



**Planning and Priorities Committee
(Special Meeting)
Report No. 06**

PPC:006A
Tuesday, February 9, 2021
Electronic Meeting

Members Present Alexander Brown (Chair), Michelle Aarts, Rachel Chernos Lin, Stephanie Donaldson, Trixie Doyle, Harpreet Gill, Parthi Kandavel, Shelley Laskin, James Li, Dan MacLean, Christopher Mammoliti, Chris Moise, Patrick Nunziata, Zakir Patel, Robin Pilkey Yalini Rajakulasingam, David Smith, Anu Sriskandarajah, Jennifer Story, Chris Tonks and Manna Wong.

Regrets Regrets were received from Trustee Alexandra Lulka

Trustees participated by electronic means in accordance with [amendments to Section 7 of Ontario Regulations 463/97, Electronic Meetings](#)

Part A: Committee Recommendations

1. Access to Paid Sick Days to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

Moved by: Trustee Donaldson

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

The Planning and Priorities Committee **RECOMMENDS:**

Whereas, 80 to 90 percent of low-income workers across Canada have no access to paid sick leave; and

Whereas, these precariously employed and casual workers (who include TDSB parents, guardians, workers, adult learners, etc.) must stop work and forgo pay in order to quarantine or self-isolate; and

Whereas, leading public health experts have provided advice to the provincial government about the importance of schools staying open and, as such, taking all steps necessary to ensure containment of the virus in the community; and

Whereas, Toronto's Medical Officer of Health expressed that this pandemic cannot be fully fought if we cannot ensure that workers who are sick stay at home to stop the spread of the virus; and

Whereas, Toronto's Board of Health has written to the provincial government to ask for paid sick leave to support workers, so they are able to stay home and self-isolate when they are ill;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Chair write to the provincial Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, Minister of Health and Minister of Education to ask the Government of Ontario to:
- i. require employers in Ontario to provide no less than five paid sick days annually to workers, after three months of employment, through amendments to the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* or through a different mechanism;
 - ii. provide necessary funding, fiscal relief, and/or supports to employers so that all workers in Ontario have access to no less than ten paid sick days annually in the event of a declared infectious disease emergency such as the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - iii. ensure all workers in Ontario have access to protected and paid emergency leave so that care can be provided to children, parents, or other family members who may become ill;
- (b) That, in addition to the Board's advocacy to the government of Ontario to take action on the matters above, the Director of Education work with TDSB employee groups regarding local implementation.

Carried

Part B: Information Only

2. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

An electronic meeting of the Planning and Priorities Committee was convened on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 from 4:33 to 7:20 p.m., with Alexander Brown presiding.

3. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest

No matters to report

4. Delegations

No matters to report

5. Report From the Director of Education: Impact of COVID-19 Update With Toronto Public Health

The Committee heard a presentation from staff providing an update on the impact of COVID-19 (see attached, page 5). The Committee also heard a presentation from Dr. Vinita Dubey, Associate Medical Officer of Health and Nicole Welch, Director, Toronto Public Health providing an update on COVID-19 (see attached, page 19).

6. Planning Forward to September 2021

The Committee heard a presentation from staff presenting information on preparing for the 2021-2022 school year, including key principles, staffing allocation and upcoming key dates (see attached, page 63).

7. Report From the Chair of the Board

No matters to report

8. Report From Representative on the City's Board of Health

No matters to report

9. Report From the Directors on the Ontario Public School Boards' Association

No matters to report

10. Report From the Chairs of the Governance and Policy Committee, the Program and School Services Committee, the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

No matters to report

11. Report From Representatives on the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee and the Special Education Advisory Committee

No matters to report

11. Reports From Student Trustees

No matters to report

12. Other Questions, Insights and Advice From Trustees to Staff

No matters to report

13. Adjournment

On motion of Trustee Smith, seconded by Trustee Wong, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

No matters to report

Submitted by: Alexander Brown, Chair

Impact of COVID-19 Update

February 9, 2021



Agenda

- Toronto Public Health Update
- Elementary Switch Update
 - Karen, Diana, Ian, Shirley and Ross
- Device Distribution Update
 - Peter
- COVID Federal Funding Update
 - Craig



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Toronto Public Health Update

- Dr. Vinita Dubey
Associate Medical Officer of Health

- Nicole Welch, COVID-19 Liaison Team,
Public Health Director
Chief Nursing Officer



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Elementary Switch Update

- Context - Learning Centre Executive Superintendents
- The families of **6126 elementary students** have their request to switch
- Virtual School to Bricks & Mortar (in-person): **2310 requests**
- Bricks & Mortar (In-Person) to Virtual School/Learning: **3816 requests**
- Principals, Superintendents and the Executive Team looked at local virtual learning models and in most cases it was not possible without significant disruption
- At this time, **1525 student requests** to move to Bricks & Mortar (In-Person, Regular Program) have been facilitated



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Elementary Switch Update

- All Human Rights and Quintile 5 requests for Regular Program will be facilitated in Virtual Learning/Virtual School.
- Students in Intensive Support Programs will be given intentional care with their transition from Virtual School to In-Person School. In-Person Principals will contact families to welcome and confirm students moving back to their home-school and discuss appropriate supports for a seamless transition.
- There is limited movement available either way for students in French Programs. Priority for French Programs will also be given to Human Rights and Quintile 5.



5

Technical Aspects Impacting Transitions Timing

Students Switching into/out of Virtual

Virtual School and Bricks and Mortar will Work In Partnership to Transition Students Both Ways:

- Students will automatically be assigned to their new virtual classroom (Brightspace classroom learning environment)
 - If the teacher is using Google Classroom, then the teacher will need to add students manually to their Google Classroom roster.
- Of note, students returning to bricks and mortar schools will no longer have access to their original Brightspace classroom in virtual school after the transfer has occurred (**think of this as their classroom desk**)
 - Teachers and students will still need access for the parent-teacher conferences that take place on PA Day on Friday, February 12, therefore **cannot be demitted before** end of day February 12 (**or they won't have access to the work that is sitting in their desk to share**)
 - Students cannot be registered until after the end of the day on February 12



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Connecting Families and Schools

Students Switching into/out of Virtual

- The scheduled switch date for students going to Virtual School or Virtual Learning will be **initiated on Tuesday, February 16, 2021**
- Virtual School Teachers will be reaching out to families on Tuesday, February 16 to welcome students into virtual classes and share login information
- Daily instruction for students new to Virtual School or local virtual learning hubs will commence during the week of February 16 - 19
- Asynchronous activities will be available during the transition period
- Ongoing communication between Bricks and Mortar (In-Person) and Virtual School will continue to support a smooth transition for students and families



