



Date of Meeting: 2021 January 12

Item #: 12.b

REPORT TO:	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Council <input type="checkbox"/> Program and School Services Advisory Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Working Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Planning and Priorities Advisory Committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
	For Board Meetings: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC <input type="checkbox"/> IN-CAMERA
TITLE OF REPORT:	Readiness Plan to Welcome International Students
PRESENTED BY: (list ONLY those attending the meeting)	Mark Fisher – Director of Education Sarah Leeming – International Education Lead
PRESENTED FOR:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Input/Advice <input type="checkbox"/> Information
Recommendation(s): (only required when presented for approval)	The Board of Trustees approve the resolution that: “In compliance with the new public health guidelines that have been established by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Canadian Federal Government for accepting international students, we remain committed to our International Education students and program.”
Purpose:	<p>The purpose of this report is to receive a Board resolution endorsing our ongoing participation in international education and commitment to upholding the requirements outlined in our Readiness Plan to Welcome International Students.</p> <p>While the Board of Trustees is not required to approve the Readiness Plan, this report will demonstrate the readiness of the TVDSB and the International Education department to safely welcome international students into our schools and local communities and demonstrate how our plan meets all requirements of Federal Public Health authorities and the Ontario Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Outlined in Memos dated August 28, 2020, October 9, 2020 and November 13, 2020, the Ministry of Education has required international education programs to submit a Readiness Plan to Welcome International Students to Ontario. The Ministry must approve each district's plan before students intending to study at the specific district are eligible to enter Canada. Included in the Readiness Plan must be an Attestation to Receive International Students per Federal and Provincial requirements, as well as a Board resolution indicating the Board's ongoing support of the international education program and commitment to upholding the requirement outlined in the Readiness Plan.</p>
Content:	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on international education around the world. The economic and psychological impact on families has reduced the level of engagement in international education globally. In Canada, borders closed to travel March 18, 2020 and remained closed to most international students until October 20, 2020. As of October 20, students intending to study in Canada are only eligible to enter the country if their educational institution is on the approved list managed by each province's Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Similar to many other Boards, due to the travel uncertainty a number (216) of 2019-2020 international students remained in Canada over the summer of 2020 and continued their studies in September 2020. Currently, we also have 29 returning international students registered in full remote learning from their home country. The goal of many of these students is to travel to Canada as soon as TVDSB is on the Ministry's approved list. Some of these students will continue with full remote learning upon their return to Ontario but will do so without the challenge of synchronous learning from a different time zone.</p> <p>Approximately 75 applicants for September 2020 either cancelled or deferred their admission to Thames Valley based on the border closure. We estimate we lost an additional 80-100 applications that traditionally would have been received after February 2020 if not for the COVID pandemic and global border closings.</p>

We currently have 41 new applicants for the September 2021 start who will not be approved for a study permit until Thames Valley is on the Ministry of Education's approved list.

Our Readiness Plan, the Attestation, and our supporting documentation were submitted to the Ministry on December 9, 2020. We received a response from the Ministry that same day indicating that after a review of our plan, they determined our plan meets the requirements and that once a Board Resolution is received by the Ministry, we can anticipate being added to the list.

Overview of Federal and Provincial Requirements

Our submitted plan was developed to meet the following requirements.

Overall Requirements:

- Districts have plans in place for robust case management and outbreak response consistent with local and provincial public health guidelines
- Quarantine strategy for international students and co-arriving family members
- Protocols for notification of local and provincial health authorities for 14-day quarantine:
 - Quarantine Compliance
 - Cases of COVID-19 infection
- Communication protocols to inform the public of outbreaks

Key Pre-Arrival Requirements for Institutions:

- Pre-arrival requirements are communicated to international students and co-arriving family members, including:
- Documentation outlining a clear quarantine strategy
- ArriveCAN App
- Direct transportation from the point of entry to the quarantine location

Key Requirements for 14-Day Quarantine:

- Quarantine arrangements are in place for arriving international students and co-arriving family members
- Daily monitoring of symptoms and compliance
- Communication protocols in place in the event of symptomatic cases or compliance issue
- Ensure quarantine location provides suitable isolation, does not put vulnerable individuals at risk
- COVID-19 infection control information and training
- COVID-19 Test during quarantine (Ministry of Education requirement)

Post Quarantine Requirements:

- Support international students and immediate family members with both mental and physical health, anti-racism and COVID-19 related stigma supports in schools and the community
- Mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices

Additional Provincial Requirements:

- A board resolution approving an international student program that meets current federal and provincial requirements for the 2020-21 school year
- A COVID-19 test administered during the quarantine for students who have entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies

Overview of Thames Valley DSB Readiness Plan

- Centrally developed COVID-19 protocols (TVDSB Protocol 1, TVDSB Protocol 3, TVDSB Communication Tree)
- Protocols created specifically to meet Ministry of Education and Federal Health Authorities requirements for international students
 - TVDSB International Education Program Safe Arrival Protocol
 - Quarantine/Self-Isolation Plan
 - International Education Safe Arrival Guide
 - Addendum to TVDSB Admissions Guideline and Participation Agreement
 - Post-Arrival Student Resources
 - 14-Day Activity Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocols developed by Canada Homestay Network, our homestay provider that meet the requirements set forth by the Ministry of Education and Federal Health Authorities
Financial Implications:	n/a
Timeline:	Upon approval, Board Resolution to be submitted to the Ministry of Education by January 15, 2021.
Communications:	Once approved by the Ministry of Education, Thames Valley DSB will be added to the Ministry's website on the list of approved districts. International Education staff will communicate the approval to our current students and students/agents/families in the process of applying.
Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Education Memo November 13, 2020 - <i>Ontario K-12 readiness to welcome international students</i> • Ministry of Education Memo October 9, 2020 - <i>Clarification on readiness to welcome international students</i> • Ministry of Education Memo August 28, 2020 - <i>School Boards' readiness to welcome international students</i> • Completed <i>ATTESTATION FOR K-12 PUBLIC/PRIVATE DESIGNATED LEARNING INSTITUTIONS — FRAMEWORK TO ENSURE INSTITUTIONAL READINESS TO ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO ONTARIO</i> (submitted to the Ministry of Education December 9, 2020)

