



Good day AYJ Community,

We hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing March Break!

We wanted to remind you of some changes and provide some additional details to how AYJ and other schools will implement direction from the Ministry of Education and Toronto Public Health with respect to COVID-19 health and safety measures.

Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, [responded](#) to the TDSB's [request](#) for more time to implement these changes, and reiterated their previous direction. Toronto Public Health [responded](#) by noting that all policies related to mask mandates in schools are the responsibility of the provincial government, but underscored their continued partnership with the TDSB as we continue to navigate health and safety measures together.

Revised Health Screening

Toronto Public Health has updated its [screening for children/students/adults](#) to align with the new direction from the Chief Medical Officer of Health with respect to isolation guidelines and masking requirements following a COVID-19 diagnosis or identification of being a close contact. Please do a daily self-assessment with this screening tool before coming to school and follow the isolation guidelines and other requirements, such as masking, as necessary. As of today (Mon Mar 21st), you do not need to provide verification of this self-assessment through either the Health Paper Pass or Health Screening App.

Masking

As of today (Mon Mar 21st), masks will be strongly encouraged in TDSB schools, though not required, except in the following circumstances:

- For days 6-10 after a self-isolation period of five days after a COVID-19 diagnosis. [Learn more.](#)
- If you are identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19. [Learn more.](#)
- In public spaces, including schools and childcares, for the first 14 days following travel outside of Canada. [Learn more.](#)

AYJ and all TDSB schools will continue to be mask-friendly environments. Masks will still be available to both staff and students upon request. Classroom environments will be inclusive of all students.

Cohorting and Physical Distancing

With the lifting of all cohorting and physical distancing requirements, students may now sit, work and play together. As schools move towards these more normal, pre-pandemic conditions, some activities such as extracurriculars and events, require a more thoughtful, phased-in approach in schools, as well as significant staff support. Please be patient as schools work to implement these changes in their local community.

This new direction also impacts our Severe Weather procedure. As classes can now combine, moving forward, when busses are canceled as a result of severe weather, schools will now remain open, in line with the Toronto Catholic District School Board with whom we share bussing services.

Thank you for your continued patience and support.

More updates about school practices and events will be shared as they become confirmed.

Important Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, March 23rd	AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 10:00am
Wednesday, March 30th	AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 10:00am
Thursday, April 7th follow	Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews – hold the date, more info to follow
Monday, April 11th	AYJ Credit Rescue Day – more info to follow
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 – more info to follow
Wednesday, April 27th	AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 10:00am

Greek Heritage Month at the TDSB - March 2022

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 based on healthy living:

"Harmony of Life Healthy Mind, Healthy Body"

Visit the GHM website for information and resources: https://bit.ly/GHM_TDSB

This year's website includes "Word of the Day" and "Daily Announcements" along with featured focussed days with activities.

- "Movement Mondays"
- "Travelling Tuesdays"
- "Wellness Wednesdays"
- "Thoughtful Thursdays"
- "Foodie Fridays"

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

P

Peter Paputsis (he/him)

Principal

AY Jackson SS

See the light . . . BE the light!

416-395-3140