



# Bennetto Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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September 3, 2021

Dear families,

We are excited to welcome students back to classes – in person and through remote learning – to the 2021-22 school year. The last year was an unusual in many ways, and we know families may be feeling anxious about returning to classes this September.

We appreciate that families may have a lot of questions as they prepare to send their children back to classes and are committed to sharing updates as we receive new information. We also invite families to keep up with communications from HWDSB by [subscribing to email updates](#) or following @hwdsb on social media or going to <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/bennetto>

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Wednesday, September 8**. We understand that this falls on the last day of Rosh Hashanah, and will be working directly with families who require accommodation for this day. Please reach out to the school if you have any questions.

We know that safety is on the minds of every family sending their child/ren back to school. We are taking many actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our classes while giving our students meaningful experiences which focus on both their physical and emotional well-being. Here are some important points for families to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year:

#### **Attestation**

Parents and caregivers, and students over 18 years of age, are asked to complete [one-time attestation](#) to declare that you will participate in active daily screening. The attestation can be completed in the [Parent Portal](#).

#### **Daily COVID-19 Screening**

For at least the first two weeks of school, students will submit a daily screening either on paper or a device to an educator for review. If the student does not have verification, they will remain in class, with a mask and distanced as much as possible from others. Parents will be contacted to verify screening.

#### **First Days of Kindergarten**

All children new to kindergarten and/or the school will be invited for a short visit with a caregiver on Wednesday, September 8. We will contact families to arrange visit times and share details. The first day of kindergarten classes for all JK and SK students will be Thursday, September 9.

#### **Device Return**

Students who still have a device from last year are asked to bring it to their educator on the first day of school, Wednesday, September 8. Please label the device with your child's name.

We will continue to send updates as we receive added information and thank you for being proactive in following communications from HWDSB.

Learn more about COVID-19 precautions at HWDSB at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/covid19](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/covid19).  
If you have any questions, or think your child might struggle with school, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
Mme. Nancy Kucic  
Principal/Directrice  
École élémentaire Bennetto Elementary School