



# ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGIATE

HOME OF THE KNIGHTS SINCE 1960

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Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Dear STMC Students & Parents,

I am pleased to announce that we received written confirmation this morning that our **STMC 2020-2021 Education Restart Plan**, as well as our **UPDATED STMC COVID-19 School Safety Plan (August 2020)** and the various supporting documents we submitted for review have approved by the Ministry of Education.

Again, the full-text of our **STMC 2020-2021 Education Restart Plan** and many of the supporting documents we submitted for review are available on our school website [\[link\]](#). I highly encourage our students and their families to take some time to review the full text of all of these documents. Answers to a good many of the questions being fielded by our office staff can be found in these documents.

Today's communication – the third in our series STMC School Start-Up communiques – provides students and families information regarding our **Grade 8 Learning Groups** and the **Master List of Houses & Advisory Learning Groups** for all of our students [\[link\]](#). Key in today's posted information is the House Assignment for your daughter(s)/son(s). This determines the **Learning Group** composition for all of our students in Grades 9-12.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- your **HOUSE** determines your **FAMILY (MORE or RICE)**
- your **GRADE LEVEL** within that **FAMILY** determines the students that will make up the core of your **LEARNING GROUP!**

A reminder to students and parents on our In-Coming Grade 8 Cohort – although all of our Grade 8s have been assigned to a specific **HOUSE (Canterbury – London – Oxford – Dublin – Limerick – Waterford)** and **FAMILY (MORE or RICE)** Cohort – the Learning Groups for our Grade 8s is via Grade 8 subjects.

The development and creation of our **Grade 8 Learning Groups** and the **Master List of Houses & Learning Groups** for Grades 9-12 has been four week in the making. Each is intricately tied to our master timetable, each student's specific timetable, and the class size and composition of each teacher's load. Requests to move Learning Groups and or Houses will NOT be entertained at this time!

Our fourth and final STMC School Start-Up Communication will provide students and families with details regarding the two **\*School Start-Up Orientation** days that are being planned for **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020** for those students who will be assigned to the St. Thomas **MORE Family of Houses** and **Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020** for those who will be assigned to the Blessed Edmund **RICE Family of Houses**. This fourth email will go out before the end of the day on Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. [\*These **School Start-Up Orientations** are vital to a successful start to our school year. It is during these orientations that all protocols, procedures, and information for how the year will unfold and what we all need to do will be discussed].

As was communicated in my previous email to students and their families... as comprehensive and wide-reaching as we believe our **STMC 2020-2021 Education Restart Plan** is, we also know that there we will be a small number within our



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community for whom our plan may *still* fall short of meeting their specific needs. **While a full opt-out online option is not something that we are able to provide** we will do our best to examine what is possible/feasible for exceptional cases. **Parents are advised to contact their respective grade level administrator – Mr. Joe Adams - Grades 8-10; Mr. KC Steele - Grades 11/12 – to discuss any exceptional concerns.**

Finally, as I have asked in each of my communiques to you since the start of the pandemic, I ask that you pray for the continued good health of our Christian Brothers – Bro. Ted Bassett, Bro. Owen Cassidy, and Bro. Hugh O’Neil – as well as for **everyone** associated with our St. Thomas More family!

*Pax et Bonum!*

Yours in Christ,  
Steve Garland – Principal, STMC

## Care + Comfort + Compassion

Continuing our work to connect Heads & Hearts...

Grounding **all** of our work in that which fills our soul and gives meaning to our work as a community...