

August 14, 2020

We appreciate the patience and understanding our community has afforded us as we prepare for school re-opening and acknowledge that parents/guardians are faced with making decisions in a time of both anxiety and uncertainty. Please know that we understand and are working to develop plans with a certain degree of flexibility in order to be responsive to your needs. We continue to be responsive to the Ministry of Education and our Public Health authorities and, in this regard, we will continue to communicate with you regarding any updates to our DPCDSB plans.

It is very important to our school organizational planning that all parents/guardians complete the survey indicating your intent to return your child(ren) to school by today, August 14. The survey was sent to you through a recent Community Information Bulletin and through school messenger. If necessary, a link to the survey can be found on the DPCDSB website.

To date, with over 75% of DPCDSB parents/guardians having completed the survey, we estimate that approximately 30% of elementary students and 25% of secondary students have opted for the online only return to school. This unprecedented request for the online only option will require significant planning in order to ensure that all students returning to school, either physically or online only, receive their timetable (secondary students) or class placements (elementary students) prior to September 8.

Parents/guardians are required to indicate their intent by August 14 to assist us with planning. However, to provide maximum flexibility, should parents/guardians of elementary schools wish to change their mind about their plans for return to school, they can do so up until **September 8 by contacting their Elementary school principal**. This applies to either switching from the online to physical or physical to online mode.

After September 8, parents/guardians of elementary students will be required to keep their child in the mode they opted for until November 1. Should parents/guardians wish to switch delivery mode, they can do so effective November 1.

Given the potential for a significant reorganization required to accommodate requests for delivery mode after the November 1 date, parents/guardians of elementary students will be required to commit to the chosen mode of delivery for the remainder of the academic year. Rest assured, your home school principal will reach out to you prior to November 1 to assist you with your decision.

Secondary students will be required to engage in their original choice of learning (i.e., face-to-face or online) until at least the end of the first quadmester.

Please understand that, while we want to allow as much flexibility as possible, large numbers of students switching from one mode to another results in reorganizing of classes both physically and online.

Note that our School Re-opening Models for both [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#) have been updated with information about online learning and can be found on our [Return to School webpage](#) for your information and reference.

Thank you for your attention to this information, which we hope will clarify any confusion that may exist.