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To: Horizon Families & Staff
From: Kevin C. Garinger, Director of Education
Cc: Horizon Board of Education
Date: November 30, 2020
Re: UPDATE: Mask Policies in Saskatchewan Schools

Good afternoon, Horizon families and staff.

Further to the message I shared last week regarding new mask policies in Saskatchewan schools ([which can be found here](#)), we received some clarification from the Ministry of Education.

I want each of you to know, we have been informed that teachers are able to coordinate structured mask breaks for their students throughout the day, as needed, within the new public health order.

The intent of the public health order is for all children to mask throughout the school day. We recognize that this is not always possible. We have received clarification that mask breaks can be determined at the discretion of the teacher, in consultation with the principal, according to the following guidelines:

- mask breaks will be no longer than 15 minutes per break, per student;
- unmasked children must be physically distanced (2 metre minimum) from other students in the room;
- if physical distancing is not possible in a classroom, a child can be given a mask break behind a plexiglass shield barrier, with the student facing forward; and
- mask breaks will not be regularly scheduled, but only given as needed – based on the professional judgement of the teacher – on an alternating, rotational basis.

As always, I will share a reminder to visit saskatchewan.ca/covid19 for guidelines, information, and the [Self-Assessment Tool](#), and if you or your child(ren) are sick or feeling symptoms associated with COVID-19, stay home and call 811.

I share my thoughts and wishes for a speedy recovery for all those impacted by COVID-19 across Horizon School Division and beyond. Thank you all for your patience, support, and understanding as we work through this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kevin C. Garinger', written over a white background.

Kevin C. Garinger
Director of Education/CEO
Horizon School Division No. 205