

## [Letter from Director – July 30, 2020](#)

[Translation of this document in Simplified Chinese can be seen from page 4](#)

Dear families,

Earlier today, the Minister of Education announced that **elementary schools** will open for conventional in-person delivery of teaching and instruction, five days a week. This means students in full cohorts will be attending. **Secondary schools** will open on an adapted model, with class cohorts of approximately 15 students, on alternating schedules with at least 50 per cent of in-class instructional days.

Our Board has been working on developing plans to support the safe reopening of schools for our students and staff members. We appreciate that these are uncertain times and you will have questions and concerns about the process for reopening. We will continue to prioritize health and safety and take measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 through the reopening of schools. Today, we are sharing with you additional details about our planning and will continue to provide you with updates as they become available. The full details of this update are available on the [Board's website](#), and we have also included some information in this email.

### **Teaching and Curriculum**

Instruction will be provided in all subject areas as outlined in the [Ontario Curriculum](#). As a result of health and safety measures, some of our curriculum delivery may be modified to meet the needs of our students and staff members. These changes are based on guidelines and advice from Public Health, the provincial Ministry of Education and our goal of offering high-quality public education for all. For more subject-specific information about modifications, including for elementary and secondary schools, please visit the [Board's website](#).

### **School Schedules and Timetables**

In **elementary school**, the Ministry of Education has indicated that elementary students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 will attend school five days per week for the full day of learning in one cohort. More information on timetabling will be available to families in the near future as details are finalized. In addition, families can also make the decision to send their child to school or engage in remote online learning. Online learning will be available for students who do not return to school physically. Please note that, in order to maintain safety and appropriate cohorts, children whose families opt for online learning in September may be required to wait for a specific entry point (e.g., an entire term) to return to in-person learning at school.

In **secondary school**, as directed by the Ministry of Education, secondary schools in York Region will open using an Adaptive Model to support student learning. In this model, all in person face-to-face classes will have a cohort limit of approximately 15 students at one time. Students physically attend school on alternating schedules, which may mean attending on alternate days for at least 50 per cent of the instructional day(s). Secondary school students in this adapted model receive an opportunity for both synchronous and asynchronous learning during the school day. York Region District School Board staff are currently reviewing the Ministry announcement and guidance documents to finalize its plans for the adaptive model in secondary schools and will provide additional information as it becomes available. Online learning will be available for students who do not return to school physically. Please note

that, in order to maintain safety and appropriate cohorts, children whose families opt for online learning in September may be required to wait for a specific entry point (e.g., an entire semester) to return to in-person learning at school.

### **Pre-Registration Form**

Next week, you will receive a pre-registration form from YRDSB asking families to indicate their intention for students to participate in person at school or through remote learning. For those eligible for transportation, the form will also include the ability to opt-out of this service. Where possible, parents are asked to arrange their own transportation to and from school for their children.

### **Health and Safety Protocols**

We continue to work closely with public health authorities and follow their direction and advice. The following measures will be in place in our schools to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. For additional details, please visit the [Board's website](#):

- **Face coverings (PPE)** - Parents/guardians will be expected to provide their child with a personal face covering (non-medical mask) to wear at school to reduce the spread of their own respiratory droplets to protect others. In Grades 4 to 12, students will wear non-medical or cloth masks while in school. In Kindergarten to Grade 3 non-medical or cloth masks are strongly encouraged for students.
- **Self-assessment** - On a daily basis, parents/guardians of students under 18 and students over 18 are responsible to review and adhere to the [COVID-19 self-assessment instructions that will be provided by York Region Public Health](#). Any student experiencing COVID-19 symptoms **is required** to remain home.
- **Hand washing and sanitizing** - A hand sanitizing station will be placed in the front lobby of the school and in classrooms. Students are not encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer. Students and staff members will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer regularly, including when they enter the classroom, before and after lunch and recess, after using the washroom or touching shared objects or common touch spots.
- **Cleaning and disinfection** - Additional cleaning measures will be put in place in schools, including twice-daily cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces, in line with public health guidelines.
- **Movement around the school** - Directional signs and stickers will be installed throughout the schools to minimize close contact between students.
- **Visitors** - Until further notice, visitor(s) are not to enter the school during hours of operation unless identified through a prearranged exception. If you need to attend the school, please contact the principal to make arrangements. Accommodations will be made in emergency situations. All visitors must comply with safety protocols.
- **Lunch** - Please ensure your child brings their lunch and snacks required for their day at school. Lunch drop-offs will not be available, including access to lunch delivery services. Until further notice, secondary school cafeterias will be closed and food services will not be provided.
- **Water fountains** - Students are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles and to use the fill stations in schools.
- **Breakfast, snack and milk programs** - These nutrition programs will continue with enhanced safety protocols.

