



Henry Larsen Elementary School

1750 Sunview Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1C 5B3
Phone: 613-830-4634
Student Absentee Line: 613-830-0244
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Principal: Amanda Pruner
Vice-Principal: Dianne Morris
Office Administrator: Rose Sharpe
Office Assistant: Elizabeth Francis
Acting Chief Custodian: Brooke Taylor

Superintendent: Mary Jane Farrish 613-596-8211 Ext. 8821
Trustee: Sandra Schwartz 613-868-5249
School Council Chair: Melody Currie
School Council Email: sc-henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca
Twitter: [@HenryLarsenE](https://twitter.com/HenryLarsenE)
Website: <https://henrylarsenes.ocdsb.ca>

“Through Caring and Sharing We Learn”

Here are the School Messenger emails that we have sent to families during the month of January, 2022:

3 January 2022

Dear Henry Larsen Families,

We hope everyone had a safe and wonderful winter break. Unfortunately, we are once again faced with challenging times in education, as Premier Ford announced today a move to remote learning for Ontario students for the next two weeks. The staff here at Henry Larsen are committed and creative educators who will work to create a remote learning environment to continue your child’s high level of education. We know that this is not easy for families nor for students, but Henry Larsen students have shown us they can do it! Thank you for all that you do to support your children, especially moving into remote learning. We look forward to when we can return all together safely.

Access to Technology and/or Wifi:

If you require access to a Chromebook (please use the [linked Google Form](#)). The school has a limited number of devices available and may be able to lend one to you. If you do not have access to the internet because it is not available where you live, there are a small number of hotspots available. Please let us know if you need access to technology or wifi and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Families should also prepare for remote learning by doing the following:

- Plan the day using the school day schedule and routine;
- Review instructions for [signing in](#) to the [Google Classroom](#);
- Learn more about remote learning netiquette in [English](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#); and
- Take some time to watch these videos about [Google Meet](#) (scroll down to the Google Meet section, under “Videos” in [English](#) and [Arabic](#))

You can find instructions about how to access the Google Classroom and other information about [remote learning here](#).

School Schedule:

- On Wednesday, January 5th, students and educators will follow the regular school timetable for start time, nutrition breaks and recess. Students will have a total of 300 minutes of learning

time, some of that time will be teacher-led (synchronous) and some will be independent work on assigned tasks (asynchronous). Some subjects will take place asynchronously this week.

- The school day schedule is below. The teacher will provide more detailed information about the learning blocks, which subjects will be taught when, and when students will be learning online and when they will be working independently.

TIME	ACTIVITY	NOTES
8:30 am	Start School Bell	Please log into Google Meet at the start of the day. Daily attendance is taken at this time.
8:30 am	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
10:30 am	Nutrition Break (lunch)	Good time to have a snack
10:50 am	Morning Recess	Active play outside is encouraged if possible
11:15 am	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
1:15 pm	Nutrition Break (lunch)	Good time to have a snack
1:35 pm	Afternoon Recess	Active play outside is encouraged if possible
2:00 pm	Learning Block	The teacher will advise when to log into Google Meet and when to work independently.
3:00 pm	End School Bell	School day ends

Parents and guardians can expect communication from the homeroom teacher with more specific information about your child's class schedule.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we work through this transition.

Sincerely,
Amanda and Dianne

7 January 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

Thank you for all of your support, flexibility and understanding during this period of remote learning.

A Note from School Council: January Meeting Postponed

The School Council meeting that was to take place on Monday, January 10 is postponed.

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, January 26th - New to Kindergarten 2022 Virtual Info Night

With the 2022 Kindergarten registration week (for new kindergarten students starting in September 2022) set to run from January 24th to 31st, Henry Larsen ES will be hosting a virtual information session on Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00pm. Stay tuned for more information. Please share this date and time with any neighbours, friends, or family in our school area.

Ottawa Children's Storytelling Festival

Below is a link from the Ottawa Public Library for the Children's Storytelling Festival

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXQxeggRjvhdqnF_gLTJ3i3YzAqWCmteh

Mental Health and Well-being

The surge in Omicron and the return to remote learning has left many families, students and staff feeling a range of emotions. For some, the news has been a welcome relief, while it has left others feeling frustrated and worried. The OCDSB mental health team [has prepared some simple tips](#) to support students and parents with well-being during remote learning. Learn more about these and other resources.

For 24/7 access to crisis support, students can contact the KidsHelpPhone: 1-800-668-6868 or text at 686868 or contact Youth Services Bureau (YSB) at 613-260-2360.

From the School Board:

The OCDSB has compiled a series of resources that provide step-by-step instructions for students and parents on how to use our Learning Management System, Google Classroom and the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Here are the links to a few of these resources. [Learn more](#) about learning remotely in the student portal and on our website.

