

Ottawa, August 17, 2020

## IMPORTANT UPDATE - SCHOOL REOPENING

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope you enjoyed the weekend. As the start of the new school year approaches, all our staff is mobilized to ensure a return to school that will certainly be different, but also successful. Here are some updates that will help you prepare for this new school year.

### Guide to reopening schools

You received our [Back to School Guide](#) last week. The [English version](#) of the Guide is also now available.

We would like to inform you that certain details have been added to the Guide, more specifically on class schedules as well as the Virtual Student Learning Program (PAVÉ). We ask you to take note of the latest updates so that you can have the latest information to help you make the choice of mode of school attendance for your child if you have not already done so.

### Classroom schedule

- **Elementary:** Regular school class hours will apply. Your child's school will be sending you details of day-to-day operations shortly.
- **Grades 7 and 8:** Grades 7 and 8 will return to school full time, five days a week, whether they are attending elementary or secondary school. Regular school class hours will apply.
- **Secondary:** Following an agreement with the Ministry of Education we can now confirm students of the following nine secondary schools will return to school full time, five days a week. Regular class hours will apply at these schools.
  - é.é.s.p. L'Équinoxe
  - é.é.s.p. Maurice-Lapointe
  - é.s.p. Académie de la Seigneurie
  - é.s.p. Barrhaven
  - é.s.p. L'Alternative
  - é.s.p. L'Héritage
  - é.s.p. Le Sommet
  - é.s.p. Mille-Îles
  - é.s.p. Marc-Garneau

Four of our high schools are Ministry of Education designated schools and grades 9 to 12 students will attend school there 50% of the time, until further notice. These are the following schools:

- é.s.p. Gisèle-Lalonde
- é.s.p. De La Salle
- é.s.p. Louis-Riel
- é.s.p. Omer-Deslauriers

Grades 9 to 12 students from these four schools will attend the school on alternating days, depending on the cohort in which they will be placed, following this [calendar](#). They will be in school for full days, according to regular school hours, every other day. Cohort identification will be available on the [Parent Portal](#) on August 24.

### Virtual Student Learning Program

Students whose parents, guardians and guardians opt for online learning will receive instruction in both synchronous and asynchronous modes. These two modes are defined as follows:

- **Synchronous learning:** Learning that takes place in real time. Synchronous learning involves the use of text, video, or voice communication in a way that allows teachers and other school or board team members to teach students and establish real-time contact with them.
- **Asynchronous learning:** Learning that is not offered in real time. In asynchronous learning, students may be called upon to watch pre-recorded video lessons, complete assignments, or participate in online discussion groups.

The complete Ontario Ministry of Education e-learning requirements, which CEPEO is required to meet, are available at this [link](#).

For all the details concerning the PAVÉ, you can consult the Guide to reopening schools, as well as this [section](#) of the CEPEO website.

### Choice of school attendance mode

- **Timeline:** If it has not yet been done, we remind you that you have until August 19 to make your choice of school attendance mode for your child, either face-to-face or online via the PAVÉ. To do this, please go to the [Parents Portal](#). Any student whose parents, or guardians have not registered a choice will be registered for in-person learning.
- **Change of attendance mode:** We remind you that you will have the option to change attendance mode during the school year.

At the elementary level, the time between when the request is made and the change is implemented can be up to 12 weeks, in order to facilitate the integration of a new student into a cohort in a safe manner and to allow an analysis of the student's learning path. It is important to specify that the CEPEO teams will do everything possible to allow a faster transition, if it is possible to do so.

At the secondary level, the change in school attendance mode can be made after the students have completed a half-semester (quadrimester). Each semester of the school year will indeed be divided into two. The student should therefore have completed half a semester before being able to change attendance.

- Semester 1 from August 31, 2020 to November 6, 2020
- Semester 2 from November 9, 2020 to January 29, 2021

- Semester 3 from February 1, 2021 to April 16, 2021
- Semester 4 from April 19, 2021 to June 25, 2021

### **School transportation**

We encourage students to come to school on foot, by bicycle or by parent-provided transport if possible. Other students eligible for school transportation can take the bus.

The *Consortium de transport scolaire d'Ottawa* (CTSO) will communicate via email with each family to confirm student status and to communicate usual details related to stops and times of embarkation and disembarkation.

The *Consortium de transport scolaire de l'Est* (CTSE) invites parents to visit its [website](#) for the relevant details.

To report any change in your child's status, please contact the [CTSO](#) or the [CTSE](#).

The current situation continues to evolve and we will continue to send you regular updates so that you are informed of the most recent developments. We are aware that some questions remain unanswered, but I would like to remind you once again that our teams will be with you throughout the school year. Rest assured that your child will be able to benefit from kind and considerate educational support, whether they attend school in person or online.

If you have any questions, we invite you to contact your child's school.

I wish you a great week.

Sylvie C. R. Tremblay  
Director of Education