

REGULAR BOARD

RETURN TO SCHOOL UPDATE

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

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March 18, 2021	March 25, 2021	Click here to enter a date.

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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

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The last update to the Reopening Action Plan was submitted to the March 11, 2021 Corporate Services 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.

This week's report includes updates regarding youth programs, bike racks, outdoor classrooms and technology distribution.

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

Planning for Summer and September 2021

1. Planning and implementation is under way for another summer of opportunities through the government funded Focus on Youth program, providing secondary students with employment and skills acquisition

experiences while earning secondary school credits. Providing mental wellness and self-care training will be a major component of this year's Focus on Youth program. Further details will be shared as they are made available.

Plexiglass

- 2. *Distribution of plexiglass is ongoing*. The barriers that were in the current reserve have been shipped to schools. Deliveries of additional barriers are anticipated towards the end of March with installation in classrooms of greater than 15 students to be completed prior to students returning from April Break.
- 3. The plexiglass survey closes Friday, March 19. Staff will collect and collate the survey responses and share the results at the April 8th SAWB RTS report.

Cycling to School

- 4. Installation of bike racks is scheduled to begin March 23 at seven schools as follows:
 - Holy Child
 - St. Angela
 - St. basil the Great
 - St. Demetrius
 - St. Francis de Sales
 - St. Martha
 - St. Wilfrid

Installation of bike racks at all schools is anticipated to be completed by end of May, 2021.

Outdoor Classrooms

- 5. Delivery of outdoor seating from logs provided by the City of Toronto is scheduled to begin March 22. This will be a trial to determine how many schools can be completed per day. The trial will include the following schools:
 - Holy Child
 - St. Andrew
 - St. Angela
 - St. Benedict
 - St. Dorothy
 - St. Jude
 - St. Stephen
 - St. Jane Frances

The schedule for the remaining schools will be determined following the trial. It is anticipated that the bulk of the delivery will take place during the spring (April) break.

Technology

6. *Orders continue to flow, and supplies are being replenished.* An additional 2,000 Chromebooks have arrived, and a subsequent order will be placed.

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.