Trustee Update

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Happy March!

I hope everyone has been able to enjoy the stretch of good weather we've had and that you are staying safe as our province slowly re-opens following the pandemic lockdown.

To improve air quality in classrooms, I am happy to inform you that the TDSB has received enough funding to now equip every occupied classroom in the school board with an institutional grade HEPA air filter. Deployment of the air filters is expected to be completed before the end of March for elementary schools, and before the end of April for Secondary schools. We expect these air filters be useful in the years to come.

In addition, our Senior Team is now in the process of planning for the coming 2021-2022 school year. We will connect with you for feedback as the plans mature.

Ward Forum Announcement

Topic: Toronto Public Health Info Session on COVID-19 Vaccination

Guest Speakers:
Nicole Welch, Director of Child Health & Development/Chief Nursing Officer
Vincenza Pietropaolo, Associate Director of Healthy Communities

Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Link to register for the meeting:
https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUldeutpj8tGtKFHA0p7x30i_xVqC8OEXUI

Download the Flyer PDF

COVID-19
(Novel Coronavirus)

Asymptomatic Testing

The TDSB continues to work with the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and testing partners to offer asymptomatic testing to our school communities. Testing options include take-home tests, mobile testing sites and on-site testing in schools. For the on-site testing in schools, there are two models:

- a hub model where one school hosts schools within the same neighbourhood
- an individual school testing model

If testing is happening in or for your school, your school principal will communicate this information to you.

For more information, please visit the TDSB webpage for Asymptomatic Testing.

Mental Health and Well-Being

The Toronto District School Board is committed to providing mental health and well-being support for students, their families and staff. For more information, including helpful resources and coping strategies, please visit the TDSB webpage for Mental Health and Well-Being.

Addressing Anti-Asian Racism

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) and Toronto District School Board (TDSB) have partnered to develop *Addressing Anti-Asian Racism: A Resource for Educators*, a resource to empower educators to take action against anti-Asian racism.

"Acts of anti-Asian discrimination are unacceptable and cause harm to the health, well-being and safety of educators, students, families and communities. This much-needed resource offers new approaches to learning and innovative actions to identify, name and address anti-Asian racism in partnership with families and communities." said TDSB Director of Education Karen Falconer.

TDSB Earth Hour 2021

Earth Hour, is a world-wide celebration where millions of people around the world turn off their lights for one hour to tackle the dual challenges facing the planet – climate change and loss of nature

Join TDSB schools and offices on March 26, from 2 – 3 p.m., as we celebrate Earth Hour by turning off unnecessary lights and unplugging electronic devices. Additionally, families and community members can participate on March 27, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

For more information, please visit Earth Hour 2021

March is Greek Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board. It is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Greek Canadians to Canada, and an occasion to mark and enjoy the history of Greek culture.

The theme for this year is:

1821-2021
Freedom and Unity – Ελευθερία και Ενότητα
Learning From Our Roots…Shaping Our Future

Learn more about Greek Heritage Month and access resources online here.

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Letter to Minister of Education: Capital Projects and COVID-19

Chair Alexander Brown wrote to the Minister of Education as a follow-up to their discussions about capital projects and COVID-19. For more information, please read the full letter.

Letter to Minister of Education: Reimbursement of Reserve Funds and Pandemic-Related Cost

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board, Chair Alexander Brown wrote to the Minister of Education to advocate for the reimbursement of reserve funds and other pandemic-related costs. For more information, please read the full letter.

Letter: Vaccinations for Congregated Sites and Intensive Support Programs Staff

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board, Chair Alexander Brown wrote to Minister Lecce, Minister Elliot, Dr. Williams and Dr. De Villa to ask for further protections for the students and staff of congregated settings and Intensive Support Programs against the spread of COVID-19. For more information, please read the full letter.

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