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Elementary Switch Update: Parent Communications

January 29: Communication with parents/guardians regarding switching opportunity, the survey, confirmation of switch request and next steps in process

February 4: Communication to families who requested a switch regarding how the switching process will work, how families will be contacted, time lines and Q&A (communications and Q&A translated into 20 languages)

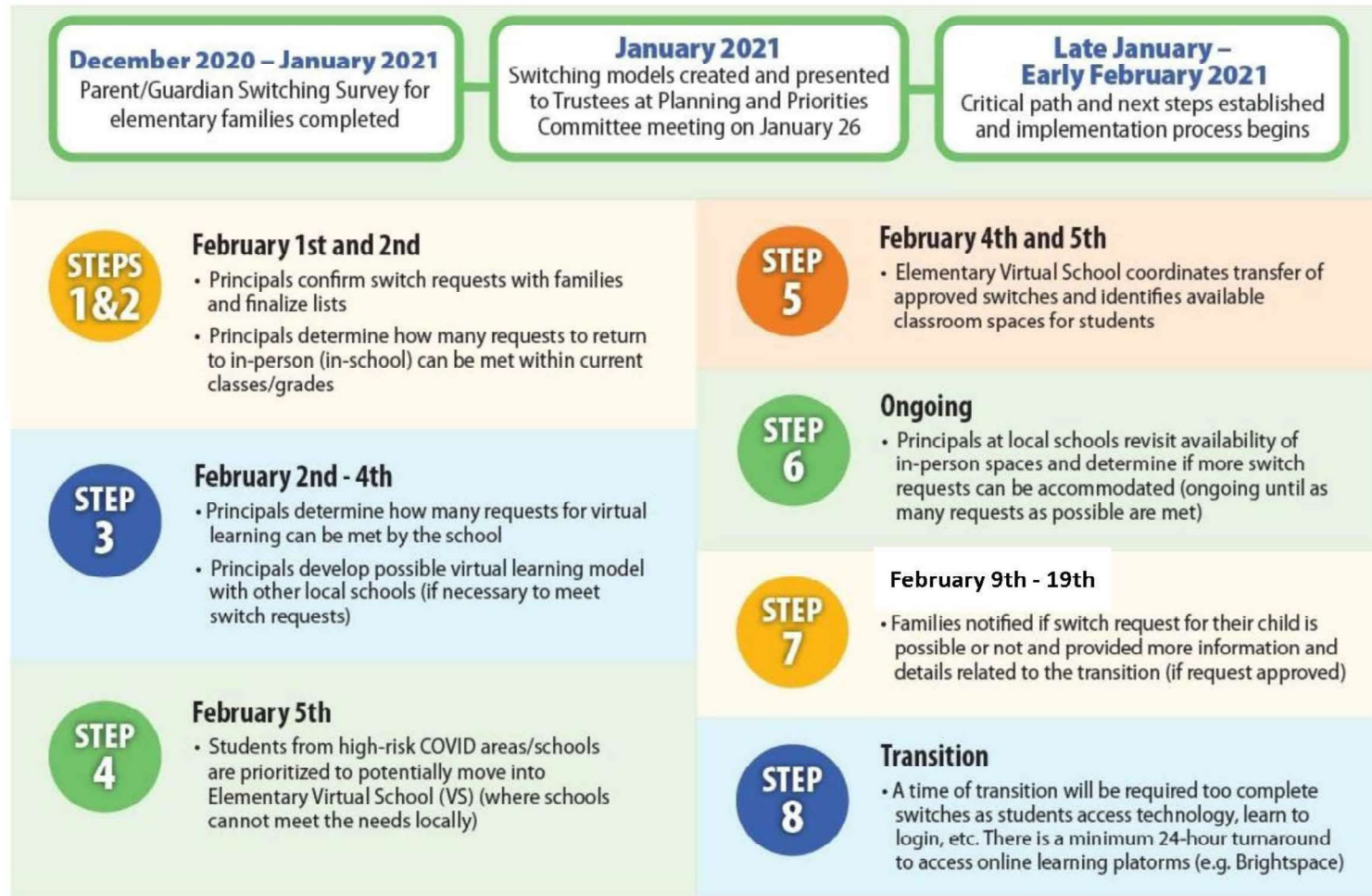
February 9 - 19: Communication confirming switch request via in-person school and Virtual School administrators, and “on-boarding”/welcoming communication/information including preparation for Virtual School learning and virtual learning hubs

February 12: Communication to all parents/guardians that requested a switch indicating that if they have not received confirmation of their switch request, as of this date, their child should continue to attend their in-person or virtual school classroom

February 19: As transitions will be implemented throughout next week, this will be the last day that families will learn if their child’s switch will be possible



Elementary Switch Update: Timeline



COVID Funding Update

Feb. 1, 2021 Ministry B01 Memo Announcement:

- Second Allocation of Federal Safe Return to Class Fund
- Total to Date: \$381M Provincially
- Announcement Total: \$199.4M (For All School Boards)
- TDSB received \$24.4M or 12.2% of Total Allocated
- School boards have been requested to inform Ministry of intended expenses on materials to allow for group purchases through the Ontario Education Collaborative Marketplace (OECM) and Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS)
- TDSB's allocation is comprised of \$9.4M for technology, \$6.9M for air quality and ventilation, \$7.8M for health & safety and \$0.3M for student transportation.



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COVID Funding Update

Technological Devices - \$9.4M

- This funding will support previous purchases made by the board and additional purchases of approx. 20,000 devices in the amount of \$5.7M. Remaining funds to be used towards Board funded expenditures.

Improving Air Quality and Ventilation - \$6.9M

- \$6.9M will be used to purchase an additional 8,500 HEPA filter units.
- \$3.5M has been spent HEPA filters, (3,563 units received with another 470 units on order), mechanical system filter changes and HVAC recommissioning.
- Remaining funds from the first instalment (approx. \$3.8M) will be used to address HVAC recommissioning deficiencies.

Health and Safety - \$7.8M

- Funds will be used to offset purchases not supplied through MGCS.

Transportation - \$0.3M

- Offset PPE and Health & Safety costs to be incurred by bus operators.



