



Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin

Ward 11 • Don Valley West

Toronto District School Board

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Dear friends,

What a start to 2022! Despite the snow and pivots between virtual and in-person, it is safe to say that we are relieved to have our buildings back in use and full of students excited to be at school in-person.

As you may recall from my last mailing, I announced pending elections for Ward 11 representatives of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC). At our recent Ward 11 Coffee Morning meeting, parent/guardian attendees elected two new Ward 11 Representatives to PIAC. I am excited to announce that Janice Barnett was re-elected to her second 2-year term, and we welcome Charles Zhu to his first term on PIAC! I'd also like to express sincere thanks, on behalf of all of us in Ward 11, to Wilmar Kortleeve, for his many, many years of service on PIAC. He will be missed around the PIAC table, but we know Ward 11 is in good hands with our new team.

This is just a short message today to announce a Ward 11 Virtual Forum for this coming Thursday, February 3rd from 5:30-7:30pm. For the first hour we will be joined by Dr. Janine McCready of Michael Garron Hospital. She has been an instrumental leader in Covid-19 infection prevention, testing, and vaccination efforts, as well as a tremendous resource and support to schools in East Toronto, including many Ward 11 schools. She will provide us with the most recent data on Covid-19 vaccines for children and answer questions from parents and caregivers. During the second hour, we will be joined by our two Ward 11 Superintendents, Andrew Howard and Roni Felsen, and open the floor to a more general discussion and information-sharing session about school reopening and the 2022 school year. Check out the [event flyer](#), or [register here](#).

Finally, a reminder that today is the last day to register for Middle French Immersion (details and links below).



Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin
Ward 11, Don Valley West

Don Valley West School Councils, Student Councils, Parents/Caregivers, Community Members, Superintendents, and School Staff are invited to join me for a

Virtual Ward 11 Forum

Thursday, February 3, 2022
5:30 – 7:30pm


For the first hour, we will be joined by special guest Dr. Janine McCready (Associate Director, Infection Prevention and Control - Michael Garron Hospital, Toronto East Health Network) to learn more about the COVID-19 Vaccine that is now available for children ages 9-11. Parents and caregivers will also have a chance to ask questions and get answers from a local health care expert.

From 6:30-7:30, we will be joined by Ward 11 Superintendents Andrew Howard and Roni Felsen for a casual discussion on the school year so far.

If you are interested in attending, please register:
<https://forms.gle/TezTNQhPUx8zeZnv8>

ONLINE REGISTRATION

- The meetings will be hosted on the Zoom video conference platform.
- Meeting links and dial-in numbers will be sent to your email address the day of the meeting.
- Need more info? Email Rachel.ChernosLin@tdsb.on.ca or call 416-395-8787.



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I hope to see as many of you as possible next Thursday, and wish everyone a wonderful weekend.

Warm regards,

Rachel

Rachel Chernos Lin, TDSB Trustee, Ward 11, Don Valley West

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In This Newsletter

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Middle French Immersion Program - Application Deadline = today, January 28

For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide Middle French Immersion Program (which begins in Grade 4), we offer an online process to apply. To apply for the Middle French Immersion Program (Grade 4 entry) for September 2022, applications for current grade 3 students must be completed online **between January 3 and January 28, 2022.**



An offer of placement in the program (a specific school) is guaranteed to all on-time applicants and will be made in the weeks following the close of the application window. Please note: Families with an older sibling currently enrolled in a French program and who will be in attendance next year are still required to complete an online application for the new student. Please select the “sibling option” within the online application.

Information flyers about the Middle French Immersion Program are [available in multiple languages](#). For details, please see the [information package](#). For more information about French programs, the application process and important dates, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca/french or click on [Application Process](#).

Covid-19 Vaccines for children ages 5-11

Prior to the winter break, Trustee Trixie Doyle (Don Valley East) and I organized a Joint Ward Forum about the Covid-19 Vaccine for children aged 5-11. Supported by Michael Garron Hospital (MGH)/Toronto East Health Network (TEHN), it was geared to the Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park communities. It was so well-received, I decided to organize a second forum, this time for the whole ward (see flyer above).

You can read notes from that December meeting that are likely of interest to anyone with children 5-11, so please feel free to check out the

[Joint Forum Meeting Notes/Q&A](#)

Learn more about vaccination for children 5-11:

- [Toronto Public Health](#)
- [Ministry of Health](#)
- [Statement from the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health](#)

How to book an vaccine appointment:

- Book an appointment online at the dark blue “Book a Vaccine” button on toronto.ca/covid-19 or by calling the provincial vaccine booking line at 1-833-943-3900 (TTY 1-866-797-0007).
- Watch for emails from your school for information about school pop-up clinics in your neighbourhood.
- Michael Garron Hospital and East Toronto Health Partners oversees the Thorncliffe Hub Vaccination Centre and a variety of pop-ups clinics in Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park as well as East Toronto. For more information, click: www.tehp/VaccinePopUps.