Strategic Priority Area(s):

Relationships:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students, families, and staff are welcomed, respected, and valued as partners. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promote and build connections to foster mutually respectful communication among students, families, staff, and the broader community. <input type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.
Equity and Diversity:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create opportunities for equitable access to programs and services for students. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students and all partners feel heard, valued, and supported. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Programs and services embrace the culture and diversity of students and all partners.
Achievement and Well-Being:	<input type="checkbox"/> More students demonstrate growth and achieve student learning outcomes with a specific focus on numeracy and literacy. <input type="checkbox"/> Staff will demonstrate excellence in instructional practices. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance the safety and well-being of students and staff.

Form Revised January 2020

From: FSB-Private Schools and International Education Unit (EDU) <FSB.PSIE@ontario.ca>

Sent: November 13, 2020 9:53 PM

Subject: Update on readiness to welcome international students/ Mise à jour sur l'état de préparation pour l'accueil d'élèves étrangers

Le français suit l'anglais.

Memorandum To: Directors of Education
School Authorities
Principals of Private Schools
Principals of First Nation/Federally Operated Schools

From: Jeff Butler
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Support and Field Services Branch

Subject: Ontario K-12 readiness to welcome international students

I am writing today to provide an update on requirements for welcoming students to Ontario from outside of Canada for the 2020-21 school year.

Ontario has been participating in ongoing discussions with the federal government on how to confirm and support school boards' readiness to welcome international students that hold study permits issued under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (Canada). In July, the federal government issued some guidance and direction and on August 7, 2020, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, received a letter from Health Canada setting out further requirements to be met by Designated Learning Institutions (DLIs) in order to welcome these students.

The direction from Health Canada required that some additional criteria be demonstrated as part of plans for schools, and that both provincial and local public health authorities have a role in determining whether schools are ready to accept students from outside Canada.

In order to meet federal requirements, the ministry sent a memo on August 28, 2020, and a follow-up memo on October 9, 2020, informing that school boards and private schools intending to accept international students with study permits must have plans in place that include specific details about how they will meet the provincial and federal criteria to demonstrate readiness.

Please note that Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada (IRCC) has recently clarified that they are not requiring provinces and territories to submit the names of individual private schools and school boards whose quarantine and operational plans have been approved by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and local public health units. **Instead, IRCC is seeking confirmation of sector-wide readiness from**

provinces/territories of their respective K-12 sectors. As such, Ontario has indicated to the federal government that our K-12 sector is ready to receive international students.

However, any school boards or private schools that receive students from outside of Canada must continue to adhere to all federal and provincial requirements. In addition, in order to accept international students for in-class instruction, a school board/private school must have a COVID-19 plan that has been approved by the Minister of Education. School boards/private schools with an approved plan will be listed on the [provincial list of schools](#) **that may accept students who hold a study permit issued under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada)* for in-person instruction in 2020-21.**

Please note that amendments to regulations under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, have recently been made which require that a private or public school operates in accordance with a COVID-19 plan that has been approved by the Minister of Education in order to provide in-person instruction for students who entered Canada on or after November 17 with a study permit. Any schools that do not comply may be subject to fines or other penalties under the Act.

The amended regulations are available on e-laws.

- <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r20642>
- <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r20641>

Please note the following:

- Schools that have not yet submitted their plans to the ministry and wish to accept international students with study permits for in-class instruction, are required to submit to the ministry the attached **completed and signed attestation**, along with their readiness plan to international.education@ontario.ca.
- Schools that have already submitted their plans but have not yet received approval, are encouraged, but not required, to submit the attached completed and signed attestation, in order to streamline the approval process.
- Schools that do not wish to enroll international students for in-class instruction in the 2020-21 school year, are not required to submit a plan/attestation to the ministry.

Any questions regarding the above should be directed to international.education@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of all students and staff in Ontario.

Jeff Butler
Assistant Deputy Minister

c: Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)

From: International Education Unit (EDU) <International.Education@ontario.ca>

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 6:26 PM

To: International Education Unit (EDU) <International.Education@ontario.ca>

Subject: Clarification on readiness to welcome international students/Clarification sur la préparation des écoles en vue

Le français suit l'anglais.

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
School Authorities
Principals of Private Schools
Principals of First Nation/Federally Operated Schools

From: Jeff Butler
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Support and Field Services Branch

Subject: Clarification on readiness to welcome international students

This memo is intended to provide clarification on the attached August 28 memos from Deputy Minister of Education, Nancy Naylor, to school boards and private schools regarding their readiness to welcome international students. In addition, please find an Appendix attached which provides guidance on important considerations that should be included in your submission that will facilitate the review of your board or private school's plans.

Please note that the purpose of the attestation and school submission is for your institution to demonstrate that it has plans in place detailing how it intends to meet the provincial and federal criteria for Designated Learning Institutions to indicate their readiness to welcome international students. Please note that the Government of

Canada has the sole discretion regarding the decision to issue study visas or allow international students to enter Canada.

