

April 24th 2020

Dear Parents,

We are writing to you today, to share with you the information we currently have on the COVID-19 dossier as well as offer some friendly reminders.

School and Centres Reopening:

As you have heard in the news, the Premier announced at his April 22nd briefing that a plan for the reopening of schools and daycares would be deposited next week. He also stated that the reopening would be gradual, adapted to the situation in each region and in collaboration with Public Health (DSPu).

At this time, the ETSB does not have more information concerning the reopening of schools than what has been announced by the Premier at his daily briefings. Although the Premier has committed to giving two weeks' notice before any establishments would be reopened, we have already started working on scenarios while we are waiting for clear guidelines. We can assure you that once the decision has been made, and we will work with our personnel to prepare the reopening accordingly.

Our priority, as always, will be the safety and security of our students and staff. Measures will be taken in accordance with the directives of Public Health.

Keeping children safe while online:

We received a letter from the *Sûreté du Québec (SQ)* et le *Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM)* to sensitize parents about the dangers of online sexual exploitation of minors. Although the letter is in French, the following is a brief message in English from the SQ and SPVM.

"The Quebec provincial police (SQ) and the town of Montreal's police service (SPVM) want parents to be aware of the dangers of sexual exploitation to which children are exposed on the Internet. As youth spend more time online in this time of confinement, the risks associated with this type of crime increases continually. The SQ and SPVM police officer teams fighting against child sexual exploitation on the Internet ask parents to be on the lookout for this type of sexual exploitation."

In closing, we want to once again take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding and collaboration under these stressful circumstances.

Regards,



Michel Soucy,
Interim Director General,
Eastern Townships School Board



Michael Murray
Chairman
Eastern Townships School Board