



McCaig Elementary

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EDUCATION,
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COMMISSION SCOLAIRE SIR-WILFRID-LAURIER
SIR WILFRID LAURIER SCHOOL BOARD
www.swlauriersb.qc.ca

October 22, 2020

Dear Parents,

As you are probably aware, a modification to the Basic School Regulation was announced by the government on October 7th. For this year only, two report cards will be sent to parents instead of three. The first report card will be produced and made available to parents no later than January 22nd and the second report card, no later than July 10th.

On an exceptional basis, the report card normally produced and made available to parents by November 20th will not be issued. The dates for the end of terms have been modified and each of the two terms will have a weighting of 50%.

Despite the change to two report cards, teachers are still required to communicate with parents, in writing, no later than November 20th. This first communication will come in the form of a progress report. The November progress report will replace the progress report which, in a normal year, is made available to parents by October 15th. So, there will not be a report card in November; instead a progress report will go out in November and the usual October progress report will not go out to parents.

This FIRST November communication will still be a summary of the learning accomplished by your child since the start of the year, your child's progress and their behaviour. At first, only FSL, ELA and Math were to have been included in the October progress report. However, since the progress report will now go out in November, all teachers will make a designation for all subjects on the first communication/progress report.

The date of the parent-teacher interviews has not changed. Parent-teacher interviews will still be held, as originally scheduled, on November 26th, 2020, by appointment, via zoom. The parent teacher interviews have an even greater importance this year. Teachers will make themselves available to meet with all parents who are interested in doing so. This will complement the written communication/progress report with a more personal and reassuring interaction.

The first formal report card will be made available to parents in January 2021. This report will be very thorough in order to provide parents with as much relevant information and detail as possible. The first report card will include results for each subject and competency.



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In addition, comments will be provided on one of the four additional cross-curricular competencies (exercises critical judgment, organizes his or her work, communicates effectively, and works in a team) in both terms.

A modification has been made to reduce the weighting of the end of year Ministry examinations written in elementary. These examinations, which will also be reduced in length, will count for 10% of a student's final result this year, instead of 20%. More specific information regarding the content of the report card and the form that compulsory end of year examinations for students will take this year, will be sent to parents in the coming weeks.

School teams have been asked to reflect on the locally administered evaluations carried out with their students, with the goal of demonstrating greater flexibility in this exceptional year in order to reduce the pressure on students and school staff by limiting the number of in-school evaluations.

The *Standards and Procedures of Evaluation* document which is always distributed to parents with the first communication, will be modified this year to reflect the new reality described above. This document describes *how* parents will be informed about the progress of their child. The topics covered in this document include:

- The main evaluations for each subject.
- Examinations and their value.
- How and when will parents be communicated with.
- What learning will be evaluated for each term.
- Which competencies or components in languages, math and science will receive marks in terms 1 and 2.
- How will comments be formulated and which general competencies will receive comments.
- The weight of each term and the deadline dates for distribution
- of the progress report and report cards.
- Cross Curricular Competencies

Finally, as a result of the modifications to the BSR announced by the government on October 7th, the school has had to adjust the 2020-21 school calendar. The main change is the movement of the January 25th ped day to January 15th. The changes also reflect the fact that we will now have two report cards and two terms, instead of three, and the rescheduling of the progress report from October to November. A revised calendar reflecting these changes will be sent to you.

Richard Mason
Principal
McCaig Elementary