[Vaccine Hunters](#) - Do-it-yourself resource for finding vaccine related info. Find details on eligibility, appointments, walk-ins, pharmacy search tools, vaccine receipts + more!

Pop-Up Vaccine Clinics in East Toronto

January 31 to February 6



First and second dose eligibility:

- Open to individuals aged 5+ who live and/or go to school in any "M" postal code. Children must be at least 5 years old at the time of vaccination.
- Children aged 5-11 can get their second dose 21 days after the first dose with informed consent from their parent/guardian.

Third (booster) dose eligibility:

- Open to individuals aged 18+ who live and/or go to school in any "M" postal code. Individuals must be at least 18 years old at the time of vaccination.

- Walk-ins welcome. No appointments needed.
- Pfizer or Moderna will be administered.
- Physicians and nurses are available to answer your questions.
- See more information at tehn.ca/VaccinePopUps

Health card not required if you do not have one. You can bring an ID or document with your name, like a driver's license, passport, utility bill, pay stub, student ID or report card. **Even if you do not have these documents, we encourage you to attend one of these clinics. Our team will do their best to help get you vaccinated.**

Please dress appropriately for the weather as line-ups typically take place outside. Due to workforce capacity, there are a limited number of vaccinators at each of our clinics. We kindly ask for your patience as our team works as quickly as possible to vaccinate eligible individuals in a safe manner.

Taylor Creek Public School 644 Warden Ave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Gateway Public School 55 Gateway Blvd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Valley Park Middle School 130 Overlea Blvd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 1 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	J.G. Workman Public School 487 Birchmount Rd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 1 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Sloane Public School 110 Sloane Ave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts
Clairelea Public School 25 Rosalind Cr. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 2 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School 101 Birchmount Rd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 3 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Greenland Public School 15 Greenland Rd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 3 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Gordon A. Brown Middle School 2800 St. Clair Ave. E. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 4 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Victoria Village Public School 88 Sweeney Dr. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 4 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or while supply lasts
St. John XXIII Catholic School 175 Grenoble Dr. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 5 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School 3174 St. Clair Ave. E. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 5 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or while supply lasts 	Thorncliffe Park Public School 80 Thorncliffe Park Dr. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 6 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or while supply lasts 	O'Connor Public School 1665 O'Connor Dr. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 6 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or while supply lasts 	
Eglinton Square Shopping Centre 1 Eglinton Sq. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 to February 5 10:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 	Shoppers World Danforth 3003 Danforth Ave. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 to February 5 10:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 	Gerrard Square Shopping Centre 1000 Gerrard St. E. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 to February 6 10:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 	Thorncliffe Park Community Hub 45 Overlea Blvd. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 to February 6 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. 50 walk-ins per hour 	



Ways To Get Vaccinated

Red & white or no health card?
Register using telephone #

City clinics <https://covid-19.toronto.ca/book-vaccine/>
Or call: 1-888-999-6488
(TTY: 1-866-797-0007)

Hospital clinics www.vaccineinfo.ca
Or call: 1-888-385-1910

Visit <https://covid-19.toronto.ca/book-vaccine/> to find a pharmacy
Or call your local pharmacy / website

Mobile & pop-up clinics
Host organizations will promote clinics directly to the target community



Mass Immunization Clinics



Hospitals / Ontario Health Team Immunization Clinics



Pharmacies and Primary Care Providers



Mobile Teams & Pop-up Clinics

Interactive map available online:
toronto.ca/covid19vaccinemap



Vaccine Information Resources

- **Provincial Vaccine Confidence Centre**
 - o 1-833-943-3900 Open 7 days/week from 8am-8pm
 - o Staffed with Health Specialists and available in over 300 languages
- **VaxFacts Clinic: One-to-One Phone Consultation with a Doctor**
 - o Schedule a phone consultation with a doctor to help make an informed decision about the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - o Book an appointment online at <https://www.shn.ca/VaxFacts/> or call 416-438-2911 ext. 5738
- **SickKids: COVID-19 Vaccine Consult Service**
 - o By appointment phone service only (youth 12+ or a parent/caregiver/legal guardian of a child or youth, an Ontario resident)
 - o Registered Nurses will answer questions and discuss the COVID-19 vaccines for children and youth
 - o Available in multiple languages, using over-the-phone language interpretation
 - o To book: <https://www.sickkids.ca/en/care-services/support-services/covid-19-vaccine-consult/#book> or call 437-881-3505

Winter Well-Being Guide

As parents and caregivers, we may be wondering what we can do to help keep our children active and healthy, and to positively support their mental health and well-being. Within this guide ([click to download the online document](#)) you find a variety of culturally responsive resources and accessible activities to help make this winter a little easier and fun for you and your family. Information on where and how to reach out for help is also included.



