

Trustee Update

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Ward 5 Newsletter June 2020

Director's Updates to Parents/Guardians: COVID-19

The Toronto District School Board is committed to keeping all parents/guardians updated on the impact of COVID-19 on schools and any developments with regard to remote learning.

Below are recent updates from Director of Education John Malloy:

- [Update on Retrieval of Belongings, Real-Time Learning, Report Cards, Summer School and Online Surveys \(May 29, 2020\)](#)
- [Schools to Remain Closed for the 2019-20 School Year \(May 19, 2020\)](#)

For on-going updates, more information and resources, please visit tdsb.on.ca/coronavirus and tdsb.on.ca/remote-learning.

Statement on Addressing Anti-Black Racism

The Toronto District School Board continues to be committed to equity and inclusion, and we acknowledge the importance of addressing anti-Black racism. Please read the full [statement](#) from Chair of the Board Robin Pilkey and Director of Education John Malloy.

Letters from the Chair of the Board

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board, Chair of the Board Robin Pilkey has issued the following letters to raise a number of concerns with the Mayor of Toronto and the Minister of Education:

- [Letter to the Mayor: SPA, By-Law Enforcement and Child Care](#)
- [Letter to the Minister of Education: Transition Funding](#)
- [Letter to the Minister of Education: Funding Concerns](#)

TDSB Reaches Local Agreement with Education Workers

The Toronto District School Board has reached a tentative agreement with the Board's 17,700 education workers who are represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 4400.

For more information, please read the [news release](#)

Retrieval of Belongings

A [comprehensive protocol](#) and [guidelines](#) have been developed to allow for the retrieval of students' personal belongings in schools. It is not mandatory to come to the school to pick up belongings and students or parents/guardians should only visit the school if absolutely necessary. Your Principal will provide additional details, including your school's schedule for picking up and returning items.

Mental Health and Well-Being

We care about the range of emotions and questions students of all ages may be experiencing in this uncertain and unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic and school closures. Access [resources and information](#) to support your mental health and well-being.

School Reopening Plans and Upcoming Survey

A [TDSB School/Work Reopening Committee](#) has been established to consider what the reopening of schools and administrative buildings will look like when it is safe to do so. While the final direction and health and safety requirements will come from the Ministry of Education, Toronto Public Health and/or other public health agencies, the committee is reviewing issues in a number of critical areas. A TDSB survey for parents/guardians will be shared during the week of June 8 to seek input for reopening plans.

Keeping Connected

While schools are closed, connection is more important than ever. Read our latest [trending@tdsb](#) article on how some schools are staying connected while we are apart.

Secondary Program Review

The [Interim Report of the Secondary Program Review](#) was recently presented to Trustees and highlights the issues, gaps, and needs facing our system that are impacting our ability to support equitable access to strong programs and opportunities. Read the report, learn more about your area and share your feedback.

Student Transportation

While we do not yet know what transportation will look like in the fall, we are committed to keeping parents/guardians informed of all changes and safety practices for the upcoming school year. All parents/guardians with children who take the bus to school are encouraged to sign up for the [Student Transportation Parent Portal](#) to access important information and updates. If you have moved this past year, or plan to move over the summer, please complete the [Student Transportation Application form](#) with your new address, and email it to your school and studenttransportationapplications@tdsb.on.ca

Student Trustees Election: View Your Candidates

The election of Student Trustees for 2020-2021 will be taking place on Thursday, June 11, 2020. Students in Grades 6 to 11 will have the opportunity to elect two Student Trustees through an online voting process.

Official candidates and their [campaign videos](#) were revealed on Thursday, June 4, 2020. These videos will help students better understand the candidates and their platforms to ensure they are making informed decisions on election day.

Student Trustees represent the voice of approximately 247,000 students in the Toronto District School Board. They are elected members of the Board of Trustees and sit alongside the adult Trustees at board and committee meetings and act as a link to students, the Board and school communities. Student Trustees are members of the Student Senate and work closely with Student Senate Executives and school communities to empower and promote student voice and engagement across the district.

Please note that due to the impact of COVID-19, Student Senate Elections will be held separately in the Fall.

For more information, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/studenttrusteeselection.

Heritage and History Months

June:

- [National Indigenous Peoples History Month](#)
 - [Italian Heritage Month](#)
 - [Portuguese-Speaking Heritage Month](#)
 - [Pride Month](#)
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Pedestrian Safety - Safety Tips for Parents

Children under nine should be accompanied by adults or older children when crossing the street. At this age, their judgment and perceptual skills are still immature, yet they often eagerly try to cross streets on their own in order to demonstrate some independence.

- Teach your children the rules of the road - start when they're young. Think of it as gradually training your children about safety until all the connections are in place. By the time your child reaches age nine, and can act independently, the road safety rules will be second nature.
- Teach children how to cross the street safely. Teach them to stop (before stepping onto the road), look left, right and left again, and listen for traffic before stepping out into the street. Teach children to wait until the street is clear and to keep looking until they have crossed the street. They should also look the driver in the eye before crossing.
- Teach children to recognize pedestrian crossing signals but not rely on them. Before crossing, children should also be sure the traffic has stopped. Remind them to continue across if the light changes to "Don't Walk" while they are in the crosswalk.
- Teach children to be extra alert when crossing at a corner with no traffic lights.
- Teach your children to stop at driveways, alleys and areas without curbs and to never run out onto the street.
- Teach children about the dangers of crossing the street between parked cars or when not at a corner. Children should cross only at corners and pedestrian crosswalks, not diagonally or between parked cars.
- Teach children to respect the role of the crossing guard and to understand his/her signals.
- Teach children that wherever possible they should walk on the sidewalk. In areas without sidewalks, teach children to walk as far away from the road as possible, facing approaching traffic (when there is no choice but to walk on the road).
- Teach children that playing games at railway crossings or around trains can be deadly.
- Teach children that the only way to cross railway tracks is to use designated railway crossings.

