



Nada te turbe  
"Let Nothing  
Disturb you"

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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Hamilton, ON L9C 6P8



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Schools  
150 years of "Believing, Achieving, Serving"

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TRUSTEE: MR. J. VALVASORI

February 17, 2021

Dear St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Elementary School Community,

This letter is to inform you that a student and two additional staff members at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Elementary School have tested positive for COVID-19. The three individuals were last in the school on Friday, February 12, 2021. The positive test results were confirmed by Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS) today. The identity of the individuals will not be released out of privacy considerations.

Any students, staff or cohorts that are required to quarantine will be notified immediately and contacted by Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS) within the next two days.

**HPHS has determined that there is an epidemiological link between these and earlier cases at the school, and therefore an outbreak is being declared for St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Elementary School. HPHS and the HWCDSB are closely monitoring the situation and will provide further information tomorrow.**

According to the [COVID-19 Guidance: School Outbreak Management](#) on the Government of Ontario website, an outbreak in a school is defined as two or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases in students and/or staff (or other visitors) in a school with an epidemiological link, within a 14-day period, where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the school.

Examples of reasonably having acquired infection in school include:

- No obvious source of infection outside of the school setting; or
- Known exposure in the school setting.

St. Teresa of Avila CES and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board are working with public health officials to manage and monitor the outbreak. The school will continue to follow guidance from Public Health Officials around infection prevention and control.

The outbreak will be declared over when at least 14 days have passed with no evidence of ongoing transmission that could reasonably be related to exposures in the school and no further ill individuals associated with the initial exposed cohorts with tests pending.

**Students and staff should continue to attend school unless directed otherwise by HPHS, and to screen daily for COVID-19 symptoms on the provincial [COVID-19 school screening website](#).**

In closing, please be assured of our ongoing commitment to the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff, and will notify you of any new developments.

Sincerely,

Mrs. D. Catania  
Principal