

January 7, 2022

Dear parents/guardians,

Beginning the week of January 10, we expect to start receiving medical grade masks and COVID-19 rapid test kits from the Government of Alberta for every student and staff member. The availability of enhanced medical grade masks and rapid tests will become valuable tools in addition to our health protocols as we work hard to minimize the transmission of COVID-19. They will be made available to students and staff but are **OPTIONAL** to take and use.

In alignment with government recommendations and requirements, RVS mask protocols require all students, staff, and visitors to wear a mask unless they have an exemption under the government's process. Students and staff are welcome to continue to wear cloth or disposable masks and are **NOT** required to wear government-provided masks.

Rapid test kits are optional and are **NOT** required to be taken or used by any students or staff members. Rapid test use is to be completed at home for individuals choosing to use them. We request that if your child/ren test positive that you please inform us so we are aware and can help support your child's learning while they need to be away.

Once these items arrive, they will be distributed to students and staff as quickly as possible. Each student and staff member will receive a box of at-home rapid test kits, enough to test twice per week for a few weeks if they choose. The medical-grade masks will be distributed to students and school staff via the school. Initially there will be a two-week supply of masks for each student and staff member (two per day). Both pediatric (Kindergarten - Grade 6) and adult sizes (Grades 7 - 12 and adults) will be sent to schools.

**If you do not want your child to take the rapid test kit or masks home, please contact the school office as soon as possible at [westbrook@rockyview.ab.ca](mailto:westbrook@rockyview.ab.ca)**

If you have informed the school you do not want your child to take the masks or rapid tests and change your mind, please contact the school and we will provide them.

The province has provided information about the program and how to use the rapid test kits. If you are considering this option, please review the information below.

- Video: [Having a safe and healthy school year: At-home rapid testing](#)
- Fact sheet: [At-Home Rapid Testing Program Information for parents, students and school staff \(translations also available\)](#)

Please continue to use the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) every day before coming to school and for information on when to stay home. Thank you for your support as we work together to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our schools.

Jonathan Klinger  
Principal  
Westbrook School