As a reminder, school boards and private schools must comply with all applicable legislation and provincial orders in place, as well as advice, recommendations or instructions from public health officials. Institutions are encouraged to consult with their own legal counsel on how orders, legislation and any future amendments apply to their specific programs and operations.

I am pleased to report that ministry staff are working closely with the Ministry of Health and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health on the review and approval of institutional plans to demonstrate readiness to accept international students. For those that have already submitted their plans, the ministry is continuing to prioritize that work for those that have yet to submit plans, the ministry looks forward to receiving them. Boards and private schools that do not intend to welcome new international students this school year do not need to submit a plan.

Students Currently Arriving or Already in Canada

It is understood that, based on exemptions to current travel restrictions, some international students are arriving in Canada on an ongoing basis and the ministry is not asking institutions to advise their students to pause their travel if they meet the current exemptions for entry into Canada.

Similar to other travelers currently permitted to enter the country, international students must comply with the mandatory 14-day quarantine requirement upon their arrival in Canada based on federal government [guidelines](#). Students must provide a quarantine plan at the border.

Students who have already arrived and completed the quarantine period mandated by the federal government are not captured by the province's additional testing requirement. Students currently arriving in Canada that have not yet completed their quarantine should be advised about testing.

Testing

As noted in the memo issued to school boards and private schools on August 28, 2020, Ontario is requiring that as part of their plans institutions ensure that both international and domestic students who are in quarantine as a result of having entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies are tested for COVID-19 at least once during their quarantine period. Please note that students are not required to provide evidence of the test result.

While the August 28th communication indicated that testing should preferably take place during the quarantine period, this communication is to clarify that testing can take place at Day 14 of quarantine to allow students to fully complete the 14-day quarantine period without needing to leave to seek a test.

While waiting for the results, students should remain in quarantine and the school board or private school will continue its responsibility for quarantine oversight. If a student tests positive, public health will direct the student to isolate and institutions must maintain their oversight of the student during that period.

Transportation to and from a testing site is not a requirement, but institutions should consider facilitating transportation to and from testing facilities, if at all possible.

To arrange for testing to be conducted, school boards and private schools can use one of two models:

1. **Assessment Centre Testing:** In this model, school boards and private schools will work with students and parents/guardians and if possible, facilitate transportation of students to and from a local Assessment Centre for testing. Testing must be scheduled in advance to ensure the Assessment Centre is able to manage the testing volumes. In order to schedule testing in advance, institutions should [contact a local Assessment Centre](#).

2. **Onsite Testing:** In this model, school boards and private schools will [order swab kits](#) from the province for their onsite clinic(s). School boards and private schools must either have an ordering clinician on campus or must partner with a qualified health practitioner to [complete the provincial COVID-19 test requisition](#), conduct specimen collection, transport specimens (as per [Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations](#)), and follow up on test results with all students. For DLIs interested in conducting onsite testing that wish to receive further guidance, please contact Covid19Testing@OntarioHealth.ca.

For either option above, school boards and private schools should inform their Ontario Health Region of their plans to support alignment with local testing plans. Ontario's Ministry of Health and local COVID-19 Assessment Centres have been informed of this testing policy to ensure that they are prepared to respond to questions from school boards and private schools.

To identify their Ontario Health Region, school boards and private schools should refer to the Ontario Health regions [map](#) and enter their postal code in the Local Health Integration Network [locator tool](#) to confirm.

Ontario Health regional team contact information:

- North: OHNTesting@lhins.on.ca
- Central: COVID19TestingCentral@lhins.on.ca
- Toronto: TRTestingIntake@tc.lhins.on.ca
- East: CovidtestingEast@ontariohealth.ca
- West: OHWestTesting@lhins.on.ca

Requirements for Domestic Students

It is understood that school boards and private schools may not be aware of the travel arrangements of domestic students or the ability to confirm that domestic students who are in quarantine as a result of having entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies seek a COVID-19 test. School boards and private schools are encouraged to communicate expectations around testing following international travel to the school community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Butler
Assistant Deputy Minister

c: Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)

Sarah LEEMING

From: Ministry of Education (EDU) <MinistryofEducation@ontario.ca>
Sent: August 28, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Ministry of Education (EDU)
Subject: School Boards' readiness to welcome international students | État de préparation des conseils scolaires en vue d'accueillir les étudiants étrangers
Attachments: Appendix 1_FR.pdf; Appendix 1_Eng.pdf; ATTESTATION FOR PUBLIC_PRIVATE SCHOOLS-Final EN.docx; ATTESTATION FOR PUBLIC_PRIVATE SCHOOLS- Final FR.docx

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
School Authorities

From: Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

I am writing today to inform you of the requirements specific to welcoming students coming to Ontario from outside of Canada for the 2020-21 school year.

Ontario has been participating in ongoing discussions with the federal government on how to confirm and support school boards' readiness to welcome back international students. In July, the federal government issued some guidance and direction and on August 7, 2020, the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, received a letter from Health Canada setting out further requirements to be met by Designated Learning Institutions (DLIs) in order to welcome international students.

The direction from Health Canada now requires that some additional criteria be demonstrated as part of plans for schools, and that both provincial and local public health authorities have a role in determining whether schools are ready to accept students from outside Canada (please see Appendix 1 for criteria).

