

COVID-19 Update

As you may have heard, the Ontario government [announced](#) that Ottawa has moved to the red-control level of the COVID-19 Response Framework. This means that there are additional rules in place to keep everyone safe.

Please take a moment to learn about the [red-control rules](#). It's very important to continue following public health protocols – not just at school, but in your community too. Wear a mask, wash your hands, keep a safe distance from others, do your [daily screening](#) every morning, and stay home if you're feeling sick. By following these protocols, you are helping to keep yourself, your classmates, and your whole community safe. Thank you for doing your part!

Cohort B Attends In-Person on Monday, March 22

A reminder that Cohort B will attend In-Person instruction on Monday, March 22nd for quadmester schools. Visit [OCDSB's Secondary In-Person Calendar webpage](#) to avoid confusion about which cohort is in attendance on which day. We request students to download/print this calendar and refer to it on a daily basis.

Cancellation of 2021 OSSLT Administration

The OCDSB has decided not to participate in the 2021 OSSLT administration. After listening to concerns raised by students, staff, and parents about feelings of stress and lack of well-being, the District has sought to identify actions which could help to reduce workload stressors and support student and staff well-being. One of the planned activities in coming weeks was the administration of the OSSLT. This year, the OSSLT is moving to an online format. This is a field-test designed in part, to invite feedback on the recent changes to the assessment format and timing. Participation in the field test is not mandatory. The OCDSB will not administer the OSSLT this year. Several other large school districts in the province are making a similar decision.

Police Involvement in Schools & Human Rights Policy Consultations

Do you have something to share about police involvement in schools or the creation of the OCDSB's new human rights policy? Starting on March 22 we will be holding a series of discussion groups for students, parents and community members. These discussion groups are part of consultations on 1) police involvement in schools and 2) developing an OCDSB human rights policy and human rights complaints procedure.

Police Involvement in Schools - Policy and Practice Review

- [Register to Join a Group Discussion](#)
- [Consultation website](#)

Human Rights Policy

- [Register to Join a Group Discussion](#)
- [Consultation website](#)

Some group discussions will be interpreted in [Arabic](#), [Somali](#), [Nepali](#) and [Mandarin/Cantonese](#) and others will be available for specific identity groups in the community (see group discussion pages for details).

Complete a Survey

Beyond the group discussions, you are also encouraged to complete a survey.

- [Survey - Human Rights Policy](#)
- Police Involvement in Schools - *survey coming soon watch the [consultation page](#)*

If you have any questions or wish to contact the consultation teams, email:

consultation.humanrights@ocdsb.ca

PoliceInvolvementConsultation@ocdsb.ca

International Certificate Program Information Session - March 23, 7:00 p.m.

The OCDSB's International Certificate Program is designed to recognize and honour students in grade 9-12 who demonstrate a commitment to being motivated, engaged and active global citizens. [Register for our virtual information session](#) for grade 8-11 students and parents/guardians!

International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - March 21

March 21st is recognized as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The OCDSB benefits from and is enriched by the diversity of perspectives, experiences and lived realities of the students, staff and families that make up our community. Visit our [website](#) for more information and resources.

Panel Discussion: The Lived Experiences of Black Women in Canadian Societies - March 26, 7:00 p.m.

Director of Education Camille Williams-Taylor will be the keynote speaker for a panel discussion on the lived experiences of Black Women, presented by the Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program. [Learn more and register.](#)

School Earth Hour Challenge - March 26

This year, [Earth Hour](#) is Saturday, March 27. We're challenging OCDSB schools to take part on Friday, March 26 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (times may vary) to bring awareness to climate change. Watch for more information on our website next week!

OCDSB Indigenous Youth Symposium - Virtual Event Series - March 31st, 6:00 p.m.

Indigenous students and families in the OCDSB are invited to join the second event of this year's Indigenous Youth Symposium, where special guests Silla will share about their journey through music and the beauty of Inuit culture. If you are interested in attending, fill out the [registration form](#). Please reach out to Josh Lewis (joshua.lewis@ocdsb.ca) or Kris Meawasige (kris.meawasige@ocdsb.ca) for more information.