

Ottawa, January 8, 2021

IMPORTANT UPDATE | EXTENSION OF VIRTUAL EDUCATION

Dear parents and guardians,

The Ontario government announced yesterday that it is delaying the return to class for kindergarten to grade 8 students, originally scheduled for January 11.

In CEPEO schools, virtual education will continue until January 22, 2021 inclusive, for all our students, from kindergarten to grade 12. We invite you to read the government press release ([Follow the link](#)).

CEPEO and partner childcare centers in schools will remain open for programs intended for preschool children only. Before and after school services for kindergarten to grade 6 students will be closed until January 22.

We are aware that this change requires families to adjust and that it may be challenging for many families. We would like to acknowledge your remarkable commitment to your children's learning over the past week. Rest assured that our entire team will be understanding and flexible. I therefore invite you to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

Students with special needs

Students with special needs attending a separate or hybrid class will be able to continue attending school in person. Teachers and educators will be present in class as usual.

School transportation will be provided for these students at the same times as usual.

Virtual education

Virtual education will continue to adhere to Ministry of Education guidelines for required daily teaching times in synchronous mode (i.e. in a real-time exchange between teacher and students), which are as follows:

- junior and senior kindergarten: 180 minutes
- Grades 1 to 8: 225 minutes
- Grades 9 to 12: 60 minutes for each 75-minute class period or 225 minutes per day for a full class schedule.

Outside of synchronous connection hours, your child will continue their learning activities shared by their teacher in asynchronous mode, like homework and lessons.

Netiquette

We invite you to familiarize yourself with the CEPEO netiquette rules with your child ([follow the link](#)). These promote collaboration and respect so that students and learners can receive their education in a welcoming environment, conducive to their learning.

Designated secondary schools

Designated high schools with grade 9 to 12 students attending school on an alternating basis **will continue to maintain this model virtually**. Thus, the current cohorts of students are maintained. These are schools:

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

Student support program

The Government of Ontario is providing financial support for families during this temporary period of distance learning. You can submit a request by February 8, 2021 by visiting the [following website](#).

REMINDER: Loan of computer equipment

Computer equipment will be loaned to kindergarten to grade 6 students whose parents have indicated a need for it.

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

P.A.V.É.

The Student Virtual Learning Program (P.A.V.É.) will continue as usual.

Mental health and well-being

As the current situation continues, it is normal to feel tired, anxious, stressed, frustrated or impatient. We remind you that CEPEO has put several [health and well-being resources](#) online, which are aimed at both students and their families. We encourage you to consult them.

I thank you for your cooperation and wish you a pleasant weekend with your family.

Sylvie C. R. Tremblay
Director of Education