



March 13, 2020

Dear ALCDSB families, guardians and students,

The health and wellbeing of all Board students, staff, volunteers and community members is a priority for the Board. As you all have heard, the Ministry of Education, under direction of the Ministry of Health, has made the decision to close schools in the province in efforts to help contain the spread of COVID-19. **As a result of this announcement, the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board will be closing our schools to all students and day care organizations from March 14, 2020 – April 6, 2020.** There will be no day care (including before and after daycare) or March break camps running at any ALCDSB schools. There will be no Community Use during this time period. No school field trips or excursions originally planned during this time period will take place. Co-op placements or college credits for secondary students will not be running during this time frame.

Over the March break, extensive cleaning will be taking place in all our school sites by our caretaking staff. Following this extensive cleaning process, schools will be locked to all staff and students. No one will be permitted in schools in order to ensure cleanliness.

The Board will be closely monitoring the Ministry of Education's website for further information regarding academics and homework that can be done during the 2 week shutdown following March break, and this information will be shared with our school communities via school and board websites, social media and other forms of communications available. Please check the board website, www.alcddb.on.ca, regularly.

We appreciate that these are uncertain times and anxiety and emotions may be running high. We encourage you to reach out to local support groups for assistance and follow the Government websites for further updates.

May God bless you and your families.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. DeSantis'.

David DeSantis
Director of Education