

# Pandemic Response

January General Meeting 2022

# Functional Closures

- ▶ Functional closure of a school, which is determined by the school or school district due to a lack of staff to provide the required level of teaching, supervision, support, and/or custodial to ensure the health and safety of students. This would likely be due to a high absenteeism of all staff or certain employees required for a school to function and the inability to replace those absences.
- ▶ <https://burnabyschools.ca/functional-closure-what-it-looks-like-in-burnaby-schools/>

# Changes to the District Health & Safety Handbook

- ▶ Definitions section (pg. 5): Self Monitor
- ▶ Space arrangements: Utilizing virtual or smaller in person options (pg. 7)
- ▶ Infection Prevention and Exposure Control: Public Health no longer providing individual COVID-19 exposure notifications regarding schools (pg. 9)
- ▶ PPE: District upgrading masks to 3-ply disposable (pg. 17)
- ▶ Curriculum, Programs and Activities: extra curricular sports and tournaments are currently paused (pg. 50)
- ▶ <https://burnabyschools.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/BS-D-Communicable-Disease-Prevention-COVID-19-Staff-Handbook-for-2022-01-07.pdf>

# Ventilation

- ▶ Currently there are 280 classrooms in the school district that have partial and/or no ventilation. The district has just announced that they ordered:
  - ▶ Jade 2.0 (ultra-violet) HEPA-RX filter - 99.997% active Carbon
  - ▶ 100 Germ Guardian (ultra-violet) HEPA filter - 99.7% carbon filter
- ▶ Deployment:
  - ▶ Expect 3-4-day installation time once scrubber arrive (targeting Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>)
  - ▶ Operations Department staff will support H&S / HVAC teams
- ▶ Members advised to continue to keep doors and windows open.

# Logging Absences

- ▶ COVM (COVID-19 Medical) -For COVID-19 testing or COVID related appointment pg.11
- ▶ COVI (COVID-19-Illness)- Staff needing to stay home because they tested positive for COVID 19 (pg.12)
- ▶ PLCV (Paid Leave-COVID) Asymptomatic (able to work) directed by PH to self-isolate and medically unable to get vaccinated. -Must contact your administrator/manager (pg12)
- ▶ Vaccine Leave-Half day leave to receive booster/vaccines.
- ▶ Currently the BTA is discussing the parameters for a letter of understanding (LOU) for asymptomatic members, or members advised to isolate, being able to work remotely. **No agreement has been achieved currently.**
- ▶ BCTF Shared with members: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/if-you-have-covid-19>

# What the BTA is advocating for:

- ▶ N95s for all staff
- ▶ Improved ventilation for all schools
- ▶ Increased cleaning of high touch surfaces during the school day
- ▶ Prioritizing school staff for vaccine and boosters
- ▶ Rapid tests made widely available at no costs
- ▶ Trauma informed lens for all decision making - School communities are overwhelmed, our colleagues require transparency, clear direction and timely information