We longer have testing kits available at the school.

Here are YouTube links to the COVID Update translation videos:

[COVID Update About School Closures - Arabic](#)

[COVID Update About School Closures - Somali](#)



[Happy Orthodox Christmas to families celebrating this weekend.](#)

Important Dates:

HLES Virtual Kindergarten Information Night: Wednesday, January 26 at 6:00 pm

Elementary PA Day, Friday, January 21: There will be no school for students on this day.

Wishing all of you a safe and happy weekend!

Amanda and Dianne

14 January 2022

Return of Borrowed Chromebooks to Henry Larsen Elementary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you so much for caring for the OCDSB technology that your child borrowed during the remote learning period. We are so pleased that your children were able to remain connected and engaged with their educators and classmates through the use of these devices.

As part of our ongoing effort to ensure that all students have equitable access to digital tools to support their learning, we are asking that all students who borrowed devices to **please return the device to the school by Wednesday, January 19, 2022.**

It is important that all devices be returned to the school so that we can accurately inventory, repair and update all chromebooks and other technology devices. Our Learning Technology Specialists are ready to clean, repair, reset, and prepare the devices so that our students can continue to use these valuable learning tools at school.

Chromebooks can be returned to the school either by students, or by a parent or guardian during office hours (8 am until 4 pm).

Please contact our school office (henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or 613-830-4634) should you have any questions about this process.

Take care and thank you,

Amanda and Dianne

14 January 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

We are looking forward to our return to in person learning on Monday, January 17!

UPDATED Screening Tool and Verification:

Thank you for taking the time every morning to use the [screening tool](#), we know it is challenging when we are busy getting ready for the day! It is very important to screen each person in your household every day for [symptoms](#). If anyone in the household has any of the first group of symptoms (fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease/loss of smell and taste), or two of the second group of symptoms (sore throat, headache, fatigue, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches/joint pain, GI symptoms vomiting/diarrhea), all household members need to isolate regardless of vaccination status.

Staff will be verifying that this screening has been completed with each student every day. Homeroom teachers will reach out to families with the method that they will be using for this daily confirmation (either a paper sent home each day, or an online Google form, or a verbal confirmation with grades 4-8 students).

Return of Borrowed Chromebooks:

A separate communication will be sent today to families who borrowed Chromebooks during the past two weeks. If you did not receive this email, please contact the school (henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or 613-830-4634).

Important Information from the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority:

Please read our [Transportation Update](#) concerning the return of transportation services on Monday, January 17, 2022. As a reminder, short-term cancellations will be posted to OSTA's [delay and cancellation page](#) for day-to-day cancellations. Any long-term cancellations will be posted to our long-term [OCDSB](#) cancellation list.

Please sign up for our mailing list through the [Parent Portal](#) to receive automatic notifications to your phone or computer. You can also connect with us through [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, January 26th - New to Kindergarten 2022 Virtual Info Night

With the 2022 Kindergarten registration week (for new kindergarten students starting in September 2022) set to run from January 24th to 31st, Henry Larsen ES will be hosting a virtual information session on Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00pm. Stay tuned for more information. Please share this date and time with any neighbours, friends, or family in our school area.

Use the [linked form](#) to ask any questions you may have before the virtual information night. We will do our best to answer your questions during the information night.

You may also contact the school directly with questions at henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or 613-830-4634.

If you have a general inquiry about registration or kindergarten in the OCDSB, please email districtnews@ocdsb.ca.

Important Dates:

Elementary PA Day: Friday, January 21 - there will be no school for students on this day.

HLES Virtual Kindergarten Information Night: Wednesday, January 26 at 6:00 pm

Wishing all of you a safe and happy weekend!

Amanda and Dianne

20 January 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

Today, your child has been provided with two take-home rapid antigen screening kits. The test kits were provided by the Government of Ontario, and are intended for use by any child that attends a publicly funded school, regardless of their vaccination status.

Please read the important information below prior to using the rapid antigen testing kit.

When to Use the Rapid Antigen Test Kit:

Veillez afficher vos questions concernant notre programme de la maternelle. Si vous préférez qu'on communique directement avec vous, veuillez indiquer vos coordonnées (p. ex. votre adresse électronique ou votre numéro de téléphone).

Use the [linked form](#) to ask any questions you may have before the virtual information night. We will do our best to answer your questions during the information night.

You may also contact the school directly with questions at henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or 613-830-4634.

If you have a general inquiry about registration or kindergarten in the OCDSB, please email districtnews@ocdsb.ca.

Support for the Education Foundation on Toonie Tuesday:

Please see the [attached flyer](#) for more information about Toonie Tuesday.

