

Update on the Reopening of School

Planning and Priorities Committee

January 4, 2022



Agenda

- Remarks from Director of Education
- Guiding Principles
- Student Learning and Well-Being
- Supporting Students with Special Education Needs
- Health and Safety
- Technology
- Timelines to Switch to Virtual Learning
- Future Updates

Guiding Principles

- Continue to build on the successes from our previous remote learning experiences
- Support staff to ensure remote learning is engaging and supportive of students
- Focus on incorporating mental health and well-being resources and activities into programs
- Prioritize equity of access, outcome and experience
- Affirm and respect student identity at the centre of our teaching and learning

Student Learning

More than 240,000+ students and staff will shift to remote learning until at least January 17.

The [Guidelines for Moving From In-Person to Remote Learning](#) support administrators in moving to remote learning covering:

- Expectations
- Attendance
- Communication
- Device Distribution

Elementary and Secondary Virtual Learning Classes continue.

Fostering meaningful learning and engagement every day through:

- Authentic real-world challenges into learning
- Well-being activities
- A variety of groupings to allow students' voices and ideas to be shared
- Mini-lessons with direct instruction and time to practice and deepen understanding of key concepts
- Critical and creative thinking and problem-solving
- Assessment for/as learning

Student Mental Health and Well-Being

- Participating in virtual daily well-being activities
- Students/School Staff/Caregivers/Families having access to culturally relevant/responsive community agencies
- Additional Social Work/Child and Youth Care/Child and Youth Workers
- Immediate well-being supports for students right in the virtual classroom
- Virtual Lounges that students/caregivers/families/educators and use, during school and at home, for calm and wellness.
- Virtual Office Hours for Caregivers/Families Tues 10am-11am; Tues 7-8pm; Students with Special Educational Needs/Complex Needs Wed 7-8pm
- [Winter Well-Being Guide](#) – available in TDSB top 18 spoken languages

Click on any item to discover a cool activity

EVERYONE is welcome here.

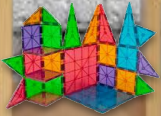
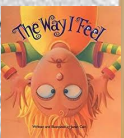
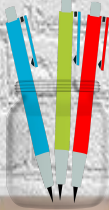
HOW DO YOU FEEL?



YOU ARE CAPABLE OF amazing THINGS

Calm Down Thermometer graphic with instructions: Think "Stop", Take 3 deep breaths, Stay cool.

Grid of 21 emotion faces with labels: happy, confused, panicked, anxious, angry, betrayed, frustrated, ecstatic, hurt, guilty, used, calm, relieved, annoyed, disappointed, embarrassed, scared, enraged, excited, insecure, sad, content, confident, jealous, lonely.



Supporting Students with Special Education Needs

TDSB is committed to providing in-person instruction for students with complex medical and/or special education needs who cannot be accommodated remotely.

- Schools are currently contacting families to engage in discussions on how students can be accommodated remotely.
- For the limited number of students where accommodation is not possible via remote-learning, Principals will ensure a plan is in place (including appropriate staffing, PPE, transportation etc.)

Supporting Students with Special Education Needs

- Beginning January 5, remote learning will be available for all students
- For those students who can only be accommodated in-person, Elementary and Secondary congregated sites and ISP classes (other than Gifted) will be ready to welcome and receive students based on school readiness at the end of this week/early next week

Health and Safety

- While medical masks remain the standard, N95 masks have been provided to all schools and administrative sites for TDSB staff working on site
- PCR tests remaining in schools are for symptomatic students and staff
- Rapid Antigen Tests are available for non-vaccinated staff
- Screening tool is being updated based on Ministry and Toronto Public Health

Technology

- Remote Learning Technology Strategy:
 - Device lending for Students
 - Device needs of Staff
 - Vendor Readiness
 - IT Services Readiness
 - Student Virtual Learning help line
 - Google Form intake process to collect parent/student questions
- Devices unreturned from students will be temporarily unlocked

Timelines for Switch to Virtual Learning

Elementary

- No change to Switch Form dates and process.

Secondary

- Re-open Switch Form from January 5 - 7
- May impact calendar of hubbing planned for Semester 2
- Communication to Trustees, Admin, Teachers, Parents/Guardians, and Students

Future Updates

- Case Management & Reporting
- Testing
- Staff Absences
- Short-term Virtual Learning
- Music
- Extracurricular



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