



Ottawa, December 22, 2020

IMPORTANT UPDATE | LOCKDOWN AND TRANSITION TO VIRTUAL MODE

Dear parents and guardians,

The pandemic situation continues to evolve. The Ontario government announced a new set of health measures for the entire province on December 21. In areas served by the Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO), these measures will be in effect from December 26, 2020 to January 25, 2021 for the time being. You can read the government press release by [clicking on this link](#).

Based on the information available at this time, we are able to provide you with some guidelines for returning from the holiday break. Due to the rapidly evolving situation, we ask that you monitor your emails and follow our social media accounts in order to stay informed of any last minute changes that may arise.

When the holiday break returns, teaching will be done in virtual mode for all our schools, according to the following dates:

- January 4 to 8, 2021 inclusive for all kindergarten to grade 8 students.
- January 4 to 22, 2021 inclusive for all students in grades 9 to 12.

Schools will be inaccessible to students except for students in certain distinct systemic classes for students with special needs (see section below).

Learning platform

Your child's teacher will communicate with them during the morning of January 4, 2021 to provide them with certain important information including the time of the first teaching period which will take place on the same day, in the afternoon.

Distance education will be delivered synchronously (i.e. in a real-time exchange between teacher and students) via the Google Meet platform. The explanations for access to Google Meet and the terms of use of the virtual learning platform will be shared with you by your child's teacher on January 4, 2021. Outside of synchronous learning hours, your child will continue learning activities shared by their teacher in asynchronous mode, like homework and lessons.

Loan of computer equipment

Elementary (Kindergarten to Grade 6). Computer equipment will be loaned to kindergarten to grade 6 students whose parents have indicated a need for it.

Intermediate and secondary (Grades 7 to 12). Chromebooks have already been loaned to students whose parents have requested them.

Students with special needs



Students with special needs attending a separate class will be able to continue attending school starting January 4. Teachers and educators will be present in class as usual.

School transportation will be provided for these students.

The school administration will contact the parents of the concerned students shortly to confirm their intention to send their child to school in person as of January 4.

P.A.V.É.

The Student Virtual Learning (P.A.V.É.) program is not affected by these measures. Virtual learning will therefore resume as planned on January 4, 2021.

Childcare services

- The CEPEO and its partners' childcare centers will remain open for programs for preschool-aged children only.
- Before and after school programs for Kindergarten to Grade 6 students will be closed from January 4 to 8, 2021. They will reopen on January 11.
- Parents of children enrolled in the before and after school program at CEPEO childcare centers will receive a credit for childcare fees paid at the beginning of January, for the closing period from January 4 to 8.
- We are in the process of evaluating whether we will be able to offer targeted emergency child care programs for school-aged children whose parents are eligible (health care workers and primary care workers). Further details will follow.

Rest assured that our teams will provide you and your child with all the support you need to make this transition a smooth one.

Thank you for your trust and cooperation and I wish you a safe holiday break.

Sylvie C. R. Tremblay
Director of Education