Device Distribution Update

Device Requests Received Since September 2020

Total Requests Received: 18,259

Device only Requests: 16,522

Device + Internet Requests: 1,319

Internet only Requests: 418

Requests from Students Enrolled in Virtual School: 13,439

Requests from Students NOT in Virtual School: 4,820

All Virtual School Requests as of Feb 5th has been fulfilled



Device Distribution Update

Technology Purchases Since September 2020

Device Type	Technology purchases through school budget		Centrally purchased and delivered to schools		Devices bought for Virtual school	
	Volume	Cost	Volume	Cost	Volume	Cost
Chromebooks:	14,856	\$4.37M	21,436	\$5.74M	8,712	\$2.38M
iPads:	2,107	\$848K			1500	\$677K
New Laptops:	2,554	\$1.5M			80	\$57.6K
Used Laptops:	797	\$283K				
Wi-Fi Hubs:	46	\$9K			170	\$34.6K
Grand Total:	20,036	\$7.06M	21,436	\$5.74M	10,462	\$3.15M

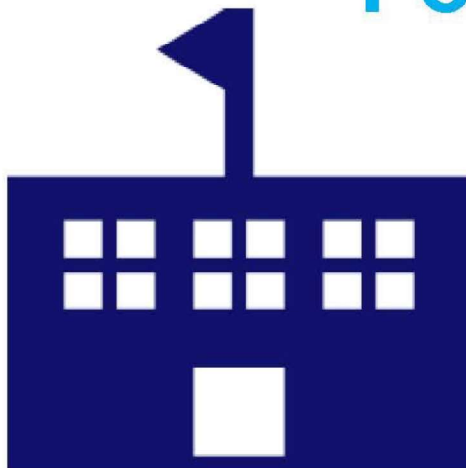


Questions?





COVID-19: Update for TDSB Trustee Meeting February 9, 2021



Dr. Vinita Dubey
Associate Medical Officer
of Health (AMOH)

Nicole Welch
Director of School Team



Agenda

- COVID-19 data
- Variants of Concern and Schools
- Public health measures to keep schools safe
- Testing recommendations
- COVID-19 vaccine



School Data

Active Outbreaks In Schools	Cumulative Outbreaks In schools	Total Case Counts In Schools
1	176	1162

- **Average Cases per outbreak=6**
- **Average Outbreak duration= 21.8 days**
- **For number of cases in schools, please go to [the Ministry of Education](#) website**
- **For Toronto COVID Data, see the TPH website: [Status of Cases in Toronto](#)**

Data extracted February 9, 2021



Toronto Data- as of Feb 8th, 2021

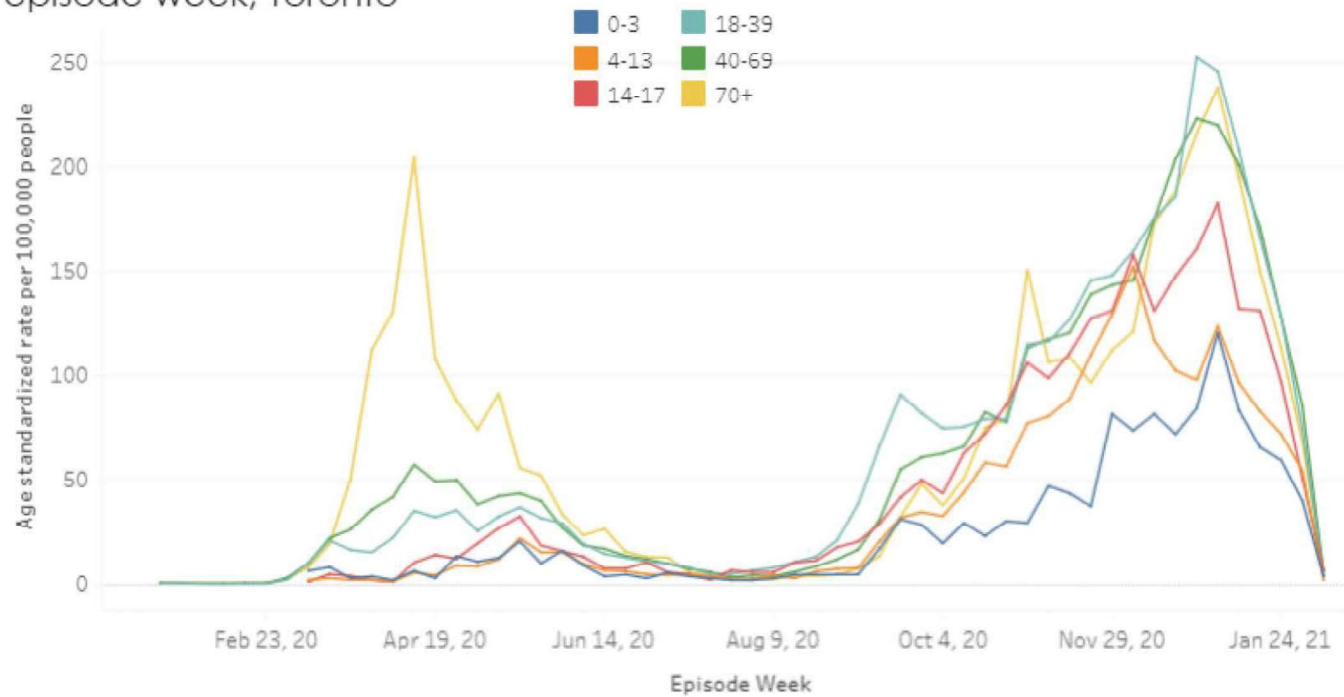
Figure 2. COVID-19 cases in school-aged children by age group and week, Toronto





