



SPECIAL BOARD

PUBLIC AGENDA

Monday, March 16, 2020, 7:00 pm

Board Room

Administration Building

133 Greenbank Road

Ottawa, Ontario

Pages

1. Call to Order -- Chair of the Board
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Report from the Board (In Camera)
4. Matters for Action
 - 4.1 Provisions for Calling Extraordinary Meetings of the Board 2
5. Matters for Information
6. Adjournment

Dear OCDSB Families,

Yesterday, the Government of Ontario announced the closure of all public schools from March 14 through to April 5, 2020. This unprecedented decision was made to help reduce the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In addition to the cancellation of all classes, the following will apply:

Child Care Programs and EDP

All child care programs and services, including Extended Day programs, third-party programs, infant, toddler and preschool programs, LINC, and EarlyOn Child and Family Centres will be closed from March 14 to April 5, inclusive.

Community Use of Schools

All Community Use of Schools permits for the period March 14 to April 5 will be cancelled. This will include March Break programs and camps.

Continuing Education

All continuing education programs and classes are cancelled during this period, including ESL/LBS, International and Indigenous Languages, Night School, and Literacy and Numeracy Programs.

School Council Meetings and Evening Events

All school council meetings and evening events hosted by the school are cancelled during this period.

Field Trips

All field trips, including international trips, for the closure period are cancelled or postponed. All international and out-of-town trips will be cancelled until April 30, 2020. Day field trips for the week following the closure period (April 6 to 10) will be cancelled or postponed.

School Buildings during the Closure Period

All school buildings will be closed to students and members of the public during this period.

Co-op, Dual Credit, OYAP and SWAC Programs

Student remote learning programs such as dual credit, co-op, OYAP and school within a college programming are closed to students for this period. We are working with partners and will confirm changes, if any, with students.

eLearning

The Virtual Learning Environment will remain accessible to students in eLearning programs as it is during holidays.

DELTA

The spring DELTA assessment, both oral and written components scheduled from April 6-29th is cancelled.

OSSLT

The Province has announced that OSSLT has been cancelled.

Extra-curricular activities

All extra-curricular activities, including The Cappies, are cancelled.

Administrative Buildings

The Administration Building and 440 Albert will be closed to the public from March 23 to April 5. Access will be limited during the week of March 16-22.

We know you may still have additional questions, such as what impact this extended closure will have on the school year. We will be certain to share more information as soon as it's available.

During the next few weeks, it is recommended that you check your email and the OCDSB website regularly. Also, please have your child check their OCDSB email regularly as well.

We encourage all families to follow the guidelines provided by [Ottawa Public Health](#). This is a challenging period for everyone, please take care of yourself and each other.

Dear OCDSB Families,

Today, the Ontario government has announced that all schools will be closed to students from March 14 to April 5th, 2020. This includes all OCDSB elementary and secondary schools. At this time, there are many unanswered questions about this decision, including the impact on childcare programs and services, March Break camps, community use permits, administrative buildings, school year calendar, dual credit programs, and many other issues. The Ministry has announced that some additional details will follow and some decisions will be local board decisions. What we are able to confirm at this time is that students will not attend school during this period.

This decision was made to help reduce the spread of the Coronavirus. The Coronavirus is a respiratory infection which causes flu like symptoms including fever, cough and difficulty breathing. You can learn more about the virus from this [Public Health Canada Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#). It will take our collective effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

We know that many families will be travelling during March Break. **If you plan to travel over March Break, please take all safety precautions. For travel outside of Canada**, follow [Government of Canada Travel Advisories](#) and be aware that this situation is changing rapidly. Please check the [Ottawa Public Health recommendations](#) for self-isolation, prior to your return. We would hope that all students are in a position to return to school on April 6, 2020.

How can you stay healthy?

Some of the things that you can do to help reduce the risk and possible spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze;
- avoid touching your face and eyes;
- if you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm;
- reduce your attendance at large public gatherings;
- stay home if you are ill; and
- get a yearly influenza vaccination, available from clinics and pharmacies.

Here is some additional information that might be helpful.

- Information on [Hand Hygiene](#) and this [Handwashing](#)
- [Ottawa Public Health website](#)
- [Government of Canada Travel Advisories](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

We know that families have lots of questions about this decision. At this time, we are working with the Ministry and health partners to get answers to these questions. As soon as we know more, we will share that information with you.

Thank you for your patience and support during this challenging time.

THAT the Board invoke the provisions of Section 8.6 of the Board's Bylaws and Standing Rules regarding the calling of extraordinary meetings of the Board, for the purpose of dealing with issues related to Coronavirus (COVID-19), for the period from 16 March 2020 to 31 March 2020.