

June 2, 2021

Dear UCDSB Parents and Guardians,

Premier Doug Ford announced today that all Ontario schools will remain closed to in-person learning for the remainder of the school year and continue with remote learning.

While this isn't the decision we were hoping for, we need to respect the decision of the province and the Ministry of Education to keep our students and staff safe. We want nothing more than for our students and staff to return to in-person learning, but we also want to ensure that they are only returning when it is safe to do so and their return will not compromise the progress that has been made in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

We understand this may be difficult news for some families, but know that our staff will continue to support student learning, and student well-being as best we can from afar.

The province has indicated that school boards will be allowed to invite graduating students to return to school in June for a short, outdoor celebration, where cohorting and physical distancing is possible.

Planning is well underway for graduations and leaving ceremonies within our schools for these significant events. We will need to work with our staff, local medical officers of health, and get more guidance from the Ministry of Education on what is permitted for in-person opportunities to determine what is possible for our schools. More information will be shared on these events from either the school board, or your school, when there is more information.

Planning for 2021-22 School Year

The UCDSB has already started planning for the 2021-22 school year. The Ministry of Education has advised school boards to plan for the majority of students to return to in-person learning, but to also provide remote learning options for students who need it.

The UCDSB will be providing digital emergency synchronous and asynchronous remote learning options for both elementary and secondary school students next year. Non-digital remote learning options will no longer be widely offered.

More information about the programming options can be found in these fact sheets:

- [Elementary Programming Fact sheet](#)
- [Secondary Programming Fact Sheet](#)

Vaccine Clinics for Youth

The Leeds, Grenville, Lanark & District Health Unit (LGLHU) and the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) have organized Youth Vaccine Clinics for the weeks of June 14 and June 21 for students aged 12-17 who wish to be vaccinated at established community clinic sites. Interested EOHU residents can get more [information about booking at this link](#). Leeds, Grenville & Lanark residents can get more [information about booking at this link](#).

John McAllister
Chair



Stephen Sliwa
Director



This has been a disruptive school year, but we commend the work that all our families and students are putting in to keep students engaged in their learning.

Sincerely,

Valerie Allen
Designate Director of Education
Upper Canada District School Board

John McAllister
Chair



Stephen Sliwa
Director