



York Catholic District School Board

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February 4, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Yesterday, Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce, and Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, announced that all **YCDSB schools will reopen on Tuesday, February 16, 2021** (the day after the Family Day holiday).

Elementary Schools

Elementary school students attending in-person will return to school on February 16. Parents are encouraged to check with their before and after school program provider to confirm their reopening plans. Contact information is available on your school website.

Secondary Schools

In-person learning will resume on February 16. Your child's school will be in touch soon with details to confirm cohort schedules and other details.

Hybrid Learning Model

The hybrid learning model will continue with the resumption of in-person learning on February 16, 2021. If you would like to request that your child continues learning via the online remote delivery model, kindly contact your child's school administrator. For more information, [please review this infographic](#).

Remote Learning Students

There will be no changes for remote learning elementary and secondary students.

Student Transportation

Transportation for eligible students will follow the same schedules used from September to December (before the school closures). Students with special needs who were attending school in person during the school closure period and using transportation services, will revert to their previous schedules prior to school closures. For more information about your child's route, please visit: schoolbuscity.com.

A reminder that students from **Grades 1 to 12 must wear masks** while they wait for the bus at their designated pick up location and when riding the bus.

Health and Safety Measures

All health and safety measures in place prior to the school closure period will continue to be enforced. These include hand hygiene, physical distancing, mask wearing and enhanced cleaning. Teachers and support staff will continue to reinforce and practice these important safety measures with our students.

Additionally, there are some new health and safety measures that will be in place, including:

- **Masks are now required for students in Grades 1-3**, as well as those in Grades 4-12. Students in kindergarten are strongly encouraged to wear masks.
- **Masks are now required outdoors during recess**, as well as in all common areas, in addition to in the classroom.
- As a result, **students are required to bring four (4) masks to school each day** so that a clean, dry mask can be reapplied after being outdoors for recess, etc.
- Students are strongly discouraged from congregating before and after school.
- York Region Public Health is recommending that students wear [three-layer masks](#). Two layer masks are permitted if they are clean and fit appropriately.
- In addition, **new screening measures** are required for all elementary and secondary staff, secondary school students and visitors. Details of the screening measures will be communicated as soon as they are finalized, prior to February 16.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and emotional well-being, please contact your child's principal. Mental health professionals are available for assistance, and resources are available on the [Mental Health and Well-Being page](#) of the Board's website. You can also stay up to date on what the Mental Health Team is providing by following them on Twitter [@YCDSB_MH](#).

On behalf of everyone at YCDSB, I would like to thank our families for your continued support, patience and understanding as we plan for a safe return to school on February 16.

Yours in Catholic Education,



Mary Battista
Interim Director