



**Public Health
Santé publique**
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

September 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Families:

Going back to school can be challenging in the best of times and heading back in the midst of a global pandemic is of course even more complex. I want to acknowledge the varied emotions that families may be feeling, such as excitement, worry, fear, relief, uncertainty, and more. While there will be changes, if you have chosen in-school learning, the key school experience will be much the same as before—your children will learn in class with their teacher and see friends.

Everyone plays an active role in keeping our kids safe during the 2020/21 school year. The attached “Top 10 COVID-19 Basic Rules for Safe Schools” provides simple yet effective guidance for a safe return to school. These rules are endorsed by Medical Officers of Health and Directors of Education from across the North. Please review them very carefully.

Remember that screening you child(ren) daily for illness and potential COVID-19 symptoms is a must. More details about screening are in the attached document. Children with symptoms must stay home.

Please accept my sincere gratitude and admiration for all parents, guardians, educators, students themselves, and all who support students, for all you have done to flatten the curve of the first wave of COVID-19. You have sacrificed much and made school 2020/21 reopening a possibility.

And whether you have chosen in-school or virtual learning, Public Health Sudbury & Districts is committed to supporting you and your schools as we begin this next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. For additional information about COVID-19 and resources, please visit [PHSD.ca](https://phsd.ca).

Congratulations students and parents and guardians—you have my very best wishes for the coming school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Penny Sutcliffe
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure

Healthier communities for all.
Des communautés plus saines pour tous.

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