

## **Regina Catholic Schools**

## THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE REGINA ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 81

Vicky Bonnell Chair Sean Chase Director of Education

January 3, 2022

Dear RCSD Families,

Happy New Year! I trust you enjoyed a safe and restful Christmas break, shared with loved ones. Despite the frigid temperatures, the Christmas season provides the opportunity for us to share our faith in a most special way, celebrating our God whose Word became flesh through the birth of Jesus Christ.

On December 30th, Premier Scott Moe held a press conference to announce changes to the self-isolation requirements in the current Public Health Order. He shared that individuals who test positive with a rapid test are no longer required to confirm with a PCR test conducted by the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA). Further, fully vaccinated individuals who test positive are required to isolate for *five* days if asymptomatic, reduced from the previous *ten-day* period. We are waiting for clarification from Public Health and the Ministry of Education as to how this will specifically affect the education sector, including any changes to contact tracing. We anticipate this information in the next couple of days and will share it with you as soon as possible.

For now, any notification of a positive case from the SHA will follow current contact tracing procedures. If your child tests positive via a rapid test, please contact the school. We will follow-up with Public Health for further direction. The updated Government of Saskatchewan case management information can be found on our website.

The Ministry of Education is encouraging all those returning to school to use rapid testing as a strategy to help keep schools safe. Rapid tests are readily available to families across the province: Link to Rapid Test locations

Safety and privacy remain our priorities; we thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Sean Chase Director of Education