All school boards intending to accept students from outside Canada must have plans in place that include specific details about how they will meet the provincial and federal criteria to demonstrate readiness (as described further below). Plans should be submitted to the ministry to facilitate the ministry providing the federal government with an ongoing list of DLIs that have been deemed ready. That list will be updated regularly as plans are submitted to the ministry and the ministry shares them with the necessary local and provincial officials.

School boards in Ontario have the option to provide online learning for international students for the partial or full 2020-21 school year. The ministry will support an ongoing review process, without specific deadlines, as we anticipate that school boards may transition international students from online learning to in-person learning in Ontario throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Please note that school boards that do not plan to enroll international students in the 2020-21 school year do not need to provide a response. Health Canada has also indicated that it will review a sample of school board plans in collaboration with Ontario officials to confirm the plans meet federal expectations. The Ministry of Education will work with Health Canada on this request and provide further updates to you as needed.

A checklist has been developed to assist school boards in submitting their plans to the ministry. Please do not submit your plans to your local public health unit. The ministry, working with other government partners, will facilitate the review of your plans, including working with local public health officials for the necessary review and approvals.

I would draw your attention to the following criteria in particular: as part of your plans, school boards will need to address how they will oversee the 14-day quarantine period for all international students coming to Ontario from outside of Canada. This should include transporting arriving international students from the airport to their quarantine or isolation location and supporting and regularly checking in on those students to ensure they complete the required 14-day quarantine.

In addition, while this is not a federal requirement, the Ontario government is requiring that school boards ensure that both international and domestic students who are in quarantine as a result of having entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies are tested for the COVID-19 virus at least once during their quarantine period. This requirement is over and above the normal protocols for individuals who show symptoms.

Please note that submission of a plan will not guarantee that school boards will be able to welcome international students in the 2020-21 school year and the timelines for confirmation of approval will vary, though efforts will be made to prioritize review and approval by the multiple provincial government partners as expeditiously as possible.

Again, following local and provincial review and approval, the plans will need to be submitted to the Government of Canada which has the sole discretion regarding the decision to allow international students to enter Canada.

Please note that the ministry will not be providing any additional funding to boards to support these requirements.

As part of your submission to the ministry, please complete and include the attached Attestation for School Boards – Public Health Institutional Readiness Requirements for International Students in Ontario. Please also include a board resolution approving an international student program that meets current federal and provincial requirements for the 2020-21 school year.

Submissions should be sent to international.education@ontario.ca. If you have any questions, please contact **Matt Bera, Manager (A), Private Schools and International Education Unit (PSIE) at matthew.bera@Ontario.ca**

Thank you for your ongoing work in preparing for the Fall semester including the preparation of comprehensive plans.

Sincerely,

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister

Attachments

c: Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)

Note de service

Destinataires : Directions de l'éducation
Administrations scolaires
Expéditrice : Nancy Naylor
Sous-ministre

Je vous écris aujourd'hui pour vous faire part des exigences relatives à l'accueil des étudiants provenant de l'extérieur du Canada et venant en Ontario pour l'année scolaire 2020-2021.

L'Ontario participe aux discussions constantes avec le gouvernement du Canada à propos des moyens de confirmer et d'étayer l'état de préparation des écoles en vue d'accueillir de nouveau les étudiants étrangers. Le gouvernement du Canada a transmis certaines directives et instructions en juillet; puis, le 7 août 2020, la ministre de la Santé, l'honorable Christine Elliott, a reçu une lettre de Santé Canada faisant état d'autres exigences auxquelles les établissements d'enseignement désignés (EED) doivent se conformer afin d'accueillir des étudiants étrangers.

Les directives de Santé Canada exigent maintenant que certains critères supplémentaires soient démontrés dans le cadre des plans des écoles, et que les autorités provinciales et locales de la santé publique jouent un rôle pour ce qui est de déterminer si les écoles sont prêtes à recevoir des étudiants provenant de l'extérieur du Canada (voir les critères à l'annexe 1).

Tous les conseils scolaires qui ont l'intention d'accepter des étudiants provenant de l'extérieur du Canada doivent avoir élaboré des plans qui doivent comprendre des détails précis sur la façon dont

les conseils scolaires répondront aux critères provinciaux et fédéraux pour démontrer leur état de préparation (comme il est décrit ci-dessous). Les plans doivent être soumis au ministère afin de faciliter la transmission au gouvernement fédéral d'une liste continue des EED jugés prêts. Cette liste sera mise à jour régulièrement à mesure que les plans seront soumis au ministère et qu'il les partagera avec les représentants locaux et provinciaux nécessaires.

Les conseils scolaires de l'Ontario ont la possibilité d'offrir de l'apprentissage en ligne aux étudiants étrangers pendant une partie de l'année scolaire 2020-2021 ou tout au long de celle-ci. Le ministère appuiera un processus d'examen continu, sans échéances précises, car nous prévoyons que les écoles privées pourront faire passer les étudiants étrangers de l'instruction en ligne à l'instruction en personne en Ontario tout au long de l'année scolaire 2020-2021.

Veuillez noter qu'il n'est pas nécessaire, pour les conseils scolaires qui ne prévoient pas accepter d'étudiants étrangers pour l'année scolaire 2020-2021, de fournir une réponse.

Santé Canada a également fait savoir qu'il examinera un échantillon de plans d'écoles en collaboration avec des fonctionnaires de l'Ontario pour confirmer que ces plans donnent suite aux attentes fédérales. Le ministère de l'Éducation collaborera avec Santé Canada relativement à cette demande et vous fournira d'autres mises à jour au besoin.

