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December 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Premier of Ontario announced that the province is entering a lockdown starting on December 26, 2020. As stated in his press release, Northern Ontario will be confined for 14 days.

The confinement means that students from the Conseil scolaire catholique de district des Grandes Rivières will participate in a week of distance learning, from Monday, January 4, 2021 through to Friday, January 8, 2021. All staff will welcome students back for in-class learning on Monday, January 11, 2021.

Please note that teachers will contact each student on Monday, January 4, 2021 to welcome them back and identify their needs for distance learning and technological tools. Synchronous learning will resume on Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

All students will engage in a total of 300 minutes of learning per day. The below indicates the minimum requirements for synchronous learning.

- Kindergarten students will engage in **180 minutes** of synchronous learning per day.
- Students in Grades 1 to 8 will engage in **225 minutes** of synchronous learning per day.
- Secondary students will engage in **225 minutes** of synchronous learning per day.

A special education staff member will contact families of students with special needs and for whom the necessary accommodations cannot be provided remotely. These students could benefit from in-person learning.

Following the analysis of the survey on technological tools, families who have identified a need for a tool, will receive an email from the Board specifying the date and time of distribution for their child. If you have not yet completed the [survey](#), please complete it as soon as possible.

We are also aware that some families do not have reliable or no access to internet at home. We will work with those families to ensure that learning continues during the week of distance learning.

The learning resources listed below have been created by and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education as well as some from our staff.

- [Bien-être et santé mentale](#)

- [Soutenir l'apprentissage de la maison](#)
- [TVO Learn](#)
- [Idélo, apprendre à la maison](#)

Thank you for your understanding and collaboration. Together we can help keep our communities safe. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Board office on Monday, January 4, 2021

Merry Christmas and may God bless us all.



Sylvie Petroski
Director of Education