

**October 16, 2020**

**Memorandum to:** Directors of Education  
School Authorities

**From:** Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

**Subject:** PHU Access to COVID-19 School Absence Reporting Tool

Thank you for the ongoing work you and your teams are doing to ensure health and safety measures are being followed in your schools and your collaboration in daily reporting.

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on Public Health Unit access to the COVID-19 School Absence Online Reporting Tool.

The Ministry of Education is now granting PHU's access to the data collected in the [COVID-19 School Absence Reporting tool](#). This information will provide timely information on the impacts of COVID-19 at the school and school board level, which may be of value for PHUs as a community surveillance measure.

It is critical that boards continue to use the absence reporting tool in order to ensure the most up to date and accurate information is available. Schools boards should continue to be in contact with PHU's for any suspected cases of COVID-19 in the school community.

In addition, we are happy to share that the Board COVID-19 Dashboard is also now available to [access](#).

Please share this information with your schools' Principals and others as appropriate.

Thank you once again for your ongoing partnership in supporting safe and healthy school environments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister

c: Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'ontario (ACÉPO)

Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)  
Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)  
Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)  
Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)  
Executive Director, Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO)  
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