



March 22, 2020

**Subject: Information about COVID-19 (coronavirus) – update no. 9**

Dear Parents/Guardians/Employees,

We hope this update finds you well and that you are taking care of yourselves and your loved ones. We wish to thank you for your patience and collaboration over this past week. We understand that the current situation can create uncertainties and challenges, but we are confident that, together, we will get through this unprecedented situation.

**Salient points from today's press conference**

**Highlights of statements made by François Legault**

- Effective midnight tonight until May 1: all restaurants, shopping centres, beauty salons and hair salons will be closed.
- Drug stores, grocery stores and the SAQ remain open.
- Schools, CEGEPs and universities will remain closed until May 1.
- The Ministry of Education (MEES) will send to parents a list of activities to enable students to continue certain learning activities.
- Minister Jean-François Roberge is working with Télé-Québec to prepare short educational videos.
- There will be no Ministry exams this year.
- CEGEPs and universities: some courses are already given online. The Minister will make sure that this also becomes the case for all CEGEPs and universities.
- We are asking employees in the education sector who are not working to lend a hand to community organizations and to help people aged 70 and over.

**Answers to questions from journalists**

Jean-François Roberge:


- (Parents going to schools to pick up their child's personal belongings and material): We will allow this starting next week, but we will give priority to students with special needs.  
**The procedure to follow will be prepared in the next few days. Message to parents: Do not go to your child's school next week. We will proceed by invitation.**
- It is not our intention to transform parents into teachers and complicate people's lives.
- We will make learning activities available online.
- Starting the week of April 6, the MEES will forward to all families a list of suggested non-mandatory activities adapted to the students' grade level.
- A student will not automatically be promoted to the next grade.



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## Procedure established by Santé publique when a person tests positive for COVID-19

As a follow-up to yesterday's communication, we would like to inform you of the following **procedure established by Santé publique when a person tests positive** for COVID-19.

1. In accordance with the directives of Santé publique, we must ensure that the identity of the person who has tested positive remains confidential, as we are required by law to protect the information communicated to us by Santé publique.
2. Santé publique conducts an epidemiological investigation during which it contacts all identified individuals who have had contact with the person who tested positive to COVID-19.

As recommended by Santé publique, please keep following the hygiene directives (regular hand washing and social distancing). We invite you to visit [Quebec.ca/coronavirus](https://Quebec.ca/coronavirus) for up-to-date information.

Once again, thank you for partnering with us over the last week as we navigate this public health emergency situation.

We will continue to keep you informed as more information becomes available. We appreciate your understanding and collaboration.



Gaëlle Absolonne  
Director General



Paolo Galati  
Chairperson

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