



June 8, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With the ongoing pandemic in Ontario, and the recent announcement of schools remaining closed to most in-person learning for the remainder of the school year, I want to provide you with clarification about year-end recognition events for students and information about retrieving personal belongings from your school and dropping off of school resources.

### **End of Year Ceremonies**

In an effort to provide a personalized graduation experience, while still adhering to safety measures, all of our schools have already planned an in-person portion for graduation celebrations for our Grade 12 students. In addition to the already planned virtual ceremony, our schools have coordinated either a drive-through event or a home delivery of certificates and mementos from the school, offering that personalized touch. These arrangements were made with our local public health officials in early spring and after recent consultation with them, they continue to support this plan.

For grade 6 students leaving their school or graduating Grade 8 students, plans are well underway to provide a virtual ceremony that will celebrate these students in a safe and unique way, ensuring a great start to their summers.

We can count on other teachers in other grades, given the circumstances, to support students wrapping up the year, as they have done every year. They are committed to following through on their instructional goals for the remainder of the school year, and will celebrate with their classes, virtually as a group, in a meaningful and safe way that continues to adhere to local public health safety measures.

Our staff are excited to celebrate the milestones of all of our students, especially after working so hard this year. Specific details about virtual ceremonies and activities will be communicated to you from your school principal.

### **Retrieval of Personal Belongings and Drop Off of School Resources**

Your school will be in touch soon on how to either pick up any personal belongings that students may have left behind in the spring, or drop off materials or devices that belong to the school. It will be a priority for our schools to organize this in a safe and socially-distanced manner for students, families and staff.

I wish everyone a pleasant end to the school year, and bring this truly unique school year to a close.

Sincerely,  
Valerie Allen  
Director Designate  
Upper Canada District School Board

**John McAllister**  
Chair



**Stephen Sliwa**  
Director