

September 2, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Sudbury Catholic School Board is delighted to welcome back students and staff to both in person and virtual learning. We hope that you have had a safe, restful and enjoyable summer. First and foremost, we are very pleased to share that our schools have been undergoing many transformations, including ventilation improvements and health and safety measures under the direction of our hard working and conscientious building facilities team. These health and safety protocols are in place to keep everyone safe. As well, our skilled and devoted staff are so excited to welcome everyone back. We have missed you and cannot wait to resume classes again.

Before we begin school next week, we would like to share with you a few highlights from our school board re-opening plan:

**Masking:** Students from Kindergarten to grade 12 will continue to wear masks when inside our buildings. We thank you for your assistance to support students in understanding why we wear a mask and how to do so safely.

**Hand Hygiene and Distancing:** We are pleased to share that there will be more access to shared learning spaces, so hand hygiene and encouraging distancing will remain important practices. School staff will work with students to reinforce the strong habits that ensure a safe learning environment for all.

**Daily Screening:** It is the expectation that all in-person students and staff are not only asked to complete daily screening, using the [Ontario School Screener](#), but they are also required to confirm with the school that the screening was complete. Guidelines as to how to communicate your child's screening will be shared with you through the school. This request is extremely important as the purpose of screening is to help parents and guardians decide whether their child should attend school. Any individual who is symptomatic should not come to school, even if they believe it is not COVID-19. As we continue to strive to ensure our schools are safe, we ask your cooperation in making this practice, your routine.

**Vaccination:** On August 17<sup>th</sup>, the Government of Ontario announced an immunization disclosure policy for all publicly funded school board employees and licensed child cares. For those staff who cannot attest that they are fully vaccinated, they will be required to complete regular testing before reporting to their school or workplace. Vaccination is also strongly encouraged for all students ages 12 and older. For your convenience, over the coming weeks vaccines will be available in schools that offer grades 7 to 12.

For more information please visit our [school board website](#), the [Ministry of Education's Back to School Plan](#), as well as [Public Health Sudbury & Districts](#).

We are grateful for your continued support and remain ready and willing to assist you as we transition back to school. Thank you for everything you have done to encourage your children to embrace innovative learning practices, model physical distancing, and promote mask-wearing and handwashing practices within our faith based, innovative learning communities. 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