Toronto Data- as of Feb 8th, 2021

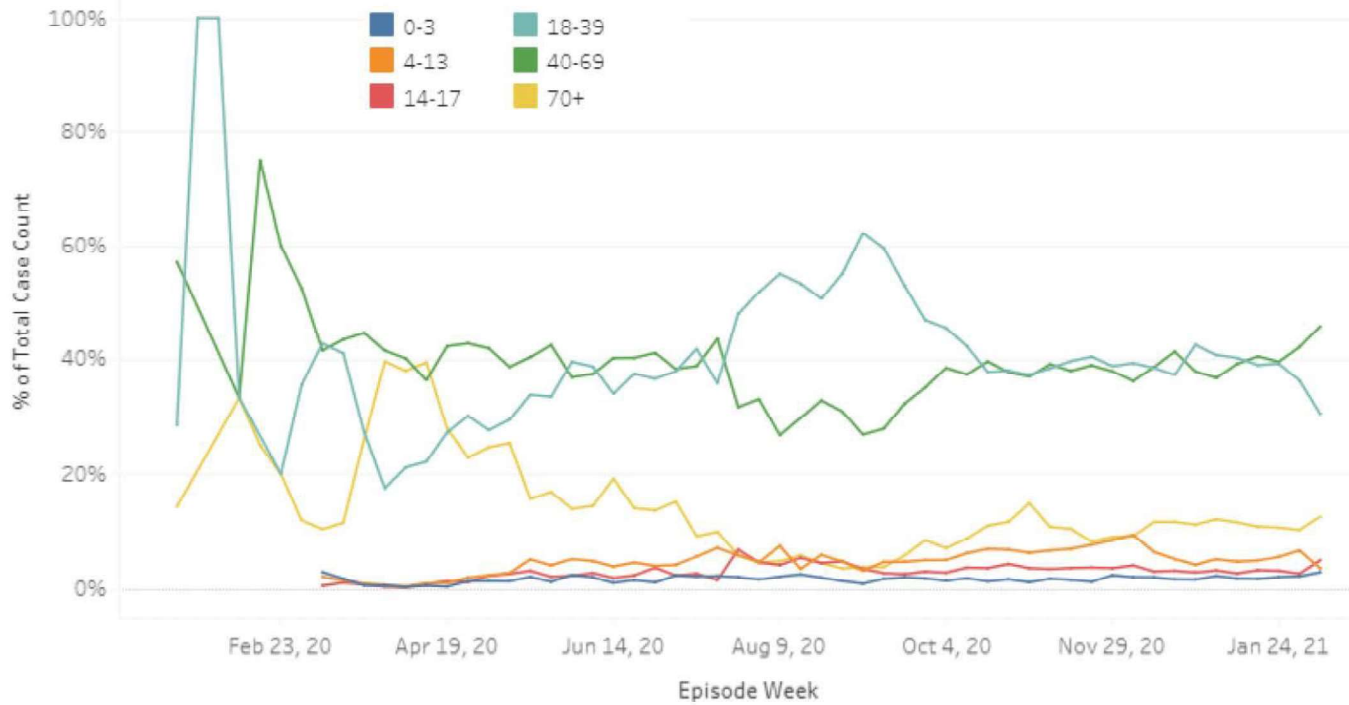
Figure 3. Case rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population by age group and episode week, Toronto





Toronto Data- as of Feb 8th, 2021

Figure 4. Proportion of COVID-19 cases by age group and episode week, Toronto





COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) Variants

SARS-CoV-2 Variants

About Variants

New variants of SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19 have been reported in the news in recent weeks.

- Viruses constantly change through mutations
- New variants of a virus are expected to occur over time.
- Sometimes new variants emerge and disappear, and sometimes they emerge and persist
- New variants may lead to either decreases or increases in severity of illness, frequency of death, and how easily the virus spreads.



COVID-19 Variants

SARS-CoV-2 Variants

UPDATE ON VARIANTS OF CONCERNS (VOC) *See next slide*

**UK VOC 202012/01, B.1.1.7
with 7 amino acid substitutions**

**South Africa VOC 501Y.V2, B.1.351
IC-0433 with 7 amino acid substitutions**

**Isolate from travelers from Brazil, B.1.1.248
IC-0561 with 12 amino acid substitutions**

There are potentials of other emerging variants

From: PHO



NOVEL (SARS-CoV-2) Variants

SARS-CoV-2 Variants

- Concerns:
 - ↑ Transmissibility
 - ↑ Disease severity
 - ↑ Risk of re-infection (immune escape mutants)
 - ↓ Vaccine efficacy (vaccine escape mutants)
 - ↓ Detection (diagnostic escape mutants)
- Implications:
 - ↑ Cases ↑ Hospitalizations ↑ Deaths
 - Effectiveness of interventions - directly (e.g., vaccine escape mutants) and indirectly (e.g. ↑ transmissibility)
 - Vaccination strategy?

Early evidence suggested higher transmissibility in children, that does not seem to be the case right now.

From Science table-COVID-19 Advisory for Ontario



NOVEL (SARS-CoV-2) Variants - Update on COVID-19 Projections from Science Table

Key Findings of modelling by Science Table- related to schools

- The new variant of concern (UK variant) is spreading in Ontario and is a significant threat to control the pandemic.
- Modelling and international examples suggest that maintaining health interventions will support continued reductions in cases, even with a return to school.



SARS CoV-2 VOC

SARS-CoV-2 Variants

How to we help keep schools safe from COVID-19 Variants

- Continue and stay vigilant with public health and IPAC measures -screening, masking, hand hygiene, physical distancing of 6 feet two meters, ventilation and cleaning and disinfection.
- Continue to encourage all to stay home if they are sick and go for testing if they have COVID-19 symptoms.
- If a VOC is identified in a school, intensive case and contact management



Public Health Measures in School

Screening – staff, students, visitors

STOP COVID-19 K - 12 STUDENT SCREENING TOOL
Please complete before entering the school.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Does the student have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*

<input type="checkbox"/> Fever > 37.8°C	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste
<input type="checkbox"/> Feeling unwell, muscle aches or tired	<input type="checkbox"/> Stuffy or runny nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If "YES" to any symptom: Stay home & self-isolate + Get tested Or Contact a health care provider

2. Is there a child or sibling in your household who has one or more of the above symptoms? Yes No

3. Has the student travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No

4. Has the student been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19? Yes No

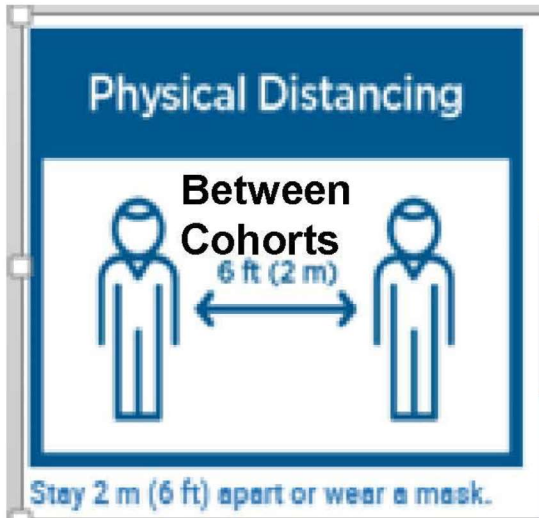
5. Has the student been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes No

If "YES" to Questions 2, 3, 4 or 5: Stay home & self-isolate + Follow public health advice

*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.

