

March 31, 2020 Dear Parents,

Further to our last message on March 26th, we have received more information concerning the COVID-19 dossier, we have also received a letter from the Minister of Education and Higher Education for parents.

French letter (original)
English letter (courtesy translation)

## Recap of the situation so far:

- Schools and centres remain closed until May 1st 2020.
- The ETSB's own Home Learning Website has been available since March 23rd 2020.
- March 30th, the Ministry of Education launched its <u>Open School Website</u>, which provides
  a list of general educational activities available to parents and students. These activities
  are optional and will not be graded, nor will they count for marks.
- By April 6th, a list of grade level specific educational activities will be provided to school boards. These will be shared with the schools, and school teams will share these activities with the parents and students. These activities continue to be optional.
   They will not be graded, nor will they count for marks.
- End of year Ministry exams have been cancelled.

## Access to schools and centres:

As was mentioned in the Minister's letter above, a plan on how to access schools to retrieve pedagogical materials is being worked on. The ETSB is looking at this and planning ahead but at this time we have received strict directives from the Direction of Public Health, that due to the number of cases in the Estrie region, access to our buildings is not permitted at this time. To note that when referring to the Estrie, this includes our schools in the Montérégie area, as they are covered by the same health authorities and also applies to Drummondville Elementary as it is an ETSB school. As soon as we have an all clear we will put a plan in place.

## Talking to your children about COVID-19

Resources are available on the ETSB's Home Learning Website under the <u>Mental Health menu</u>. There are also resources and links on the Open School website under <u>Worried about COVID-19</u>

Remember if you or any member of your family are experiencing symptoms please call 1-877-644-4545. You can also visit the <a href="Quebec.ca">Quebec.ca</a> COVID-19 website for more information on the current situation in Quebec.

As always, we ask that you follow the directives from Santé Pulique and the Premier for Social Distancing, wash your hands frequently, and practice the cough and sneeze protocols. Together we will get through this crisis.

Ça va bien aller!

Michel Soucy,

**ETSB Interim Director General** 

Michael Murray,

**ETSB Chairman**