A. Y. Jackson

News Update Mar 3rd, 2023



Good day AYJ Community,

Thanks to all AYJ students and families for their attention to the 2023-24 Course Selection Process which ran throughout the month of February. We are pleased to know that we are currently sitting at over 98% completed (the last few outstanding selections will be made shortly)! This is an important first step towards building next year's schedule and securing the appropriate staffing to support our student need.

We are fully into March and remain as busy as ever!

Please read through the other items we have for you this week!

AYJ Staff Contact List

Please refer to the staff list and assignments linked below if you need to connect with any one of our teaching/non teaching staff.

AYJ Staff List and Assignments – 2022/23 – Sem 2 (as of Feb 27th) link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y5R5WVC1CfNfWkaP5tqn38CvfpeW--lj/view?usp=sharing

AYJ Swim Team "Owns the Podium" at OFSAA 2023!!

Congratulations to the five AYJ athletes (all of whom brought home medals!) who represented AYJ and the TDSB at this week' **OFSAA Provincial Swim Championship** in Windsor, ON.

Our medal winning results were:

Adora Y in the 50m Butterfly Won a Gold Medal (Provincial Champion!!!)

The 200m Medley Relay team of: Emma C, Kaitlyn S, Adora Y and Jenny W Won a Silver Medal (0.08s behind 1st) Relay team on the podium photo: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VUr96aGXJn1XO4xsbhoZokf3xz3YEHHP/view?usp=sharing

Felix Y in the 100m Individual Medley Won a Bronze Medal

Coach (Ms) Karpouzis, Coach (Mr) M Kwok (now at another school) and Life Guard Mr Shiwa have spent a countless number of hours throughout the months to prepare this group and the full Swim Team this past season.

Outstanding results (and opportunities like this) are not possible without the dedication and hard work from our Athletic Dept, Coaches, athletes and their teammates.

GO JAGS!

<u>AYJ Grads – HOLD These Dates</u> As a very early preview to a couple of very important graduate dates for our Grade 12 students:

Thursday, June 1st Grade 12 Prom at Paradise Banquet Hall 7601 Jane St. Concord, ON (Jane St and Hwy 7)

Friday, June 30th AYJ Graduation Ceremony Crystal Fountain Event Venue 60 McDowell Gate Markham, ON L6G 1B5 (Birchmount Rd and 14th Avenue)

Please mark these dates in your calendar and prepare accordingly. More information will follow as we approach these dates.

Staff Appreciation Breakfast - Wed Mar 29th

On Wednesday, March 29th, AY Jackson School Council will be hosting a Staff Appreciation Breakfast for the teachers and staff at AY, to say thank you for everything they do for our children.

If you would like to contribute to this breakfast – we are asking for a financial contribution of \$10 or more.

Financial contributions can be made via School Cash Online at:

https://tdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/163238/153/False/True

no later than Friday, March 24.

We will be serving around 80 people. Depending on how much money we can collect – the breakfast can be very elaborate. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any one of our organizers.

Key Kasravi keykasravi@gmail.com Jennifer Gillick jen@fuzzypaws.ca

Jenny Zeng jennygianna@gmail.com Phouvieng Sackda phouv@rogers.com Thank you so much for your support in showing our teachers and staff how much they are valued by the community!

Staff Appreciation Flyer

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BjgAPAJGQ1viOfKWrr_r8ugDnlRhE1PH/view?usp=sharing

Parent-Teacher Interviews Information (March 28th)

We will be holding IN PERSON Parent-Teacher Interviews on Tuesday, March 28th from 2:00 - 4:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm. This semester, you will be able to schedule your Parent-Teacher Interviews online. Bookings open from March 20th at 8:00 am until March 27th at 12:00 noon. If you wish to schedule a meeting with any of your child's teachers, please follow the instructions below.

