

IMPORTANT UPDATE: VIRTUAL MODE LEARNING AND VACCINATION FOR 12 TO 17 YEAR OLDS

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope you and your children are doing well.

We are still awaiting a decision from the Ontario government on the reopening of schools. Until then, learning continues in virtual mode. You will be promptly notified of any updates.

Vaccination of students aged 12 to 17

Health Canada has authorized the administration of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to children 12 years of age and older. Young Ontarians between the ages of 12 and 17 can now make an appointment through the <u>Government of Ontario's appointment booking site</u> to receive the first dose of the vaccine for free.

Special clinics "for young people and families" will be open during the month of June. Some clinics will offer vaccination by appointment and others will be open access, depending on where you live.

Vaccination is an important tool to help curb the spread of COVID-19 and to allow students, families and staff to safely return to normal activities. Government officials and public health units remind us that vaccines are safe and effective, and the best way to protect us all against COVID-19.

To help your child and family make an informed decision, we invite you to consult the following resources produced by the Government of Ontario:

- Immunization information sheet: <u>follow the link</u>
- Ontario government website that explains how to make an appointment to have your child vaccinated: <u>follow the link</u>
- Ontario Ministry of Health website: <u>follow the link</u>

If you have any questions about the vaccine, we encourage you to contact your health care professional or local public health unit. (Follow the link)

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

Sylvie C.R. Tremblay Director of Education