



Good day AYJ Community,

We hope that everyone had some productive time yesterday afternoon/evening during our Parent/Guardian-Teacher Virtual Interview sessions. If you did not get a chance to connect with teachers, please feel free to contact such staff to schedule a phone/zoom/email conversation at the next mutually available time.

[28a-Sem 2 Teacher Contacts and Assignments.pdf](#)

As always, we have some latest news and info listed below for all to be aware of!

Ministry e-Learning Graduation Requirement

The Ontario Ministry of Education has introduced a new graduation requirement for secondary students to complete **two e-Learning credits** as part of the 30 credits required for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). This applies **only** to students who entered Grade 9 on or after September 1, 2020 which means that they are now in Grade 9 or Grade 10.

Students may **withdraw/opt out of this new graduation requirement** and graduate with an OSSD (details below).

Students working towards an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) or a Certificate of Accomplishment (CoA) are **not** required to complete this new graduation requirement. Students who are completing an OSSC or CoA may choose to enrol in e-Learning courses.

Online learning supports the development of digital literacy and other transferable skills that will help prepare students for success after graduation. AYJ will communicate directly with students and parents/caregivers (including incoming Grade 9 students) in the near future to provide information about which courses will be available through e-Learning for the 2022-23 school year and how to enrol.

e-Learning Credit Course

e-Learning credit courses are delivered using an asynchronous model, which includes digital content such as readings, videos, blogs, commentaries, and online discussion boards. Students complete the assigned work independently and teachers provide ongoing support for student learning through exemplars, rubrics, tutorials and individual conferences. Evaluation is continuous throughout the course with the teacher providing descriptive feedback.

Opting-Out of the New Online Learning Graduation Requirement

Students may withdraw from the online e-Learning requirement. A parent/caregiver/guardian or student (18 years of age or older or 16 or 17 years of age and withdrawn from parental control) may withdraw by submitting the opt out/withdrawal form, which will be sent via email in the next week.

No explanation or reason is needed to opt out/withdraw.

Please visit the [online learning graduation requirement web page](#) for more information. If you have questions, please contact the Mr Paputsis.

Our task as a school community, is to determine a couple of things:

1. What immediate commitment do we want to make for Sept 2022 (there is the expectation that we initiate this process at some level), knowing that our course selection process has been completed?
2. What courses do we feel are best suited to support students wishing to fulfill this requirement, that align best for student success and course delivery?
3. How do we canvas interest in this type of learning for our current students in the desired courses and schedule them accordingly (immediately and long term)?

These questions have been shared with the AYJ Staff Leadership Team (Admin and ACLs) and a more detailed plan will unfold in the weeks ahead.

Some quick facts:

What is the new Online Learning graduation requirement?	Students must earn a minimum of two online learning (e-Learning) credits as part of their 30 credits towards their high school diploma (OSSD).
Which students are included?	Students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year or later and are working towards an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. (This year's Grade 9s and 10s). This year's Grade 10's will be credited ONE e-learning credit for work completed during the pandemic.
What type of online courses are eligible to meet the graduation requirement?	The Ministry defines online courses as Grade 9-12 e-Learning courses. e-Learning credit courses are delivered online using an asynchronous model which includes digital content such as readings, videos, blogs, commentaries, and online discussion boards. Students complete the assigned work independently and teachers provide ongoing support for student learning through exemplars, rubrics, tutorials and individual conferences. Evaluation is continuous throughout the course with the teacher providing descriptive feedback.
How is an e-Learning course different from a virtual learning course?	e-Learning courses are delivered in an asynchronous mode with teacher support. e-Learning courses meet the new graduation requirement.