Instructions

- 1. Prepare a list with the names of each teacher you would like to meet
- 2. Go to the A. Y. Jackson scheduling website at https://parentinterview.com/s/ayj
- 3. Enter your child's 9-digit student number and click "Sign In"
- 4. Fill in your contact information and click "Continue to Make Appointments"
- 5. Click on the name of a teacher with whom you wish to schedule an appointment
- 6. Click on an "Available" time at which you wish to meet with that teacher
- 7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6 until you have scheduled all the teachers you wish to see
- 8. Click on "My Schedule" (top left of the page)
- 9. Print out, email or copy down your schedule

Should you wish to cancel an appointment you have made, click on "Cancel" beside the meeting you wish to have removed from your schedule. If you experience any difficulty using the service, please email support@parentinterview.com

TDSB Central Special Education Parent Engagement Session

Please see the link to a parent engagement session about special education for our families.

Here is the link to the Wed. Mar. 1st flyer:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NBtRSFJL_AFe-rzpFaboDcx71dRt-ohD/edit#slide=id.p1

Excellence Awards 2023 to Celebrate Staff Dedication

Every year, <u>the TDSB Excellence Awards</u> help shine a light on the stories of extraordinary staff commitment, and we are delighted to announce that nominations for the Excellence Awards 2023 will open today, February 27, 2023.

Last year, the Excellence Awards were modified to align with our shared system priorities and help highlight TDSB staff's efforts to foster joy, engagement and belonging in our schools, workplaces, and communities as a foundation for academic achievement, student success and service excellence.

We want to know about the TDSB colleagues you know who are inspiring students, innovating the curriculum, championing digital transformation, creating inclusive schools and workplaces, and working

behind the scenes to support events, operations, initiatives, learning, and wellness in so many different ways.

We welcome nominations from anyone – staff, students, parents/caregivers, or community members – so we encourage you to submit nominations and to encourage your colleagues to submit nominations between February 27 and April 6, 2023.

Sikh Heritage Month at the TDSB Poster/Video Contest 2023

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 as 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 matches the recognition proclaimed by the Government of Canada on April 30, 2019. Sikh Heritage Month is recognized nationally across Canada.

As part of the celebrations to mark Sikh Heritage Month, all TDSB students are invited to be creative! All elementary school students from kindergarten to grade 8 are invited to create a poster, infographic text, etc., and all secondary school students from grades 9 to 12 are invited to submit a short informative video, spoken word, poetry etc., (1 to 2 min) related to the theme Kes.

Deadline: All entries must be submitted on or before Wednesday, March 22, 2023 by 4:00 pm. Full details about the theme, eligibility and how to submit are available in the <u>attached</u> document. Should further information be required, please contact:

Kanwaljit.Woodwal@tdsb.on.ca , Balwinder.Mangat@tdsb.on.ca or Maninder.Rai@tdsb.on.ca

Calling all creatives!

Pride Month 2023 is just around the corner, and the TDSB Pride Planning Committee is holding a T-Shirt Design Competition. Open to all TDSB students, we're looking for two unique designs that celebrate 2SLGBTQ+ Pride across TDSB. The winning designs will be printed on hundreds of TDSB Pride 2023 T-shirts and worn by all members of the TDSB contingent during 2023 Pride Parade on Sunday, June 25th.

The TDSB Pride 2023 T-shirt Design Competition is open to all ages.

Deadline for design submissions is March 23rd, 2023 at midnight .

The criteria for design submissions are:

- May be hand-drawn OR digital.
- May be grey-scale OR multi-coloured.
- Must incorporate the TDSB logo OR leave enough space for logo to be added.
- Must be original.
- Must be respectful.

Everything else is up to the designer!

For more information and to submit an entry, please email <u>tdsbpride@tdsb.on.ca</u> attaching an image of the design (e.g., .jpeg, .gif, .png, pdf., etc.). Be sure to include the student's name, grade, and school, as well as the name of a staff member for communication.

Latin-America History Month at the TDSB: Creative Art Showcase Contest

The month of April is recognized as Latin-America History Month at the Toronto District School Board. This year our theme is (Decolonizing) Latin-America History month & Beyond: Honouring & Uplifting the Real Hxstories and Multiplicities.