Une liste de vérification a été élaborée pour aider les conseils scolaires à soumettre leurs plans au ministère. Nous vous prions de ne pas soumettre vos plans à votre bureau de santé publique local. Le ministère, en collaboration avec d'autres partenaires gouvernementaux, facilitera l'examen de vos plans, notamment en travaillant avec les autorités de santé publique locale pour l'examen et les approbations nécessaires.

J'aimerais attirer votre attention sur les critères suivants en particulier : dans le cadre de leurs plans, les conseils scolaires devront indiquer quelles mesures ils prévoient prendre afin d'assurer l'application de l'exigence de quarantaine de 14 jours pour tous les étudiants étrangers qui viennent en Ontario. Ces mesures devraient comprendre le transport des étudiants étrangers de l'aéroport jusqu'au site de quarantaine ou de confinement, de pair avec un suivi régulier de ces étudiants pour s'assurer qu'ils demeurent en quarantaine pendant les 14 jours requis.

En outre, bien qu'il ne s'agisse pas d'une exigence fédérale, le gouvernement de l'Ontario exige que les conseils scolaires veillent à ce que les étudiants canadiens et étrangers qui sont en quarantaine à la suite de leur entrée au Canada dans les deux semaines précédant la date de début de leurs études passent au moins un test de dépistage de la COVID-19 pendant la période de quarantaine. Cette exigence est en complément des protocoles habituels pour les personnes qui présentent des symptômes.

Il convient de préciser que la présentation d'un plan ne garantit pas que les écoles pourront accueillir des étudiants étrangers pour l'année scolaire 2020-2021 et que les délais de confirmation de l'approbation varieront. Toutefois, des efforts seront déployés pour accorder la priorité à l'examen et à l'approbation par les multiples partenaires des gouvernements provinciaux le plus rapidement possible.

Encore une fois, après examen et approbation à l'échelle locale et provinciale, les plans devront être soumis au gouvernement du Canada, qui a le pouvoir discrétionnaire exclusif d'autoriser des étudiants étrangers à entrer au Canada.

Veuillez noter que le ministère ne fournira aucun financement supplémentaire aux conseils scolaires pour qu'ils satisfassent à ces exigences.

Aux fins de votre présentation au ministère, veuillez remplir et joindre le document ci-joint, intitulé « Attestation pour les conseils scolaires – Exigences de santé publique en matière de l'état de préparation des établissements pour l'accueil des étudiants étrangers en Ontario ». Veuillez également inclure une résolution du conseil approuvant un programme visant les étudiants étrangers qui satisfait aux exigences fédérales et provinciales actuelles applicables à l'année scolaire 2020-2021.

Les plans peuvent être soumis à international.education@ontario.ca. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez communiquer avec **Matt Bera, chef (par intérim), Unité d'inspection des écoles privées et de l'éducation internationale** à matthew.bera@ontario.ca.

Je vous remercie de vos efforts constants pour préparer la session d'automne, ce qui inclut l'élaboration de plans détaillés pour l'accueil des étudiants étrangers.

Je vous prie d'agréer mes salutations distinguées.

Nancy Naylor
Sous-ministre

Pièces jointes

c: Directeur général, Conseil ontarien des directions de l'éducation (CODE)

**ATTESTATION FOR K-12 PUBLIC/PRIVATE DESIGNATED LEARNING INSTITUTIONS —
FRAMEWORK TO ENSURE INSTITUTIONAL READINESS TO ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO ONTARIO**

This Attestation sets out a comprehensive framework that, if attested to, will support the approval of K-12 Designated Learning Institutions' readiness plans to accept international students to Ontario. Institutional international students' readiness plans must meet all federal and provincial requirements. This Attestation requires K-12 public and private institutions to:

1. Reconfirm it is aware of and understands the federal requirements first set out in the *Attestation for Public/Private Designated Learning Institutions (DLI) – Public Health Institutional Readiness Requirements for International Students in Ontario (issued on August 15, 2020)* with regards to pre-arrival, quarantine, and post-quarantine; and
2. Attest that it is aware of and understands the provincial health and safety requirements with regards to the DLI's overall COVID-19 response plan, outbreak and case management plan, mandatory testing, quarantine and post-quarantine requirements.

By signing this form, I, Mark Fisher, attest to being aware of and understanding the requirements set out in the table below and confirm that the requirements are included in the institutional international students' readiness plan for Thames Valley District School Board and will be wholly implemented for the period of time that the institution appears on the approved DLI list.

By signing this form, I further attest that I have authority to bind Thames Valley District School Board.



Mark Fisher
Director of Education

2020 12 08

(Date)

This Attestation, and any other documents to be delivered in connection with this Attestation, is signed when the party's signature is delivered by email. Electronic signatures will be treated in all respects as having the same force and effect as original signatures.

In the event that the version of your DLI's readiness plan currently with the ministry does not meet the requirements below, please submit an updated readiness plan with this signed Attestation to the ministry.

