



April 28, 2021

Dear parents and school personnel,

This letter follows the one that you received from Dr. Kimberly Barker, Regional Medical Officer of Health on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> advising you of a positive COVID 19 case at George Street Middle School.

Public Health continues to treat this case as a variant of the virus. The variant B-1.716 is more contagious and is transmitted differently than the previous strain of the virus that we had been seeing in this province. We would therefore like to inform you of the next steps that Public Health will be requiring to ensure the safety of students and school personnel before re-opening the school.

- The mandatory self-isolation period for **all** students and school personnel as well as individuals living in the same household **will be extended until Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at midnight.**
- A smaller group of students and school personnel will be required to have a second test on either Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> or Sunday AM May 2<sup>nd</sup>. These individuals will be called directly by Horizon Health to be scheduled.
- Those identified by Public Health as being close contacts with the virus must continue to follow Public Health's directives regarding testing and isolation.

On Sunday, after Public Health has received the results of the Saturday's and Sunday's testing and been able to analyse the results, next steps will be communicated to you. Your school principal and your superintendent will also be communicating with you shortly on how students will continue their learning.

We recognized these are difficult times and I want to thank you for your patience and cooperation during these last few days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Russell".

Dr. Jennifer Russell, BA, BSc, MD, CCFP  
Chief Medical Officer of Health

