**Virtual Town Hall with Dr. Sandra Allison, Medical Health Officer**

Below is a link to the full video as well as a timing index referencing specific questions:

<https://youtu.be/OhgzKYscQQ8>

00:00 Welcome, acknowledgement of territory, and introductions of Board and staff

03:11 Dr. Allison begins her presentation with PowerPoint slides covering the trajectory of the COVID spread, impacts, and influence of measures, including the vaccine roll-out.

16:23 Q & A begins with questions that were submitted prior to the Zoom call

17: 29 Is it safe to send my child to school?

22:28 What happens if we end up with a significant number of COVID cases in our community?

25:10 We still have students not wearing masks in K-3 unless they choose to or unless their families make that decision. Can we talk about that and the difference of impact on our young children?

30:46 If I am fully immunized, will I need to self-isolate if I am in close contact with a positive case?

33:10 Some are feeling significant pressure to get the vaccination as a staff member, community member, or a student in our schools? Please comment on this perspective across the province and in our District.

40:40 How did it come about to draw down some of the interventions/protocols (i.e. cohorts, distinct numbers, distancing of 6 feet) that have been pulled back or adjusted?

42.51 How do you think that COVID will alter grad activities? Will grads be able to host events such as the Halloween house?

44:00 Will the District have online set-up if COVID cases increase?

44:52 Will any student programs be only available to those with a COVID passport?

46:18 Were air filters changed over the summer in all school’s before the start of school’s?

46:50 We had increased cleaning protocols last year, and this year we do not. Do you feel bringing back the extra day time cleaning would be beneficial?

(question in zoom chat) Are 'close contacts' still only one tier away from the case only? For example, if a child is identified as a close contact for a COVID positive case, would only they have to isolate, or would other household members have to isolate as well. Assuming the close contact child is not symptomatic.

(Dr. Allison Response) Yes, contacts are only High Risk Close contacts of a case. We do not identify contacts of contacts. Household members of a contact do not need to isolate. Obviously this can be challenging with a very young child.

51:00 – Dr. Allison left the meeting

51:08 Are all classmates considered a close contact for a positive case? If not, what defines a close contact in a classroom setting, and how are those close contacts informed? Public Health? The Principal? Other? Also, will each close contact be asked vaccination status to define isolation requirements and how will this be communicated with the school so that they understand why some students may be different than others.

52:42: How many deaths have there been in BC in the age group between 12 – 19?

*This questions was asked after Dr. Allison left the meeting and the following response was received from Dr. Allison’s office:*

From Jan 1 2021 to Sept 13 2021, less than one percent of cases 5-18 years of age have been hospitalized. Zero were vaccinated; however, none of them were eligible for vaccine at the time they were a case.

The BCCDC’s BC COVID-19 Situation Report can be viewed on the following link:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_sitrep/Week_34_2021_BC_COVID-19_Situation_Report.pdf>

53:10 What is the difference between opening windows and letting the HVAC system do its job?

56:09 What would you (participants) like from the Board – are there things you would like the Board to explore doing beyond what we are able to do and what we have done; particularly for parents as well as administrators: What would you like us to know? What would you like us to do?

59:34 How much money was the District given for COVID 19 for this school year?