

Dear parents and guardians,

Spring break is almost upon us, and it is a fast changing and unusual time. Yesterday, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. The Director-General of the WHO talked of a collective “resolve” to do what we can together to change the course of the pandemic. With that in mind, we are sending this letter to families who are deciding to travel internationally during spring break. It is not just your travel that you need to consider, it is the potential impact upon your return.

First and foremost, we hope that you are monitoring the Government of Canada’s [Travel Health Notices](#). There is vital information on that site, and clear reminders about what you need to consider when travelling to different countries or embark on a cruise.

Next, we are very fortunate that spring break is near. This means that we have a two-week buffer that allows things to hopefully slow down in our community. However, the down-side is that once spring break is over, and people return from around the world, there will be no buffer on the horizon and it’s very possible that we could still be in a period of escalation.

With these things in mind, we are asking you to be vigilant on a few fronts. Once again, as always, the best ways to avoid transmission are (From Health Canada):

- Avoid spending time in large crowds;
- Avoid contact with sick people;
- Follow public health advice;
- Wash hands with soap and use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available;
- Cover your mouth and nose with your arm if you sneeze or cough;
- Use tissue and dispose of it as soon as possible; and
- If you become sick, avoid others.

We look toward a time when the pandemic is behind us. Whether you travel or stay close to home, we hope that the break brings the rest and relaxation that the coming of spring signals. We also hope you don’t mind us sending you these reminders so that we can all do our collective part to stay safe and stay well.

Sincerely,



Jordan Tinney  
Superintendent of Schools/CEO

LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING