



REPORT TO

CORPORATE SERVICES, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

RETURN TO SCHOOL UPDATE

*"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
March 3, 2021	March 11, 2021	Click here to enter a date.

Barbara Loporati, Senior Coordinator, Planning Services
 Corrado Maltese, Coordinator, Occupational Health and Safety
 John Wujek, Superintendent, Area 5 and Parent Engagement
 Shawna Campbell, Superintendent, Area 3 and Early Years
 Shazia Vlahos, Chief of Communications and Government Relations
 Michael Loberto, Superintendent, Planning and Development Services
 Deborah Friesen, Superintendent, Capital Development, Asset Management and Renewal
 Adrian Della Mora, Executive Superintendent of Human Resources
 Omar Malik, Acting Chief Information Officer

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

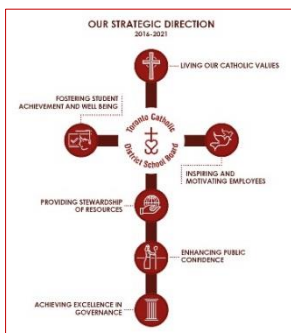
The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

Brendan Browne, PhD
 Director of Education

D. Koenig
 Associate Director
 of Academic Affairs

S. Camacho
 Acting Associate Director of
 Facilities, Business and
 Community Development



A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The last update to the Reopening Action Plan was submitted to the March 4, 2021 Student Achievement Committee meeting for information and consideration. This report provides additional information concerning items occurring since that time. The Reopening Action Plan is updated as necessary and is available on the TCDSB website. Key updates and strategies are provided for consideration.

Recruitment of staff, monitoring of current staffing compliments and distribution of technology continues as we navigate through the challenges experienced during the pandemic.

TCDSB schools will continue to follow safety measures and guidance from Toronto Public Health as schools return to in person learning.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 20 hours

B. PURPOSE

To provide the Board with updates as they pertain to the TCDSB Reopening Action Plan.

C. BACKGROUND

The TCDSB Reopening Action Plan, Staff Manual and Transition to Distance Learning Plan continue to reflect the process for operating schools safely. Items from Board motions and Ministry updates that are confirmed have been included as required. Schools will continue to follow established protocols for virtual and in person learning.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

Toronto Public Health

1. *Staff have organized for Dr. Dubey and Nicole Welch from Toronto Public Health to present at the Corporate Services meeting of March 11, 2021.* They

will address the variety of testing options that have been employed by both TPH and the Ministry of Education. TPH staff will also address the concern of some parents of Kindergarten students being required to wear masks while in our schools.

2. *Staff will also address the issue of mandatory masking of Kindergarten students* during our weekly meetings with senior staff of Toronto Public Health.

Planning for Summer and September 2021

3. *Senior staff have created a committee to investigate the different models of learning as we plan for September 2021.* Staff are arranging meetings with a variety of school boards and continuing to dialogue with the Ministry of Education to plan for September 2021 and the upcoming academic. Staff will be preparing a report to Board in the future to highlight the details learned and possible learning options for September 2021.
4. *Senior staff are currently engaged in planning meetings to develop fulsome summer learning opportunities offering targeted support in 3 focus areas; literacy, numeracy and mental health & well-being. All of which need attention after learning during the pandemic.* We have created an academic team from a variety of TCDSB departments to develop a variety of summer programs to supports students in both elementary and secondary. These programs will prepare students to meet the curriculum expectations and address their learning needs for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Mental health and well-being supports will be incorporated into these programs as well.

Staffing and Recruitment

5. *HR staff is continuing to recruit in all employee groups and capitalizing on the College of Teachers' announcement that they will be issuing Temporary Teaching Certificates* (effective until December 2021) for students who are nearing the completion of their formal Bachelor of Education program. The TCDSB has recruited a significant number of these teachers and direction has been provided to Principals regarding deployment to address daily absentee challenges not being addressed through normal channels.
6. *Senior HR staff is analyzing enrolment projections to proactively plan for potential staffing scenarios related to September school staffing requirements.* Timely consultation with both the Ministry of Education and our union partners will inform our approach.

7. *The Sick Leave & Disability and Academic Services Departments continue to closely monitor leave requests, sporadic employee absences, and quarantine requirements. Principals have been provided a list of contingency plans to ensure continuity of program delivery and student safety.* Enhancing employee awareness of our employer-sponsored Employee Family Assistance Plan remains a priority.
8. *HR staff is monitoring all quarantined staff to ensure that proper parameters are maintained.* We continue to communicate with all employees regarding travel plans, quarantine requirements that may apply, and the need to commit to the employer to ensure continuity of program delivery and service.

Technology

9. *Orders continue to flow, supply levels are running low, and additional devices are being purchased.* An initial purchase for 2,000 Chromebooks has been made on an emergency basis using the additional ministry funding for technology to stabilize supply levels and subsequent purchases will follow.

E. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

1. *Communications continue to be shared with all staff and families centrally related to cases in school settings and reminders from TPH about remaining vigilant in practicing health and safety measures.*

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.