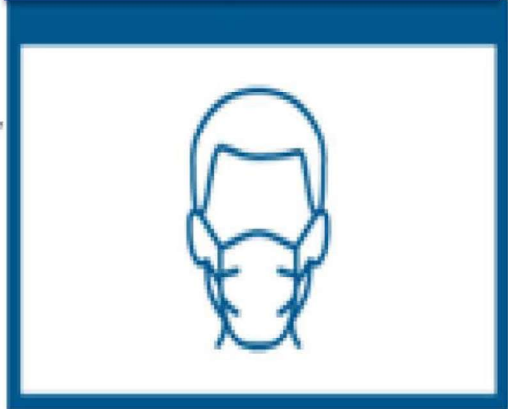
Updated December 2020
TORONTO.CA/COVID19

Cleaning and Disinfection Frequent cleaning of surfaces



Keeping students in cohorts

Student/Staff/Visitor Face Mask Use



Ventilation in classrooms



School Screening Tools



Screening tool changes for both Student and Staff/Visitor Screening

- Symptom list remains the same for students/staff
- In effect as of February 16th, 2021
- Will also be checked to ensure completed each day.

Image from: Needpix.com

COVID-19 K - 12 STUDENT SCREENING TOOL
Please complete before entering the school.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Does the student have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Fever > 37.8°C	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Cough	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulty breathing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of taste or smell
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling unwell, muscle aches or tired	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Stuffy or runny nose	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Headache	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If "YES" to any symptom: Stay home & self-isolate + Get tested Or Contact a health care provider

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms? Yes No

3. Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No

4. Has anyone in your household been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes No

If "YES" to Questions 2,3, or 4: Stay home + Follow Toronto Public Health advice

*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should not answer YES, unless this symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.
Updated February 2021

COVID-19 Staff & Visitors complete before entering the school each day.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1.) Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms or signs?*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Fever or chills	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Cough	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Sore throat or trouble swallowing
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runny or stuffy nose	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Decrease or loss of taste or smell	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not feeling well, extreme tiredness or sore muscles

If "YES" to any symptom: Stay home & self-isolate + Get tested Or Contact a health care provider

2.) Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms? Yes No

3.) Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No

4.) Have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes No

*If you have an existing health condition that gives you the symptoms you should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your normal symptoms.
Updated February 2021

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Student (JK-12) Screening Tool

COVID-19 K - 12 STUDENT SCREENING TOOL

Please complete before entering the school.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Does the student have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Fever > 37.8°C		Cough		Difficulty breathing		Loss of taste or smell	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Feeling unwell, muscle aches or tired		Stuffy or runny nose		Headache		Sore throat or pain swallowing	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>							
Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea							

If "YES" to any symptom: Stay home & self-isolate + Get tested Or Contact a health care provider

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms? Yes No

3. Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No

4. Has anyone in your household been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes No

If "YES" to Questions 2,3, or 4: Stay home + Follow Toronto Public Health advice

*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.

Updated February 2021

TORONTO.CA/COVID19



MY CHILD HAS 1 OR MORE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Was your child a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19?

YES

- Everyone in the household should stay home & self-isolate. Get your child tested.
- If positive, notify your child's school of the positive result. Toronto Public Health will follow up with further instructions.
- If negative, the child will still need to self-isolate for 14 days from last exposure to the person who was positive. Any children in the household should self-isolate from school until the person who is a close contact completes self-isolation.
- If your child is not tested they need to self-isolate for 10 days. Household contacts will also need to stay home and self-isolate for 14 days.

NO

- Notify your child's school that they have symptoms.
- Your child should stay home, self-isolate & get tested.
- Anyone in the household who attends a school setting must also stay home and self-isolate until the child's test is negative.
- Adults in the home, including parents, who do not attend a school setting, need to self-monitor for symptoms, but may go to work as long as they do not have symptoms.

What was the result of your child's COVID-19 test?

POSITIVE

- Let your child's school know that they tested positive for COVID-19.
- Your child must stay home & self-isolate for 10 days from the day their symptoms started.
- Household members & close contacts must also self-isolate for at least 14 days.
- Toronto Public Health will contact you to do an investigation & will provide further instructions.

NEGATIVE

- Your child may return to school after it has been 24 hours since their symptoms started improving.
- Siblings can return to school right away as long as they do not have symptoms.
- Adults who attend the school setting can return to school right away as long as they do not have symptoms.

NOT TESTED

- Your child must stay home & self-isolate for 10 days from the day their symptoms started.
- After 10 days, they can go back to school if their symptoms are improving.
- Anyone in the household who attends a school setting will stay home for 10 days.
- If a health care provider has diagnosed a condition that isn't related to COVID-19, your child can return to school 24 hours after their symptoms improve. Their siblings are then not required to self-isolate for 10 days.

If anyone in your household has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days, the person who travelled is required to self-isolate for 14 days. Everyone in the household will also need to stay home from school until the person who travelled completes the 14 day quarantine. If the individual is exempt from travel quarantine because they perform an essential job (e.g. truck driver, pilot), the rest of the household can still attend school.

TORONTO.CA/COVID19



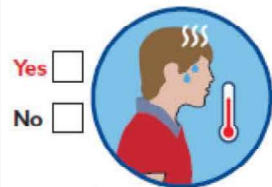
Link to student screening [questionnaire](#) and [poster](#)



Student (JK-12) Screening Tool

Symptoms remain the same

1. Does the student have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*



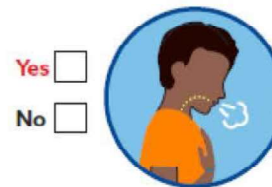
Yes
No

Fever > 37.8°C



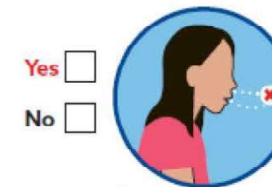
Yes
No

Cough



Yes
No

Difficulty breathing



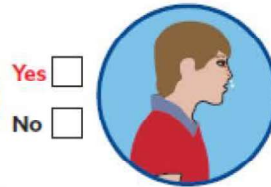
Yes
No

Loss of taste or smell



Yes
No

Feeling unwell, muscle aches or tired



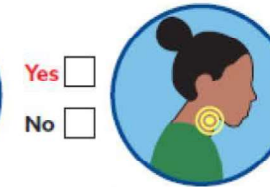
Yes
No

Stuffy or runny nose



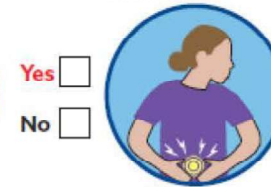
Yes
No

Headache



Yes
No

Sore throat or pain swallowing



Yes
No

Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If "YES" to any symptom:



Stay home & self-isolate



Get tested

Or



Contact a health care provider



Student (JK-12) Screening

Change highlighted in Yellow

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms?

