID and allowing us to keep schools open.

I am pleased to be able to share that in conversation with our school administrators Horizon is expanding spectators at our athletic events to include both parents (2 spectators per player) effective February 3, 2022.

Note that while our preference is that parents not bring younger children to athletic games if schools have adequate spectator seating (spectators must maintain 2 meters physical distance between households) principals are able to make the decision to allow parents to bring younger children (under 12 years old) when such children are unable to remain at home. Parents are asked to follow up with their school to see if the option for younger children to attend is available at their school. Masking remains mandatory at all time for Parents/guardians who attend athletic games.

While changing COVID conditions may impact the above decisions our hope is that schools can maintain athletic activities, in-person learning, and a positive shift to normalcy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Hyman", is written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent