



TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION No. 31
AFFILIATED WITH TEAMSTERS CANADA AND THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
#1 GROSVENOR SQUARE, DELTA, BC V3M 5S1

ZOOM Meeting Q and A

August 26, 2020

Hello Sisters and Brothers,

This is a Question and Answer follow-up to the Zoom meetings on August 18th, 19th, 20th 2020. Through consulting with Abbotsford School District No. 34, we have attained answers to most of your questions. Also, we have utilized the Provincial and Federal government websites, including WorkSafeBC, to obtain further answers to your questions. However, where we were unable to find an answer, we are continuing to research.

Q: Is there anything in place for employees, office staff who can't maintain 2 meters distance while working in small spaces? Are Plexiglas barriers possibly?

A: Yes, <https://abbyschools.sharepoint.com/sites/WorkplaceSafety> sign in, click on the resources, and table top barrier-screening form.

Q: What are the return-to-work schedule dates?

A: The District informed me, all workers are to return as if it was a normal year the same times and dates you would any other year. If unsure, email HR.

Q: Will there be any layoffs for any employees or classification of employees?

A: Not at the current time; the District is working on finding ways to keep everyone employed. There may be individual layoffs, but no group layoffs for now.

Q: More information on Pods and what they will look like for support staff that move between classrooms and schools? IT, trades, any group of Casual employee including substitute teachers that access multiple schools or bubbles in the same day or week? What will happen if a support staff is removed from a Pod? Will they be replaced with someone from another pod or will you have a spare on site or will you go without?

A: The District is working within the Provincial government's K-19 Return to Work Plan; it has assured the Union it will try to do as much as possible to limit the movement of employees wherever possible.

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A: The District quoted the K-12 return, and will try to allow for longer term placements for employees as much as possible. If that's not possible, then can the staff member work and stay physically distanced? If that's not possible, can physical barriers be put in place? If that's not possible, then utilize PPE face masks.

Q: **Will students be screened for COVID-19 prior to getting on School buses? Will schools use temperature monitors?**

A: The same screening will be in place that was in May and June for both students and employees. Everyone will be required to fill out daily health forms; these can be done online before coming to school or at the school before entering school.

A: The School District will not use temperature monitors unless instructed to do so by the Provincial Health Authority.

Q: **How will employees be paid if anyone isolated in a bubble tests positive and Employees are quarantined?**

A: The District referred to the Provincial Health Authority and the Provincial and Federal governments.

The link below offers options related to being isolated due to COVID-19

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals>

Q: **Is there counselling/psychologists available for SD34 employees, students or parents for pandemic stress, through the government or District?**

A: The District has a program with Morneau Shepell, offered to SD34 employees. The Employee Family Assistance Program (EFAP) is an anonymous program to help with mental health and counselling and has COVID-19 specific assistance. Call 1-800-387-4765.

Q: **Will masks be mandatory for all employees? Will there be options for those who have trouble wearing them?**

A: Yes it will be required for all, however if wearing a mask creates a safety concern (glasses fogging up) then you can send a message to Mysafety@abbyschools.ca and they will work with you to find a solution.



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Q: Will parents be allowed to enter schools?

A: Yes, but only by appointment and only for educational wellbeing (very limited is what I was told).

Q: Will there be site safety plans in place before the schools open and will this be given to casuals or any new staff entering a school for the first time?

A: Yes if you do not receive a safety plan when getting to the site or school, ask the Principal or Supervisor to provide one.

Q: Are there limits to how many Adults will be in a Pod?

A: No, they won't restrict the number adults or students individually; the limits of a pod will be total number of students and adults together. Example 10 adults/50 students or 13 adults/47 students.

Q: With the upgrading of the Districts' computers, will there be a computer for each school or worksite for custodial or instructional support staff or any other employee to use?

A: The District has assured me that a computer or chromebook will be available in each worksite/school for employees to use for work-related needs. Please let a shop steward know if this is not being made available at your school or worksite.

Fraternally yours,

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