The guide is [available in 18 languages](#).

Virtual Drop-in hours

Join our Virtual Drop-ins

Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Thursdays 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
www.tdsb.on.ca/virtualsupport

Connect with Professional Support Services staff to explore ideas related to your child's mental health and well-being



Parents/Caregivers of Students with Special/Complex Needs: Virtual Drop-in Hours

Join our Virtual Drop-ins

Wednesdays 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
www.tdsb.on.ca/virtualsupport

Connect with our Professional Support Services staff to talk about taking care of yourself as a caregiver and other ideas related to your child's mental health and well-being



Mental Health & Well-Being Supports

TDSB Professional Support Services offers virtual

drop-in hours for parents and caregivers to

discuss strategies to help support the mental health and well-being of your child.

There are sessions open to all (Tuesdays 10-11am; Thursdays 7-8pm) and a special drop-

in for parents/caregivers of students with special/complex needs (Wednesdays 7-8pm).

[Learn more about Virtual Mental Health Support](#) and/or click on the images above for the session links.

Mental Health and Well-Being
Supports and Resources

TDSB Winter Clothing Drive

One in every three children lives in poverty in our city, and too many children come to school without proper clothing to keep them warm during the winter months. In addition, many TDSB students are new to Canada and this may be their first time experiencing a Canadian winter.



The TDSB holds an annual [Winter Clothing Drive](#) to help ensure that all students have warm winter clothing to get to and from school, and are prepared to participate in all of the fun outdoor activities winter has to offer. This year's Winter Clothing Drive will run from October 2021 to the end of February 2022. Donations help provide warm winter coats, pants, hats, gloves and boots for our students.

Our need for winter outerwear is greater this year. Canada is welcoming newcomer families from Afghanistan and the TDSB is welcoming many of these newly arrived students into our schools. The newcomer students are adjusting to their first Canadian winter and need proper winter outerwear.

Monetary donations can be made through [School Cash Online](#). We will also accept **new winter outdoor items**. Due to potential health & safety, hygiene, sorting and storage limitations, the TDSB can only accept **new clothing items**. Contact the Business Development department at BusinessDevelopment@tdsb.on.ca for more information about how to donate new outdoor items. **100% of all proceeds and in-kind donations go to benefit our students.**

New Google Calendar with Events & Activities

NEW: TDSB families can find scheduled events from the Mental Health & Professional Support Staff, the Parent & Community Engagement Office (PCEO), and tdsbHUB.ca (Model Schools Community Support Workers) plus other TDSB events and activities all in one calendar at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/School-Year-Calendar>



Click on specific events for details or to add them to your calendar. You can also use the +GoogleCalendar button on the bottom right to add all events to your calendar at once.

2021-2022 School Year Calendar

The first next Board-Wide PA Day is Friday, February 18 (Monday, February 21 is Family day).

The last day of class is June 30 (for elementary students) or June 29 (for secondary students).

[Days of Significance Calendar](#)

There are no classes for students on the dates listed below.



PA Days 2021-2022

PA Days	September	November	January	February	June
Elementary	2,3,8	19	14	18	3
Secondary	2,3,8	19		2,18	30
CUPE and PSSP school-based staff	3,7,8	Professional Development days during this period are the same as other employee groups.			

PA Days & Holidays	Date
Winter Break	December 20, 2021 – December 31, 2021
Elementary PA Day	January 14, 2022
Secondary PA Day	February 2, 2022
Board-wide PA Day	February 18, 2022
Family Day	February 21, 2022
March Break	March 14 - 18, 2022
Good Friday	April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	April 18, 2022
Victoria Day	May 23, 2022
Elementary School PA Day	June 3, 2022
Secondary School PA Day	June 30, 2022

Wishing everyone good health, and hope to "see" many of you virtually next **Thursday**,

February 3 at 5:30pm!

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments or concerns!

~Rachel

Rachel Chernos Lin, Ward 11 TDSB Trustee, Don Valley Wes

Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca

If you notice anything at a school that concerns you, please call the TDSB Security Call Centre (416) 395-4620 and the Toronto Police - non-emergencies can be reported by calling 416-808-2222.



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