



Dear parents/guardians,

I am writing to you today to provide details about ALCDSB's plan to return to school.

On July 30, 2020 the Provincial Government announced that all schools in Ontario would re-open. Our Board has been working diligently to provide more details about what this will look like specifically in our Catholic schools.

Below is a link to our website with more information about academics, busing, masks, cleaning of schools, etc. We recognize you may have more questions, but this information will provide you with an idea of how our schools will operate and ensure a healthy and safe learning environment for our students and staff.

Here are some key points; however, I encourage you to go to the website full details and other important information.

- All ALCDSB schools are opening five days a week, regular school hours.
- Some grades will have staggered entry dates to ensure our youngest learners have opportunities to become familiar with the school and to best transition back to school.
- Students in grades 4-12 must wear masks. Students in K-3 are strongly encouraged to wear masks.
- Busing is provided to all students who have bus transportation. All students in grades 4-12 must wear a mask on the school bus, and students in grades K-3 are strongly encouraged.
- For families that do not wish to send their children to school, there is an option for remote learning. Please note you cannot chose a mix between in-classroom instruction and remote learning.
- Secondary students will participate in quadmestering, which allows for students to complete four courses in one semester, but with less contact of many students. Details and a sample schedule are included in the plan.
- The mental and physical health and well-being of our students and staff is our number one priority. The Board website will outline steps we are taking to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff. Mental health and well-being resources will be made available, as well as our social workers and child youth workers are available to support the transition back to school.
- Schools will implement a more frequent cleaning and disinfecting routine according to Ministry and public health recommendations.
- Our schools will continue to follow the direction of our local public health units. We will be sharing materials and resources and any important messaging necessary for our communities.

Once you have read through our return to school details, we ask that families complete an attendance survey.

This survey will allow our board to understand which students will be returning and if students will be choosing remote learning.

Full details on ALCDSB's return to school planning: [click here to access the ALCDSB Return to School Plan.](#)

Attendance Survey for families to complete after they have gone through the information: [click here to access the survey.](#)

I am very thankful to be part of a community that works in collaboration to achieve the best and safest learning environments for our children. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

More information will be shared as it becomes available. I trust that the information provided on the board website will answer many questions and provide details required for a safe return to school.

"God is our refuge and strength." Psalm 46:1

Sincerely,



David DeSantis
Director of Education