An invitation is being extended to all TDSB students to submit a creative art piece that reflects on this year's theme. Submissions of creative art may include all forms of expression - i.e., painting, drawing, architecture, sculpture, literature, music, performance (spoken word, poem, dance, etc), or submitting an image that may be used for a poster during Latin-America History Month promotions. We encourage you to use colour, shape, patterns, textures, or anything else that you find creative!

Deadline: Friday, March 31 by 4:00 pm

Students from each of these categories: i) Kindergarten - Grade 2; ii) Grade 3 - Grade 6; and iii) Grade 7 - Grade 12 whose submissions are selected will receive a \$100.00 gift card to Indigo. Please see the <u>attached</u> for full details on the theme and on the Creative Arts Contest. Should further information be required please contact: Flors Aviles, Co-Chair, Latin-America History Month at <u>flors.aviles@tdsb.on.ca</u>

Tutoring Info

The TDSB is continuing to support students with unfinished learning. Through the Ministry's funding for Tutoring programs, they are pleased to announce that TDSB students will now have access to free, unlimited, online tutoring, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will be working with Paper and Brainfuse. These two particular organizations were chosen as they could immediately serve the needs of a school board our size, while ensuring students could access the tutoring resources at any time of day.

In addition to the extra assistance teachers already offer students, the TDSB continues to support school-based tutoring by interested TDSB teachers funded by the Ministry of Education. Parents can speak with the AYJ Admin Team about joining already existing after-school Continuing Education tutoring programs currently running at AYJ.

All tutoring services are voluntary. There is no obligation for any student to participate in tutoring. TDSB is not operating online tutoring services. This means that TDSB staff will not be present during tutoring sessions.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers and/or Students (18 years or older) who wish to participate in one of these free online tutoring services should contact the company directly to learn more about their services and the registration process.

The following Tutoring Fact Sheet provides more information about what's new and the online Tutoring opportunities. Please use your TDSB account to access the document.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1koYyLmzrTGFhRArVC8XEzKZUN8qNXFtn/view?usp=sharing

Keisha's Korner: (All the latest from AYJ's Graduation Coach for Black Students) As a TDSB Graduation Coach for Black students, I am here to begin identifying strategies and opportunities to support Black students at A.Y. Jackson so that they can thrive in the educational system, and work to support their emotional well-being and belonging and ensure their academic success.

We are excited to share some news and upcoming opportunities from the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement.

Scarborough

You're invited! Join the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement for a virtual screening of Scarborough followed by a conversation with the author and screenwriter of the novel and adapted film Catherine Hernandez!

Scarborough the novel employs a multitude of voices to tell the story of a tight-knit neighbourhood under fire: among them, Victor, a Black artist harassed by the police; Winsum, a West Indian restaurant owner struggling to keep it together; and Hina, a Muslim school worker who witnesses first-hand the impact of poverty on education.

Scarborough (film description, from TIFF website): Adapted from the critically acclaimed novel by Catherine Hernandez, Scarborough is an unflinching portrait of three low-income families struggling to endure within a system that's set them up for failure. It shows the love and perseverance communities can foster, lifting up families to overcome the obstacles placed in their way.

Audience: Caregivers, community, staff Date: March 7, 2023 Time: 6:00 – 9:00 pm Register <u>here</u> For more information contact, System Superintendent Karen Murray, <u>karen.murray@tdsb.on.ca</u> or Centrally Assigned Principal Jeffrey Caton, jeffrey.caton@tdsb.on.ca .

Webinar Wednesdays - Academic Pathways - myBlueprint

The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement presents *Webinar Wednesdays*. This series seeks to support Black caregivers, along with caregivers raising Black children with meaningful engagement and advocacy for their children in TDSB schools and programs. Through collaborations with various TDSB departments, *Webinar Wednesdays* aims to support system navigation processes for Black families and caregivers, alongside communication about Black student success. The second <u>session</u> of this 2-part series, Academic Pathways - myBlueprint, in partnership with TDSB Guidance Department, will explore the myBlueprint platform to support decision making, future planning and course selection for students.

