



March 30, 2020

Dear NFSB Students, Families, Staff, and Community:

These are certainly trying times. I extend my heartfelt best wishes to you all.

To recap - last weekend, Premier François Legault announced that schools and centres will be closed until May 1, 2020. This may be extended.

It was announced that all end-of-year Ministry exams are cancelled. If classes do not start back up on May 1, teachers are to use their professional judgement based on the first half of the year, to create grades for end-of-year report cards. We will communicate details as they become available.

Education Minister Jean-François Roberge, added that while the Ministry of Education (MEES) was not expecting parents to become teachers, nor homes to become schools, online educational activities and tools would be made available for families/students.

It was stressed that ALL activities provided are OPTIONAL. Students will not be graded, activities will not count for marks. The goal is not to complete the curriculum, but to stimulate students' interest and learning.

The Ministry has divided the closures into three phases:

**Phase 1 – March 13, 2020**

Complete shutdown of our system.

**Phase 2 - March 30, 2020**

General educational activities will be provided through a website (<https://ecoleouverte.ca>) and public television. You can also go to our website ([www.nfsb.qc.ca](http://www.nfsb.qc.ca)) to find all this information.

**Phase 3 - April 6, 2020**

The Ministry will be providing weekly grade level-specific educational activities to school boards for distribution to families.

School teams will also be looking at putting together some other learning activities for their students to complement what the MEES is sending out. These teams are also being asked to reach out to those students who were receiving direct support prior to this COVID shutdown.

Your Principal or Centre Director, in collaboration with the School Board, will continue to communicate answers to the many "How's/When's/Where's" questions you have.

**Access to our Buildings**

We are working with directives from Santé Publique. They are clear that our schools are to remain closed to the public until April 13. If/when parents are able to retrieve items from our schools/centres, it will be only for ESSENTIAL/VITAL items. Strict health and safety protocols will be in place. Your school/centre will communicate with you regarding their plan of action.

We thank you for your support and understanding. These are difficult times for everyone. Stay safe & stay tuned...

Sincerely,

Rob Buttars  
Director General