

February 4, 2021

Dear SCDSB Families,

On February 3, the Ontario government announced that schools in Simcoe County will be permitted to reopen to students on February 8, 2021. **This means that in-person learning for all Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students will resume on Monday, February 8, 2021.**

Students enrolled in the Learn@Home program will continue to attend class virtually.

The SCDSB continues to work closely with, and take our advice from, the health authorities at the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) on all matters related to COVID-19. The SCDSB has consulted with the SMDHU to ensure that proper and effective health and safety precautions are in place to continue to keep students and staff safe when they return to in-person learning. The SMDHU supports the new provincial mandatory masking requirement for students in Grades 1 to 3, and strongly encourages masking for Kindergarten (JK and SK) students. As such, the following requirement will be in place at SCDSB schools beginning on February 8, 2021:

- **All students from Kindergarten (JK and SK) to Grade 12 will be required to wear a mask.** Families are encouraged to provide cloth masks for their children that cover the nose and mouth. The SCDSB will provide masks to students who do not have them.

This new requirement aligns with the advice of the SMDHU and adds another layer of protection to the existing preventative measures already in place at SCDSB schools.

Each day, families are asked to ensure that their child(ren) complete the COVID-19 student screening tool prior to coming to school. The COVID-19 student screening tool is available here: <https://scdsb.on.ca/covid-19>. In addition, as part of the [updated health and safety measures](#) announced by the Ministry of Education, students will be required to wear a mask outdoors, where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation. We look forward to welcoming our students back to in-person learning.

For ongoing updates, visit the [COVID-19 page on our website](#), or follow us on social media (Twitter: [@SCDSB_Schools](#) or Facebook: www.facebook.com/SCDSB).