

# YORK MEMORIAL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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## RE: Update on school operations

Good afternoon, students and parents. We were so very pleased to welcome back students and staff today after classes were cancelled for several days last week following a fire at the York Memorial CI building. Our collective focus since the fire has been squarely on helping our students and staff process what happened and on preparing to welcome students back to classes this week, along with all the myriad details that accompany that. After an emotional week and a flurry of activity to get ready, we feel like we are on the road to getting back on track to teaching and learning. There is still plenty to do of course, but we are taking things one step at a time, and today was a big step to be sure.

I want to recognize my amazing staff for their herculean efforts. I'm so proud to lead this team of dedicated professionals. And our students' resilience and desire to learn, even in the face of this terrible event, is nothing short of remarkable. We've also had incredible assistance from the wonderful, welcoming George Harvey CI school community led by Principal Sam Miceli. Ours is a community that supports one another when there is great need and I think it speaks volumes about our two schools to see such a co-operative, collegial spirit. TDSB has been there for us too, particularly School Superintendent Marguerite Campbell, and will continue to be with us every step of the way.

As a reminder, we are hosting a meeting for current families and staff of York Memo and George Harvey CI on Tuesday night at 7:00 pm in the auditorium at George Harvey CI. This will allow us an opportunity to review events that led us to this point, provide details of the plan for the final weeks of the school year, and respond as best we can to any questions you may have.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Regards,

Donna Drummond  
(Principal)