

Ottawa, March 18, 2021

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE | HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES**

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope you and your loved ones are doing well.

As you may know, the Government of Ontario announced today that the Ottawa Public Health Region is moving to the Red-Control level as of March 19. You can read the government press release here ([follow the link](#)). Changes are possible in other regions in the next few days. We are monitoring the situation closely.

This announcement has no impact on the operation of our schools, which remain open throughout our territory. However, it once again demonstrates the importance of respecting health and safety measures. We remind you to respect physical distancing measures and to wear a mask when you pick up your children from school.

The arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine is an important milestone that we can be happy about. However, it remains important to remember that we must all continue to follow public health measures, even for people who have received the vaccine.

### **REMINDER - Symptoms and screening for COVID-19**

Screening tests are an important way to fight COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of everyone. In this regard, we would like to remind you that symptoms that may seem mild, such as a runny nose or headache, can be caused by COVID-19. At the moment, the main virus which is circulating and causing symptoms is COVID-19, not the common cold. If you or your child has any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19, we strongly encourage you to go to a testing center to be tested.

You can find a testing center near your home and find out how to take a test by visiting the following site ([follow the link](#)).

### **Public health resources**

The [public health resources](#) on our website continue to be updated regularly. We encourage you to consult them.

### **Virtual School Learning Program (P.A.V.É)**

We would like to advise you that, subject to the directives of the Ministry of Education, the [Virtual School Learning Program \(P.A.V.É\)](#) will be offered to parents for the 2021-2022 school year. A communication will be sent to you in the coming days so that you may indicate your intention as to the teaching mode you would like to choose for the coming school year.

I wish you a safe and happy spring weekend with your family.

Sylvie C. R. Tremblay  
Director of Education