COVID-19

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

**June 25, 2020**

**To: All Parents/Guardians**

**From: Cheryl Gilmore, Superintendent**

Dear Parents / Guardians of Lethbridge School Division

On June 12 the province released an Education School Re-entry Plan for the upcoming school year.

Since that time Division and school staff have been working hard to have required protocols in place as outlined by the province. As was communicated earlier this month, the provincial plan outlines three possible scenarios: (1) Regular Operations with restrictions and protocols (all students will be able to attend daily) (2) Blended Operation (added restriction of physical distancing will mean that students will be divided into cohorts and attend on a rotational basis) and (3) At-home Learning (province closes classrooms and instruction continues at home). A survey was sent out to parents from the School Division to help inform our planning. For example, we know that most parents who responded prefer a whole day rotation of student cohorts if we are in Scenario 2 rather than half day or staggered start times. A summary of the survey results are on the Division website.

We are hopeful that we will greet the new school year with Scenario 1 but are preparing for all three scenarios. Minister LaGrange committed to a decision regarding the provincial choice of scenario August 1, 2020. **We will provide parents with communication shortly after the announcement. Please be watchful for this communication so that you know what scenario will be in place. Another survey will be sent out in August that will ask parents to confirm if their children will attend school under Scenario 1 or Scenario 2. The option of choosing at home learning will also be available.**

A Re-entry Plan Parent Guide has been developed to provide parents/guardians with an early understanding of what will be in place for health and safety in scenarios 1 and 2. This is a working guide that will be updated if necessary once the announcement is made August 1.

This has been an extremely challenging spring for families. I hope that you are able to have a restful summer and a well-deserved vacation.

Take care,

Cheryl