Topics include: Introduction to myBlueprint Sequence Planning Career Pathways myBlueprint as a complementary tool to interpersonal conversations with caring adults and classroom instruction Family and advisor access Date: March 8, 2023 Time: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. <u>Register</u> for this webinar.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r2LSr_BB528L7ABfhjJ2hJvEgtgCeYge/view?usp=sharing

Building Mathematical Minds

I am sharing with you all an opportunity called <u>Building Mathematical Minds Part 1</u>. The session will take place on <u>Tuesday March 21st 2023 6:30 pm</u>. – This is a wonderful chance to highlight numeracy and access support for those who would like it.

You are encourage to share the flyer widely among your school networks including students, caregivers and colleagues.



Link to Flyer: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wNiedgNvaoDpbT4pDr5phJeWEG7rLg3/view?usp=sharing</u>

Black Mental Health Week

On March 6th, 2023, we honour the start of **Black Mental Health week**, initially recognized by the City of Toronto, Taibu Community Health Center, CAFCAN and Strides Toronto in 2020. At TDSB we recognize the impact Anti-Black racism continues to have on the mental health and well being of individuals, students and families.

A day or a week is not sufficient---supporting Black Mental Health and well-being must be every day. Anti-Black racism has deeply rooted impacts on the emotional well-being for Black communities and we recognize and understand this emotional impact is real, present and daily. In this link you will find numerous resources, information and videos that support <u>Black Mental Health</u>.

Black Mental Health, wellness and well-being, are adversely impacted by Anti-Black racism, which is woven into the fabric of our institutions and systems. We remain committed to further developing our understanding that racial stress & trauma results in fatigue, exhaustion, distrust of Mental Health supports and the silencing of Black voices.

<u>Go ENG Girl</u>

Hello from the Engineering Outreach Office,

The Engineering Outreach office is excited to be partnering with <u>WISE</u>, the University of Toronto Women in Science & Engineering student club to bring Go ENG Girl 2023 back to campus after a 2 year hiatus.

This in-person opportunity is for female-identifying youth in grades 7-9. We encourage you to share this opportunity with others who you feel may be interested.

Western's National Scholarship Program

Western's National Scholarship Program supports the dreams of top students whose potential can be realized through a world-class education at one of Canada's leading universities.

They're looking for high-potential applicants who excel in the classroom and in their extracurricular pursuits. Our aim is to attract and reward the best students from across Canada and around the world, helping them achieve their academic goals while encouraging their vital contributions to our extraordinary campus culture.

Some of their National Scholarships include:

One Neen Hodgins National Entrance Scholarship valued at \$80,000 One President's Entrance Scholarship valued at \$70,000 One Beryl Ivey Continuing Entrance Scholarship valued at \$72,000 Five President's Entrance Scholarships for Black Students valued at \$50,000 Four President's Entrance Scholarships valued at \$65,000 and up to 15 more at \$50,000 One Neen Hodgins President's International Entrance Scholarship valued at \$80,000 for international (visa) students Three International President's Entrance Scholarships valued at \$50,000 for international (visa) students Up to 15 Faculty Entrance Scholarships valued at \$30,000 Up to 46 National Scholarship Study Abroad Awards valued up to \$5,000 Up to 50 National Merit Awards valued at \$2,000 for one year

More details about all the scholarship programs offered at Western can be found online at <u>https://registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/scholarships_awards/admission/</u>. If you have any questions, our Scholarships Coordinator Norma Merino would be pleased to help at 519-661-2111 extension 85958 or email <u>nmerino@uwo.ca</u>

IMMspire 2023 at University of Toronto, Registration Now Open!

Graduate students at the Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto (U of T), St. George Campus are hosting a conference for high school students to experience interactive immunology research through an event known as IMMspire.