Yes No

3. Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

Yes No

4. Has anyone in your household been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate?

Yes No

If "YES" to Questions 2,3,or 4:



Stay home



Follow Toronto Public Health advice

*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.



School Staff /Visitor Screening

STOP COVID-19 Staff & Visitors complete before entering the school each day.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1.) Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms or signs?*

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
No <input type="checkbox"/>	Fever or chills	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Cough	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Sore throat or trouble swallowing
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	
No <input type="checkbox"/>	Runny or stuffy nose	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Decrease or loss of taste or smell	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not feeling well, extreme tiredness or sore muscles

If "YES" to any symptom: Stay home & self-isolate + Get tested Or Contact a health care provider

2.) Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms? Yes No

3.) Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No

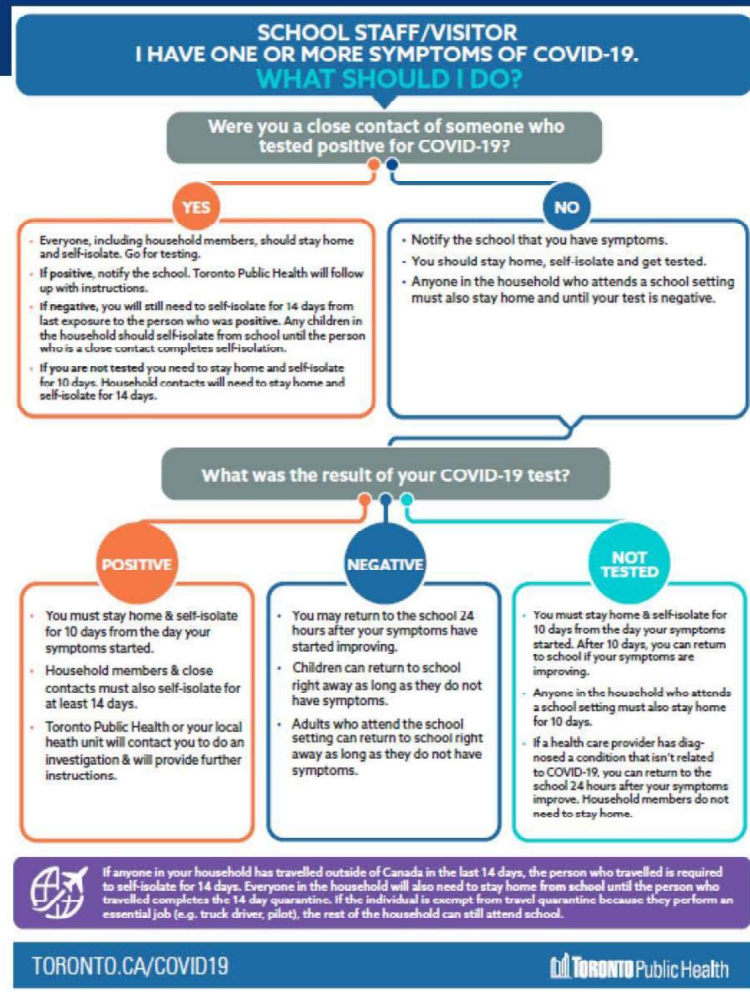
4.) Have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes No

* If you have an existing health condition that gives you the symptoms you should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your normal symptoms.

If "YES" to Questions 2,3, or 4: Stay home + Follow Toronto Public Health advice

Updated February 2021

TORONTO.CA/COVID19



Link to school staff/visitor screening [questionnaire](#) and [poster](#)



School Staff /Visitor Screening

Symptoms remain the same

1.) Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms or signs?*

Yes
No

Fever or chills

Yes
No

Cough

Yes
No

Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath

Yes
No

Sore throat or trouble swallowing

Yes
No

Runny or stuffy nose

Yes
No

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

Yes
No

Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

Yes
No

Not feeling well, extreme tiredness or sore muscles

If "YES" to any symptom:



Stay home & self-isolate



Get tested

Or



Contact a health care provider



School Staff/ Visitor Screening

Change highlighted in yellow

2.) Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms?

Yes No

3.) Has anyone in your household travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

Yes No

4.) Have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate?

Yes No

* If you have an existing health condition that gives you the symptoms you should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your normal symptoms.

If "YES" to Questions 2,3,or 4:



Stay home



Follow Toronto Public Health advice



Prevention Measures: Face Masks

THE BEST MASK IS THE ONE THAT FITS WELL



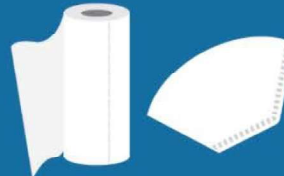
Snug fit, breathable & comfortable

At least 2 layers of tightly woven fabric + a filter for better protection

2+ layers + a filter



Add a filter: cut paper towel, coffee filter or cloth filter fabric



Change it when it gets wet or dirty

Always wear a mask indoors, and outdoors if you can't keep a physical distance.

TORONTO.CA/COVID19



<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/94f0-The-Best-Mask-that-Fits-Well.pdf>



Stay-at-home except to attend school or work

- Students can attend school each day, but should not gather with others, even those in their cohort.
- Continue to support stay-at-home measures to keep schools as safe as possible.
- Stay at home except to attend school, exercise outdoors or for healthcare appointments.
- Limit contact outside of school to only the people you live with.



Testing in Schools

Testing is one tool to help monitor COVID-19 in the school setting and keep schools safe.



COVID-19 Testing in Schools – Fall/ Winter 2020

Two types of COVID-19 Testing strategies that took place in Toronto Schools in Fall/Winter 2020

1) Ministry of Education School Wide Testing

- 4 week pilot in schools identified in Peel, York, Ottawa and Toronto
- For schools in Toronto, TPH identified the school based on the following criteria: multiple cases of COVID-19 with an unknown source and unclear epidemiologic links and/or where multiple cohorts had been dismissed from the school.

