



THE EDUCATION CENTRE - AURORA

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Dear Graduate Student and Parents/Guardians:

As has been previously communicated, all YRDSB graduations for the 2019-2020 school year were postponed until Fall 2020.

While we had originally proposed different potential options to consider for this Fall, we are currently in a position where conducting them virtually is the only viable, safe option. Through consultation with York Region Public Health, and in the interests of the health and safety of our students, staff and families, we have been advised to avoid in-person gatherings. Regardless of social restrictions and limited numbers being considered for any face-to-face options, there is significant concern for the continuously changing situation upon us (increasing COVID cases in the community, flu season approaching, mixing of cohorts at any Graduation Ceremony).

As a result, all schools in the YRDSB will be developing Virtual Graduation ceremonies for all Elementary (Grade 8) graduates and Secondary (Grade 12) graduates from the 2019-2020 school year. We will be planning for speeches from the Director and Chair of the Board, and arrangements to include the recognition of each graduating student along with the Valedictorian Address. Given the scope of the planning for these virtual graduations, the ceremonies for all schools will take place in the last 2 weeks of November and schools will provide the details, including the specific date and time, format and platform in the next couple of weeks.

Further information will also be provided with respect to refunds to parents/graduates for gowns and caps, plus the distribution of Diplomas, Awards/Certificates and Yearbooks.

We appreciate how disappointing this news may be for graduating students and parents. While we continue our work to effectively plan within the conditions of the current pandemic, we will continue to maintain the safety of our students, staff and community as our utmost priority.

If you have any questions regarding the planning for the 2020 Graduation ceremonies, please contact us at the school.

Mr. Christopher Hilmer
Principal, Milliken Mills High School