

Ottawa, January 3, 2021

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE | REMINDER - LOCKDOWN AND PASSAGE TO VIRTUAL MODE**

Dear parents and guardians,

I first want to wish you a very Happy New Year! I hope you had a good holiday break with your loved ones and your family.

As mentioned in the December 22 communication, all our schools will switch to virtual teaching mode from January 4 until 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.

During these periods, schools will be inaccessible to students except for students in certain distinct systemic classes (see section below).

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and flexibility during this transition to virtual mode. Rest assured that all staff are mobilized to ensure the well-being of students and learners.

Together, let's start this new year with resilience, collaboration and commitment.

Here are some reminders to help you prepare for virtual learning.

### **Learning platform**

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

We invite you to visit the Government of Ontario's online learning platform for access to multiple resources to continue learning at home ([Follow the link](#)).

### **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.

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

We invite you to contact your child's school for any questions about the loan of computer equipment.

### **Students with special needs**

Students with Special Needs (EABP) attending a separate or hybrid class will be able to continue attending school in person from January 4. Teachers and educators will be present in class as usual.

School transport will be provided for these students as usual.

*École Le Transit* will also continue its in-person programs from January 4. This includes the following programs:

- Répit-Transit (é.é.p Séraphin-Marion)
- Centre-Ado (é.s.p Gisèle-Lalonde)
- Centre-Éducatif (é.s.p Omer-Deslauriers)
- Centre de Traitement de Jour (é.é.p Horizon-Jeunesse-CECCE)
- Programme Intensif Le Cap (225 Donald St.)

### **Designated secondary schools**

Designated secondary schools with Grade 9 to 12 students attending school on an alternating basis **will maintain this model virtually**. Thus, the current student cohorts will be maintained. This concerns the following schools:

- De La Salle
- Gisèle-Lalonde
- Louis-Riel
- Maurice-Lapointe
- Omer-Deslauriers

### **P.A.V.É.**

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

### **Childcare services**

- CEPEO and partner education centers will remain open for programs intended for preschool children only.
- The 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 educational centers will receive a credit for childcare fees paid at the beginning of January, for the closing period from January 4 to 8.

Rest assured that you and your child will receive all the support you need to make this transition a smooth one, in the best possible way. As the situation continues to evolve, further updates are possible. You will be promptly notified of any changes.

I thank you for your cooperation.

Sylvie C. R. Tremblay  
Director of Education