

August 27, 2020

Dear Families,

We continue to work diligently on our re-opening schools plan in the safest and healthiest way possible. Recently, the Minister of Education confirmed that school boards may adopt a staggered entry to school for students, if the approach would help to improve the health and safety readiness of our schools. With this in mind, I wish to confirm the back to school plan for all elementary students of the NCDSB, which differs slightly from the original plan we previously shared with you. This decision provides our schools with a bit more time to prepare for student entry. As well, having smaller groups of students together in class over the first few days will allow for focused training and time to practice essential routines and protocols.

August 31, September 1, and September 2

Professional Activity Days, mandated by the Ministry of Education.

Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4

Staff members will make contact with families to share the procedures for student entry. This will also be an opportunity for teachers to respond to related questions and inquiries, and help establish the school/home partnership between our teachers and families.

Tuesday, September 8

Staggered entry for students whose last names begin with the letters A-H.

Wednesday, September 9

Staggered entry for students whose last names begin with the letters I-P.

Thursday, September 10

Staggered entry for students whose last names begin with letter Q-Z.

Friday, September 11

All elementary students will attend school.

For those families who have opted-in to the virtual learning program, we are still working through the details for the delivery of this model. The NCDSB Virtual School will begin instruction the week of September 14, 2020. More information is forthcoming to students enrolled in the virtual school.

Kindly contact your school's principal should you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We appreciate your ongoing partnership and assistance as we plan to re-open NCDSB schools in the safest and healthiest way possible.

Sincerely, *Tricia Stefanic Weltz*Director of Education

