

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC 'SEPTEMBER READY' PROJECT TEAM UPDATES STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

St. Clair Catholic's *September Ready* safe return to school project continues, as the Board plans for three possible options, as outlined by the Ministry of Education last June. Final direction will come from the Ministry and public health in August.

"Parents and staff can be assured that our *September Ready* safe return to school plan is on target," says Deb Crawford, Director of Education. "It is our pledge that 2020-2021 will be a year of excellence in Catholic education for students and staff, with safety and wellness as our top priorities."

One of the key areas of planning for the *September Ready* safe return to school project is in Academic Operations, which is being led by a team of experienced principals at both the elementary and secondary level. More than 50 considerations have been identified following extensive consultations with system leaders and the unions and associations representing staff. The team's assignment now is to dig into each of these key areas to find workable solutions.

Some key considerations include – school safety, mental wellness, staff workload, transportation, school planning and school communications.

Read the complete list of key considerations at: https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/category/september-ready/

"In each and every one of these identified areas, the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is our first priority," says Mrs. Crawford. "We continue to work with the Medical Officers of Health for Lambton and Chatham-Kent, as we develop our *September Ready* safe return to school plan."

The Board is also collaborating with its coterminous school boards, and will continue to take direction from the Ministry of Education, as planning moves forward.

For regular updates from the *September Ready* planning team, go to: <u>https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/category/september-ready/</u>