



## MEMO

**To:** All Principals/Teaching Staff

**From:** Ed Walsh, Associate Director of Education (Programs and Human Resources)

**Date:** July 20, 2020

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In accordance with the Schools Act, 1997, the Honourable Brian Warr, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, has advised that the opening day for teachers for school year 2020-21 has been changed to **Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020**.

- Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020 will be an administration day.
- Thursday, Sept. 3; Friday, Sept. 4; and Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020 will be Professional Learning days.
- Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020 will be the first day of school for students, as originally planned.

This early start for administrators and teaching staff will allow three (3) days for the delivery of essential professional learning and preparation for school reopening in what we anticipate will be a very different September school environment. **However, it is important to note that these three (3) days will be added to the 2020-21 school holiday calendar, with options being put to a vote early in the school year.**

As a District, we support this change, as we know there will be many new health and safety-related procedures and protocols for school staff to learn and administer as we prepare for school reopening.

We thank you in advance for your adjustment to this new start date, as determined by the Minister, and for your continued professionalism and commitment to student learning during this unusual time.

cc: All ADs, All Directors, All Directors of Schools, All Program Specialists