



# Stewart Valley School

Box 70, Stewart Valley, SK, S0N 2P0

Phone 306-778-9280

Fax 306-773-1871

Jared Wipf - Principal

[jwipf@chinooksd.ca](mailto:jwipf@chinooksd.ca)

Stewart Valley Parents/Guardians,

It is with great excitement that I begin my journey as principal of Stewart Valley School. The staff, parents, and community members I have met thus far have welcomed me as I transition into this new role. If I have not yet connected with you, I look forward to the opportunity in the near future. In time, I believe that you will recognize my passion for education. I take great pride in the work that I do and strive to improve myself personally and professionally each and every day.

Upon joining the school team, I quickly recognized that Stewart Valley School is a great place to be. The student achievement and parental involvement quickly caught my attention. The staff know the students and community, and they work together as a team. My intention is to build on these wonderful things and help the school continuously improve.

This school year is going to look like no other. We all find ourselves in unprecedented times, faced with unique and never before seen challenges. Increased flexibility and patience will be required for us all. As the ongoing pandemic is constantly changing, it is anticipated that the school year will change along with it.

Following this letter, you will find Stewart Valley School's plan to safely reopen this school year. Consideration was given to a wide variety of school-related aspects, and changes have been implemented in an effort to create a safe environment for students and staff. This plan is subject to change as the school year progresses, and any changes that do occur will be communicated with you.

Working together, I know that we can make this a safe and meaningful school year.

Sincerely,

Jared Wipf



### Steps Taken to Safely Reopen Stewart Valley School:

- A deep clean of the school was completed since the school closed in March. More frequent and enhanced cleaning/sanitation procedures are being completed with increased attention to points of contact, shared equipment, and commonly used areas.
- Staff members have access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will implement its use when required. PPE includes masks, face shields, and hand sanitizer.
- Disinfectant will be provided for staff and students to use during the school day.
- A hand sanitizer and mask station has been created at the main (West) doors of the school.
- Signage has been posted to assist with physical distancing, hand hygiene, etc.
- We will have frequent communication with families in regard to possible changes in safety procedures, student programming, etc.
- Floor markings have been installed for one-way flow of student/staff traffic.
- Student bathrooms will have limited capacity to avoid congestion.
- The student water fountain is not to be used, except for the bottle filling station.
- Student desktops have been removed to create more table space in the library.
- Desks and classroom furniture have been distanced (at least 1 meter apart).
- Each student has been assigned a Chromebook for their exclusive use while at school.
- Designated entrances have been determined for K-2 and 3-8 students.
- A plexiglass shield has been installed on the Office Manager's desk.
- School facility rentals have been suspended until further notice.

### Masks:

- **Masks are recommended** for all staff in Chinook schools and all Prekindergarten to Grade 12 students.
- **Masks are required** for all students on buses where physical distancing is not possible; and all grade 4-8 students in certain activities or situations where physical distancing is not possible.
- For instance, teachers and students in grades 4-8 may need to wear masks during guided reading, guided math, or when working in close proximity with students.
- If physical distancing is possible, masks will not be required for students or staff.



## Reopen Stewart Valley School

Fall 2020 Plan

- The Chinook School Division will provide all students and staff with reusable masks.

### **School Transportation:**

- If possible, parents/guardians are encouraged to provide transportation for their children to and from school.
- Masks are required for staff and students on buses where physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized between each run.

### **Before School Drop Off and After School Pick Up:**

- The school will remain locked until 8:30 am. After entering the school, students are to proceed to their classroom.
- Parents/guardians are asked to drop off/pick up their children in the South parking lot. Chinook buses will use the West parking lot to drop off/pick up students.

### **Students Entering/Exiting School at Recess and Lunch Time:**

- K-2 students are to enter/exit the building using the East doors.
- 3-8 students are to enter/exit the building using the West doors.
- All students must wash/sanitize their hands upon entry.

