



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board
Believing, Achieving, Serving

February 18, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Elementary School,

Further to yesterday's outbreak declaration for St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Elementary, please be advised that the decision has been made to close St. Teresa of Avila School CES for the duration of the outbreak period and to move students to virtual learning.

The school will move to fully virtual learning and be closed to students for in-school learning, effective Friday, February 19, 2021, with a return to in-person learning on Monday, March 1, 2021.

The decision to close was made in consultation with Hamilton Public Health Services (HPHS) out of our priority concern for the health and safety of our students and staff, and our ability to sufficiently staff school with so many staff currently in quarantine. The pivot to virtual learning will enable St. Teresa of Avila CES to continue to safely support student learning.

Students will have an opportunity to collect personal belongings and any materials they will need during the online virtual learning period through curbside pick-up. Your principal, Mrs. Catania will notify you of those provisions.

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board is currently working with Hamilton Public Health to set up targeted testing clinics at St. Teresa of Avila CES over the next couple of days. The clinics are part of the provincial government's expanded targeted testing initiative to keep schools safe for in-person learning. Further information on school testing will follow.

In the meantime, please continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.

In closing, we wish to assure you of our ongoing commitment to the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff.

Patrick J. Daly
Chairperson of the Board

David Hansen
Director of Education