Mark With (x) To Confirm	Plan Requirements	Comments Include page # references to plan
Section A: Overall COVID-19 Response Requirements for K-12 Private Schools and School Boards		
X	<p>1. Compliance with federal, provincial and local health guidelines - The DLI attests that it will comply with federal, provincial, and local health guidelines and protocols for businesses and other organizations such as school boards and private schools, consistent with the Government of Ontario's plan for reopening the province in stages: https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario-stages.</p> <p>The DLI will meet the requirements set out in this table for as long as it appears on the federal list of approved designated learning institutions.</p>	Attestation only
	<p>2. Outbreak and Case Management Plan: The DLI has a plan in place to support local public health unit with its case management and outbreak response in its community. This plan is developed in conjunction with relevant local public health units and the plan aligns with local and provincial public health guidelines.</p> <p>Specifically, the Outbreak and Case Management Plan includes:</p>	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A commitment and protocols to enable the DLI's full cooperation in assisting local public health units in their outbreak investigation and management.</i> 	<p>TVDSB Protocol 3, pg.1-3</p> <p>CHN RM Quarantine Role</p>
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A clearly identified liaison who can act as the point person for the institution to liaise with relevant authorities (e.g. EDU, local public health unit).</i> 	<p>TVDSB Protocol 3, pg.2</p> <p>TVDSB Communication Tree Form</p>

X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A clear communication plan for its entire community (staff and students) on daily screening/symptom monitoring prior to coming onto the campus and staying at home when symptomatic.</i> 	Checklist to Start School Form TVDSB Protocol 3, pg. 5 TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 1-3, 8-9 CHN COVID Planning for Students, pg. 1
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Identification of nearby COVID-19 assessment centres where international students and their co-arriving family members can get tested.</i> 	COVID-19 Testing Requirements Form
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>In the event of a suspected or confirmed case in an on-campus residential setting, a plan to ensure successful self-isolation of this individual, including provision of self-isolation facilities and essential services to support this isolation.</i> 	n/a - no on-campus residential setting
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The DLI has a protocol for publicly communicating outbreaks of COVID-19 affecting or implicating international students and any immediate family members to the entire school community (staff and students) including, but not limited to, signage posted at entrances and in public spaces, and through online communication, such as websites, social media, and email.</i> 	TVDSB Communication Tree Form TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 7 TVDSB Protocol 3, pg. 2 TVDSB website – COVID Alerts -all TVDSB schools are listed with a current

		<i>count of active and resolved cases</i>
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DLI has a protocol for notifying relevant local, provincial, and/or federal law enforcement authorities of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any compliance issues within the 14-day mandatory quarantine period to law enforcement authorities; and Any cases of COVID-19 infection during the 14-day mandatory quarantine period to local public health units and the Ministry of Education. 	TVDSB Protocol 3, pg.1 TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 5 CHN RM Quarantine Role
	3. DLI's Overall COVID-19 response plan and protocols: The DLI confirms that it has all the protocols in place to ensure the health and safety of its international and domestic students and staff. In particular:	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for physical distancing, capacity limits, and mask requirements for staff and students, which comply with applicable requirements and local public health guidelines 	TVDSB Protocol 1 TVDSB Protocol 3
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for hand hygiene 	TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 1, 5, 9,
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for face covering (i.e. non-medical masks) 	TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 9
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for environmental cleaning (e.g., see <u>Public Health Ontario's Cleaning and Disinfection for Public Settings</u>) 	TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 9
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for daily symptom screening 	Checklist to Start School Form TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 8
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for communicating infection prevention and control strategies for students and staff 	TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 10
Section B: Pre-Arrival Requirements		
	1. Requirements are communicated to international students and their co-arriving immediate family members <i>in advance</i> of travel to Canada that explains the following:	

X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The legal requirement for a 14-day quarantine.</i> 	TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3-4 Addendum, pg. 3 CHN RM Quarantine Role CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 1
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Consequences for breaching quarantine that make specific reference to the Quarantine Act and any DLI-specific policies as relevant.</i> 	TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 1 CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 1, 4, 7, 9
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>An explanation of the need for students to sign an attestation or pledge confirming their understanding of their pre-arrival and quarantine requirements.</i> 	Addendum, pg. 3-4 Quarantine/Self-Isolation Form CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 7-9
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Details for any institutional policies established by the DLI for this group of students, including but not limited to, additional costs and fees that may be charged to students in order to provide quarantine services during the 14-day</i> 	Addendum CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9

	<i>initial period as well any additional quarantine periods should the student become a confirmed case.</i>	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mandatory 14-day quarantine by international students and co-arriving immediate family members is provided and/or approved by the DLI:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>At the institution; or</i> ○ <i>At a private quarantine location that meets the requirements set out under 14-Day Quarantine Requirements, with arrangements made prior to arrival and assessed to be acceptable in advance by the DLI and by the Government of Canada at the time and point of entry.</i> 	TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3-5 TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide Quarantine/Self-Isolation Plan CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg.1
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Post-arrival logistics which fully detail the quarantine accommodations and logistics and how any medical care or testing will be facilitated as required during their quarantine.</i> 	TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3-6 CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9 CHN RM Quarantine Role
X	2. As a best practice, international students and their co-arriving immediate family members are encouraged to download the Government of Canada ArriveCAN application prior to arrival at the border and complete the information required.	TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide, p.6 TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 2 CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 1

