

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On July 30, 2020 the Provincial Government announced their plan for the safe reopening of schools for in-class instruction beginning this September. The full press release can be found here: Ontario Releases Plan for Safe Reopening of Schools in September.

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board continues to finalize details with regards to what this will look like in our Catholic schools. We remain committed to ensuring the health and safety for all students, staff and community members. A plan specific to ALCDSB schools will be shared with parents/guardians in early August.

Here are some key points from the Ministry announcement and other ALCDSB information that is prudent at this time:

- Students from Grade 4- 12 and school staff will be required to wear masks.
- Elementary schools (Kindergarten to Grade 8) will reopen provincewide, with in-class instruction five days a week.
- Secondary schools (Grades 9-12) have been divided between designated and nondesignated boards. ALCDSB is a non-designated board and will be returning to the conventional model.
- Prior to school starting, School Mental Health Ontario will provide school boards with a professional learning framework and toolkit to support the mental health of all students. The ALCDSB Mental Health Team will also be providing supports to all schools.
- ALDSB continues to work with TriBoard Transportation and will share information on busing as it becomes available.
- The first day of school for all students is Thursday, September 3, 2020. The complete school year calendar and a list of important dates can be found here: <u>ALCDSB</u> School Year Calendar

We thank all families for their patience and understanding during this time. We continue to work hard to create a safe and healthy learning environment for our Catholic school communities. As always, updates will be posted on the board and school websites, on Board social media accounts and through School Messenger.

Sincerely,

David DeSantis
Director of Education