### **Parents/Guardians Entering the School During the School Day:**

- For early pick up of a child, please call the office and we will send your child to meet you outside the West (main) doors. Please wait for your child outside and do not enter the building. All exterior school doors will be locked during the school day.
- If you wish to arrange a meeting with your child's teacher or the principal, please call the school (306-778-9280) to arrange an appointment.
- To enter the building, parents/guardians must call the office from outside the building to be screened for entry. A staff member will ask them the COVID-19 screening questions, they will be required to wear a mask, use hand sanitizer upon entry, and must sign in at the office. These protocols are in place to limit the number of visitors in our school and to keep both staff and students safe.



## Reopen Stewart Valley School

Fall 2020 Plan

- If items need to be dropped off for your child, please notify the office and place the item in the “drop-off” bin outside the main doors. We will deliver the item to your child.

### **Day to Day Operation of the School:**

- The school will function as normally as possible, while following the mandated protective provisions and guidelines.
- Increased time will be provided to staff and students for hand washing and cleaning during the school day.
- Milk sales and hot meal lunches are suspended until further notice.
- Students are encouraged to give “air fives” to their friends and staff, rather than touching hands or hugging.
- Students will be assigned a designated sink for handwashing purposes.

### **Recess and Lunch Time at Stewart Valley School:**

- Use of shared equipment will not be available for students.
- For morning, afternoon, and lunch recesses, students (grouped K-2 and 3-8) will go to their designated area, which will alternate every break.
  - East side of the school grounds.
  - North/West side of the school grounds.
- Students may stay in their classroom during breaks at the teacher’s discretion.
- Students who live in town are encouraged to go home for lunch.
- Students who stay for lunch will eat in their classrooms.

### **Classrooms at Stewart Valley School:**

- Only needed school supplies are to be sent to school. All trinkets, toys, and desk decorations should remain at home.
- Desks and classroom tables/furniture have been separated (at least 1 meter apart).
- Soft furniture has been removed.
- Hand hygiene expectations will be promoted and taught to students. Resources are available for teachers to utilize.
- All student belongings will be at their desk or hung/stored in their designated area.



## Reopen Stewart Valley School

Fall 2020 Plan

- Students will remain in their grade-like grouping for the majority of the instructional day:
  - K-Grade 2 (Room 1)
  - Grade 3-5 (Room 2)
  - Grade 6-8 (Room 3)
- Sharing of classroom supplies/manipulatives will be avoided. If materials are shared they will be sanitized in-between use.
- Teachers will use the outside school grounds for instruction when possible.

### Physical Education

- Classes will be taken outside as much as possible.
- Sharing of equipment will not be allowed at this time (i.e. volleyballs, basketballs, etc.).
- Individual equipment may be given to each student, but it will be sanitized after use.

### Special Events, Extra-Curricular Activities, Sports Teams, and Band:

- All large gatherings have been suspended at this time, including school assemblies.
- We are waiting on further direction for school sports.
- School pictures will go ahead, with physical distancing measures in place. Parents/guardians will have the option to not have their child participate in school pictures.
- Band will continue to be offered for students in grades 5-8. More information regarding Stewart Valley's band program will be coming soon.

### School Library:

- Library books will not be sent home, but rather a book bin will be provided to each classroom.
- Library book selection will be rotated in and out of the classroom, at the teacher and librarian's discretion.
- All proper safety measures will be taken upon the books being returned to the library shelves. The current recommendation is allowing books to sit for 3 days before recirculation.



## Reopen Stewart Valley School

Fall 2020 Plan

### Sick Children:

- **There is a strict stay-at-home policy for any students or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (even if symptoms resemble a mild cold). Visit the Saskatchewan Health Authority's website for a list of COVID-19 symptoms.**
- If a child becomes ill while at school a parent or guardian will be contacted to pick up the child immediately and the following will take place:
  - The classroom teacher will notify the principal or designate, who will take the child to the isolation room.
  - The sick child will remain in this room until a parent/guardian/emergency contact is able to pick them up. Sick children will not be allowed to ride the bus at the end of the day.
  - The child's family will call Public Health (811) and receive further direction.