



## Sir Samuel B. Steele Junior Public School

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Ms. K. Kumar, Principal

September 6, 2024

Good afternoon Sam Steele families,  
Hope your children had a wonderful first week!

### **Please see below for our updates:**

#### **Our First School Council Meeting**

Our first School Council Meeting will be taking place on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. It will be an in-person meeting. The School Council elections will take place at this first meeting. I will also send out the nomination forms soon. We encourage our families to get involved in our school community.

#### **Start of the Year Forms**

The technology used for the start of the year forms has changed. A new system is replacing Permission Click. The platform is used by families to complete the start of the year package including the Student Device Program Agreement. This new process will bring several improvements for schools and families.

The Start of Year Forms and Student Device Agreement was sent to all elementary student families by IT Services on September 4. IT Services will send reminders to families who have not completed the forms and any new student registrations will automatically receive the email with the form links. Please complete these forms as soon as possible so that we have all the important information needed to keep your children safe.

#### **What this means for Families:**

- Families will need to create an account to complete the forms. If they have used the enrollment tool previously to register their child in a TDSB school or program that same account can be used.
- A more robust and reliable experience eliminating delays with accessing and submitting forms
- One set of forms per child
- The ability to update contact & medical information (i.e. parent/guardian name, phone number, address) digitally on the form

#### **Forms included in this year's package:**

- Permission to Participate in Offsite Walk Excursions
- Student Media Release Consent (for School/TDSB Events)
- Student Media Release Consent (Media Organizations)
- Permission to Leave School in Severe Weather Conditions (Grades 6-12)
- Medical Information Form (511E)

### **International Languages Classes**

The international languages program will be beginning in-person classes at our school soon. Our online registration is available until Sept.12. The manual registration day is **Saturday, September 14** at your school. Manual registration is on-going every week during our program time only. First day of class will be **Saturday, September 21**. Please see the attached flyer and the application form for more information regarding registration.

### **Somali Heritage Month: Poetry Contest**

The month of October is recognized by the Toronto District School Board as Somali Heritage Month. This year our theme is Aqoon la'aani, waa iftiinla'aan - The absence of knowledge is the absence of light. This proverb underscores the importance of learning and intellectual growth, aligning with our educational mission of fostering a knowledgeable and enlightened student body.

Please see the [attached](#) document that outlines a Poetry submission opportunity for all our TDSB students.

Deadline: September 17, 2024, by 4:00 pm

### **Latin-America History Month: Call-out for Poster Contest**

The month of October is recognized as Latin-America History Month at the TDSB. This year our theme continues to be Weaving Our Legacies: Returning to Our Collective Path / Enlazar Nuestros Legados: Volver A Nuestro Camino Colectivo. We invite all participants (TDSB students: Kindergarten - Grade 12) to express what they've learned through art in our Poster Showcase. Students are encouraged to share their thoughts in class and visually represent them in the Poster Showcase. Create a poster that embodies our theme.

Deadline: Monday, September 23, 2024 by 4:00 pm.

Please see the [attached](#) for all details.

### **Hindu Heritage Month - Poster Contest Invitation for all TDSB Students**

Hindu Heritage Month is recognized and celebrated at the TDSB during the month of November. Hindu dharma is one of the oldest living religions which have flourished for over 10,000 years. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the rich tapestry of traditions, teaching and values that are integral to Hindu dharma and practiced by millions around the world today. November is an opportunity to celebrate the Hindu way of life, examine its impact and contributions to world culture, and recognize values which promote compassion, peace, and inclusion.

As part of the celebration to mark Hindu Heritage Month during the month of November, all TDSB students are invited to be creative and submit an image to the Hindu Heritage Month Poster Design Challenge. The theme for Hindu Heritage Month 2024 is Antah Shanti for Vishwa Shanti. This Sanskrit phrase conveys that to foster World (Vishwa) Peace (Shanti) we need to have Inner (Antah) Peace (Shanti).

All details are [attached](#). Please share at your school and with your students.

Deadline: Thursday, October 3, 2024 by 3:00 pm.

Have an amazing weekend 😊

Thank you,

Krishna Kumar

