



BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK
CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Update for Families – April 27, 2020

As we process the announcement made yesterday by the Minister of Education to extend school closures to May 29, 2020, we felt it was important to reach out to families and share information and recent decisions that pertain to school activities and events.

The Province remains in a State of Emergency and under the direction of the Ministries of Health and Education, we are adhering to the physical distancing protocol. Under the parameters that have been set for us, Board has made decisions including the following items:

Cancellations

All upcoming food orders, excursions, and year-end trips are cancelled. Board and school staff are working on the refund process and hope to provide reimbursements to families as soon as possible. School will be following up when able, with details pertaining to their location.

Fundraising initiatives that have or are currently taking place are cancelled. Board and school staff are developing a plan that will outline how funds already collected will be handled and how funds still in the hands of families will be submitted to the schools while sites remain closed. Please expect details from your school soon.

All scheduled immunization clinics are cancelled. Students who remain behind on their scheduled immunizations will be contacted by public health at a time when catch-up clinics and/or processes are in place.

Postponements

All Grade 8 and high school graduation ceremonies are postponed until the fall. We understand that these are important events for students and families and believe that they should still be held, when safe to do so.

Scholarships, bursaries and awards will proceed as planned. All recipients will be notified by their schools and all monetary entitlements will be disbursed by June 30, 2020. Students will be recognized and receive the physical awards at the fall ceremonies.

Please know that this decision was made in consultation and with information from the Ministries of Education and Health. Your safety and that of your families is our priority and we cannot guarantee that the large gatherings of graduation and convocation ceremonies would not jeopardize the health of our students and families.

Our graduating classes of 2020 will be remembered as ones that have had to forgo the monumental life experiences that we look back on with fond memories. Please know that, most importantly, you will also be remembered for putting the health of others first and for doing your part to help keep our community healthy and safe.

Distance Learning Check-in with Families

As families across the globe, the country, the province, and here in our community experience the current COVID-19 restrictions, we would like to check in to see how you are doing.

We launched the BHNCDsB's Continuity of Learning plan on April 6, 2020. School administrators, educational staff, and support staff across the district have been working with families to provide teaching and learning opportunities during this challenging time.

Please take a few short minutes to complete this survey to let us know how you are doing. The survey will close on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Link: [Check-In with Families Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bhnFamilyCheckIn) (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bhnFamilyCheckIn)

Thank You

While staff and students continue the 2019-20 school year as facilitated through our continuation of learning plan, we would like to thank all families for their patience, perseverance, and support. We know that these are challenging and difficult times for many and we appreciate your efforts. A special thank you to our families who remain working outside the home. Your dedication and support for our community has not gone unnoticed. We are blessed to have you.

We remind families to continue to practice physical distancing and know that we will continue to walk together, in faith, supporting one another and our children.

Please stay well.

Mike McDonald Director of Education