

February 20, 2021

Dear parents, guardians and staff:

**RE: COVID-19 case at École St-Augustin**

This letter is to inform you that Public Health Sudbury & Districts has advised us that a confirmed case of COVID-19 has been reported in our school. The individual who tested positive for COVID-19 is currently self-isolating and being monitored by Public Health Sudbury & Districts while the investigation continues.

As this situation is under active investigation, please continue to check our school or board website for updated information and should you have any questions regarding this information please call the École St-Augustin Principal at 705 693-2424. At the time of writing, the following class is dismissed effective immediately until and including March 2, 2021:

**Grade 5**

Public Health continues to investigate the situation and if any risks to the school community are identified, they may direct additional measures. The situation will be monitored closely, and we will provide timely updates on the Portails parents (parents portal).

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is working closely with our school to manage the case. They will directly contact all parents of children and all school personnel who have been identified as close contacts. If you are not called by Public Health Sudbury & Districts, please continue to follow the general advice in this letter.

In general, if your child is dismissed from school as part of this situation, your child must [self-isolate](#) immediately until and including March 2, 2021.

- Your child should seek COVID-19 testing between February 23 – 25, 2021. If your child is symptomatic or becomes symptomatic at any time, they should seek testing as soon as possible.
- For the duration of your child's isolation period, everyone else in your household should stay home except for essential reasons. Essential reasons include: attending work/school/childcare and essential errands such as groceries, attending medical appointments or picking up prescriptions.

...2

- If your child develops [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, everyone in your household is required to [self-isolate](#) until your child receives a negative test result or is provided an alternative diagnosis by a healthcare professional. If your child is not tested or does not receive an alternate diagnosis, all members of your household must self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to the symptomatic child. Please call 705-522-9200, ext. 524 if your child develops any symptoms for additional direction.

In general, if your child is not dismissed from school as part of this case, the following applies:

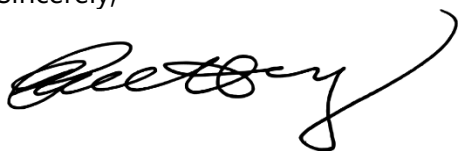
- Simply passing by an infected person in the hallway is not considered close contact, and the risk of spreading the virus this way is extremely low.
- Continue to use the [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care](#) and <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> to monitor your child for symptoms and follow the direction provided.
- Remember to follow the critical ongoing COVID-19 prevention measures:
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Stay home and [isolate](#) if symptoms appear.
- Practice two-meter physical distancing.
- Wear a mask in indoor public spaces and outdoors, especially when physical distancing of two meters cannot be maintained.

It is understandable that this situation may make caregivers anxious and some will choose to keep their child at home as a precaution. Please advise the school if you choose to do this so that we may make arrangements for continued learning when possible.

As noted, Public Health Sudbury & Districts will directly contact all parents of children and staff who have been identified as close contacts.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 or the measures taken to address COVID-19, please visit [www.phsd.ca/COVID-19](http://www.phsd.ca/COVID-19) or contact Public Health Sudbury & Districts at 705.522.9200 ext. 524 (toll-free 1.866.522.9200). For information specific to the case and the schools' response to the situation please call the school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul E. Henry', with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Paul E. Henry, MStJ, CD, EAO, M.Éd.,  
Director of Education and Secretary-Treasurer