

November 6, 2020

Dear ASD-S Families,

Re: Cross-Border Travel to Maine (Washington County only)

The Government of Canada continues to update border measures which limit the spread of COVID-19. The federal government's Order-in-Council was recently extended with an update to its provisions regarding cross-border travel. For those families with children who are required to travel between the Canada/US border for the purpose of custody arrangements, please note that effective Oct.31,

Students from Canada and the U.S. who regularly cross the border to attend school, along with one driver, and children who are subject to shared custody arrangements, along with one parent, are exempt from mandatory 14-day quarantine. The new provisions to ease pressures related to cross-border students are conditional upon support from provincial and local public health authorities.

As the number of people testing positive for COVID-19 continues to increase in Washington County, Maine, the cross-border area that neighbours New Brunswick, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) based on the recommendation from Public Health have updated their safety measures and guidelines for schools.

Please be aware that effective November 6, **students who travel between the Canada/US border (in Washington County) for any reason, including for the purposes of custody arrangements, are not permitted to attend school for a period of 14 days from the date of their return to Canada.**

We encourage families with cross-border travel needs or custody arrangements to consider this when planning their visit. If a student is currently across the border, and therefore unable to return to school for 14 days upon their return, they may contact their school for support with learning from home.

We understand these restrictions may be challenging for students and their families, and we thank you for your support as we work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our school communities.

Families are asked to remind students about frequent hand washing/sanitizing; proper cough/sneeze etiquette; physical distancing; bringing two clean face masks each day; and monitoring for symptoms. If you have symptoms, you can visit [this site](#) to do a self-assessment and book a COVID-19 test.

Zoë Watson,

Superintendent