



SCHOOL DISTRICT #54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
SILVERTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3455 - 13th Street, P.O. BOX 430, HOUSTON, BC V0J 1Z0
TEL.: 250-845-2228

January 13, 2021

Dear Silverthorne Learning Community,

As you know our teachers are working hard this year to make their classes engaging while still following the COVID protocols for schools as set out by Dr. Bonnie Henry. The expectation across the province of BC is that students are attending school in person unless they are taking part in a distributed learning or homeschool program.

At Silverthorne, we firmly believe that students learn best in a regular classroom with their peers and teacher. We would like to emphasize that our schools are safe and clean. We continue to have additional custodial hours to help meet the desired level of cleanliness. We are very diligent in our COVID protocols and it has been shown that COVID transmission rates are low in schools.

Recently there have been some COVID cases in the community of Houston. This has caused some concern amongst our families and they have chosen to keep their children at home after the Christmas break. While we respect the decisions individual families make, it is also important for the school to be very clear about what is expected of teachers if students do not attend school now.

As stated previously, the expectation for students is that they are attending school in person on a regular basis. If a student does not come to school because of COVID concerns, be aware that they will be missing learning and are still responsible for the material they missed while absent.

Unlike in the spring, teachers will not be sending work packages home or providing lessons to students who choose to stay away from school for extended periods of time due to concerns about COVID. Teachers are only expected to teach and provide materials to the students who are attending class in person. The one exception to this however, is for students who cannot attend school because they are truly sick. This is very different than students who are healthy yet not attending school.

We recognize that this is a difficult time for everyone. Your understanding and commitment to meet your child's needs is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bev Forster & Jana Fox

Mrs. Forster and Ms. Fox
Principal/Vice Principal
Silverthorne Elementary School