

# HWDSB

June 15, 2020

Dear families,

June is an active time for students, educators and staff. While we never expected distance learning to last this long, we appreciate the effort that everyone has shown for our students.

As we look ahead to the next school year, we are preparing for a variety of scenarios. We expect to receive direction from the Ministry of Education soon on school re-opening plans. Public health will also inform our safe return to school plans.

## **Graduating high school students**

We look forward to celebrating the Class of 2020. Window signs, designed for each secondary school graduate, will be available for pick up during the week of June 22 to celebrate our high school graduates. Details about the distribution of window signs will be arranged and communicated by each school. Graduating students can return iPads, devices or other items they need during this time.

## **Last chance to pick up student belongings**

The last day to pick up personal belongings at your child's school will be Thursday, June 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you have not done so, visit your elementary school's website and click on the "Booking Calendar" option in the top menu bar, to schedule your 15-minute time slot for pick up. Secondary school staff will connect with you using the parent/teacher interview booking system. **Any items remaining after June 18 will be disposed or donated.** This includes any of your student's work from the school year. Please review the attached [Entry Information](#) before entering the school. If you have any questions, contact your school.

## **Child care reopening**

The provincial government has permitted child care programs to begin to plan for reopening. Read more about the City of Hamilton's [Framework to reopen child care centres](#). A list of child care locations in HWDSB schools can be found [here](#).

Parents are asked to contact their child care provider, as not all programs will be offered. Programs may also be subject to change. Child care staff will have early access to our schools to prepare. Parents/guardians will learn about the process to collect personal items once details are finalized.

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## Report cards

Elementary report cards will be emailed to parents/guardians on June 24. Secondary report cards will be emailed to parents/guardians and/or to students 18 years or older during the week of June 29. As we prepare to email report cards, we ask you to:

- Have your child's Ontario Education Number (OEN) ready to verify the secured document. You can find your child's OEN on a previous progress report or report cards. If you are unable to find your OEN, contact your child's school.
- If you are unsure if the school has your email, please submit your email address through the [contact form](#) on your child's school website.

## Thoughtexchange

- **Student Results:** Thank you to all the students who participated in the recent Thoughtexchange conversation. This "check in" is helping us to better understand their views and experiences related to distance learning at HWDSB. Student input will inform our work this year and future years. [See final results.](#)
- **Indigenous community conversation:** A reminder about the Thoughtexchange underway to see how things are going for Indigenous learners, parents/guardians, staff and community. We have emailed all families more details due to the need for family consent. If you see yourself as a member of the Indigenous community, please have your say and share with others who this may benefit. This opportunity is open until the end of day Friday, June 26.

## Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

The CESB is available for all graduating students heading into post-secondary schools. It is a total of \$1,250 per month and students will be eligible for two application periods between July 5 to August 1, 2020, and August 2 to August 29, 2020. This benefit is for students who do not qualify for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) or Employment Insurance (EI). Learn how to apply [here](#).

Stay well and be safe,



Alex Johnstone  
Chair of the Board



Manny Figueiredo  
Director of Education