

December 9, 2021

Dear Our Lady of Sorrows School Parents and Guardians:

The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (Health Unit) has advised us that a member of the Alouette Bus Lines – Bus #32 and Bus #50 community has tested positive for COVID-19. At this time, Our Lady of Sorrows School students on Alouette Bus Lines – Bus #32 and Bus #50 have been communicated with and must isolate as a precaution. We have been advised that no classroom cohort has been dismissed.

## At this time, Our Lady of Sorrows School remains open for in-person learning.

The Health Unit worked closely with the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board to conduct contact tracing:

- Students and staff who were considered a "high-risk" contact have received further directions from Public Health Officials. All high-risk contacts immediately self-isolated while they awaited further direction. It is recommended that high-risk contacts be tested for COVID-19 as soon as possible if they develop <u>any</u> symptoms (even if symptoms are mild).
- All students and staff who were <u>not</u> contacted by Public Health Officials are considered to have had a low-risk exposure to the person who tested positive for COVID-19. All students and staff who were not directly contacted by the Health Unit were determined to be a low-risk contact. A low-risk exposure includes transient interactions such as walking by a person with COVID-19, or briefly being in the same room with a person who has COVID-19. In these situations, the likelihood of transmission of COVID-19 is very low; however self-monitoring for symptoms is recommended. Self-isolation and testing are not recommended for low-risk exposures.

If you would like to speak to a public health nurse about your risk for COVID-19, you can call the Health Unit at 1-844-478-1400.

We continue to follow all enhanced health and safety protocols inclusive of daily self-screening, strict student cohorting, masking requirements, physical distancing, enhanced hand hygiene, and regular enhanced cleaning measures including disinfecting throughout all contact areas in the school. In addition, ventilation systems have been modified to increase the amount of incoming fresh air and have been programmed to operate longer hours to ensure occupied spaces have full air exchanges before, during, and after class time. Stand-alone HEPA filtration units have also been provided in all occupied areas where mechanical ventilation is not available.



If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has it, first self-isolate and then use <u>Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool</u> to see if you need to seek further care. If you need further assistance, call your healthcare provider or the Health Unit at **1-844-478-1400**. If you have severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing, you should call 911 and mention your symptoms.

We thank all of our parents in advance for your continued support of the <u>school and child care</u> <u>screening</u> tool and of the importance you place on daily self-screening. Please continue to monitor your email and Edsby accounts for any additional information that may become available.

Thank you.

Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board