	<p>Virtual Learning courses are delivered synchronously with student attendance required for the duration of the daily scheduled class taught by the teacher. Virtual Learning courses do <i>not</i> meet the new graduation requirement.</p>
<p>What type of courses are not eligible to meet the new graduation requirement?</p>	<p>These courses do not meet the new graduation requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-person classes: students are physically present with other students in the same course and their teacher in the school environment ● Virtual Learning Classes: students attend an online synchronous lesson for the duration of the daily scheduled class as outlined in PPM 164* ● Blended learning Classes: digital learning resources are used in an in-person learning setting, or in which students are taught part of the time in person in the school environment and part of the time online ● Flipped classrooms: students are introduced to content online and practice working through it in person with their educator in the school environment.
<p>Is it possible to opt out of the new OSSD graduation requirement?</p>	<p>Yes. The parent/guardian or a student who is 18 years of age or older, or a student who is 16 or 17 years of age and has withdrawn from parental control may opt out of e-Learning.</p> <p>Opting out of e-Learning means that the graduation requirement of e-Learning is lifted and the student may still graduate with an OSSD.</p>

Semester Two Credit Rescue Days – Mon Apr 11th & Wed Apr 20th

As we approach the Mid Term (and hence mid term report cards), students will be given the opportunity to salvage missed assignments and evaluations during our Credit Rescue Days scheduled for **Monday, April 11th & Wednesday April 20th**.

On these two Credit Rescue Days, **ONLY** students invited to participate by their teachers will be expected to attend school on these days. Students **NOT** engaged in Credit Rescue Activities will be assigned Asynchronous/Independent work that can be completed while they are at home. Students will need to log in to their BrightSpace Classrooms from home during their regularly assigned class times to be marked present for those days. Teachers will be sending out invites to students/families in the days preceding each Credit Rescue Day.

Students will be able to find their teachers on these days by accessing them in their classrooms at their regularly scheduled times during each day (i.e. Period 2 teacher at 10:20am to 11:35am). Students may also spend longer than their scheduled class time (not including over lunchtime) with a teacher should they require additional time and support.

There will **NOT** be any Cafeteria service for students at school on these days.

Please keep in mind that **Wed Apr 20th** is a **late start day** and as such Period One support will begin at 10:00am and the class schedule that follows will be adjusted accordingly.

Virtual Music Night 2:

Our upcoming Virtual Music Night is taking place on **Thursday, April 14th at 7pm**. This will feature a variety of student acts across many genres and disciplines.

Please use this Zoom link to join:

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/94517220328>

Yearbook Sales Extension

Cash on-line has been re-opened so students/families can purchase a yearbook (link is below). They will remain on sale for **\$30 until April 15th**. After this time, the price will go up to \$40 so don't miss out on this deal get your yearbook today!

<https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/115560/153/False/True>

Summer School Registration

Registration for in-person and remote summer school opens April 19th. More info can be found [here](#). Registration for eLearning summer courses opens April 5th.

More info can be found [here](#)

International Day of Pink – Wednesday, April 13, 2022

[International Day of Pink](#) is honoured every year at the Toronto District School Board in support of creating a more inclusive and diverse world by encouraging young people to challenge social norms, ask more of their educators and stand up against bullying towards their 2SLGBTQIA+ peers.

Calling ALL INTERESTED STAFF, STUDENTS and COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Join the TDSB PRIDE 2022 Planning Committee!

June 2022 is PRIDE Month in Toronto. This year's celebration will culminate on Sunday, June 26th, 2022, in the city's 42nd annual PRIDE March. As we've done every year since 2000, a proud contingent of TDSB students, staff, Trustees and community members will once again be marching.

The TDSB PRIDE 2022 Planning Committee is looking for volunteers to help with planning the celebration!

Come out and get involved! Everyone is welcome!