Cairine Wilson Secondary School Virtual Welcome to High School Information Event:

Cairine Wilson S.S.'s "Welcome to High School" virtual event is being held on Feb. 10th, 2022 starting at 7pm. [Here is the link for parents and guardians to join this event.](#) This link is also posted to the [OCDSB website](#), along with all of the other OCDSB school's event dates, and will be added to the [CWSS school website](#). Parents and guardians can ask questions before the event using [this linked Google form](#).

Ottawa Technical Secondary School Virtual Parent/Guardian Information Event:

[Ottawa Technical S.S.'s](#) virtual event is being held on January 27th, 2022 starting at 6pm. [Here is the link for parents and guardians to join this event.](#) Parents and guardians can ask questions before the event using [this linked Google form](#).

For more information, click on the following links: [OTSS Brochure](#) [OTSS Video](#) [OTSS Animation Video](#) [Experiential Classroom 360 Degree Virtual Tours](#) [Trades and Technology Program Promotion Videos](#).

Friendly Reminder: Screening Tool and Verification:

Thank you for taking the time every morning to use the [screening tool](#), we know it is challenging when we are busy getting ready for the day! It is very important to screen each person in your household every day for [symptoms](#). If anyone in the household has any of the first group of symptoms (fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease/loss of smell and taste), or two of the second group of symptoms (sore throat, headache, fatigue, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches/joint pain, GI symptoms vomiting/diarrhea), all household members need to isolate regardless of vaccination status.

Important Dates:

Elementary PA Day: Friday, January 21 - there will be no school for students tomorrow

HLES Virtual Kindergarten Information Night: Wednesday, January 26 at 6:00 pm

Toonie Tuesday: Tuesday, February 22

Wishing all of you a safe and happy weekend!

Amanda and Dianne

28 January 2022

Greetings Henry Larsen Families,

We have welcomed two new teaching staff members to the Henry Larsen team in January. Saloua El Fahdi (saloua.el.fahdi@ocdsb.ca) is our new French Kindergarten teacher, replacing Mme Sarah in Kinder A and B. Kate Toivonen (kate.toivonen@ocdsb.ca) is our new Grades 1, 2, 3 Mathematics teacher for EF1A, EF12A and EF23A, Visual Arts/Drama/Dance and DPA for EF5A, and BIP Arts teacher, replacing Mr. Epstein. Welcome to the team!

Term 1 Report Cards:

As we did in the Fall, you will have access to your child's report card electronically. You will need their OEN to access their report card. It is located at the top of their progress report. Please email henrylarsenes@ocdsb.ca or call the school office (613-830-4634 between 8 am and 4 pm) if you have any questions or need the OEN. Report Cards are available to families on February 16th and additional information regarding accessing the reports will be sent out prior to that date.

New School Council Meeting Date: February 7th at 7:00 pm. The link to join the Google Meet will be sent to families on the morning of February 7th.

Happy Lunar New Year to those celebrating on February 1!



Days of significance this past week:

This week, we recognized International Holocaust Remembrance Day and National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia with announcements in the school. The text was provided by our school board and was age appropriate for our K-8 students. The messages were about being kind and inclusive, and about talking to adults at school or at home if students see someone treating another person in a mean or hurtful way. Staff answered many questions and supported valuable discussions.

Kindergarten Information Night - recording will be posted

Our virtual Kindergarten info night was very successful! If you missed it, or know of any neighbours or friends who might be interested in the information, the video will be uploaded to our Henry Larsen website soon. [Registration for Kindergarten](#) is now open and we encourage you to register as early as possible!

Voluntary COVID-19 Reporting Dashboard:

Today, the District is launching the OCDSB Voluntary COVID-19 Reporting Dashboard. If a student or staff member has received a positive COVID-19 result from a rapid antigen test (RAT) or PCR test, those who choose can complete the voluntary reporting form:

<https://forms.ocdsb.ca/Forms/COVID-Case-Collection-Student>

Cairine Wilson Secondary School Virtual Welcome to High School Information Event:

Cairine Wilson S.S.'s "Welcome to High School" virtual event is being held on Feb. 10th, 2022 starting at 7pm. [Here is the link for parents and guardians to join this event.](#) This link is also posted to the [OCDSB website](#), along with all of the other OCDSB school's event dates, and will be added to the [CWSS school website](#). Parents and guardians can ask questions before the event using [this linked Google form](#). Students had a virtual presentation in class from Mr. Kirby, one of the guidance counselors at CWSS. This recording will be shared with students and families by homeroom teachers.

