



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board  
*Believing, Achieving, Serving*

December 21, 2020

Dear parents/guardians,

Earlier today, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced a [Provincewide Shutdown](#), effective Saturday, December 26, 2020, which will not only impose a number of public health restrictions across the province but will delay the return to in-school learning for our elementary and secondary students. The decision was made in consultation with Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health recognizing that students and staff in the education system play an important role in supporting efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

In a memo sent to Chairs and Directors of Education on December 21, 2020 Minister of Education Stephen Lecce provided the following direction to school boards:

- Elementary and secondary school students throughout the province will participate in remote learning (at home) from January 4-January 8, 2021.
- In Hamilton-Wentworth, elementary school students can return to in-person learning on January 11, 2021. Secondary school students will continue learning remotely until January 25, 2021, at which point they can resume in-person learning.

In order to support stability for students, there will be no class reorganizations during this period. A key objective of this period is to significantly reduce mobility and support as many households as possible in staying home. For this reason, during the remote learning period, teachers and other staff will be required to provide instruction from home or, where quality home instruction is not feasible, from school.

More details on the new school protocols will be shared next week once we have had a chance to review them more carefully. In the meantime, please be assured of our continued commitment to the health, safety and well-being of our students, staff and families.

We wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick J. Daly'.

Patrick J. Daly  
Chairperson of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Hansen'.

David Hansen  
Director of Education