



March 5, 2026

Tumbler Ridge Frequently Asked Questions

What will be happening next for students?

We are still in Phase 1, which means students have returned to school buildings. As students are ready, they will begin moving into Phase 2, which means a return to learning. For Tumbler Ridge Secondary School (TRSS) students, Phase 2 also includes moving into the more permanent portable classrooms after Spring Break. Phase 3 will focus on talking with the community about longer-term plans for where and how students will learn. More details about Phase 2 and Phase 3 will be shared as they are available.

Are students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) still being supported and do they have safety plan considerations as a part of that planning?

In Phase 1, our focus is to return to buildings as we transition to returning to learning in Phase 2. Students with IEPs will continue to be supported with all parts of their IEP including safety planning where it applies. If you have any specific questions about your child, please contact the school principal.

Can additional community members support with security?

We have many trained staff who are currently providing safety, security, connection and learning within our school communities. Supporting all our students during non-school hours can be an important community focus, particularly during the transition to spring break.

What is the difference between Lockdown and Secure and Hold and will these processes be changing?

A Secure and Hold is a precautionary protocol used in response to a potential safety concern outside of a school. This may include a police situation in the school's neighbourhood or, in some instances, a threat or potential threat that is not immediate or proximate to the school but warrants a follow-up out of an abundance of caution. During a Secure and Hold, exterior doors are locked and movement in and out of the building is restricted, but normal activities continue inside while police carry out their work.

A Lockdown is a protocol used when there is a threat within or directly involving the building. During a Lockdown, students and staff shelter in place and the school operates in close coordination with emergency responders.

External international school safety experts will be conducting a safety audit of Tumbler Ridge schools in the coming weeks. There will also be opportunities for parents to provide in-depth feedback for longer term Tumbler Ridge school communities planning during Phase 3, and this could include safety feedback as well.



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Tumbler Ridge Elementary (TRE)

What security measures are in place at TRE, particularly during recess and lunch?

When students are outside, external doors are locked, and supervisors have keys that open all doors. The elementary areas continue to be well staffed, and additional perimeter safety personnel and liaison staff are providing additional supports and supervision. All additional staff have had criminal records checks. Additionally, the office staff has a radio that is connected to the secondary school system, to ensure consistent communication between sites.

Does TRE have operational cameras in place?

The external cameras are currently being replaced, and interior cameras that record in the hallways are operational.

What is the current cell phone policy at TRE?

TRE continues to follow the [provincial cell phone guidelines](#) which means that TRE students may not have access to their phones bell to bell.

Tumbler Ridge Secondary School (TRSS)

What are the current guidelines for TRSS students during lunch?

TRSS will remain a closed campus until spring break. Students are welcome to congregate outside within the supervised portable “U” and can select which portable they wish to be in during lunch to allow for social connections.

What are the TRSS cold weather protocols during Phase 1?

Students are encouraged to dress warmly for school, as they will need to leave the portables to access washrooms. It is a short trip, but additional planning may help avoid an uncomfortable trip.

Will there be another opportunity for TRSS parents/guardians to see the new spaces and talk to staff?

When we transition to Phase 2, and the bigger portables, we will provide opportunities for families to tour the spaces and meet with school and district staff.

What is the current cell phone policy for TRSS?

We continue to support the [provincial cell phone guidelines](#) limited use of phones during instructional time and acknowledge that many students and families may feel safer if students have access to their phones. Staff will continue to support students with the respectful use of their phones to minimize distractions during learning and in person connections.