



Gatestone Community Updates

April

Dear Gatestone Families,

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board supports the [Ministerial Order](#) as an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we engage the direction to close schools.

Public schools will remain closed to teachers until Friday, May 1, 2020, and to students until Monday, May 4, 2020. As these dates come closer, this decision will be re-evaluated by the Ministry of Education based on public health advice. The closure may be extended if necessary to protect the health and safety of students, families and staff. A friendly reminder to families and students that Gatestone school property is also closed to the public during this time. This means that play structures, the school field, black top area, walkways and the school parking lot will remain closed until at least May 4, 2020.

While our Gatestone staff members reached out to parents, guardians and students this week, it was comforting to hear that many of our families in the Gatestone community are doing well during these uncertain and challenging times. Our Board will continue to update families as needed.

Gatestone staff sends best wishes for our families and their loved ones to be healthy and safe. We understand that time away from one another is difficult as we continue to practice physical distancing from one another.

This week Gatestone educators have been working hard and creatively at home to provide ways for your child to stay connected with our Gatestone learning community. We have connected with families and students in regards to technology needs and we will explore and implement new ways to instruct curriculum through virtual tools over the next month. We ask for your patience, as educators and students work through this new reality. Staff HWDSB e-mails have been posted on our Gatestone school website under the "Gatesone Staff page" should you need to connect with your child's teacher during the regular school day hours (9AM-3:20PM).

HWDSB will continue to work on preparing and deploying technology for students in need. Students already prepared to access virtual tools, please review our Virtual Learning Principles attached in this post. Parents and guardians, we ask that you also take some time to review the Virtual Learning Principles for families, parents/guardians.

HWDSB STUDENT PAGE (The HUB)

Many classes may need to access HWDSB HUB. If your child is required to access the HUB for learning materials, please go to the Student Home Page at <https://students.hwdsb.on.ca>

or through TheHUB (<https://hwdsb.elearningontario.ca/d2l/home>).

VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Reading materials for our primary (Grade K-3), junior (Grade 4-6) and intermediate students (Grade 7-8) can be accessed through the Student Home Page <https://students.hwdsb.on.ca> as well.

Instructions to access the virtual library are attached in the Post.

HWDSB RESOURCES

You can access a variety of resources (e.g., student/teacher blogs, student e-mail, Mental Health Resources - We Help, google classroom) for your child by visiting our HWDSB website and clicking on the Student Page. <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/>

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Should you need to reach out to Administration, please feel free to connect with us through the e-mails posted below.

Respectfully,

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