

RAEC friends and family;

We are looking forward to welcoming new and returning students to RAEC. Although we know there is anxiety and nervousness around this, we want you to know that we are exploring all the possibilities to make this transition back to school as easy and safe as possible. We are prepared to adjust as we learn new things and information changes. As changes occur, we will continue to provide updates.

As we prepare for a return to school, the health and safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance and top priority in our planning. The decisions we are making are in consultation and align with direction from Border Land School Division, Manitoba Education and Manitoba Public Health.

Border Land School Division has provided a point form information sheet for families. This document, in addition to the more detailed "[BLSL Planning for Re-opening of Schools](#)" posted online July 21, shares what children and families can expect when we re-open and welcome back our students. Please know that with the ever-changing state of the pandemic we will update the plan as necessary and ensure that you receive communication around those changes.

RAEC staff will return to school beginning September 2, 2020 and for three days staff will receive information and engage in professional development and learning regarding:

- COVID-19 current health information,
- Updated Workplace Safety and Health Procedures,
- Mental health support for students and staff,
- Recovery learning,
- Planning for Manitoba response levels to the pandemic,
- School based procedures for re-opening schools.

While there are many changes, what remains constant is RAEC's commitment to providing you an engaging and meaningful learning experience in an environment that is welcoming, safe, and supportive of your personal and academic growth.

We look forward to working with you in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Learning at RAEC

How do I become or return as a RAEC student?

Registration: Please email a completed registration form OR call to register. RAEC staff will gladly complete the registration process with you over the phone and then set up an appointment for the intake process.

Intake: Learners complete a short reading assessment followed by a process called myBlueprint, which explores career options and ensures that you enroll in courses that will help you reach your goals. *(returning students may omit this step; however, your plan will be reviewed)*

Academic Advising: You will meet with a teacher to select appropriate courses and a schedule if you plan to attend RAEC in person.

What do I need to do before I leave for school?

- **Self-Screen** using the Manitoba Shared Health Screening tool, confirming you can attend school. <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>
- **Hand Hygiene** – wash and sanitize your hands before leaving your home
- **Mask Usage** - Pack your mask for use in areas of the school where physical distancing is not possible.

Visitor Access:

- Visits should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- Where possible, visits should be scheduled in advance.
- All visitors must follow screening and hygiene protocols in place.
- Community access of schools is not occurring at this time.

What can I expect when I come to school?

Schedules: To remain as safe as possible and to support potential contact tracing, RAEC learners will select a cohort group that fits their needs best. Each cohort will attend two days per week and alternating Fridays in the morning or the afternoon and engage in remote learning outside the allotted times.

- Morning cohort starts at 9 am and ends at 12. Please arrive as close to 9 am as possible (or later), and ensure you depart by noon so sanitation can occur for the afternoon cohort. Should you arrive before 9 am, please wait in the reception area and wear your mask.
- Afternoon cohort starts at 1 pm and ends at 4 pm. Please arrive as close to 1 pm as possible (or later), and ensure you depart by 4 pm when we close.

The two-week schedule is as follows, with the week of September 8 counting as week A:

Cohort	Week A	Week B
1: (9-12)	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Monday, Wednesday
2: (1-4)	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Monday, Wednesday
3: (9-12)	Tuesday, Thursday	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
4: (1 – 4)	Tuesday, Thursday	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Evenings: Learners will engage in remote learning as RAEC will close at 4 pm until further notice. Please check with your teacher(s) for their evening schedule. Your learning can be supported through telephone calls, video conferencing or email.

Transportation:

- **Adult learners** should expect to provide their own transportation to school this year.
- **Underage learners:** Parents are encouraged to transport their child to school if possible. If bussing is required, please know that masks are mandatory on school busses, self-screening must occur, and you must not have any symptoms.
- Please note that staff will not be able to assist by giving rides to and from school.

