



Lester B. Pearson School Board
Commission scolaire Lester-B.-Pearson
1925 Brookdale Ave., Dorval, QC, H9P 2Y7
www.lbpsb.qc.ca

August 27th, 2021

Dear parents and students of the Lester B. Pearson School Board,

I hope you and your loved ones enjoyed a restful summer following what was a challenging school year. It is my most sincere wish that you found some time to relax and recharge in anticipation for the 2021-2022 school year. With the first day of classes in our elementary and secondary schools rapidly approaching, I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school.

To those who are new to the LBPSB community this year, I extend a warm welcome. I hope you soon discover all that our schools and centres have to offer.

In the coming weeks and months, students will embark upon new adventures, make new friends and face new opportunities. Staff members at the LBPSB are here to work together with you as we encourage all of our students in their pursuit of excellence. It is a privilege for us to serve our community and play an important role in your child's educational journey.

Back to school is always a time of year that evokes excitement and even some anxiety. We recognize that we continue to face challenges and stressors related to the ongoing pandemic and that many parents are concerned about their children returning to classes. Please rest assured that the health and safety of our students and staff remain a top priority at the Lester B. Pearson School Board. As we have since the start of the pandemic, we will adhere to all public health regulations and do all that we can to ensure a safe and caring school experience.

As well, the LBPSB has installed over 400 HEPA air purifiers in order to add an extra layer of protection in terms of limiting the spread of COVID-19. For more information about the air purifiers and other preventative measures the school board has taken to improve ventilation and increase the circulation of fresh air in its buildings, please click on the following link:

<https://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/Modules/FileManagement/files/Root/Council/docs/2021-08-26-HEPA-Air-Purifiers.pdf>

Please find below details regarding some of the public health measures that will be in place in all of our schools and centres as classes resume.

Wearing a mask at while at school

- Wearing a mask is compulsory in common areas and on school bus transportation;
- Wearing a mask in class is compulsory for all LBPSB students in grades 1 through to secondary 5. Students in Kindergarten (K4, K5) are not required to wear a mask, but it is permitted should parents so wish;
- Masks are also to be worn by students in our adult education and vocational training centres;
- At work, LBPSB staff members must wear a mask if the 2m distancing (or physical barrier) cannot be respected, in accordance with CNESST directives;

Health and sanitary measures

Measures introduced last year will remain in place. These include:

- Frequent cleaning and sanitization of schools and centres;
- Maintaining good hand hygiene, having sanitizer and soap available in all schools/ centres with reminders for frequent hand washing;
- Keeping windows and doors open in naturally ventilated schools to improve air flow;
- Monitoring for symptoms and encouraging those who feel unwell to remain home and get tested;
- Tracking positive cases reported to us and communicating with our community;
- Working closely with regional Public Health partners to implement required protocols for confirmed cases.

Vaccination

- Vaccination campaigns will take place in Lester B. Pearson Secondary Schools and Adult Vocational Centres in early September to ensure that as many students as possible over the age of 12 can get both doses. Schools and centres will share exact dates and procedures in the coming days.

Extracurricular activities

- In elementary schools, sports and other extracurricular activities can resume.
- In secondary schools, these activities can resume but the vaccination passport will be required for any indoor sports activities and outdoor sports which involve frequent contact (football, soccer, etc.)
- More information will come from your child's secondary school as to which activities are subject to the vaccine passport requirement.

We also wish to strongly encourage those who are eligible to get fully vaccinated. Public Health has told us that this is the most effective tool we have to fight COVID-19. This, along with the measures noted above, will help us limit spread and keep everyone safe.

As we witnessed last year, to effectively manage the pandemic we need to constantly adapt to evolving situations. We continue to work in collaboration with public health and the ministry of education, and it is critical that action is taken promptly when the epidemiological situation changes. Rest assured the school board will keep you updated on a regular basis regarding any and all changes to public health guidelines that are made during the course of the year.

Finally, may this school year be filled with inspiration, growth, and success. I look forward to working with parents, students, and the entire LBPSB team. Together, I know we will maintain our tradition of being leaders in learning for our community.



Cindy Finn,
Director General, LBPSB