- **Returning school equipment** - Students who have borrowed learning resources such as textbooks are asked to return them to the school as early as possible in the school year. Students who borrowed technology devices for remote learning may hold them until the protocol for their return is announced.
- **Lockers** - Until further notice, the use of lockers will not be permitted. Use of hooks and cubbies in elementary schools is permitted.
- **Extra-curricular activities and field trips** - Until further notice, extra-curricular activities (such as sports and clubs) and field trips are cancelled.
- **Kindergarten** - More information is available on the Board's website.
- **Guidance (secondary)** - Meetings with guidance will continue virtually where possible.

## **Special Education**

In partnership with families, schools will be working alongside the Board's Student Services department and Regulated Health Professionals to plan for a safe return to school and the provision of safe and appropriate support for students with special education needs. This will be accomplished through collaboration and consultation between schools and families. More information regarding Special Education is available on the [Board's website](#).

## **Transportation (Busing and Taxi Service)**

Transportation services will continue with modified ridership and safety and cleaning protocols. Those eligible for transportation may opt-out of transportation services through the reopening online form provided to families next week. More information on routes, bus stops and timing will be available prior to the school year start. You may see some frequently asked questions about transportation on the [Board's website](#).

We know that families may have questions beyond the information in this letter and on our website. We will continue to provide updates and additional resources as information becomes available. As always, we will maintain student and staff safety at the forefront of our planning and decision making. Next week, you will receive information about completing the return to school forms, we hope you take the time to complete it so that we can tailor services in accordance with your plans.

Please know that while this school year may look different in many ways, our commitment to supporting student well-being, learning and achievement has not changed, and we look forward to supporting your child's transition back to school and learning, and to reconnecting with our students and families.

亲爱的家长们，

今天较早时候（7月30日），省教育部宣布**小学校**会开放，一周五天，以传统式的亲身授课和指导。这意味着学生全面分组别上课。**中学校**会以调整模式开放，分组别大约十五人一班，以双单日程维持百分之五十的在校上课时间。

我们校局一直努力策划支持一个安全的学校重开给我们的学生及教职人员。我们体会这是不肯定的时候，和您们将对重开的过程有问题和担心。我们将会继续以健康和作为首要任务，和在学校重开的过程中，实践减少新冠病毒散播的措施。今天，我们会跟您们分享有关我们计划的更多详细信息，和当收到进一步信息，会向您们继续提供更新资料。所有资料已经贴放在[校局网页](#)，和我们在这电邮中已包含部分信息。

## 教导和课程

教授课程会规划在[安省教程](#)内所有的科目范围。由于实行健康和作为首要任务，一些我们教程的指导可能会作出调整以配合学生和教职人员的需要。这些改变是遵循公共卫生部门，省级教育部和我们以达到为所有学生提供高质公校教育的目标。如果查看更详细的个别科目的调整资料，包括小学校和中学校，请登入[校局网页](#)。

## 学校上课日程和 timetable

在小学校内，省教育部已经指示，学生由幼儿园到八年级将会一周五天全天在一个组别上课。有关时间表的进一步资料在最后确定后，短期内会通知家长们。还有，家长们亦可以作出让他们的孩子们回校或参与蹠距在线学习。在线学习是提供给不亲身回校上课的学生们。请注意，为保障安全和适当的分组别安排，在九月如选择在线学习的学生们可能会需要等待一个特定的时间（例如，一整个学期）才能返回学校亲自学习。

在中学校，正如省教育部指示，约克区中学校将以调整模式重开支持学生学习。在这模式中，所有亲身面对面的课堂将同一时间大约有十五人一个分组别。学生们会按隔天上课日程亲身上课，这味着学生会隔天上课，起码亲身上百分之五十的授课。在这调整模式中，中学生们有机会在上学日接受同步和不同步的教学。约克区校局教职人员正在检阅省教育部的宣布和指引文件以完成这调整模式的计划，我们收到更新信息会通知大家。在线学习是提供给不亲身回校上课的学生们。请注意，为保障安全和适当的分组别安排，在九月如选择在线学习的学生们可能会需要等待一个特定的时间（例如，一整个学期）才能返回学校亲自学习。

