

Return to Learning Update

Planning and Priorities Committee

January 18, 2022





Introduction

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Agenda

- Strategies to Address Staff Absences
- Health & Safety Protocols
- Student Absences
- Update on Switch Requests
- Short-Term Virtual Learning

Strategies to Address Staff Absences

1. Administrator Checklist re Staff Absences

- Key steps to take when addressing staff shortages
- Guidance on when classes/schools will move to remote or school closures
- Principals will review unfilled jobs outside school hours on a regular basis - alert superintendent of any significant number of positions not filled

2. Redeployment (Teachers/Administrators)

Health and Safety Protocols

Screening

- Updated screening advice from Ministry and TPH has been provided and updated in Service Now
- Principals are to check daily that all staff have completed their Service Now screening prior to coming to work.
- Schools should ensure that student screening is happening daily

Health and Safety Protocols

Test Kits

- PCR test kits remaining in schools are to be used for students and staff who become symptomatic during the school day only. Once supply is exhausted, no additional kits will be available
- Rapid Antigen Test supplies will be provided to schools in the following priority:
 - Childcare (in schools) students and staff schools
 - Elementary in-person students
 - Elementary in-person staff
 - Secondary in-person staff
- Test kits are only to be used by either staff or students when they are symptomatic

Health and Safety Protocols

Test Kits con't

- Test kit supplies will be sent to schools to assemble into two test per person
- Future availability of test kits is not known at this time

Health and Safety Protocols

Vaccination Clinics

- **Parental consent is required for any vaccination of students**
- School vaccination clinics during the school day will be established in consultation with TPH and Hospital partners
- Schools will receive consent forms to be sent home with students aged 5-11 indicating if they wish their student vaccinated when a clinic becomes available.
- Clinics will be established based on number of consent forms received and availability of health care providers.
- During the vaccination clinics, schools will be allowed to have parent volunteers assist who are triple vaccinated

Reporting COVID-19 Cases

- Ministry of Education has said schools will no longer be routinely notifying families of positive cases or if an individual is absent due to symptoms associated with COVID-19.
- At the TDSB, we want to provide as much information as possible, while attempting to make it as accurate as possible.
- When schools become aware of a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test confirmed case of COVID-19, principal would notify only the impacted class (and notify Superintendent).
- As the Ministry of Education has stated that classes will no longer be dismissed as a result of a case of COVID-19, that guidance will no longer be provided by the school. Instead, parents/guardians and/or students will review the daily COVID-19 screening tool to determine if they are permitted to return to school.

Reporting Student Absences

- The Ministry will be requiring schools to monitor their own absenteeism rates and report on student and staff absences, and school closures, daily through the absence reporting tool (ART). This tool, formerly used to report confirmed cases of COVID, will be reissued shortly to support this reporting.
- Schools should begin reporting in ART starting on January 19, 2022. Data will begin being published on Ontario.ca starting January 24, 2022.
- If absenteeism rises to a defined level (approximately 30% above their baseline) in schools, principals are required to notify their local PHU.

Switch Requests for Term 2 and Semester 2

Frequency of Switches across the System

	Elementary		Secondary	
	In-Person to Virtual	Virtual to In-Person	In-Person to Virtual	Virtual to In-Person
System	2,837 (55%)	2,291 (45%)	2,627 (58%)	1,876 (42%)
Total Switches	5,128 (100%)		4,503 (100%)	

Switch Requests by Learning Centre

- Frequency of Switches by Learning Centre

	Elementary		Secondary	
	In-Person to Virtual	Virtual to In-Person	In-Person to Virtual	Virtual to In-Person
LC1	561 (20%)	375 (16%)	667 (25%)	443 (24%)
LC2	862 (30%)	720 (31%)	697 (27%)	477 (25%)
LC3	975 (34%)	827 (36%)	696 (26%)	525 (28%)
LC4	439 (15%)	369 (16%)	531 (20%)	400 (21%)
CC5	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	36 (1%)	31 (2%)
System	2,837 (100%)	2,291 (100%)	2,627 (100%)	1,876 (100%)

Short Term Virtual Learning - Elementary

- Students will be connected to their classroom teacher for their learning needs.
- Teachers will continue support their students and update their Virtual Learning platform regularly.
- Resources will support educators with creating and maintaining positive and welcoming learning environments and ensuring anti-oppressive conditions for learning.
- Resources will be available to supplement classroom learning opportunities.

Resources for Elementary Educators

An internal webpage with resources and supports:

Online Resources for Educators:

- Resources organized by division and curriculum area;
- Links to digital resources, department google sites and links to learning resources.

Non-Digital Resources:

- Resources to enhance the planning for students who do not have access to technology;
- Students maintain a connection to learning the rest of the class is engaging in.

Broadcast Learning Experiences:

- Streamed learning experiences that will be accessible to students who may be on short term absence or for classrooms teachers to stream with their class (Collaboration across departments - Arts/CEBSA/UIEC - Artists, STEM/Math, French, etc.)

Considerations for Short Term Learning:

- Strategies and resources to support educators in planning for student short term learning.

Short Term Virtual Learning - Secondary

Option 1 - Access to Simultaneous and Asynchronous Learning

- Students with a device and internet will access the Brightspace/Google Classroom and participate in class virtually and/or asynchronously.
- Teachers who are teaching fully in-person currently may be able to pivot to teaching simultaneously if there are students who request short-term virtual learning.
- Some courses, such as Phys. Ed. and Technology, as well as other courses determined by the school, may not be available simultaneously. In these cases, teachers will provide material through BrightSpace/ Google Classroom for asynchronous learning.

Option 2 - Access to Non-Digital Course work

- Students are unable to access the course virtually and do not have access to a device or internet.
- Teachers will provide non-digital class work to students.
- In collaboration with the family and the student, schools can arrange a method for pick-up and return of the work.

Teachers will continue to assess and provide feedback for/of/as learning in all scenarios for the remainder of semester 1 which will conclude in the next two weeks.

Resources for Secondary Educators

An internal webpage with resources and supports:

Online Resources:

- tvoLearn Open House Course Material arranged by grade and subject
- Links to digital resources, department google sites and links to learning resources.

Considerations for Simultaneous Learning:

- Subject area specific strategies and resources to support simultaneous learning

Broadcast Learning Experiences:

- Streamed learning experiences that will be accessible to students who may be on short term dismissal or for classrooms teachers to stream with their class
(Collaboration across departments - Arts/CEBSA/UIEC - Artists, STEM/Math, Cdn Space, French, etc.)

Considerations for Short Term Learning:

- Strategies and resources to support educators in planning for student short term learning.

Resources for Parents/Caregivers

Elementary and Secondary

A section on the TDSB website with resources for students and parents/caregivers is now live in the 2021-2022 School Year section, and includes:

- Grade level learning resources (elementary)
- Links to [TVO](#) and [TFO](#) Learn at Home Resources and Daily Live Streams (elementary) and TVO Open House Course Content (secondary)
- Links to student Broadcasted Learning Experiences
- TDSB IT Support for Students
- Mental Health and Wellness Resources



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