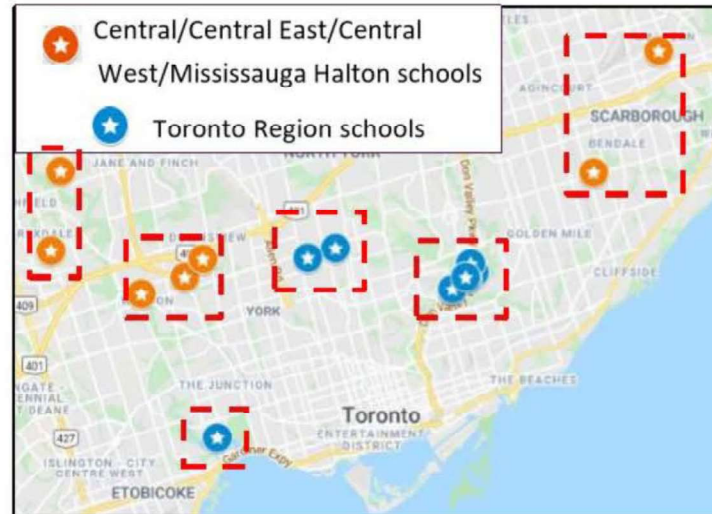
2) Co-ordinated testing- TPH work with Ontario Health and testing partners to organize testing opportunities when a cohort is dismissed by TPH due to high risk exposure.



School Testing Update: MOE pilot

Phase 1: Schoolwide Testing Summary November 23rd to Dec 18th, 2021

Total Schools recommended for testing as part of MEDU:	Total number of individuals recommended for expanded testing:	Total number of individuals tested:
18	9,998 students, 1095 staff	2878 students, 558 staff*





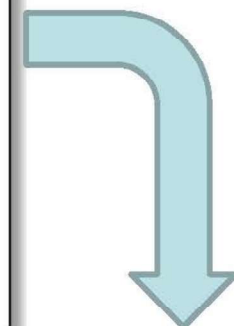
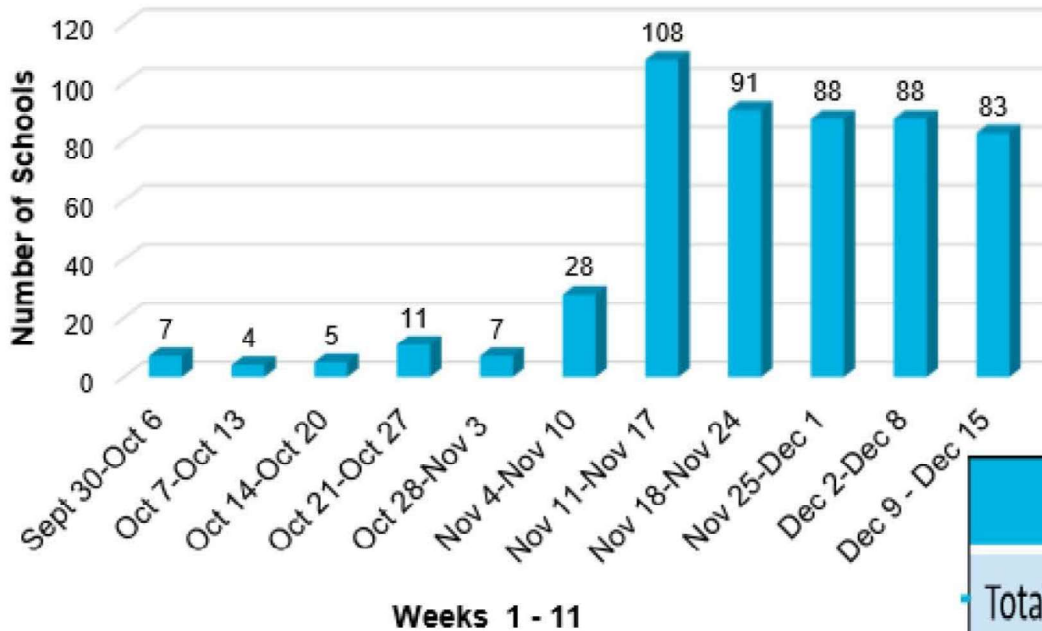
School Testing Update: MOE pilot analysis

- Average of 607 students per school (range 195 to 1,116) recommended for expanded testing.
- Testing uptake:
 - Students: median 31% (range 4.8 to 95.0%)
 - Staff: median 54%
- Overall positivity rate for students:
 - median 1.2% (range from 0 to 11%)
- Positivity rates varied across schools. Several schools had no positive student cases while others had higher positivity rates. School positivity rates tended to reflect community rates.



School Testing Update: Coordinated Testing Sept- Dec 2020

**Number of Schools
Recommended for Testing by TPH***



Recommendations for Testing

Total number of schools	544
Total number of students	18017
Total number of staff	1970



Testing recommendations

Symptomatic Testing

- Students and staff who have even one mild symptom of COVID-19
- Household members who have even one mild symptom



Toronto Public Health's Asymptomatic Targeted Testing Recommendations

Asymptomatic testing:

- TPH continues to recommend large amounts of asymptomatic testing related to schools.
- TPH collaborates with testing partners to coordinate testing for all high-risk cohorts.
- Over 550 cohorts were supported in the Fall using this testing program.



Toronto Public Health's Asymptomatic Targeted Testing Recommendations

COVID-19 testing in schools occurs following:

- Case and contact investigations (including dismissed cohorts)
- Outbreak management (including whole school testing when recommended).



Toronto Public Health's Asymptomatic Targeted Testing Recommendations

Expanded testing (whole school asymptomatic testing) may be recommended if:

- a) Case(s) in the school with unknown acquisition OR
- b) Multiple cohorts were dismissed OR
- c) Confirmed case identified with a variant of concern.



Learnings on testing in schools

- Low uptake of testing overall
- Take-home, mobile, on-site testing and reminders to parents and one to one consultation with families supports higher testing uptake.
- Less invasive testing options are preferred in school settings, such as saliva or oral/nose.



Areas to address for testing

- Reduce barriers to testing (location, time, stigma, type of test, increased access to income replacement, job security etc.)
- Better access to testing
- Testing access and turn around for symptomatic students (so public health can take timely action if positive, or they return to school quickly if negative)
- Communication to parents, staff and administrators to increase uptake



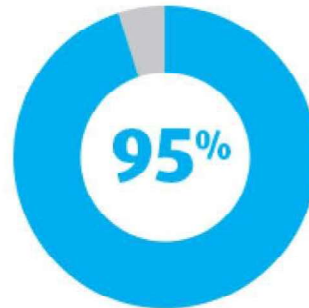
COVID-19 Vaccines



Approved by
Health Canada



Met safety &
quality
standards



94-95%
effective
in large trials



2 dose
schedule

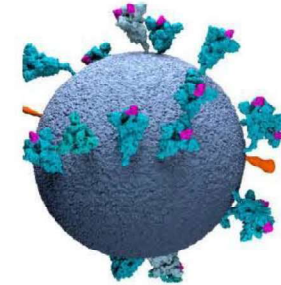


COVID-19 Vaccines for use in Canada

Manufacturer	Pfizer	Moderna
Approved by Health Canada	9 Dec. 2020	23 Dec. 2020
Age Eligibility	16 years +	18 years +
2-Dose Schedule	21 days apart	28 days apart
Potential Allergens	Polyethylene glycol (PEG)	Polyethylene glycol Tromethamine

How the vaccine works...

