

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are pleased to share that yesterday the Ministry of Education announced their plan for the return to school this September. The plan follows the advice of medical and scientific experts and sets out guidelines that will allow all of our students to safely return to class on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

The plan outlines a full reopening of all of our schools, both elementary and secondary. Students are scheduled to attend school five days a week. Enhanced health and safety protocols are required to be followed to ensure our school environment is kept as safe as possible, including but not limited to the following:

- Self-screening;
- Non-medical grade face coverings for grades 4 to 12 is mandatory;
- Non-medical grade face coverings for Kindergarten to grade 3 is voluntary;
- Personal Protective Equipment including masks and face shields for all teachers and staff;
- Cohorting (or grouping) of students, to limit contact beyond your child's class;
- Physical Distancing of 1 meter where possible; and
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of school facilities and busses.

We are eager to once again welcome your children into our schools and are working diligently to ensure that all recommended measures for their safe return are implemented. We are engaging regularly with Public Health Sudbury and Districts for advice and guidance on items where medical expertise is required. The plan for Sudbury Catholic Schools, which operationalizes the Ministry directives, will be finalized and shared with you over the next couple of weeks.

It is important to note that the Ministry directive does indicate that parents will have the choice on whether their children will attend school in person in September or whether their children will stay at home and participate in remote learning. Therefore, to improve our planning and a successful start to the school year, the board will be forwarding you a survey to determine which students will be attending school in person and which students will not in September. We ask that you please take the time to complete this survey.

The Sudbury Catholic School Board remains committed to ensuring the health and safety of all of our student and staff while providing a quality Catholic education. We continue to look forward to a successful start to the new school year in September and want to extend our appreciation to everyone for your ongoing support and patience during these challenging times.

Wishing you many blessings and we look forward to seeing you once again soon.

Sincerely,

Michael Bellmore  
Chair of the Board

Joanne Bénard  
Director of Education