

Ottawa, January 6, 2022

IMPORTANT UPDATE | TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS AND TRANSITION TO VIRTUAL LEARNING

Dear parents and guardians,

We hope that you and your child are doing well and that you are enjoying the holiday break to rest and recharge with your family.

On January 3rd, the Ontario government announced the temporary **closure of schools until Friday, January 14**. You can read the government's announcement by clicking on this [link](#).

During the temporary school closure, your child will not be able to attend school, except for students with special needs enrolled in a systemic or hybrid class (see section below).

IMPORTANT - January 10th, 2022: Preparation for Distance Learning

Monday, January 10 will be dedicated to distance learning preparation by school staff and will therefore consist of a day of independent study at home for your child. Thus, your child will not have any classes taught by his/her teacher on January 10 and his/her absence will not be noted on his/her report card. Your child's teacher will contact you by the end of the day on January 10th to share with you the details of how to access the online learning platform on Google.

IMPORTANT - January 11, 2022: Online Classes Begin

Virtual classes will begin for all students on January 11, except for those in the virtual learning program (P.A.V.É.) which will begin, as scheduled, on January 10. During this period, teaching will continue remotely, in synchronous mode (i.e. in a real-time exchange between the teacher and the students) via the Google Meet platform. Outside of the synchronous mode, your child will continue learning activities shared by his/her teacher in asynchronous mode, in the form of assignments and lessons.

Systemic and hybrid classes

Systemic and hybrid classes, including école Le Transit School programs, will continue face-to-face instruction beginning Tuesday, January 11. Transportation for students in those classes will continue. More details will be communicated shortly to affected parents and learners during the day of January 10.

Daily self-assessment for students attending school in the classroom is important. As such, the screening tool has been updated to reflect the new measures ([follow link](#)).

P.A.V.É.

As mentioned above, the learning and teaching activities of the P.A.V.E. are not affected by the temporary school closure and will resume, as planned, on January 10.

Loan of computer equipment

A technology device was provided to students whose parents requested it before the holiday break. If your child needs a device and has not received one, please request one by filling out [the form](#) as soon as possible or contact the school as of January 10. The school administration will ensure that your child receives one as soon as possible during the week of January 10. All students in grades 7 to 12 have already received their device at the beginning of the school year.

Learning Centres and Child Care Services

The educational centers operated by the CEPEO and our child care partners will remain open for preschoolers (toddler, infant and preschool groups).

Before and after school care will be suspended during the temporary school closure.

Some child care centres operated by the CEPEO and our partners will provide emergency services for [front line workers](#). If your child's school does not offer emergency child care, you can refer to the evolving [list of CEPEO schools offering emergency child care](#) for information on how to access emergency child care at another CEPEO school.

Option to transfer to the Virtual Learning Platform (P.A.V.É)

The CEPEO offers students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 the opportunity to take their learning virtually through the [virtual learning program \(P.A.V.É\)](#).

If you would like your child to continue their virtual learning for the remainder of the school year, you can apply until **January 12** by visiting the [CEPEO Parent Portal](#).

Pending acceptance into the P.A.V.É, your child will continue his or her studies as prescribed by his or her home school.

All applications will be subject to an analysis and processing process according to the capacity of the P.A.V.É. Parents whose applications are accepted will be informed as soon as possible and students will be able to join the P.A.V.E. by **January 31**. Full details on how the P.A.V.É. works and how to register can be found on our [website](#).

Registration will take place on the following dates, depending on the date of application by the parent:

Kindergarten - Grade 8

January 12, 2022 : Applications received before January 12, 2022 → Integration into the P.A.V.É. on or before January 31, 2022 (depending on capacity).

Grades 9 to 12

January 12, 2022 : Applications received before January 12, 2022 → Integration into the E.V.P. on February 1, 2022 (beginning of 2nd semester - depending on intake capacity).

Mental Health and Wellness Resources

As a reminder, CEPEO has posted several [resources on health and wellness for both students and their families](#). We encourage you to read them.

Mental health resources include Kids Help Phone, which provides 24/7 counselling and referral services across the province. To use this free resource, kids can call 1-800-668-6868 or text TALK to 686868. Also, [1Call1Click.ca](#) is available to help infants, children and youth from birth to age 21.

In addition, the School Mental Health Ontario website (<https://smho-smsso.ca/accueil/>) also has excellent resources for students, parents and families. In addition, child and youth mental health agencies across the province continue to provide services.

If mental health support is needed for your child, please do not hesitate to speak with the classroom teacher. Social work referrals can be made even during distance learning.

Vaccination

Vaccination continues to be our most effective strategy to prevent transmission of COVID-19 and we are pleased to see the increase in vaccination rates for school staff and students. If you have not already done so and your child is eligible, you can schedule an appointment for the vaccine via the following [website](#).

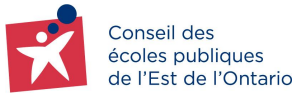
Instructions for the possible return to the classroom

The current pandemic is constantly evolving. Consequently, the health and safety instructions to be followed when returning to the classroom will be communicated to you in due course.

We are aware that learning at home presents some challenges in balancing work and family responsibilities. Please be assured that our staff will continue to provide a caring learning environment for your child. Your child's teacher remains available to answer your questions and concerns.

The current circumstances are exceptional and we are confident that with your cooperation, we will be able to support your child in his/her personal and academic development.

I thank you for your collaboration and wish you a happy new year! Health, happiness and peace in abundance for you and your loved ones.



Sylvie C.R. Tremblay
Director of Education