- **messenger RNA** tells our body to make “*spike proteins*”, a protein specifically found on the surface of the coronavirus
- These proteins will stimulate our body to start making antibodies against COVID-19
- The mRNA breaks down and is removed from our body within days
- The vaccine does not contain the virus, so it cannot give us COVID-19





What is in the vaccine...

The vaccine is made up of:

- messenger RNA (mRNA)
- lipid molecules, including polyethylene glycol
- salts, sugars and buffers (tromethamine)

Both vaccines do not contain gelatin (pork), preservatives, formaldehyde, thimerosal, aluminum, latex, antibiotics, virus, animal or human cells.

Common Side Effects

As with any medication or vaccine, there may be some side effects:

- pain, redness & swelling at injection site
- headache, fatigue
- muscle ache, joint pain
- fever, chills, nausea, vomiting
- under arm swelling or tenderness (in Moderna vaccine)
- less common is enlarged lymph nodes



The effects will last only a few days.



Ontario's Distribution Plan as of Feb 02

Phase 1 Dec 2020 to Mar 2021	Phase 2 Mar 2021 to July 2021	Phase 3 Aug 2021 onwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ health care workers ▪ hospital employees ▪ residents and staff of LTCH, RH & congregate settings ▪ essential caregivers ▪ adults in Indigenous communities ▪ 344,615 doses administered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all health care workers ▪ residents in LTCHs, RHs, etc. ▪ home care patients ▪ shelters, community living ▪ Indigenous communities ▪ older adults, 80+ ▪ frontline essential workers 	<p>all Ontarians</p>

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccines-ontario>



The race to save lives...

As of February 8, 2021:

- 134 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given in 64 countries.
- United States has given 32.8 million doses.
- Countries with the highest vaccination rates are Israel, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Bahrain, United States, Italy & Germany

<https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/>

<https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>



Public Health Measures

Vaccines are one of many tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. It will take time before we have enough vaccine to get everyone vaccinated.



We still need to wear a mask, keep our distance and wash our hands frequently.

Taken from US CDC



Trusted Sources of Information

- [Toronto Public Health](#)
- [Ontario Health](#)
- Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000
- [Government of Canada](#)
- Your healthcare provider



If you have more questions:

Schools and parents/caregivers can
also call us at **416-338-7600**

Contact Toronto Public Health

8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

416-338-7600

TTY: 416-392-0658

Email: PublicHealth@toronto.ca



COVID-19 Guidance: Elementary & Secondary Schools

Last updated: November 4, 2020 at 5:55 p.m.

Toronto Public Health partnered with Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment (MLSE) to raise awareness about ways we can reduce the spread of COVID-19. Find out what local athletes and coaches have to say about [staying healthy in unprecedented times](#)¹², [why we need to watch our distance](#)¹³ and [wearing your mask at school](#)¹⁴.

On June 19, the Government of Ontario [released its safety plan for the resumption of class for the 2020-21 school year](#)¹⁵, outlining scenarios for how students, teachers and staff can safely return to classrooms in September. On July 30, the Government of Ontario released [further plans for the safe re-opening of schools in September](#)¹⁶.

Download Toronto Public Health's [Guidance for Reopening Schools](#)¹⁷ (JK to 12) (also available below and in [French](#)¹⁸) and [COVID-19 Prevention Checklist for Schools JK to Grade 12](#)¹⁹ (also available below and in [French](#)²⁰).

The [Planning Guide for Schools](#)²¹ identifies issues and critical elements of emergency preparedness that organizations should consider in planning for a pandemic.

The Government of Ontario provides a daily update on [COVID-19 cases reported in schools and child care centres](#)²².

Also read Toronto Public Health's [follow-up instructions for school children, staff and visitors tested for COVID-19](#) (also available in [French](#)²³).

Expand All + Collapse All -

- Guidance for Re-Opening Schools JK to Grade 12 +
- Checklist for Schools JK to Grade 12 +
- COVID-19 Contact List for Schools +
- COVID-19 School Decision Guides +
- Back to School Confirmation Form +
- School Screening Tools +
- Student Nutrition Programs +
- Resources for Schools JK to Grade 12 +
- Liaison Public Health Nurses +
- Information for Parents +

We encourage schools to check toronto.ca/COVID19SchoolInfo as new information is posted regularly.



Thank You!

**Thank you for
working to keep
our school
communities
safe !**



Image from: freeimageslive.co.uk

Preparing for 2021-22

February 9, 2021



Agenda

- Key Principles
- Staffing Allocation
- Staffing Allocation: Upcoming Key Dates



2

Key Principles

- Flexibility
- Stability / Predictability
- Relationships / Familiarity
- Budget Resources



A.Gold

3

Staffing Allocation

- To ensure stability in the system, we need to plan for staffing allocation now for implementation in September.
- We know students are best served when connected to their local school.
- While we are hopeful to offer in-person learning for all students in September, we know that, should the pandemic continue, families will continue to seek in-person and virtual learning options.
- At the same time, we will need a contingency plan, depending on the status of pandemic in Fall 2021, to have virtual learning available, but delivered via local home school (as opposed to a separate virtual school entity).
- In order to maximize access to program in secondary schools, different models of delivery will be explored, including virtual secondary school.



A.Gold

4

Staffing Allocation Continued

- During the staffing allocation process, we need to remain flexible to adjust to the changing circumstances.
- We will continue to follow advice from the Ministry of Education and Toronto Public Health.
- This process will include consultations with trustees, staff and union federations.
- Parents/guardians and staff will also be engaged in **late Spring** about learning model preferences (in-person or virtual via local home school) relative to the status of the pandemic.



C. Ennis

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Staffing Allocation: Upcoming Key Dates

Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee (Special Meeting)

- March 2, 2021

Regular Board Meeting

- March 10, 2021

School Allocations

- Roll out of staffing latter half of March



6

A.Salmon

Questions?