## 前期注册表格

下周，您会收到约克区校局的前期注册表格，咨询家长们表达他们对学生们参与亲身回校或通过蹠距学习的意愿。那些合资格坐校车的，表格亦会包括可以选择放弃这服务。如果可以的话，我们请家长们安排自己的交通工具接送孩子们上下课。

## 健康和安全程序

我们持续和公共卫生部门共同合作和遵守他们的指引及劝告。以下将会是在我们学校实行以减少新型冠状病毒散播和保护我们学生，教职人员和家长们的措施。如需要更多资料，请查看[校局网页](#)：

- 面罩（个人防护设备 PPE）

我们要求家长/监护人为孩子们提供一个个人面罩（非医疗用）在校内配戴以减少他们的呼吸飛沫散播以保护其他人。四年级至十二年级在校期间会配戴非医疗或布质面罩。我们强烈要求在幼儿园至三年级学生必须配戴非医疗用或布质面罩。

- 自我检测

每一天，十八岁以下的学生家长/监护们，和十八岁以上的学生须负责查看和遵守[约克区公共卫生部门提供的新型冠状病毒的个人检测指引](#)。任何出现新型冠状病毒病癥的学生都必须留在家里。

- 洗手和消毒

在学校大堂前和课室内会设置一个手消毒站。鼓励学生不要带自己的手消毒液。在午饭和小息前后进入教室时，使用洗手间后或接触共用物件或者共同的接触点，学生们和教职人员们会经常洗手或使用手消毒液。

- 清洁和杀菌

校内的清洁措施会增强，包括遵照公共卫生指引，一天两次的在多接触平面清洁和杀菌。

- 在校活动指示

全校将安装方向指示牌和贴纸，以减少学生之间的亲密接触

- 访客

直到另行通知为止，除得到预先安排的例外情况，学校上课时间内，访客们不能进入学校。如您需要进入学校，请先联系学校校长作出安排。如果有紧急情况，会作特殊安排。所有访客必须遵守安全程序。

- 午饭

请确保您孩子携带上学期间所需的午餐和小吃到学校。直到另行通知前，家长们不可在学校时间内送午饭，包括午饭送餐服务。中学校内的饭堂和食物服务将会关闭。

- 飲用水机

鼓励学生携带可重复使用的水瓶以取校内的净化饮用水飲用。

- 早餐，小食和牛奶计划

这些营养计划会继续进行，但需要加强安全程序

- 交还学校物件

学生们向学校借的学习材料，例如教科書，请在新学期开始后盡快交回学校。学生们借作为蹠距学习科技配置可暂时保留直到更新交还程序公布。

- 貯物柜

直到另行通知前，学校貯物柜不能使用，在小学校内，掛钩和貯物箱可以使用。

- 课外活动和校外旅行

在另行通知之前，这些活动将会除消。

- 幼儿园

更多更新信息会在校局网页公布。

- 辅导（中学）

在可能的情况下，约見輔導老师将会在网上继续进行。

## 特殊教育

和家长们伙拍，学校会和校局的学生服务部门和调节健康專業人员们一起策划一个安全回校, 提供学生安全和相关的特殊教育需要的支持。这个计划会通过家长们和学校一起合作和谘詢。更多有关特殊教育的资料会在[校局网页](#)公布。

## 交通安排（校车和计程车服务）

学生交通服务将以调整过的运载形式和安全和清洁程序继续进行。那些合资格使用学校交通，可以通过下周發出给家长们的一份学校重开的网上表格，选择不需要这交通服务。更

多有关校车路线，校巴士和时间将在新学年开始前公布。您可查看[校局网页](#)内，一些常见问题有关交通的问题。

我们明白，除了本信和我们网站上的信息外，家长们可能还有其他疑问。我们会继续更新和提供收到的更多信息。一如既往，我们会以学生和教职人员的安全为我们策划和决定的先决考虑。下周，您将收到有关填写返校表格的信息，希望您能用些时间去填写，以便我们能设计配合您计划的服务。

请大家知道，虽然这个学年在很多方面看起来都不同，但是，我们对支持学生的身心健康，学习和成绩的承诺没有改变。我们热切期盼支持学生们过渡回来学校及学习，和跟我们的学生及家长们重新联系。