

Thunderbird News

September 7, 2020

Food Service Resumes at Aurora

As we cannot safely distance with larger groups in the cafeteria, all students will eat in their homerooms.

However, we are pleased to announce Aurora Middle School has resumed food service.

Our breakfast program is a go and cafeteria concession is now open with new safety procedures and precautions in place. We will no longer accept CASH -- you must use SchoolCash Online to pre-order food for your child. You can order from the pre-set menu for lunch items, and you can pre-load purchase cards for snacks and drinks.

Students can take advantage of our breakfast program any morning they need without pre-ordering; the snack purchase cards can be used for snacks and drinks any time after purchasing online, but **lunch orders must be placed the week prior**. Parents who want to ensure their child chooses healthy drinks, a 'Healthy Snack Card' is available which can only be used to purchase milk and water for now, but we hope to add healthy alternatives through the year. All students must receive their food while masked and proceed to their homeroom to eat in their designated desk.

Please follow the link below if you wish to order lunch for next week.

<https://nlsd.schoolcashionline.com/.../Det.../19572/78/False/True>

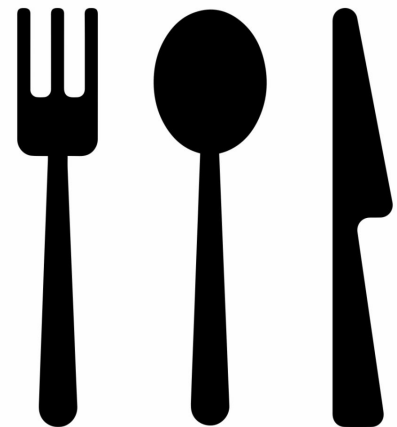
Please follow the link below if you wish to order a Concession Card to purchase snacks at the concession/canteen.

<https://nlsd.schoolcashionline.com/.../Det.../19571/78/False/True>

Please follow the link below if you wish to order a 'Healthy Snack Card' to purchase MILK or WATER only at the concession/canteen.

<https://nlsd.schoolcashionline.com/.../Det.../19570/78/False/True>

If you have not pre-ordered by the weekly cutoff date, please send your child with a lunch and snacks.



Picture Day

Make sure your young Thunderbird is ready for picture day on Friday September 11, 2020. After Picture Day, order pictures on mylifetouch.ca using your Portrait ID and Aurora's Access Code: **QI040167YP**. Contact **Call 1-866-457-8212** for questions about ordering.

Remember Your Screening

Last week, Aurora had to contact many parents to have their child picked up from school early, as they were exhibiting symptoms from the Alberta Health Services provided self screening tool. Please review it again and be sure not to send your child to school sick; it can be found at <https://www.nlpsab.ca/download/292274> . Parents do not need to submit any paper copies of screenings, but should go through the checklist on a daily basis before sending your child to school. Send your child to school only if they are healthy and exhibit no signs of illness and pass the screening tool's questionnaire. It is absolutely essential to have a pickup plan for your child in the case they begin to exhibit any of the listed symptoms during the school day. Students will be removed from class and isolated with a caring staff member until the parent, guardian, or designated emergency contact can pick up your child. Under no circumstances will your child be permitted to ride the bus home, so a child should never be sent to school without a pickup plan in place. Confirm your emergency contact information with the school, and also inform these contacts that they may be required to pick up your child.

PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS All pre-existing illness or health conditions must be reported to the school prior to the start of the 2020-2021 school year. If a student with pre-existing illness or health conditions is exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 they will be required not to come to school until they have been tested for COVID-19 and received a negative test result. If the result is negative, the student can return to school and does not need to isolate unless the symptoms worsen or new symptoms develop.

STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS You are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if you have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition. The mandatory isolation period is 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer.

TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 You are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if you have tested positive for COVID-19. Isolation period is for 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer.

You will be required to show proof of a negative test result prior to returning to a school building. HAVE SYMPTOMS BUT

TESTED NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19 If you tested negative and have known exposure to COVID-19, you are legally required to isolate for 14 days. If you tested negative and have no known exposure to the virus, you are not legally required to isolate. However, it is important to stay home until your symptoms resolve so that you do not transmit your illness to others. Unless you have a pre-existing illness or health condition, you will be required to be symptom free prior to returning to a school building.

CLOSE CONTACTS OF CONFIRMED CASES You are legally required to isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms if you are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 (provides care, lives with or has close physical contact without appropriate use of personal protective equipment, or comes into direct contact with infectious body fluids). If you become sick with cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat during this time, you must isolate for an additional 10 days from the beginning of symptoms or until you are feeling well, whichever takes longer.

When a Child Gets Sick at School

If a student shows symptoms at school:

- student will wear a non-medical mask and be isolated in a separate room where they can be kept at least 2 metres away from others; the school has several 'infirmary' areas ready for students
- parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up the child immediately; it is imperative that you ensure the school has up-to-date contact information, including current emergency contact information; **you are required to have a pick-up plan each day; students will under no circumstances be permitted to ride the bus home.**

If the school has a confirmed positive case:

- the zone medical officer of health will work with school authorities to quickly:
 - identify when symptoms developed
 - identify and contact people who had close contact with the person who tested positive, offer testing, and set the isolation measures:
 - people are legally required to [isolate](#) for 14 days if they live with or are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19
 - only people in direct contact with a confirmed case need to isolate
- each school authority will:

- notify staff and parents if a case is confirmed at school
- support students and staff to learn or work at home if they are required to self-isolate

If a school has 2 or more cases:

- the school would be considered to have an outbreak
- medical officers will assess the spread and exposure risk to determine if it affects multiple grades and areas, or is confined within close contacts of a confirmed case, and provide specific recommendations – an outbreak will not automatically lead to school closure
- For more information, go to the [Resource guide for COVID-19 outbreaks in schools](https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/covid-19-in-school-k-12-resource-guide-for-schools-before-during-and-after-a-covid-19-outbreak) at <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/covid-19-in-school-k-12-resource-guide-for-schools-before-during-and-after-a-covid-19-outbreak>



Drop Off and Pick-up

We ask that parents who drop off their child do so at the cafeteria doors as in years past; however, students who arrive early will not be able to gather in any common space (like the cafeteria or library). Students will need to sanitize their hands and head directly to their homeroom class to await the start of the day; there, they should touch only their own desk area to avoid unnecessary contamination. Because of this, we ask parents avoid dropping off

their child prior to 8:20am.

When students are entering the school off their bus, the Grade 4,5,6 students will enter through the main entrance front doors and the Grade 7 and 8 students will enter through the north side entrance doors (close to the caged hockey area). Students will proceed directly to their classroom and sanitize their hands. Pick-up at the end of the day will continue to be outside the cafeteria beginning at 3:30pm and ending at 3:50pm. Students remaining at 3:50pm after the buses have all departed must be picked up at the front office. Students must remain masked.

Leaving the School During the Day

Consider Aurora Middle School a mostly-closed campus for safety purposes. We recognize that students sometimes have various appointments and must be picked up

early or dropped off late. We require parents to communicate with the homeroom teacher and front desk staff when this is necessary, and we strongly encourage parents to avoid this practice wherever possible. Consider that reasons such as 'taking your child out to lunch' pose an unnecessary risk of increased exposure, and that we want to avoid increasing risk to our school community whenever possible. Contact the school at 780 623 4129 if you have any other questions!