To learn more and RSVP, please contact Melanie Pearce, Human Rights and Indigenous Education, (416) 397-3678

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday, April 11th	AYJ Credit Rescue Day – see item above
Wednesday, April 13th	International Day of Pink – please wear pink in support of this initiative
Thursday, April 14th	AYJ Virtual Music Night – see item above
Friday, April 15th	Stat Holiday – Schools CLOSED, NO CLASSES
Monday, April 18th	Stat Holiday – Schools CLOSED, NO CLASSES
Wednesday, April 20th	AYJ Credit Rescue Day – see item above
Wednesday, April 20th	AYJ Late Start Schedule – credit rescue begins at 10:00am
Wednesday, April 27th	AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 10:00am

Hispanic Heritage Month at the TDSB

During the month of April, the TDSB recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month. In March 2010, our TDSB Board of Trustees voted that April be designated as Hispanic Heritage Month at the Toronto District School Board.

As stated in the Hispanic Heritage Month Act, (May 5, 2015): "Ontario is home to more than 400,000 first-, second- and third-generation Canadian of Hispanic origin. As early as 1914, Canadians who originated from 23 Hispanic countries began immigrating to the province and today the Hispanic community is one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Hispanic-Canadians represent a dynamic

community that has made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of the Province of Ontario.

By proclaiming the month of October as Hispanic Heritage Month in Ontario, the province recognizes the rich contributions of Hispanic-Canadians to our social economic, political and multicultural fabric. Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of Hispanic people in the province."

Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB - April 2022

Sikh Heritage Month is proudly recognized at the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) during the month of April since 2016 as the Board of Trustees voted to designate April of each year Sikh Heritage Month making the TDSB the first school board in Canada to do so. This designation matches the recognition by the Province of Ontario that proclaimed Sikh Heritage Month Act in December 2013, and the recognition proclaimed by the Government of Canada on April 30, 2019. Sikh Heritage Month is recognized nationally across Canada.

This year our theme is Come to learn, go to serve; the goal of education is to serve humanity.

Sikh Canadians have lived in Ontario since the turn of the twentieth century. They have made significant contributions to the growth and prosperity of Ontario and their traditions and culture continue to be a vibrant art of every aspect of life for Canadians today.

We are inviting all TDSB community, students, and staff to join our virtual Sikh Heritage Month launch to recognize the contributions of Sikh Canadians. Join us for a remarkable afternoon of information and celebration (see below and [flyer](#) for full details).

Latin-America History Month at the TDSB - April 2022

Latin-America History Month is proudly recognized at the TDSB during the month of April as a result of a motion passed through our Board of Trustees in 2016.

This year the theme to mark Latin-America History Month is (DeColonizing) Latin-America History Month & Beyond: Learning about our collective pasts through the art of healing.

Since its creation of the Latin-America History Month Volunteer Planning Committee in 2016, the membership continues to expand searching every year for more intentional ways of working in solidarity with Indigenous Nations of Turtle Island (Canada) and ways to bring Elders, Knowledge Keepers, educators and families together to decolonize understandings of Latin-America. The Latin-America History Volunteer Planning Committee comprised of TDSB staff, former students, parents/caregivers, and community members.

During the month of April, several activities are being planned for students, staff, and community members. We invite everyone to join us to kick-off Latin-America History Month with a virtual launch (see below and [flyer](#) for details). We're pleased to share with you the results of a Creative Arts Contest (to be posted shortly on the TDSB website) where all TDSB students were invited to participate from all grade levels. Elementary students will also be provided with the opportunity to learn about the art of healing and the powerful tool that music brings with Ruben Beny Esguerra, a Canadian musical artist and

poet based in Toronto. Ruben Beny Esguerra has been nominated twice for a JUNO Award (2018 JUNO Awards in the World Music Album of the Year category and for the 2022 JUNO Awards in the Global Music Album of the Year category.)

Learning about careers in various fields, our students will have the opportunity to connect with accomplished Latin-America leaders and acquire information about their educational and professional journey to success. In addition, secondary students will further their learning on art as a form of healing by attending a workshop hosted by a member of the Afrolatinx community.

That's all for now AYJ, have a super weekend!

P

Peter Paputsis (he/him)

Principal

AY Jackson SS

See the light . . . BE the light!

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