



June 27, 2019

Dear families,

The safety of our students remains one of our top priorities. As part of our efforts to ensure the safety of the students in our care, in the 2019-2020 school year, we will be introducing a new communications system that will send text messages to parents/guardians for emergency purposes only.

1. Our safe arrivals program is in place so we can account for the whereabouts of absent students. If you have not informed the school of your child's absence in advance, the school will take steps to ensure your child is safe. This includes sending an automated text message to parents/guardians to confirm the child's whereabouts if we cannot reach you by phone.
2. Earlier in the year, we informed you that there may be rare occasions when emergency severe winter weather events occur and we need to close schools and Board locations. This is different from bus cancellations on inclement weather days, when schools are kept open. In our efforts to ensure that families are notified if there are closures, parents/guardians will receive a text notification. This is in addition to providing notification through Board and school websites, social media and local media.

Parents/guardians will only receive text messages for these two scenarios, and will have the ability to opt out of receiving text messages should they choose. Additional information will be shared with families in the fall, including how to opt out and how to ensure your child's school has the correct contact information.

Thank you for partnering with us to ensure we are providing a safe, caring and welcoming environment for all of our students.