

Thursday, May 6, 2021

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Tuesday, the Ministry of Education made an announcement that remote learning will be an option for the 2021-2022 school year.

Near North District School Board (NNDSB) staff are reviewing the announcement and its implications and finalizing how September's return to school will be offered. Once the models have been determined, we will communicate with families, clearly outlining your choices for school in the fall.

The swing from in-person to remote is difficult for all of us, as we navigate the on-going challenges of education in times of a pandemic. It is our belief that the evidence suggests that for most students in-person is the best way to learn, when it is safe to do so. NNDSB schools have shown to be low risk for COVID transmission, and in-person learning has positive effects on children's mental health including their need for socialization.

Families should give thought to how they would like their children to attend school, as you will be asked to choose an option in the coming weeks. Please be advised that in order to staff schools and provide consistency to students throughout our system, there may be limited flexibility to switch between remote and in-class learning throughout the year.

As always, NNDSB's decisions are based on what is best for students.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Near North District School Board