



COVID-19 Professional Development Series

Leading Schools to Success Through Uncertainty

Dates: Ongoing through July and August

Cost: OFIS Member Schools \$600
Non-member Schools \$900

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This professional development series will enhance the essential skills and practices for effective leadership through crisis and uncertain times while addressing the specific issues and challenges of reopening our schools in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. This summer-long series provides a comprehensive approach and includes a variety of supports and resources to address both the shared and unique needs of Ontario's independent schools.

Weekly Webinar Series

Tuesdays @ 1pm
July 14th – August 18th

Each school registration allows for 2 members to attend each webinar.

Become familiar with the most up to date COVID-19 information and guidelines from the most reputable sources and relevant government agencies as we examine them in the context of independent schools. With a deeper understanding of the regulations and responsibilities for safe school operations we can explore practical steps and innovative solutions for keeping our communities safe while continuing with the important work of educating our students.

Topics include: Effective Communications, Health and Safety Regulations, Staff Training and Support, Policies and Procedures, Contingency Planning, Virtual Learning and more.

In keeping with our commitment to being responsive to the evolving situation and the needs of our members, topics may change without notice so we can prioritize pressing issues as they arise. We also welcome members to let us know what issues are most important to them to help inform our planning.

Registrants will have access to recordings of all sessions.



Member Connect: Post-webinar Discussion

Wednesdays @ 10am
July 15th - 18th

Connect with colleagues for an informal conversation via Zoom to discuss questions and share ideas about the previous days' webinar.

This discussion is optional, but we encourage leaders to participate. The opportunity to collaborate with other school leaders always a benefit to our own professional growth, but it is proving to be especially invaluable during these unprecedented times.

Private Consultation

90 minutes
with Tony DiLena

While we celebrate the diversity of Ontario's independent schools, we also understand that our diversity means that schools have many unique needs.

To support these needs, we are including **90 minutes of personalized professional consultation** with educational consultant and former PSIE Coordinator at the Ministry of Education, Tony DiLena. Tony's extensive experience in K-12 schools allows him to provides expert guidance and assistance for a wide range of school needs, including policy, programming, administration, staffing, and much more.

Consultation time included in this package must be scheduled prior to December 31, 2020.

COVID-19 Policies

Schools will receive templates for policies and protocols essential for clear and effective school operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Templates are currently in development with our legal and professional partners and will be ready by early August to allow for time to be individualized to the needs of your school.

We invite members to share any particular policy they would like to see, and we will do our best to include it in the package.



Exclusive Product and Service Offers

We are expanding our partnerships to provide OFIS members more options and choice in benefits and special offers. In particular at this time we have sought out the products and services that will especially benefit independent schools with the re-opening and operation of their schools during these unique times.

All members are eligible for OFIS exclusive benefits and can learn about what's on offer through information sessions led by our partners. These offers are not available to non-members participating in this PD.

Non-member schools interested in joining OFIS are invited to contact us at info@ofis.ca to learn more about membership eligibility and the benefits of being an OFIS member.

Advocacy Initiatives

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented tremendous challenges to K-12 education and the efforts to safely open schools. The Ontario Government is increasing funding to public schools to account for additional health and safety measures while ignoring independent schools and the 150,000 students we are responsible for.

OFIS is working with school associations across Ontario to fight for fair funding that will support the health and safety of ALL students in Ontario. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but this is too important for us not to take action. If anyone is interested in taking an active role in these efforts at this time, please contact Amanda at amanda.dervaitis@ofis.ca. We will keep you updated on the progress of these efforts throughout the summer.

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Questions? Contact Amanda at info@ofis.ca or 416-639-1531