



January 8, 2021

Dear Parents,

First, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year. We hope that you were able to enjoy the holiday break and take advantage of some time with your immediate family to relax and recharge.

On January 6th, the Premier, Mr. Legault, announced new and stricter measures to help combat the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Quebec, which include some new directives for the education sector.

Elementary School: Return to in-presence learning on **Monday January 11th.**

- All students from grade 1 to grade 6 will now wear a face covering at all times in common areas, including school transportation (school buses), hallways, etc. but not while on the playground.
- In addition, face coverings must be worn in the classroom by grade 5 & 6 students.
- Preschoolers (pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students) are not obliged to wear face coverings.
- For students in split classes (e.g. 4/5 split), the more strict sanitary measures will be in place, therefore all students would wear a face covering.
- School daycares will resume operation as of January 11th under the regulations for red zone areas.
- All extra-curricular activities are suspended.
- Visitors to the school are to be kept to a strict minimum to reduce the number of people from outside the school coming into contact with students and staff members.

Secondary School: Online learning until January 15th and return to in-presence learning on **Monday, January 18**

- Procedure masks (disposable masks) must be worn by students in the school and on school grounds at all times. Students will be issued two (2) procedure masks per day (details to follow).
- Students in secondary 3, 4, and 5 will attend school in person, one day in two (same alternating schedule as before the holidays).
- School outings and inter-school activities are suspended.

- Extra-curricular activities are suspended.
- Visitors to the school are to be kept to a minimum to reduce the number of people from outside the school coming into contact with students and staff members.

Furthermore, additional measures for pedagogical support (e.g. tutoring), mental well-being support (e.g. making more resources available), evaluation (e.g. cancellation of Ministry exam, changing weighting of report cards), and increased sanitary measures (e.g. air quality measures) were announced today. Further details concerning the implementation of these measures/announcements will be shared with you.

We realize that this school year has been anything but normal. Students, staff, and parents have had to adjust and adapt as the pandemic unfolds. Throughout this, our main focus has been and will continue to be supporting the physical and mental well-being of our students, as well as their academic success. To help parents support their children with distance and online learning, our pedagogical services team has developed some tutorials, which can be accessed on the [parent tutorial section](#) of the ETSB website.

As parents, your continued support and collaboration is very much appreciated and important so that your children, our students, continue to succeed and weather this storm. If you have any questions, you are invited to get in touch with your [local commissioner](#).

Regards,



Michael Murray, Chairman



Michel Soucy, Director General