

WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustees
Student Trustees

FROM: Camille Williams-Taylor, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board
Michèle Giroux, Executive Officer, Corporate Services

DATE: 5 June 2020

RE: **Weekly Memorandum to Trustees #9 (June 1-5)**

This has been a challenging week for so many in our community and around the world. The District has undertaken a series of communications and actions to express our care and concern about anti-Black racism and its impact on our community. Yesterday, the District posted this [news item with resources and supports](#) for parents, educators, and students. This information was also sent to all parents and to staff. Many of these resources may be of interest to trustees in your respective personal learning journeys and in your discussions with community members.

UPDATE ON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Extension of the Emergency Order - The province has extended its Declaration of Emergency to 30 June 2020. The decision supports the government's efforts to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak and protect the health and safety of Ontarians as the province reopens in a measured and responsible way. The extension, under s.7.0.7 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, was approved by the Ontario legislature on 2 June 2020.

Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) - The announcement of the GSNs is not anticipated before the middle of June and possibly later. The Ministry has indicated its intention to extend the budget submission deadline as a result. Staff will present options for a revised timeline for the approval of the District's budget at the 08 June 2020 COW

Budget meeting. The Budget Committee meeting scheduled for 15 June 2020 is cancelled.

Summer Programming and Ministry Directive - The Province has provided additional direction to support school boards on the expanded summer learning opportunities that were announced on 19 May 2020. The Ministry recognizes that the delivery of summer school and summer learning may look different this year and could include a combination of remote learning, online learning, independent study and face-to-face delivery, should emergency measures be lifted or eased. The directive specifically outlined the following: registration and eligibility; average daily enrolment (ADE) and funding; upgrading credit courses; co-operative education; assessment evaluation and reporting; independent summer learning supports; and volunteering in the summer. Staff are working to ensure the District's summer programming aligns with the Ministry directive and provides an opportunity to engage all students.

The Ministry also noted its intention to invest \$22 million, funded through the Priorities and Partnership Fund (PPF), to provide support to students with special education needs and mental health concerns over the summer. This will allow school boards to offer voluntary summer employment to support staffing in the summer months.

Report cards - Work is ongoing in Business & Learning Technologies (B<) to provide parents with online access to student information, including report cards, for K-12 students in day and continuing education schools. Parents will create an account in Compass that is verified with data in Trillium for authentication and they will be able to view and print student report cards for June 2020. Report cards for elementary students will be available on the Report Card Portal on 24 June 2020 and for secondary students on 3 July 2020.

Staff are working on a detailed communication plan to alert families to the change to electronic report card distribution and availability timelines. Parents can begin logging in the week of 8 June 2020, and staff anticipates an increased demand for B< support to respond to questions concerning access.

Parents of students with alternative report cards will be receiving this report card by email through IEP Online (IOL). This information will be included in communications to parents.

Recovery of Personal Items from School - Staff has been working with Ottawa Public Health (OPH) to develop a plan to ensure the recovery of personal items from schools safely. The plan will require visitors to complete a self-screening assessment prior to entering the school. It also includes safety measures such as physical distancing, hand

washing, use of face masks or coverings, and time limits on access to the school, traffic flow inside the school and restrictions on the number of points of contact in the school.

In elementary schools, a parent will pick up student belongings. In secondary schools, the student will pick up student belongings. There will be some adjustments by school depending on grade, school size and configuration, but here is an overview of the plan:

- This week elementary parents and secondary students will receive an e-mail notice from the school.
- The email will include a form which must be completed and returned as soon as possible.
- An email confirmation with a scheduled appointment time will be sent. Appointments will be in the last two weeks of June.
- On the day of the scheduled appointment, prior to attending the school, the parent or student attending the school must complete a COVID-19 self-assessment;
- Please arrive at the school for the scheduled time and at the designated entrance. There will be directions for the recovery of personal belongings at the school.
- Parents can return textbooks and any other school property during their appointment.

For those families who choose not to retrieve their personal belongings at this time, their belongings will be safely stored at the school until schools reopen to students during the 2020-2021 school year and can be retrieved then. Chromebooks currently on loan do not need to be returned at this time.

School Breakfast Program

As of May 29th ONFE and its 50 agency partners have distributed 12,997 student nutrition kits through the community-based food access offerings. Odawa Native Friendship Centre is the newest partner. ONFE is also providing targeted support coordinated through EFO and school principals and social workers by offering grocery vouchers for use at Metro, Food Basics and Sobeys. The ONFE Board of Directors is considering the continuation of the student nutrition support program in July and August.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY ITEMS

Upcoming Meetings - Meetings this week and next include:

- Thursday, June 4 - ACE - 6 p.m.
- Monday, June 8 - COW Budget - 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 10 - SEAC - 7 p.m.
- Thursday, June 11 - Audit - 6 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole Budget meeting will be live-streamed. The advisory committee meetings will be recorded and then posted to the website after the meeting.

Community Recognition Awards - The Committee met to discuss the nominees and select the winners of this year's community recognition awards. The winners of the awards will be announced during the Chair's briefing at the Board meeting on 22 June 2020. Both the winners and the nominees will be sent a letter and a floral arrangement in appreciation for their contributions. The winners will also be recognized in a social media campaign.

Student Recognition Awards - A letter of congratulations and balloon bouquet will be sent to all student recognition award winners to recognize their accomplishments. The communications team will be preparing and sharing a video to publicly honour these senior student leaders for demonstrating the will to succeed, the dedication to finish what they started, and the commitment to achieve their personal best.

Identity Based Data Survey Data - Between November and the end of January, the District undertook a voluntary survey of students and parents to collect identity based data. Almost 35,000 survey responses were received; a response rate of 32.2% at the elementary level and 62.5% at the secondary level. Attached is an infographic about the data collection process which we are sharing with the community. At the June Board meeting, staff will be providing a presentation with an overview of the survey response data. With the survey response data established, work will continue with community partners to better understand the data and develop a series of reports which look at achievement gaps, graduation rates, suspension and expulsion data and more.

Code of Conduct Update - At this time, it is anticipated that there will be a Special Meeting of the Board on Monday, June 29th to deal with the current Code of Conduct complaint. Please hold that date on your calendars.

cc Senior Staff
 Manager, Board Services
 Corporate Records