School Arrival:

- **Please wear a mask** as we cannot guarantee that a 2 m (6 ft) distance can be maintained. One non-medical cloth mask will be provided for you.
- Please use the hand hygiene station at the entrance before entering the school.
- To avoid congestion with daycare children and families, please use the left door to enter the building unless you have accessibility needs. Please also use the left door at the bottom of the stairs.
- Please ask a staff member to sign you in, where you will be required to confirm that you have completed the COVID screening. Inform us of any changes to your health and provide updated contact information in case Public Health needs to do contact tracing about COVID-19.
- Binder storage will not be provided this year. Please bring what you need and take it home at the end of the day.

- Please bring your own supplies if possible; you will need a binder, pen, pencil, eraser. If you need headphones, please bring your own.
- Please do not bring your personal laptops to school, and please keep cell phones off the tables.

In School:

- Learners will be seated 1m – 2m apart in their cohort.
- There will be a seating plan in all classes that must be adhered to and attendance will be taken daily for each cohort.
- There will be a maximum capacity of people permitted in RAEC.
- Only touchless refillable water stations will be open. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle filled from home when possible.
- If you prefer hot beverages, please bring it from home in your own beverage container.
- The Hot Lunch program will not be operating this year.
- Enhanced cleaning will occur with high touch areas being cleaned at least twice throughout the day.
- The kitchen will be reserved as a space for intakes and individual learning support, so please do not plan to use any cooking appliances or the dishwasher.

Programming:

- RAEC has always supported remote learning, and we will continue to do so. Please let us know if that is your preference as we can support online and paper-based learning.
- RAEC has always supported in-class learning, and we will continue to do so while taking all necessary precautions for everyone to be safe.
- RAEC is **unable** to support in class learning during the evenings until further notice.
- **Elective Courses:**
 - RAEC will maintain as many optional courses as possible, but our focus will be the core curricula to support post-secondary or employment goals.
 - Some elective courses are not being offered this year as they don't lend themselves well to remote learning.
- **Special Needs Students** : a student with exceptional learning needs is defined by Manitoba Education as follows: a student who requires specialized services or programming when deemed necessary by the in-school team because of exceptional learning, social/emotional, behavioural, sensory, physical, cognitive/intellectual, communication, academic or special health-care needs that affect his or her ability to meet learning outcomes will attend 5 days per week for in-person teaching and learning.
 - further information regarding Student Services and Clinical Services can be found on page 8 of the [“BLSD Planning for Re-opening of Schools”](#)
- **Technical Vocational Courses:**
 - Will continue as a cohort group and will follow the Public Health guideline for physical distancing. Specific details will follow from the host school to RRTVA students.

Field Trips:

- RAEC will not be offering field trips this year.

What if I am sick or get sick?

- You should stay home, self-isolate and not enter any schools if you
 - Are experiencing any symptoms suggestive of COVID-19
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/about/index.html>.
 - Have travelled outside MB in the previous 14 days (outside of areas excluded by public health orders).
 - Are a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19.
 - Are awaiting a COVID-19 test result (excluding a person who tested voluntarily but is asymptomatic).
 - Please stay home and notify the school of your illness.
- If you become ill at school, you will be asked to go home immediately. If you are depending on someone else for a ride, you will be isolated from others in a designated location until they arrive. You will be given a medical mask to wear and, if you are a minor, your parents/guardians will be contacted by RAEC staff. Call Health Links for next steps.

What happens if a case of COVID-19 is in my school?

- In the event of the confirmation of a case of COVID-19 connected with a school, Public Health will lead the response and ensure the appropriate supports are in place to coordinate the response:
 - Contact tracing involves identifying contacts of a positive case and contacting those individuals who may have been exposed.
 - Cohorts, seating plans and attendance are all critical information that RAEC will supply to Public Health.
- Public Health will assess the need for the school to be closed for a period of time. RAEC will follow Public Health directions and communicate that information as needed.