



HAMILTON-  
WENTWORTH  
DISTRICT  
SCHOOL  
BOARD

# Janet Lee Update

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Principal: Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich Office Administrator: Mrs. C. Harte



Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

*I hope you are all safe and healthy. I'm thrilled that our students and staff are back in the building! We have had a very smooth start back to school, again! I continue to be amazed and proud of your children's enthusiasm, resilience and adaptability! Our JL students, staff and parent community are the best!! Below are just a few reminders to keep us all safe and healthy.*

## PARENTS/GUARDIANS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Public Health continues to guide all HWDSB safety protocols. We know that Covid-19 spreads more easily when people gather. To support school safety, and the health of all, parents are discouraged from congregating in the morning and after school when dropping off and picking up students. Our playground is supervised from 7:55-8:10 in the morning and 2:30-2:45 after school.

## COVID PROTOCOL

Each morning before sending students to school, please continue to complete the screening checklist. If your child fails the screening, please keep them at home. Asymptomatic siblings can continue to attend school.

- If there is a known reason for failing the screening, please keep the child at home until they are 24 hours symptom free. Please use the ILLNESS code to report this absence.
- If the student fails the screener and has **ONE OR MORE** of the following symptoms: fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of smell or taste, the student will require a negative covid test as well as being 24 hours symptom free before they can return to school. Please use the COVID-19 related code to report this absence. The school will be in communication with you to support next steps.
- If the student fails the screener, and the student has **ONLY ONE** of the following symptoms: sore throat, congested/runny nose, headache, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, fatigue/lethargy/muscle aches, the student will need to stay home for 24 hours to be monitored. If the symptom improves or resolves during this timeframe, they are able to return to school. If the symptom does not improve or resolve, please contact your family doctor or public health (905-974-9848, select option 5). Please use the COVID-19 related code to report this absence. The school will be in communication to support with next steps.
- If the student fails the screener, and the student has **MORE THAN ONE** of the following symptoms: sore throat, congested/runny nose, headache, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, fatigue/lethargy/muscle aches, the student will require a negative Covid test as well being 24 hours symptom free before returning to school. Please use the COVID-19 related code to report this absence. The school will be in communication to support with next steps.

curiosity.

creativity.

possibility.

HWDSB

### RETURN TO SCHOOL ATTESTATION FORM

If a student fails the screener for any of the above reasons and is absent from school, the student requires a completed "Attestation for return to school following illness or self isolation." If a student is sent home from school, we will provide a hard copy of this form to families to complete upon return. If a student fails the screener while at home, please contact the school when the student is ready to return to school and we will help you with this attestation process.

### MASKING

Students continue to be expected to wear one non-medical mask to school. Masks must now be worn both inside and outside, which includes, before school, during nutrition breaks, and after school when on school property. Students may continue to request mask breaks with the permission of a staff member who is able to ensure two metre distancing. Under the strict supervision of a teacher, when classes are outside, students may have the opportunity to remove their masks, as long as the teacher is able to ensure two metre distancing at all times. All parents on school property must also wear a mask.

### VISITORS DURING THE INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

Please ensure that your child has everything that they need for the school day before they come to school (including appropriate outdoor wear, foot wear, lunch, water bottle, etc.). If you need to connect with the school, please call and we will be happy to help. If a student is being signed out for early dismissal, please call the school or provide the information in School Messenger. As before, parents/guardians are not permitted to enter the school unless absolutely necessary.

### LOANED STUDENT DEVICES

Thank you to those who have returned the loaned ipads. If your child received an iPad (charging cable, block) to support remote learning, and they have not yet returned it, please do so by Friday Feb. 12th.

### VALENTINE'S DAY

We will not be celebrating this day in our classrooms as we have in the past. The traditional practice of exchanging Valentines Cards with classmates does not adhere to Covid-19 protocols. This year, each classroom will decide on their own alternative way to celebrate. Details will be shared by individual teachers, if needed.

### SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures are scheduled for **Monday Feb. 22. More details to follow.**

*I know that we are sharing a lot of information with families, both at the board and school level. I'm sure at times, it can be overwhelming. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Thank you for continuing to work closely with us. We are grateful for our school community support!*

*Take Care!*

*Mrs. S. Costa-Popovich*  
Principal