

You may have heard reports that the Ontario government was reviewing whether to extend the winter break. Today, the Education Minister confirmed that “an extended winter holiday is not necessary at this time.” **OCDSB schools will have the last day of classes on December 18th and will re-open to students on January 4th, 2021.**

The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has recently been declining in Ottawa, and the continuation of a downward trend relies on our collective commitment to following health guidelines. So far, there have been a limited number of COVID-19 cases and only a few partial outbreaks in our schools.

This is thanks to all your efforts to stay home if you are showing signs of possible symptoms. We are so proud to see how responsible students of all ages have been to follow the health guidelines in place.

Let's all continue to do our part to keep these numbers low and keep our community safe.

## Report Cards

Report Cards will be available to your parents through the secure online Report Card Portal on **November 25<sup>th</sup> for secondary students**. Parents must register in order to access the report cards.

## Rainbow Bridges Film Festival - Tonight!

Youth Ottawa and the OCDSB are proud to present the [Rainbow Bridges Film Festival](#), being held online on November 19th at 7:00 p.m. Secondary students are invited to the event where we will be showcasing the student films from last year's Rainbow Bridges participants, along with some new surprises! The film festival will be streamed on the OCDSB YouTube Channel. The link to access the film festival can be found below.

Streaming Link: <https://youtu.be/qaeYi6XZ3DU>

## Calling all students in Grades 11 and 12! Planning Post-Secondary Pathways?

Thinking about what to do after you're finished high school? Not sure what your options are?

The OCDSB is hosting an online post-secondary education (PSE) opportunities event. This is an opportunity for you to explore going to college and/or university, starting an apprenticeship, entering the workforce, starting a business, or taking a gap year. The event will help you gather information

about what is available, as well as hear about different learning experiences and opportunities from current students, apprentices and employers.

The goal of this event is to support ALL students in exploring opportunities for their future.

When: Wednesday, December 2nd, 2020

What time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This event is being organized using an online platform called vFAIRS that will allow students to visit a plenary hall, exhibitors' hall and seminar rooms, as you would if this were in-person. You can see session options in advance, and log in to find the information and hear the stories that you're looking for. Given the online structure, you may choose to participate in all, or only parts of the day.

Visit the event [website](#) for more information and to register.

Any questions should be directed to your classroom teachers.

### **Tips for Thriving While Learning Remotely**

We know that learning online has been a big adjustment for many students. We've compiled a list of mental health tips to support your well-being and help you to stay organized and focused. Our [Tips for Thriving While Learning Remotely](#) resource has useful information on establishing a routine, coping with stress, problem-solving, and more.

Stay safe!