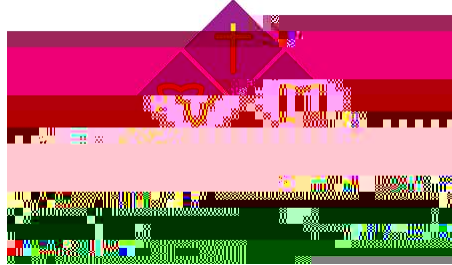




Please see the following statement from OCSTA President, Beverley Eckensweiler:



OCSTA Responds to School Closure Extension to May 4 and Provincial Learn at Home Strategy

March 31, 2020

As the Association representing the interests of Ontario's publicly funded Catholic school boards, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) welcomes the government's timely announcement today of a collaborative framework to support the continuity of learning for students as the school closure period extends to May 4.

By recognizing the experience of the education sector and the inherent resources within our communities we can continue to develop solutions to address the varying technological, sociological and mental health needs associated with a virtual learning environment.

Catholic boards are working diligently with their senior staff, principals, vice-principals, teacher federations, education workers' union leadership, teachers and support staff, parents and other community partners to develop appropriate resources that reflect our faith formation priorities, enhance student learning and reinforce curriculum outcomes that are to be achieved through the Phase II segment of the province's Learn at Home program.

Our established education partnerships in Ontario truly are assets that will be invaluable as we move forward, collaboratively to support the learning, well-being and achievements of Ontario students during this unprecedented period of time.

Beverley Eckensweiler
President
OCSTA