

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



Dear Arbutus Families,

Covid 19 K-12 Safety Guidelines Update: The Ministry of Health announced updated guidelines yesterday that include changes to mask protocols and other measures to increase safety in schools during the pandemic. A letter from Superintendent Shelley Green was sent to parents yesterday explaining the new guidelines that are coming into effect soon. The main changes affect students and staff in the full-time model, and include:

- 1. Students and staff within cohort groups must now wear a mask at all times when indoors, except:
 - *When sitting at a desk, or standing at a work station*
 - *When eating or drinking*
 - *If there is a Plexiglas barrier between them and the other person they are working with*

(*Previously students and staff in cohorts did not have to wear masks, unless in high traffic areas, halls)

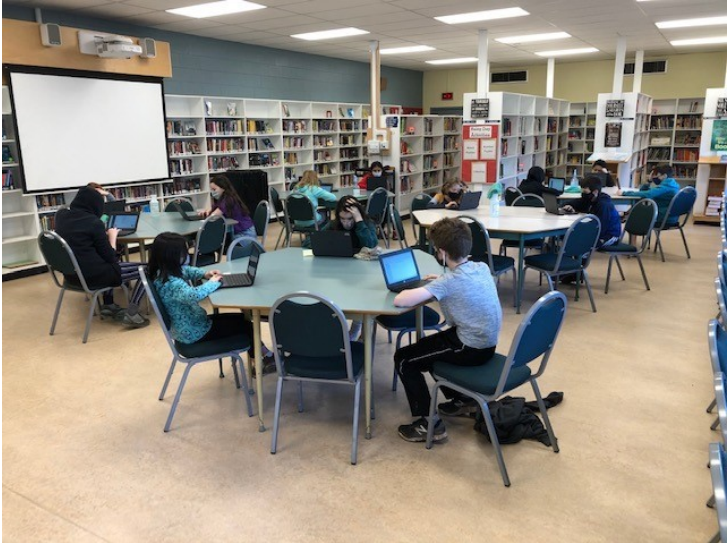
- 2. Masks will need to be worn during PE classes, unless outdoors.

There are several other adjustments set out in the new guidelines that re-emphasize reducing crowding and physical distancing, some of which we have already had in place. I am waiting for direction from the District as to when these changes will be formally implemented, but in the meantime we began sharing this information with students today so they can be prepared for the changes.

Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI):

This study takes place now every two years, and this year we are having our Grade 6 students (right) complete this online survey. The questionnaire asks a variety of questions (about 100 total) about our students’ lives, including who they are connected to at school, as well as the kinds of activities they take part in after school in the community, and at home.

We do not see individual responses but do get the overall results showing the percentages of students who answered a question a particular way. This data has been very helpful in knowing what instructional strategies to implement next in our efforts to improve social-emotional learning at AGMS.



50th Anniversary T-Shirt design Contest:

Congratulations to *Gaby Salina* who won the top design in our AGMS 50th Anniversary T-Shirt Contest. (See design on page 2.) All the designs were featured at our Zoom Assembly this week, and we appreciate all students who entered. Well done!

Rob Parker, Principal

	YOUR WEEK AT A GLANCE
Monday, Feb. 8th	Transfer Week—Feb 8-11. Forms will be available on our District website and in the Office for pick up.
Tuesday, Feb. 9th	3 pm Volleyball for <u>Girls</u> of Divs 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, and 15.
Wednesday, Feb. 10th	3 pm All <u>Boys</u> interested in volleyball. 3 pm Homework Club in the Learning Centre after school.
Thursday, Feb. 11th	3 pm <u>Girls</u> of Divs 2, 3, 8, 9, and 16, 17.
Friday, Feb. 12th	Tri District Pro-D day —students not in session

FEBRUARY 5, 2021

TEAM AVALANCHE

The AGMS Week at a Glance...



UPCOMING DISTRICT REGISTRATIONS, TRANSITIONS AND TRANSFERS

~ Transfer week— Feb 8-11—

Forms will be available on our District and school websites and in the office for students to pick up. Forms will not be accepted before Feb. 8. **Deadline is February 11th at 3:30pm.**

Parents will be notified by March 12 for placement the following year.

Arbutus Spirit Wear is available for purchase!

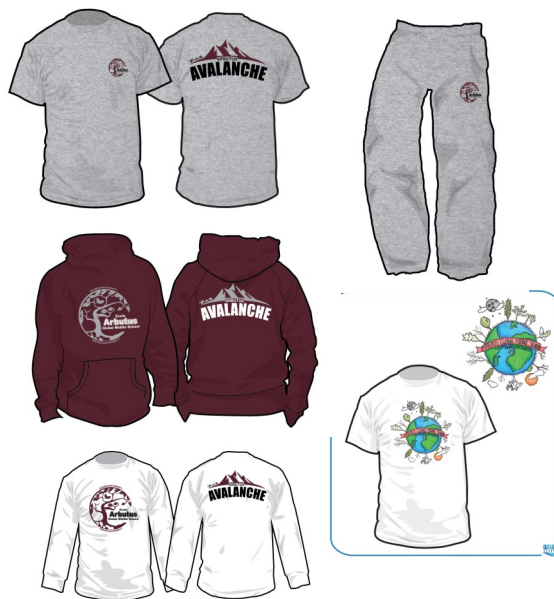
We are thrilled to announce we are ready to offer Arbutus Spirit Wear for purchase!

We have moved to a new distributor which will handle all of the purchases through an online store. Once the store closes, they will need time to put our orders together, and we anticipate delivery just before Spring Break. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions, we cannot offer items to try-on at this time - please pay attention to the sizing guides included in the online store.

We are also very excited to include our 50th Anniversary T-Shirt! The winning design from our school wide contest was created by Gaby Salina in Div 3 - Congrats Gaby!

The online store is open now and will close on Friday, Feb. 19th

<https://arbutus.orderpromos.com/>



Attendance - Please remember to inform our Attendance line if your child will be late or absent.

You can email to

attendance62@sd61.bc.ca

or phone and leave a message on our call back line at **250-360-0725**.



When a student is late: Please have them come to our side service door (#4) and ring the doorbell;

someone will come let them in.

Masks and Water Bottles

Since September we have handed out over **800** disposable masks and **500** plastic water cups for student use.

Please help us reduce our waste and keep our school safe by **making sure your student has their water bottle and a couple of extra masks** tucked into their backpacks every day.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Feb 8-11	Transfer Applications Week for 2021-22 school year
Feb 12	Pro-D—Tri District— Students not in session
Feb 15	Family Day Stat Holiday— school not in session
Feb 16	PAC Zoom meeting—7pm
Feb 19	Curriculum Completion Day— Early Dismissal 11:30 am
Feb 24	Pink Shirt Day

Covid Protocol if Your Child is Unwell

Please use the new and recently revised **Daily Health Check** form each morning (https://www.sd61.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2021/01/GVSD61_DailyHealthChecklist_20210115_parents.pdf)

to ensure your child is healthy and not exhibiting any respiratory symptoms. If any students or staff are sick **they must not come to school**. This will be essential in keeping our school community safe this winter. Parents must also check with a medical professional or call 811 to ensure their child does not have COVID 19 before they can return to school. Students must also be symptom free before returning to school.

