

April 14, 2020

Dear UCDSB Families,

I hope all of you had an enjoyable long weekend, even if it may have looked different than other years for you and your family. If you did not see [my video message](#), posted both to [the UCDSB website](#) and social media, I hope you will take the time to do so. Through this video, I provided a general update to parents and caregivers on what we are attending to throughout the school district as we start this new week.

Learn at Home Resources

I am pleased to share with you our weekly choice boards for literacy and math activities that families can use to complement any activities that are coming from their classroom teachers. Allow me to emphasize that in circulating these resources, we are not trying to re-create the school day at home. We know that it is not realistic for our families and our educators who are socially isolated at home. We are providing these resources and the ones posted on our [Learn at Home webpage](#) as a means to keep students engaged in age-appropriate learning, to whatever extent is reasonable for you and our students during these unprecedented times.

- [Kindergarten Activities](#)
- [Gr. 1-3 Math Activities](#)
- [Gr. 1-3 Literacy Activities](#)
- [Gr. 4-6 Math Activities](#)
- [Gr. 4-6 Literacy Activities](#)
- [Gr. 7-8 Math Activities](#)
- [Gr. 7-8 Literacy Activities](#)
- [Health and Physical Education](#)

We have had questions about what assessments and report cards will look like for this school year and we want to provide the following clarity:

- 1) All students, Grades K– 12, will receive a year-end report card.
- 2) Only students in Grade 12 will receive mid-term reports, as those are necessary for applications for post-secondary education. Grades will be based on learning completed prior to March 13th. Learning activities and assignments completed since March 13th will be factored into the mid-term report only if it helps to enhance a student's marks.
- 3) Teachers are encouraged to include evidence of learning completed during the Learn at Home period when in the best interest of students on all mid-term and year-end reports.

More detailed information about assessment and evaluation can be found on our [website](#).

John McAllister
Chair

Stephen Sliwa
Director

Technology Distribution

In the past week, our central school board staff turned their attention to coordinating the redeployment of classroom technology to students without devices so they can continue their learning at home. This involved implementing a district-wide strategy to get more than 1,000 devices to students that were collected from classrooms and prepped for home use. We are also finalizing a process for the pick-up of technological devices used by students with special needs to assist them with their continued learning at home.

A key element to these efforts is working with our public health officials to ensure that any process for hardware redistribution does not run contrary to public health's direction to manage and address pandemic-related concerns at the community level.

Community Resources

Staying connected to learning is important, but so is ensuring all our families are healthy in body and mind. Please use the resources in our [Mental Health and Wellness Library](#). As well, be aware of the [resources available in your community](#) should you need help in other forms.

For up-to-date information regarding the impact of COVID-19 on our school operations, please visit our [COVID-19 webpage](#) or our [FAQ](#).

Our students and you are at the centre of our work, especially during this period where we are working and learning remotely from our homes. We continue to look for ways to make this transition to distance learning simple and clear for our students. As well, we continue to learn from the feedback that we collect from you and our staff.

Please keep safe and in touch with your child's school.

Thank you,
Stephen Sliwa
Director of Education
Upper Canada District School Board

John McAllister
Chair

Stephen Sliwa
Director