



REPORT TO

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RETURN TO SCHOOL UPDATE

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

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 25, 2021	March 4, 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:

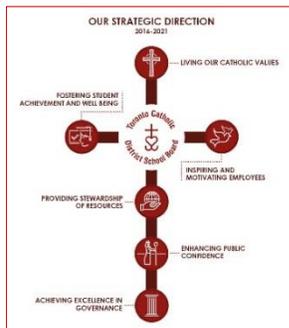
The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

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 February 18, 2021 Board 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.

A survey on the effectiveness and use of plexiglass barriers is proposed, through school Principals, in response to a Trustee question at February Board.

Efforts to keep technology supplied to students is ongoing.

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

Ventilation

1. In addition to the 2300 HEPA purifiers that have been provided to schools with no mechanical or only partial mechanical ventilation systems, ***a second round of 3,000 purifiers are being delivered on a system wide basis*** for all Special Needs classrooms, specialty spaces, main offices and staff rooms.
2. Head Caretakers have been advised that ***HEPA purifiers are to be left on at all times.***
3. ***The second cycle of changes utilizing MERV 13 filters for Air Handling Unit's (AHU's) are near completion.*** There are two remaining cycles scheduled. All mechanical HVAC systems were upgraded to MERV 13 filters in the fall.
4. ***Staff continue to work toward implementing further air quality improvements and initiatives as directed by the Board of trustees last week.*** In addition to the above immediate work, these include medium to long-term strategies such as continuing to study air flow and patterns of window operation, ensuring HVAC systems are balanced and working optimally, reviewing existing exhaust fans and components, and reviewing further improvements to windows design and operation.

Plexiglass Student Barriers

4. ***In response to a Trustee question at the Feb. 18 Board meeting regarding best approach to survey schools with plexiglass, we propose use of Microsoft Forms with a pre-populated series of questions to be used by the school Principal.*** The questions include indication of response as staff or on behalf of student, name of school (1 of 90 with plexiglass), list concerns if any about plexiglass use, whether they support continued use of plexiglass and a box for additional comments. Survey can remain open for 2 weeks to ensure staff and families can respond. Following the deadline, the responses will be gathered and collated. The findings can be presented in a Return to School report.
5. ***Distribution of plexiglass student barriers to remaining school communities has been suspended*** pending the outcome and recommendations of the above survey.

Technology

6. ***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 have been shared with all staff and families centrally related to a new variant 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.