



## Mustangs Memo

October 1, 2021

**NEW! PSD Covid Recommendation Update:** In our ongoing navigation of the Covid-19 pandemic and recommendations from Alberta Health Services, we have a couple of updates that we wanted to bring to your attention.

**Household Contacts:** Some of you may have noticed that the [Alberta Health Services Daily Checklist](#) received a wording change on Thursday, September 23rd regarding household close contacts.

The AHS recommendation states that any unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals (including children under 12) should stay home for 14 days when a person who lives in the same house as them tests positive for COVID-19. This means that anyone who is not protected with 2 doses of vaccine after a household positive case should quarantine for 14 days.

This request to stay home for 14 days is a strong recommendation from AHS and we respectfully ask families to follow the recommendation should any member of your household test positive for COVID-19.

Another key point from this AHS recommendation is that it only applies to household contacts of a positive COVID individual (e.g. sibling or parent that's tested positive) and not school-based close contacts (e.g. in the same classroom cohort at school).

Please continue to reference PSD's [Stay-At-Home Guide](#) when making decisions to keep your child at home or not.

**Masks:** In order to be prepared for situations that may require a mask. (e.g. your child presents symptoms once they arrive at school and must be sent home) we ask that you please ensure your child has a mask with them at all times. This includes Pre-K to Grade 3 families.

Also, please join us in supporting our bus drivers by sending your child onto the bus with their masks. All students, regardless of age, **MUST** wear a mask while riding a bus as outlined by the Chief Medical Officer of Health's [latest order](#).

**NEW! School Fees:** Statements for the 2021 2022 school year fees went out via email, if you did not receive it then check your junk mail or let the office know. Upon receipt, fees can be paid online by debit or credit card through our [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) at <https://powerschool.psd70.ab.ca/public> or by cash or cheque payable to Parkland School Division (PSD). These school fees were due in to the office by

the end of September. If for some reason you are unable to pay the fees right away arrangements may be made by calling Andy Fuñe at 780-963-3535.

**NEW! Parent Teacher Interviews:** VIRTUAL Parent/Teacher Interviews for all of our grade 1 to 9 students are set for Tuesday October 5th and Wednesday October 6th from 5 - 8 pm. Appointments can be booked online at <http://muirlake.schoolappointments.com>. Virtual meetings will last no longer than 10 minutes and the link to the virtual appointment will be shared with you by the teacher that you have booked in with. Parents of Kindergarten students will have the chance to book a Parent/Teacher Interview in November.

Please note that even though you may have had an account with School Appointments last year, you will need to re-create your account. Information is cleared each year as the students and teachers change from year to year.

**NEW! SMILE! Portrait Day is Coming:** School photos will be taken at Muir Lake School on Tuesday October 12th and Wednesday October 13th. We will get through Tuesday/Thursday kindergarten classes and as many other classes as possible on Tuesday and then the Monday/Wednesday kindergarten class and the remainder of the students on Wednesday. So please be prepared on both days - typically we have been able to get through most of the classes on the first day. Retakes are scheduled for Tuesday November 2nd.

**NEW! Free Family Counselling:** If you are looking to support your students there is a youth & family solution focused wellness counselling program available through Alberta Health Services Primary Care Network. For more information please click [here](#).

**NEW! AHS School Health Nurses:** "The Scoop" is a monthly e-newsletter sent on behalf of the AHS School Health and Wellness Promotion Team. If you would like to subscribe to this [newsletter click here](#)

**NEW! School Health Champion** Did you know that Muir Lake has a School Health Champion? Miss Gilmour will be taking on this role for 2021/22 as she supports our school community in seeking out health and wellness opportunities. This includes connecting our school families to community based and online resources. Look out for a short monthly health and wellness section in the Mustangs Memo.

This month... [10 Fun Autumn Activities for Kids and Families by Active For Life](#). A fun and active way to get outside as a family and enjoy nature at its best this Autumn.

**Repeat: [Parkland School Division Family Supports](#):** Please see attached which contains information regarding the services available to families this school year.

**Repeat: Extra Curricular Sports: [Cross Country running](#)** has started and if a student is interested, please see the [information package linked HERE](#). Forms were also handed out to the students that attended the practice with Mr. Opatirl or Ms. Garrison. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from the races.

**Repeat: Lunch Programs:** Foundation is currently in a wait and see pattern and investigating options for the lunch programs. As soon as we hear something then we will communicate this information with our families.

**Repeat: PSD Domain and Email Addresses:** You may have noticed that Parkland School Division has a new look; a new logo as well as a new domain name. You can now find Parkland School Division at <https://www.psd.ca> and Muir Lake School's new website URL is <https://muirlake.psd.ca>. With the domain name change came new email addresses. An easy way to find your child's teacher's email address is on our school website at <https://muirlake.psd.ca/about/staff-directory>, but our new address format is as follows: ***firstname.lastname@psd.ca***. Please adjust your email address books accordingly as eventually the mail-forward feature will end.

As always, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us via email at [MuirLake@psd.ca](mailto:MuirLake@psd.ca) or by phone at 780-963-3535.

Thank you, have a great weekend!  
Muir Lake School Admin Team