Friendly Reminder: Screening Tool and Verification:

Thank you for taking the time every morning to use the [screening tool](#), we know it is challenging when we are busy getting ready for the day! It is very important to screen each person in your household every day for [symptoms](#). If anyone in the household has any of the first group of symptoms (fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, decrease/loss of smell and taste), or two of the second group of symptoms (sore throat, headache, fatigue, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches/joint pain, GI symptoms vomiting/diarrhea), all household members need to isolate regardless of vaccination status.

Important Dates:

Black Excellence Day: Thursday, February 3

School Council Meeting: Monday February 7th

Report Cards Available to Families: Wednesday February 16th

PA Day: Friday, February 18 - no school for students

Family Day: Monday, February 21 - no school for students

Toonie Tuesday: Tuesday, February 22

Wishing all of you a safe and happy weekend!

Amanda and Dianne

31 January 2022

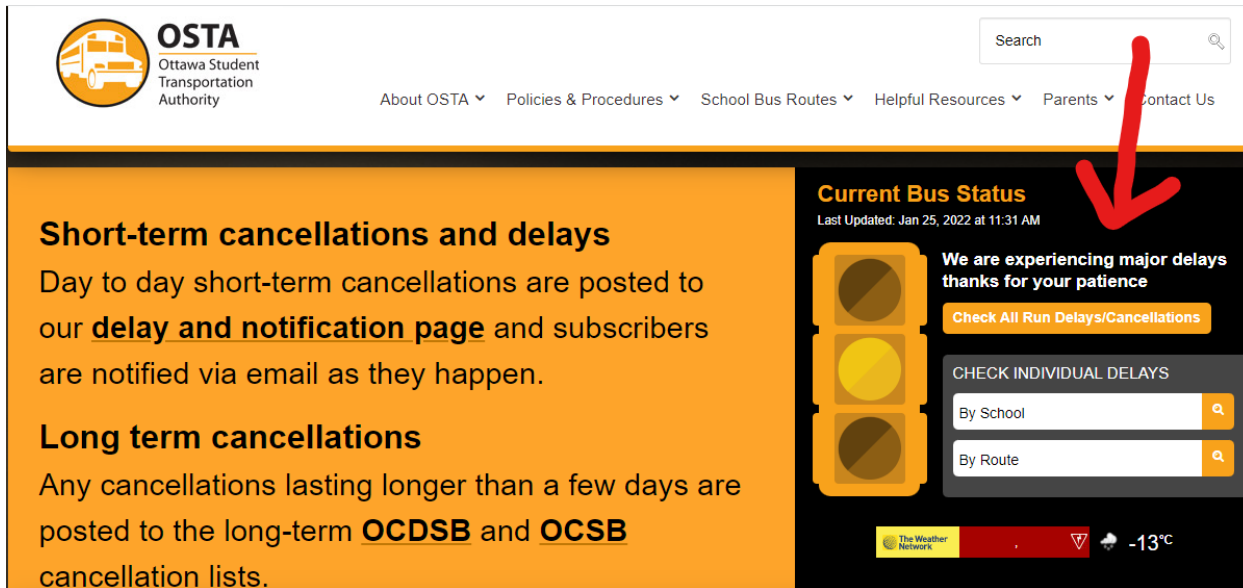
Hello Henry Larsen Families,

We received a call from OSTA just now (<http://www.ottawaschoolbus.ca/>) and have been notified that **there is a cancelled bus for this afternoon: M34 is cancelled in the afternoon today and may also be cancelled tomorrow (all day).** We are making calls to those families and have posted to our Twitter.

When your child usually rides a bus that has been cancelled, it is important that you have someone ready to pick them up out front of the school no later than 3pm.

We know this is incredibly hard on families. Thank you for your patience and understanding as OSTA continues to experience driver shortages.

The information about bus cancellations can be found directly [here](#):



The screenshot shows the OSTA (Ottawa Student Transportation Authority) website. The header includes the OSTA logo and navigation links: About OSTA, Policies & Procedures, School Bus Routes, Helpful Resources, Parents, and Contact Us. A search bar is located in the top right corner, with a red arrow pointing to it. The main content area is split into two columns. The left column has an orange background and contains the following text: **Short-term cancellations and delays** (Day to day short-term cancellations are posted to our [delay and notification page](#) and subscribers are notified via email as they happen.) and **Long term cancellations** (Any cancellations lasting longer than a few days are posted to the long-term [OCDSB](#) and [OCSB](#) cancellation lists.) The right column has a dark background and features a traffic light icon with the yellow light lit. Text reads: **Current Bus Status** (Last Updated: Jan 25, 2022 at 11:31 AM), **We are experiencing major delays thanks for your patience**, and a button for **Check All Run Delays/Cancellations**. Below this are search boxes for **CHECK INDIVIDUAL DELAYS** with options **By School** and **By Route**. At the bottom right, there is a weather widget showing **-13°C**.

Take Care,

Amanda and Dianne