



York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1

Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711

Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca

February 10, 2021

Dear YCDSB Families,

On February 3, 2021, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce announced York Region schools would re-open for in-person learning on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Students in our fully remote-learning classes are not impacted by the reopening and will continue their learning as scheduled.

In order to prepare for the return to school, **Friday, February 12, 2021 will be an asynchronous learning day for classes returning in person or in the hybrid model.** This does not affect classes that have always been fully remote. Students with special education needs attending school during the closures may continue to attend in-person on this day.

On February 12, students can log into their Google Classroom or D2L for asynchronous learning activities – no staff will be present for live learning. Additional information about the day's learning will be provided through your child's virtual learning environment. On this day, staff will be allotted time to organize classrooms, prepare for the change in learning modality for some students, and review new Health and Safety protocols.

Masks

As per the Ministry of Education's updated direction, students in **Grades 1 to 12** are required to wear non-medical/cloth double-layer masks upon the return to school, with accommodations for those with a medical condition. Donning (putting on) and doffing (taking off) procedures will be reviewed with all students upon our return to school, along with other safety and hygiene routines. Parents may wish to review [this visual](#) with their children on the safe donning and doffing of masks.

As students are required to wear their mask throughout the school day, including at recess, teachers will provide outdoor mask breaks for students as part of their Daily Physical Activity, where physical distancing measures can be ensured.

Additional Updates

York Region Public Health released [this communication](#) regarding the reopening of schools for all parents and staff. This communication contains very important changes to the protocols parents must follow, including next steps if a child has even one COVID-19 related symptom. Additionally, we encourage our York Catholic families to review our updated [Board Re-Entry Plan](#) and this [helpful infographic](#) which outlines the health and safety practices and procedures followed in all our schools.

We thank you for your continued partnership. We look forward to welcoming our students back to safe and engaging learning environments on February 16, 2021.

Yours in Catholic Education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Battista".

Mary Battista
Interim Director of Education