Welcome back everyone,

I hope that your Spring Break was wonderful and rejuvenating.

When we return to classes next week, we will be looking at some different COVID-19 protocols in our schools and I thought it might be helpful to provide you with a bit of a review:

* Masks will now be a choice for all students and staff in our buildings (K-12), and one that will be respected as a personal decision.  This is in response to the PHO Health Order from March 11th.
* We are expecting a further announcement from Dr. Henry on April 7th where we will likely see additional measures being adopted such as:
  + Removal of the Vaccine Passport requirement in various community settings;
  + An increase in audience capacity to 100% for K-12 events such as Graduation 2022;
  + Reduced limitations on field trips that require a Vaccine Passport.
* Details will be provided once we know the specifics of any further changes.

If you have **travelled internationally** during Spring Break you and your children are **still required to follow all Federal COVID-19 Regulations.**  These regulations can be found in their entirety on the [Government of Canada website](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftravel.gc.ca%2Ftravel-covid%2Ftravel-restrictions%2Fcovid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada&data=04%7C01%7C%7Ca42a0928b15e4dbe460108da142f1e86%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637844489851747131%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=BkjFV3W65zqpALg3CporZl6%2FCJn3ZvD9C8bBgBRAX5U%3D&reserved=0), but I’ve highlighted some key points below:

* All adults and children (aged 5 and older) who travelled internationally must wear a well-constructed and well-fitting mask at all indoor and outdoor public spaces, including K–12 schools, for the first 14 days after entry.
* This means that wearing a mask at school is **not** a personal choice for 14 days after entry into Canada if you have travelled internationally.
* Adults and children must also monitor for symptoms for 14 days after entry and follow federal requirements for self-isolation and quarantine if symptoms develop and/or they test positive for COVID-19.

We are looking forward to welcoming your children back into their classrooms next week.

Sincerely,   
Dave Eberwein  
Superintendent & CEO, Saanich Schools