



Cowessess Education
P.O BOX 40 COWESSESS, SK SOG 5L0
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August 26, 2022

Re: Cowessess Community Educational Centre – 2022-2023 School Year Update

Good day, CCEC Parents and Caregivers,

The CCEC staff is very excited to welcome back students full time, face to face, for the new school year. We trust that you had a relaxing summer.

We welcome a new principal, Ida Iron, from Canoe Lake First Nation, to CCEC. We have a number of new teachers this year – we welcome them to our beautiful community. Our former principal, Natasha, is assisting this year as a consultant. We are proud of our team and we look forward to a great school year. The CCEC team will be having an open house and a BBQ to meet the teachers and staff. Please watch for upcoming dates.

Here are some specific updates:

Covid-19 Protocols:

- We wish we could say that the pandemic is over, but it is not. There are currently 6 active cases in the community.
- To ensure the health and safety of all CCEC staff and students, we recommend the following precautions:
 - Vaccinations for all students who are eligible and updated boosters if applicable
 - Masking is recommended for the classrooms and buses as the community vaccination rate is still low (57% for ages 5 and up, 2 doses)
 - Rapid testing once a week for all students and staff (please send the negative test to school on Wednesdays or as directed by CCEC)
 - Rapid tests will be available at the school and Education office
 - If staff or students show symptoms or are not feeling well, please stay home
 - Continue to wash hands, socially distance and monitor wellness

CCEC Renovations:

- Last winter, the boiler pipes in some areas of the building were leaking, affecting the heating system

- Indigenous Services Canada approved a \$1 Million dollar renovation to replace the pipes in the building
- Contractors will be replacing pipes area by area with minimal class disruption, starting in mid-September. Some classes will be relocated temporarily in the building when pipes are replaced.
- Heat in the building will be turned off due to the boiler shut off, so let's hope for a long fall into October.
- Hot water heat will be on to ensure sanitary conditions for staff and students.

Bussing:

- We welcome back Avery T. to the bus driver team, with Rosie starting her 50th year of bussing. What an amazing feat! We are planning a day of celebration for Rosie so please stay tuned.
- We have a new S endorsed bus driver, Dennis B. and one trainee Rylan D., who is working on his S endorsement.
- We have two spare drivers, Matt B. and Joanne B., but we can always use more!
- We have to bus students on one route with a white bus with approved Cowessess drivers in the first two weeks until we get all the buses on the road with qualified S endorsed drivers. We cannot offer bussing to the lower sub students at this time. We will post the route plans early next week.

Registration:

- All students should register as soon as possible. Please call Ruby at the school.
- All registered families before August 31 will be entered into a draw for prizes.

School Year Calendar:

- CCEC staff are in the building from August 25 to 31, 2022.
- The first day for students is Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022.
- Head Start and PreK will be starting later in September. Parents will be contacted.
- We will post a monthly calendar and the full year calendar on the CCEC Parent/Caregiver Facebook page.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Principal Ida Iron at the school, 306.696.2487 or Sandy Pinay-Schindler, Director of Education, at the Education office, 306.696.3418.

Respectfully,

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