



December 15, 2020

## **Our Holiday Wishes for Happiness & Self-Care**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we prepare for the winter break and this holiday season, I want to thank you for supporting your child's learning and keeping our schools safe. Through your care and support, along with the diligent work of our staff and the commitment of our students, we have been able to operate schools in our district with minimal disruptions because of all our collective efforts. Thank you!

This holiday season is going to feel very different for each of us this year, as we continue to take care of others and our own health as the pandemic continues. While the news of the vaccine roll-out in Canada and other places in the world is encouraging, at this time we need to continue to follow the [provincial](#) and local public health advice (from both the [Eastern Ontario Health Unit](#) and the [Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit](#)).

I hope that this holiday, you and your family enjoy the outdoors, do virtual "gatherings" or start new traditions as we adapt to our community circumstances to lessen the impact of COVID-19 in our lives. Whatever you choose to do as a family, please stay safe, keep well, and may each of you find joy this holiday season.

Best wishes to you, our students, and your entire family for the holidays and the new year.

Sincerely,

Stephen Sliwa  
Director of Education  
Upper Canada District School Board

**John McAllister**  
Chair



**Stephen Sliwa**  
Director