



HOME & SCHOOL AND THE PANDEMIC

Planning and preparing for Association activities when school resumes in the fall may seem an overwhelming task. OFHSA is here to help guide you through these unprecedented times of physical distancing and no contact activities.

Here are a few guidelines suggested to help move things forward:

Annual Meeting and Elections

- Create a document to present executive nominations and include electronic voting procedures (share with members through Google Forms, Survey Monkey, etc.)
- Choose a virtual meeting platform that works best for your Association members such as Zoom or GoTo Meetings
- Host the Annual Meeting to conduct elections for the term for H&S Executives and to vote on any outstanding business of the Association

Connecting with Your Principal and Staff

- Plan cohesive communication with the school/staff with scheduled check-in dates
- Talk about the direction of the school year
- Provide information resources for parents
- Ask how your Association can help during these times of Covid-19

Membership Drive

- Online membership drive:
H&S Associations can accept electronic transfers from members to pay for the annual membership fee. Associations must send a cheque to OFHSA for all collected membership fees.
- What are the benefits at this time?
 - an insight into the educational programs offered to children
 - a broader understanding of the education system
 - an independent source of information about educational change
 - a voice in the shaping of those changes, at the school, the school board and the province
 - access to advice, training, and resources to help members be informed

Connecting with Members and Parents and holding Association meetings

- Online platforms, i.e. social media, Google Forms, Zoom
- Prepare and distribute information resources
- Plan on how to continue **"The Best for Each Student"** model for your Association
- You may conduct Home and School meetings off school property in accordance with the current Ontario Covid-19 Guidelines

Fundraising

- How do we fundraise?
 - Online fundraisers such as Mabel Labels, FundScript and Colibri products
- What are we fundraising for?
 - Online support workshops providing help to students and parents on topics such as mental health, Covid-19 safety measures
 - Virtual fun days - for example, a magic show or trivia night
- Reaching the community
 - Use Association or school websites, email, social media

H&S and PPE

- If your Association is considering donating face coverings, please consider Ministry, District School Board and Municipal guidelines
- Please work with your principal on choosing your face coverings

Please check here for Ministry guidelines <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ministry-education>

Student Support

- Giving back to the students
 - Plan and offer virtual online workshops or fun days
 - Learn about PPE needs
 - Share online resources
 - Organizing online challenges to engage students

Parent Support

- Online support sessions
- Information resources
- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-support-students-and-parents>
- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-reopening-ontarios-schools>