



March 18, 2020

The Ministry of Education has announced that, given the school closure period and the uncertainty beyond that point, it will be cancelling EQAO assessments for the remainder of the current school year.

For students who are graduating in the 2019-20 school year, the literacy graduation requirement as set out in Ontario Schools, Kindergarten to Grade 12: Policy and Program Requirements, 2016, will be waived. Students who are not graduating this school year will have the opportunity to write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) in the upcoming 2020-21 school year.

The Ministry of Education is working on plans to support the continuity of learning during the closure period and possibly beyond and has indicated that it expects to launch a website this week with a single point of access to online learning opportunities. NCDSB will share that information and any other updates.

Note that, while schools, offices and facilities are closed, business functions will continue. In addition, we will continue to facilitate communications through the NCDSB website (www.ncdsb.org), through our social media channels, Twitter and Facebook.

If there is an urgent need to connect with NCDSB administrative offices, this may be done by email through janice.viskovich@ncdsb.on.ca email account.

We encourage parents/guardians and community members to continue to monitor our Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information webpage at <https://www.ncdsb.on.ca/covid-19-update.php> where we will continue to post information and updates as they become available. This page contains links to our local, provincial and federal public health authorities.

We also encourage all to continue to practice the advice of our public health authorities regarding best practice to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including COVID-19:

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing; if no tissue is available, sneeze or cough into the sleeve or arm;
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly;
- Practice social distancing;
- Stay home if ill until your symptoms resolve.

Thank you for your attention to this important information. Be safe and stay well.