

Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory

19 A Complex Drive, P.O. Box 112
Wikwemikong, Ontario P0P 2J0

Monday February 7th, 2022

Council Approves Pandemic Response Team Recommendation For Returning to In-Person Learning on February 9th, 2022

The Pandemic Response Team has recommended for a return to in-person learning for the Junior School, Pontiac School, the High School, and the Hub Centre. This recommendation was accepted by Council on Monday February 7th, 2022. It was decided that all schools **will return to in-person learning on Wednesday, February 9th, 2022.**

This decision was not made lightly, as we remain in a community outbreak. However, we need to continue our efforts as we shift to coexist and adapt to the COVID-19 situation. This includes implementing the safest possible methods to make sure children and youth's educational, mental, emotional, social, and physical needs are met, including land-based learning.

While establishing our recommendation, we took into consideration feedback from families within the community. Out of the parents who were asked a large percentage of parents have stated that their child(ren) learns best when they are in the classroom, and they support returning to in-person learning.

Junior School: Will implement half-day cohort learning plan for students until March 11th, 2022

Pontiac School: Will return to a full-day learning environment

High School: Will return to a full-day learning environment

Hub Centre: The Toddler Program and 1/2 Day Preschool program will begin on February 9th, 2022. The Full Day Preschool Program will re-open on February 15th, 2022.

In addition to the WBE plans, the safety measures that will be in place at all schools include:

- HEPA-filters
- Deep cleaning/fogging occurs every evening
- Mandatory masking
- WBE employees will be doing daily Rapid Antigen Testing
- Frequent hand washing/hand sanitizing
- Enhanced daily screening
- Increasing disinfecting high trafficked touched areas

We understand that some families will chose to remain with online remote learning and our schools are prepared to accommodate that request. Please contact your child's teacher.

With all that said, it is more crucial than ever before, **that if any student or staff member is feeling ill, they are not permitted to attend school.** All students and staff must complete the daily screening form before attending school. We are asking all parents to complete the daily screening form on the WBE website or use the paper forms that were sent prior to remote learning.

We want to say miigwech to all the parents for your input, cooperation, and understanding as we determined the best approach for your child's education.

We look forward to seeing everyone safely on Wednesday.

Miigwech,

WUT Pandemic Response Team

covidquestions@wikyhealth.ca
Telephone: (705) 859-3122