



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

April 9, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today marks the end of Lent as we enter into the Paschal Triduum, the three days of Easter that recall the passion, crucifixion, death and resurrection of our Lord Saviour, Jesus Christ. Lent, traditionally a time of prayer, almsgiving and fasting, has taken on a deeper significance this year amid the worldwide pandemic that has shuttered our schools, challenged our communities and closed our church doors.

“Do not abandon yourselves to despair,” St. John Paul II once urged. “We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.”

We are indeed the Easter people, as demonstrated by the many individuals in our system who continue to be beacons of light, goodness and hope. We can take great pride in how our staff has responded to the unprecedented challenges by the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Principals, vice-principals, teachers and support staff have responded generously to the needs of their students and embraced the current reality of Catholic education. This week, in particular, our teachers and support staff have taken extraordinary steps to re-engage students in their learning, and to support students and families in accessing the next phase of distance learning.

This continuity of learning relies on a range of delivery methods, including many online resources such as the myClass learning management system. To assist our students and parents in logging into this system, our curriculum team has developed a step-by-step guide and a video on the use of the myClass platform. These resources can be accessed by clicking on the following links:

- [myClass Student Instructions](#)
- [myClass Student Use Video](#)

As we move more deeply into this virtual learning environment, we ask that students and parents review [Policy S.15 Internet and Technology – Acceptable Use for Students](#), located at the top of your child/children’s myClass page. We would also like to remind parents that your child’s email/myClass account is not a mechanism for communicating with teachers, as this is a public platform and all comments can be seen. To contact a teacher directly, please call or email the school.

In other updates, the HWCDSB has received clear direction from the Ministry of Education on Assessment and Evaluation. This information is attached to this communication for your careful review.

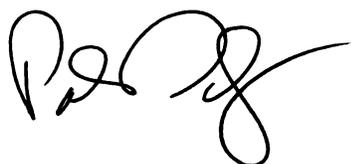
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We also want to remind families that they are eligible to apply for the provincial government's one-time payment of \$200 per child while Ontario schools and childcare centres remain closed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Families can complete an online application on [Ontario's Support for Families website](#).

Finally, we want to commend our diocesan pastors who have found creative ways to unite their parish communities during these days when parish churches remain closed. For a list of streaming services and other resources, please visit the [Diocese of Hamilton website](#).

Easter is a time of true hope. As we celebrate the promise of the Risen Lord, we pray that "the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).

Keep well, stay safe and God bless.



Patrick J. Daly  
Chairperson of the Board



David Hansen  
Director of Education

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