COVID-19: Ontario Ministry of Education Response Presentation to UNESCO
Ontario has made significant progress to support students during school closures and ensure the completion of the 2019-20 school year for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12.
Based on the advice from Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Minister of Education ordered all elementary and secondary schools to close. Closures have been extended (currently until May).
Areas of Progress

- Re-established teacher-led learning and provided guidance to school boards on minimum requirements
- Ensured that all students on track to graduate, will graduate, including removing barriers to post-secondary education
- Provided teachers with training on online and remote learning delivery
- Launched “Ontario Together” to support equity of access to technology and other supports
- Ensured that while these plans are underway, students and families have access to a curated list of the best K-12 educational resources available without the need for accounts and passwords
Provincial Guidance to School Boards: Resuming Teacher-Led Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade:</th>
<th>Hours per week:</th>
<th>Curriculum focus:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten to Grade 3</td>
<td>5 hours per week</td>
<td>Literacy and math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 4 to 6</td>
<td>5 hours per week</td>
<td>Literacy, math, science and social studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 7 to 8</td>
<td>10 hours per week</td>
<td>Math, literacy, science and social studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 9 to 12</td>
<td>3 hours of work per course per week (x 4 courses)</td>
<td>High school credits and graduation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students on track to graduate in 2019-2020 school year, will graduate.
Teacher Training on Remote Teaching and Learning

Over 15,000 teachers trained to-date:
• Basic technical training on Ontario’s Learning Management System
• Basic pedagogical training in virtual learning delivery
• Advanced topics:
  • supporting students with special education needs
  • supporting students’ mental health
  • creating authentic assessment and evaluation opportunities
  • supporting Kindergarten learners

Just-in-time learning:
• 30+ ‘One-Minute Workflow’ videos which demonstrate how to use specific tools
• Five-minute videos on effective pedagogical use of specific tools
Equity of Access to Technology

- School boards are doing outreach to families to determine needs within their boards and working on local solutions.

- “Ontario Together” portal: strengthen partnerships to provide learning solutions focused on:
  - Free or low-cost learning resources and supports for students, parents, and educators
  - Access to devices such as computers, tablets, and portable wi-fi hotspots for families that need the supports.
  - Other ideas, goods, or services, for example, to support mental health and students with special education needs.

- The ministry is also engaging with TVO/TFO to leverage broadcasting capacity.
Learn at Home Site: Supports for Students and Parents

On March 20, the government launched Learn at Home/Apprendre à la maison, an online portal that provides a wide variety of educational resources for parents and students to access at home.

Over 2.8 million unique page visits
Includes dual languages (French and English):
• High School Courses
• TVO Mathify (tutoring services in math)
• Curated educational resources across all subjects and grades, including Math, English, Arts, Science, Physical Education
Factors Contributing to Progress

- Quick and clear direction to schools – Provincial Guidance on minimum requirements for teacher-led learning
- Leveraging technology in place / Learning Management Systems
- Partnerships with broadcasting agencies
- Ongoing and regular communication with all stakeholders
- Work across government
- Learning from other jurisdictions