X	<p>3. Institutions provide appropriate transportation of international students and their co-arriving immediate family members to their quarantine location consistent with Government of Canada recommendations (i.e., wearing a mask for onward domestic travel; travelling directly to place of quarantine) and plan fully details of transportation arrangements from airport to the quarantine location.</p>	<p>Quarantine/Self-Isolation Form</p> <p>TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3</p> <p>CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 3</p> <p>CHN RM Quarantine Role</p>
X	<p>4. Mandatory 14-day quarantine by international students and co-arriving immediate family members is provided at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The institution; or • A private quarantine location that meets the requirements set out under 14-Day Quarantine Requirements, with arrangements made prior to arrival and assessed to be acceptable in advance by the DLI and by the Government of Canada at the time and point of entry. <p>Post-arrival logistics should fully detail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarantine accommodations and logistics • How any medical care or testing will be facilitated as required during their quarantine 	<p>Quarantine/Self-Isolation Form</p> <p>TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3-6</p> <p>COVID-19 Testing Requirements Form</p> <p>CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9</p> <p>CHN RM Quarantine Role</p> <p>CHN COVID Planning for Hosts</p>
X	<p>5. Where there are additional costs or fees charged by the DLI to students as a result of this plan, the DLI will ensure and confirm with students in writing that:</p>	<p>Addendum, pg. 2-3</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> students are fully aware and have agreed to all costs in advance of departure for Canada; and any student who chooses not to proceed with their education/training as a result of these additional costs is provided with appropriate refunds of any other fees or tuition paid in advance in accordance with any refund policies and refund requirements that apply to the DLI. 	CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 1
X	6. For DLIs that are hosting underaged students (under 18 years old), clear designation of custodian status and health care authorization/guardianship.	Addendum, pg. 2-3 TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 5 <i>TVDSB has always required all international students to have a local Custodian, even those students who live with a parent in Ontario (unless that parent is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident).</i>
Section C: 14-Day Quarantine Requirements		
	1. Quarantine arrangements for international students and co-arriving immediate family members meet the minimum requirements listed below:	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A transportation plan on how the arriving students and their immediate family members will be travelling from their port of entry to their quarantine accommodation that includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Protocols for students and co-arriving immediate family members to be met by the DLI's representative or designate at the point of entry;</i> <i>Protocols for students and co-arriving family to be provided, on arrival, with a new medical mask by the DLI representative or their host</i> 	TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide, p. 6-9 Addendum, pg. 3 TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3

	<p><i>designate and reminded to practice physical distancing and hand hygiene throughout travel;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>o Protocols for students and co-arriving family members to be actively screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to meeting the DLI representative at the port of entry;</i> <i>o Protocols for students and co-arriving family members to be taken to their quarantine accommodation in a private transportation arranged by the DLI;</i> <i>o Confirmation that there will be no planned or unplanned stops during travel to the quarantine site and that students and co-arriving family members are expected to arrive at their accommodation directly from their port of entry.</i> <p><i>Note: If it is not feasible for a DLI representative or designate to meet students/co-arriving immediate family members at the point of entry, institutions should provide contact information of a DLI representative to the students/co-arriving immediate family members in case any assistance is required, and make arrangements for a virtual check-in post-arrival to ensure that the above stated protocols are followed and provide contact details for a DLI representative or designate that students may contact if needed.</i></p>	<p>Quarantine/Self Isolation Plan</p> <p>CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9</p> <p>CHN RM Quarantine Role</p>
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Detailed quarantine accommodation options and all associated logistics, that include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>o A description of the accommodation setting;</i> <i>o Each student or student family unit having their own room with a private bathroom;</i> <i>o Protocols for appropriate accommodations to properly support disabilities or other health conditions.</i> 	<p>Quarantine/Self Isolation Plan</p> <p>TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 3-5</p> <p>TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide, p. 9-10</p> <p>CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 3</p>

		CHN RM Quarantine Role CHN Policy AODA
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistics for supporting students and their family members with essential needs throughout the full duration of the quarantine period, that at a minimum must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food and water Medical care (virtual or in-person as required), including testing Mental health supports Social supports Phone or internet services Environmental cleaning protocols 	14-Day Activity Guide COVID-19 Testing Requirements Form CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 4-5 CHN RM Quarantine Role CHN COVID Planning for Hosts CHN Safe Arrival Welcome Calendar
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocols for the DLI or designate of the DLI to provide daily monitoring of the students and their immediate family for the duration of their quarantine, through phone calls, texts, or emails by DLI representative or their designate for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of new symptoms Compliance with the quarantine Ensuring their essential needs are met 	TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 1, 4 CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 4-5 CHN RM Quarantine Role

		CHN COVID-19 Planning for Hosts Contact Information Form TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 4 CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 4-5 CHN RM Quarantine Role CHN COVID Planning for Hosts
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Protocols and mechanisms for students and their family members to notify the DLI representative or their host designate if they develop symptoms and require medical care, including COVID-19 testing.</i> 	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Definitions of protocols, roles and responsibilities for all DLI staff, representatives, and/or designates that include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The DLI's Public Health Institutional Readiness Plan</i> ○ <i>Liaising with and supporting public health units in case and outbreak management as appropriate</i> ○ <i>Training on COVID-19 infection prevention and control practices, including how to use personal protective equipment as required</i> ○ <i>Provision of personal protective equipment and other resources required to complete their tasks</i> ○ <i>Provision of all necessary materials and supports to help students and their families to successfully complete their quarantine.</i> 	TVDSB Communication Tree TVDSB Protocol 3 TVDSB Protocol 1 Quarantine/Self-Isolation Plan TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol

		TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide
	2. Mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices. Plans must include:	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Communications plans that provide COVID-19 resources and information to students and their families that are accessible (e.g., plain language, pictures, symbols, available as needed in languages other than English and French as appropriate by students).</i> 	TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide Addendum, pg. 4 CHN COVID Communication Protocol <i>CHN's COVID -19 resources are available on their website in Spanish, Mandarin, French, Russian, Vietnamese, Japanese, Korean and Portuguese</i>
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Protocols and mechanisms for ensuring that students and their immediate co-arriving family members have access to, or are linked to culturally appropriate:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Primary care health services;</i> <i>Mental health services and supports;</i> <i>Social services and community organizations as relevant to each student's needs;</i> <i>Anti-racism, and COVID-19 stigma supports; and</i> <i>Mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices.</i> 	Post Arrival Student Resources <i>International Education staff will connect students, as needed, with internal board support (SWIS, Social Workers – including a dedicated International/Newcomer Social Worker, Trauma Response Team, Psychological Supports)</i>