Follow the same rules that you want your child to follow. You may want to cut across the street in the middle of the block, but you want your child to learn to cross at the intersection. Be a good role model.

Reprinted with the permission of Safe Kids Canada. Visit www.safekidscanada.ca for more safety tips on keeping children safe.

Secondary Credit Program Options

Remote Credit Recovery: Available only to TDSB students

Registration Opens: May 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Registration Closes: June 26, 2020 at 12:00 noon

The Continuing Education Department is offering a Remote Credit Recovery Summer School Program for TDSB secondary students only from July 6 to July 31. This program allows students to recover the credit in a course in which they were unsuccessful within the last two school years. It is a NEW summer program and will be delivered only online. The Remote Summer Credit Recovery Program focuses not on time, but on the overall expectations the student must attain before earning the credit. Students are able to recover more than one course through this program. Interested students need to connect with their guidance and/or student success teacher to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria so that the home school can get the necessary credit recovery paperwork completed. Students in Grades 9 to 12 register for the credit recovery program through e-Reg by selecting RCR101.

Hybrid Remote Summer Credit Program: Available only to TDSB students

Registration Opens: May 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Registration Closes: June 26, 2020 at 12:00 noon

The Continuing Education Department is offering a Hybrid Remote Summer Credit Program for TDSB secondary school students only from July 6 to July 31. This program replaces the in-class summer school program which has operated in previous years. This program may include both online and in-class learning environments in accordance with the ongoing guidance of the Ministry of Education.

This program allows TDSB students to enrol in one full-credit course that is offered in July. The program includes courses in all subject areas from Grades 9 to 12, with a focus on compulsory courses. The list of courses available to students and registration information is on the Continuing Education Summer School web page. Students in Grades 9 to 12 register for their requested course through e-Reg.

e-Summer Program

Registration for TDSB students, 14-20 years old: July courses: April 8 to June 15 at 4:30 PM and August courses: April 8 to July 8 at 4:30 PM

Registration for non-TDSB students: 14-20 years old: July courses: May 25 to June 15 at 4:30 PM and August courses: May 25 to July 8 at 4:30 PM

The e-Learning Department is offering the e-Summer program for TDSB and Non- TDSB secondary school students in both July and August. The program includes courses in all subject areas in Grade 11 and 12 as well as Grade 10 Civics and Career Studies.

Students may enrol in two full-credit courses, one in July and one in August. Students who are completing graduation diplomas should select a July course where possible. Registration is restricted to TDSB students until May 24. Secondary school students who do not attend a TDSB secondary school may begin registration on May 25.

The list of courses available to students and registration information is on the e-Learning web page Students register through e-Reg.

Sun Safe Behaviour

This spring and summer, the Toronto District School Board and Toronto Public Health want kids to be safe while playing outdoors.

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, please follow all guidelines from Toronto Public Health, including social distancing.

Getting students outside and active is good for their health but too much sun can have serious side-effects, including burns, eye damage, premature aging of the skin and skin cancer. We encourage all students to practice sun safety.

What exactly does sun safe behaviour look like?

- Cover up: Even on days with a moderate UV index students should wear a hat and sunglasses, especially if they'll be outside for over 30 minutes.
- Stay cool: Students should stay in shady areas, particularly at midday when the sun is strongest.
- Use sunscreen: Choose sunscreens with SPF 15 or higher that include protection from both UVA and UVB rays.

Elementary Summer School

Our elementary summer school program focus is to close the achievement and well-being gap and to continue student engagement into July. Programs for students in Grades 3 to 8 will be delivered from July 6 to 31, 2020 from 9am to 12pm. French programs will also be available for students currently in a French Immersion or Extended French Program. Remote synchronous learning will be offered. There is a possibility that learning may move from remote learning to in-class learning environments in accordance with the ongoing guidance of the Ministry of Education.

Registration is online and is currently open to the public. More information is available at www.tdsb.on.ca/summer.

International Languages Elementary/African Heritage

The International Languages Elementary/African Heritage Program offers language classes to students Kindergarten to Grade 8. Classes will run from July 6 to 31, 2020 from 1:30 to 4pm. A minimum of 23 students is required to open a language class. Remote synchronous learning will be offered. There is a possibility that language learning may move from remote learning to in-class learning environments in accordance with the ongoing guidance of the Ministry of Education. Registration will be online and open on Monday, May 25, 2020. More information is available on www.ileprograms.ca.

TDSB Update

Sign-up for [TDSB Update](#) and stay informed about recent Board decisions and district-wide news.

Follow the TDSB

Join the conversations happening on TDSB's social media communities. You'll find the most up-to-date information about us on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

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