

September 6, 2020

Dear School Staff,

Going back to school can be challenging in the best of times and heading back in the midst of a global pandemic is of course even more complex. I want to acknowledge the varied emotions that you may be feeling, such as excitement, worry, fear, relief, uncertainty, and more. While there will be changes, the key school experience will be much the same as before—children learning and growing with your unwavering commitment to them.

Everyone plays an active role in keeping our kids safe during the 2020/21 school year. The attached “Top 10 COVID-19 Basic Rules for Safe Schools” provides simple yet effective guidance for a safe return to school. These rules are endorsed by Medical Officers of Health and Directors of Education from across the North. Please review them very carefully. **Remember that screening yourself daily for illness and potential COVID-19 symptoms is a must. If you have symptoms, you must not go to school.**

Please accept my sincere gratitude and admiration for your superhero efforts to flatten the curve of the first wave of COVID-19. You have sacrificed much and made school 2020/21 reopening a possibility.

The Porcupine Health Unit is committed to supporting you and your schools as we begin this next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. For additional information about COVID-19 and resources, please visit www.phu.fyi/coronavirus.

My very best wishes for the coming school year.

Sincerely,



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