

# LEADING A SCHOOL COMMUNITY THROUGH A PANDEMIC

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Wednesdays @ 2 pm MDT (Saskatchewan)  
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Episode #12- Winding Down (For Now) Before Gearing Back Up - June 17, 2020

## **Recommendations for the return of school (based on an article from the Center for Global Development):**

- The importance of engagement in school communities, which includes teachers, parents, students, and the community at large
  - The work over the summer will be to prioritize community engagement early on
  - Teachers, especially in Canada, still hold a great deal of public trust and we need to continue to earn that through communication of what school may look like
  - Listen to the apprehensions of parents
  - Communicate honestly with teaching staff about plans, uncertainties, health rights, etc.
- Understand your schools resource allocation
  - Schools have limited resources so how are you going to allocate them equitably
  - Some students and families will have needed more support than others while learning from home and may not be at the same level as others
  - In order to build full communities we need to lift up those people who are most disadvantaged
- What's it going to look like when we bring children back to school?
  - There are many unanswerable questions right now but we need to think of possible answers
    - What will attendance look like? How will classrooms be set-up? What will school schedules look like?
- Need to make school environments safe
  - Necessary prevention tactics for the spread of Covid-19
    - First and foremost, good handwashing
    - Consider "high-touch" areas
    - Potential for government imposed temperature checks

- Protocols in place to identify and deal with students and teachers who appear symptomatic
- Teachers and students very well may have gone through some amount of distress throughout the past months and schools must be prepared to deal with and care for these people
- Personal safety and wellbeing needs to be at the forefront
- Recovering Learning Loss
  - We know that “summer learning loss” already exist in a normal school year
  - The gap widens between the kids who have access to multitudes of resources and those who don't
  - Schools need to be prepared for this massive gap that will exist
    - Support systems must be put into place to help students, their families, and teachers