

Ottawa, January 20, 2022

## **IMPORTANT UPDATE | COVID-19 case reporting**

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope you are doing well. As you know, this past week has been marked by the return to the classroom in our schools. Once again, thank you for supporting our teams in making this transition a smooth one for your child and all our students.

### **Letter from the Minister of Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health**

The Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce, and the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario, Dr. Kieran Moore, have written a letter addressed to parents that you may [read it here](#).

### **Case Reporting**

Due to numerous changes in the provincial approach to testing for COVID-19, the government is no longer reporting COVID-19 cases in schools and public health units are no longer doing case tracing.

As of Monday, January 24, your child's school principal will notify you of COVID-19 cases (i.e., a positive rapid antigen test or PCR) in your child's classroom if the information is shared with us by the child's parents. The names of those who test positive will remain confidential.

Even if a case is confirmed in the classroom, other students will be able to continue to attend school as all sanitary measures and recommendations from public health offices are in place. Your child will not be required to isolate himself or herself unless he or she has symptoms.

### **Immunization Clinics for Ages 5-11**

We continue to work with public health units to make it easier for your child to get vaccinated. Immunization clinics for 5-11 year olds will be held in some schools primarily on evenings and weekends. If you haven't had a chance yet, please review the following immunization documents prepared by the Government of Ontario.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet for Children \(5-11 years\)](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet \(12 years and older\)](#)

The following is a list of immunization clinics that will be held in the Ottawa area in the coming days. These clinics are open to all students and their household members, regardless of the school they attend.

[List of after-school COVID-19 vaccination clinics](#)

## **Mask Distribution**

The distribution of three-ply cloth masks continues in schools. Please ensure that you provide your child with a sufficient number of good quality, well-fitting masks so that they can exchange them when they become soiled or wet. On this subject, we invite you to consult this informative document on mask fitting ([follow the link](#)).

## **Distribution of rapid tests and screening**

The distribution of rapid tests continues in the schools. We remind you to use these tests only if your child shows symptoms of COVID-19 according to the revised [self-assessment tool](#).

## **REMINDER - Symptom Self-Assessment**

Daily self-assessment remains an important tool to protect our students and staff. Please ensure that it is completed each morning by your child via the [CEPEO website](#).

## **REMINDER - School Facilities Closure**

Due to the current sanitary condition, school facilities remain closed to the community until March 1st. You will be informed of the evolution of this matter within the next few weeks.

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

Sylvie C.R. Tremblay  
Director of Education