



WRDSB Response to COVID-19

WRAPSC

May 5, 2020



WRDSB COVID-19 Response

- **Public Health key partner**
- **WRDSB Pandemic Response Plan and Protocols**
- **Essential staff, processes and systems**
- **Business Continuity**
- **Learning Continuity**
- **Student, Family and Staff Well-Being**
- **Community Support**
- **Support from all of our stakeholders**



WRDSB's approach to Distance Learning

What is guiding our work:

- Not meant to replicate in person classroom
- Connection and relationships are critical
- Equitable and accessible
- Simple
- Meet needs of our students
- Developed collaboratively
- Focus on what's most important



Equitable and accessible - Ensuring equity of access

- **Access for every student continues to be a priority (students with special education needs, ELLs, students without access to devices or stable internet)**
- **Continuing to reach out to families**
- **Technology-free options**
- **Phone contact and mailing learning materials**
- **Providing student learning packages to support distance learning - P/J, Intermediate, Secondary (pencils, construction paper, chalk ..)**



Equitable and accessible - Ensuring equity of access

- **Distributed close to 6,000 devices and we continue to deploy**
 - **Will be providing iPad with WiFi built in as soon as items are received from Apple**
- **Partnering with Smart Waterloo Region support WiFi access to families in need in the community**
- **Deployed sensory kits to students with special needs**
- **SEA devices deployed to students with special needs**



Relationships & Focusing on what's important

- Clarified use of live versus taped virtual learning supports
- Teachers have assigned assignments & projects with focus on key concepts.
- Teachers are providing students with ongoing feedback to improve their learning marks can only improve
- Midterm marks have been submitted for grade 12 graduating students and submitted to university and college admissions
- K-11 teachers will continue providing families with feedback on students' progress



Communicating with Staff, Students & Families about Distance Learning

- Communicating with-And Responding to-our Families:
 - Survey/Communications Feedback From End Users
 - via Board Website
 - Social Media: 15,000 Instagram followers
- Website supports for students, families and staff
 - WRDSB@Home

