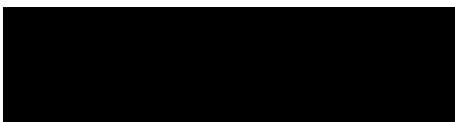
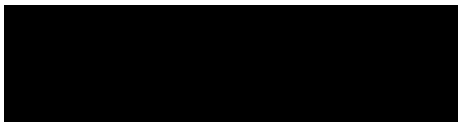


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The health and well-being of our students and staff is our top priority. It has been the primary lens for all

5. There will be no use of microwaves.
6. Each student will be required to bring their own drink bottle and kept with them during the day and not shared (there will be no active water fountains in use/only water filling stations will be in use).
7. Students and staff will minimize waste by participating in a litterless lunch strategy – all containers, storage bags, food waste, and wrappers will return home at the end of the day.
8. Those students and staff who are reasonably able and willing to eat lunch at home are encouraged to do so for the immediate future.

Generally, typical school day schedules will apply. The school day will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Lunch and recess will be from 11:30 – 12:30 each day, and there will be staggered schedules for students to eat and/or play outside.

Students will be encouraged to arrive at school as close as possible to the school start time.

Upon arrival to school each morning, students will immediately proceed to their assigned classroom. There will be designated doors for entry and exit and protocols for student drop-off and pick-up. There will be school-specific plans for student entry and dismissal, based on the individual contexts of every school.

As part of our prioritization of steps to reduce the risk of transmission and to take every reasonable precaution to protect the health and safety of students and staff, there will be a temporary suspension of the two traditional recess times at the elementary level until the pandemic is declared over and/or a vaccination is implemented.

This approach is aimed to minimize the number of students entering/exiting the building during a regular school day, as well as trying to stagger cohort access to the hallways and playgrounds. It allows for a safer approach to ensuring appropriate physical distancing requirements as well, and eases the supervision burdens that our schools currently face with our return to school plan during the pandemic.

In Regulation 298 of the Education Act, it does state that “There shall be a morning recess and an afternoon recess, each of which shall be not less than ten minutes and not more than fifteen minutes in length, for pupils in the primary and junior divisions.” We believe that our approach will address multiple concerns we are facing with safety, supervision, and mental health requirements for our students. We are not eliminating outdoor play, but rather are looking at alternate ways to engage our learners outdoors in the safest way possible.

Outdoor play and learning will be delivered by the classroom teacher at staggered times throughout the school day. In this way, students will be able to remove their face masks while outdoors, which we believe is an important aspect of personal health and well-being for students and staff.

Students will participate in a two-day cycle, designed to minimize student movement in the school and the indirect/direct number of contacts.

Day 1: Morning – Period 1 (150 minutes)
 Afternoon – Period 3 (150 minutes)

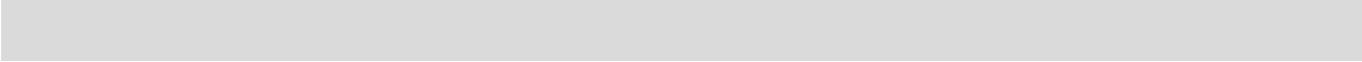
Day 2: Morning – Period 2 (150 minutes)
 Afternoon – Period 4 (150 minutes)

Upon arrival, students will immediately proceed to their assigned classroom. There can be no large congregation of students in the cafeteria, the common area, or the library.

The school day will begin at 9:00 a.m.

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Parents/guardians are encouraged to work in partnership with school personnel, as required, to ensure that a student's physical health needs are considered as part of the return to school plan during the COVID pandemic.



Parents will have the option to opt-out of in-class learning for their children. In these instances, there will be one pre-determined time period during the school year for students to transition between the in-class and virtual learning models. This time will be consistent with mid-term reporting in November, the beginning of the second semester/term, and/or April 2021.

The Ministry of Education has released Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) 164: Requirements for Remote Learning.


The full document can be found by using this link: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/164.html>



Class lists will be maintained by the principal and/or designate. Every teacher will have up to date access to class lists.

Teachers will be required to keep a log of student access to any space in the school other than their assigned classroom. This includes logging visits to the washroom, resource rooms, gymnasiums, and student services spaces in the school.

All visitors will be expected to register at the school office and provide their contact information for possible contact tracing purposes by public health officials.




The ordered school closure and distance learning strategy impacted our students and staff in different ways. We know that many students found this experience to be challenging in terms of their mental health and well-being.

All school based staff will participate in training modules available through School Mental Health Ontario. All mental health related support staff will be available to our students throughout the return to school process.

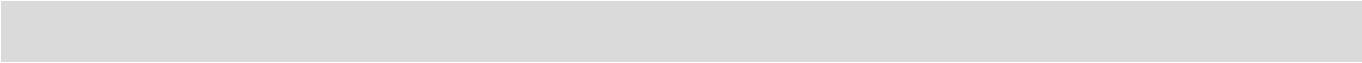
Parents/guardians with specific concerns in this regard, are encouraged to contact the school principal to discuss issues and solutions for their child's mental health and well-being.

Additional resources are available to our students and their families on our board website:
<https://www.ncdsb.on.ca/mental-health-resourcess.php>



All COOP and OYAP students will attend work placements, providing the appropriate health & safety measures are in place by the site employer.

Students will also complete a pre-placement preparation module that includes COVID-19 preparedness



The public health units have created excellent resources that detail the process to follow when a person exhibits symptoms compatible with COVID-19. Those resources can be accessed on the webpages of the respective health units and/or in the Health Units section of the Board's website.

Effective immediately, there is also a requirement for an attestation form to be completed by the parent/guardian every time a student returns to school from illness.

We recognize that this is a new expectation for our families, but it is a necessary step to help protect the health and safety of all members of our school communities.

[NCDSB Student Return to School Attestation Form](#)




The local public health unit:

- is responsible for determining if an outbreak exists, declaring an outbreak, and providing direction on outbreak control measures to be implemented.
- will assist in determining which cohort(s) may be sent home or if a partial or full school closure is required based on the scope of the outbreak.
- will work with the school to determine epidemiological links (for example, cases in the same class, cases that are part of the child care cohort, cases that have assigned bus seats in close proximity to each other).
- will determine which cohorts are high risk contacts requiring isolation.

If the local public health unit advises that a class, cohort or a school should be closed for a period of time, families, students and staff will be notified accordingly.

Notices of any closures will be posted on the school board website within the COVID-19 advisory section.



All reopening of NCDSB schools will be in accordance with the direction provided by public health officials.

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