		CHN Safe Arrival Welcome Calendar CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 4-5 CHN COVID Planning for Hosts
Section D: Post-Quarantine Requirements		
	The DLI will continue to support international students and any immediate family members after they complete their 14-day quarantine period and have the following protocols in place:	
X	1. <i>Protocols for maintaining records of the student and their immediate co-arriving family's completion of the quarantine period.</i>	Checklist to Start School Form Quarantine/Self-Isolation Form TVDSB Protocol 1, pg. 12 <i>International Education Staff will contact students in quarantine everyday and make notes of these interactions in True North, our international student database.</i>
X	2. <i>Protocols for ongoing communication and resources on COVID-19 provided to students following quarantine.</i>	Post Arrival Student Resources TVDSB website – COVID Alerts

		CHN COVID Planning for Students, pg. 1
X	<p>3. <i>Protocols and mechanisms for ensuring that students and their immediate co-arriving family members have access to, or are linked to culturally appropriate:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Primary care health services;</i> • <i>Mental health services and supports;</i> • <i>Social services and community organizations as relevant to each student's needs;</i> • <i>Anti-racism, and COVID-19 stigma supports; and</i> • <i>Mitigation of social barriers to support student compliance with individual COVID-19 infection control practices.</i> 	Post Arrival Student Resources CHN Safe Arrival Welcome Calendar CHN COVID Planning for Hosts
X	<p>4. <i>Confirmation that DLIs and/or their host designates are prepared to continue providing all necessary quarantine supports as outlined in Section C should the student and/or their co-arriving family members require an extension of their quarantine period (i.e., tested positive for COVID-19 – see Section E).</i></p>	Post Arrival Student Resources CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 5 CHN Rm Quarantine Role
Section E: COVID-19 Testing for Institutions Welcoming International/Domestic Students from Outside Canada		
	<p>International and domestic students, as well as co-arriving immediate family members of international students, who are in quarantine as a result of having entered Canada within two weeks prior to the start of their studies are tested for the COVID-19 virus at least once during their quarantine period.</p> <p>Please note that international students will continue to qualify for publicly-funded testing and testing is available at an assessment centre or a participating pharmacy by appointment only and free of charge. However, in order for asymptomatic international students to access testing at a publicly-funding assessment centre they must have passed their 14-day quarantine period.</p> <p>Symptomatic students should be tested, as soon as possible, and can make an appointment at assessment centres (not at pharmacies) or can be tested at the institution's on-site testing centre.</p>	

	Plans must include the following:	
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Protocols for implementing COVID-19 testing, arranged for by the DLI, of all students who have entered Canada prior to the start of their studies by Day 14 of their quarantine</i> 	TVDSB IE Student Arrival Guide p. 10 Checklist to Start School Form CHN Safe Arrival Protocol 10.9, pg. 1-3 CHN Rm Quarantine Role
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Where testing will not take place in the same site as the quarantine, plans must provide full details of transportation to and from the testing site provided by the DLI that include provision of non-medical masks, any other personal protective equipment, social distancing, and protocols for limiting any unnecessary contact with any other person while outside of quarantine for testing purposes. DLIs are to arrange and support students in meeting this requirement as much as possible.</i> 	COVID-19 Testing Requirements Form TVDSB IE Program Safe Arrival Protocol, pg. 5 CHN Rm Quarantine Role
Section F – School board resolution (to be completed by school boards only)		
X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>School board resolution approving an international student program that meets current federal and provincial requirements for the 2020-21 school year.</i> 	To be submitted after the January 12, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting

Welcoming International Students Back Safely



Thames Valley District School Board



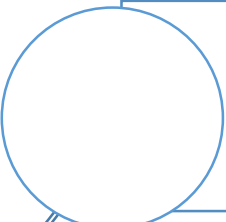
Overview

An empty white circle with a blue outline, connected by a thin blue line to the first text box.

Outline requirements for school boards to demonstrate a readiness to welcome international students

An empty white circle with a blue outline, connected by a thin blue line to the second text box.

Demonstrate the readiness of TVDSB to safely welcome international students back into our communities

An empty white circle with a blue outline, connected by a thin blue line to the third text box.

Seek a Board resolution supporting the TVDSB International Education program in compliance with new requirements



Federal and Provincial Requirements for School Boards

Pre-Arrival Period

Documented quarantine
plan

Proof of essential nature
of entry

ArriveCAN App and
negative COVID test

Direct transportation to
quarantine location



Federal and Provincial Requirements for School Boards

Quarantine Period

Daily monitoring of symptoms (ArriveCAN)

Communication protocols

Mental health and engagement

COVID test



Federal and Provincial Requirements for School Boards

Post Quarantine Period

Compliance with infection control practices

Mental and physical supports

COVID stigma supports

Self-isolation supports if required



TVDSB Readiness Plan

Pre-Arrival

- Pre-Arrival Student Guide
- Quarantine Plan form
- Updated Student Participation Agreement

Quarantine

- 14-Day Activity Calendar
- Daily check-ins
- COVID test requirement

Post Quarantine

- Infection control protocol training
- Connect students with SWIS
- On-going communication



Recommendation

That the TVDSB Board of Trustees approve the resolution that:

In compliance with the new public health guidelines that have been established by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Canadian Federal Government for accepting international students, we remain committed to our International Education students and program.