We are happy to announce that this year, IMMspire will take place across two days <u>IN-</u> <u>PERSON</u> at the U of T St. George Campus on April 28-29, 2023. The theme of this year's event will be "Cancer Immunology."

EVENT DETAILS:

Dates of Conference:

Day 1: Friday April 28, 2023 (9 am to 3 pm) Day 2: Saturday April 29, 2023 (9 am to 4 pm)

Length of Sessions: Approximately ~50 minutes, with breaks taking place between.

For students in grades: 11-12 (students in lower grades are welcome, but minimum of grade 9 level science is strongly recommended).

Theme of Event: The immune system and Cancer Immunology

- -What are immune cells? -What is cancer?
- -How do we detect and treat cancer?
- -How is the immune system involved in cancer?

Certificate of Participation: will be provided to IMMspire attendees that attend a majority of the event.

Transportation: Students can request reimbursement for the transportation costs to attend IMMspire.

Maximum # of Participants: Due to spacing logistics, a maximum of 80 students will be selected to attend the IMMspire program this year.

Sign up for the program: Please see the attached flyer with our QR code that gives access to the registration form and can be circulated to students.

OR at <u>https://forms.gle/ggwuScYWDYGbUPAC8</u> OR sign up at <u>https://immspireuoft.wordpress.com/</u> OR email us at <u>immspire@gmail.com</u>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oyrqlXFTsbRAwGYK-heWurMI0AoDmNBd/view?usp=sharing

For Youth Scholarship and Bursary Information

For over 25 years, FYI has been dedicated to breaking down barriers to education and providing eligible youths with scholarships and bursaries to fund a portion of their post-secondary education journey. For the second year in a row, FYI's Post-Secondary Application Bursary is back and opened on November 1st, 2022 giving you the opportunity to have your College, University or Trades School application expenses covered.

Please complete the following application to be considered for your chance to have your application costs covered. All questions are mandatory and to be answered accurately. There is no deadline to complete this bursary application, however please consider completing the bursary prior to completing your post-secondary applications so you can work with an FYI youth case worker to support you through the process.

Further information such as eligibility requirements and required documentation, can be found on the application form and the flyers attached to this email. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at <u>oliviad@foryouth.ca</u>.

Application Link: https://forms.office.com/r/WFWU7a1ej9 FYI Poster:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x3DLd8mfVdcHospNdiExHGcRpeCYPINH/view?usp=sharing

FYI Application Fee Bursary Poster Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hmQt8Q-vtc24IADh-owU7D9_L_sVvyGC/view?usp=sharing

Black Tutors Canada

Black Tutors Canada is a tutor listing website that connects current and retired Black teachers, graduates, and professionals with students and families across Canada. Black tutors work with students at all grade levels from K-PhD levels in all subjects including Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, English, French, and Art, to name a few. We are looking for more tutors from across Canada to join our platform. We invite students of all diversity and intersectionality to access our services. For more details, see the attached flyer; click the link below to access the website or contact them at:

https://blacktutorscanada.ca/ info@blacktutorscanada.ca

<u>https://blacktutorscanada.ca/</u> is happy to collaborate with community organizations with a shared value.

Black Tutors Canada Information Poster: <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/15LV59tYGBQgagcLxs_DEhsJYYsjrDtYg/view?usp=sharing</u> Together we can close the achievement gap!

Black Tutors Canada

Email: <u>info@blacktutorscanada.ca</u> Website: <u>https://blacktutorscanada.ca/</u>



Important Upcoming Dates

Monday, March 6th

Day 2 Regular Day Schedule (am & pm courses flip)Per 19:00am to 10:20amCourse 2Per 210:25am to 11:40amCourse 1

	Lunch	11:40am to 12:40pm	LUNCH
	Per 3	12:40pm to 1:55pm	Course 4
	Per 4	2:00pm to 3:15pm	Course 3
Tuesday, March 7 th	Day 1 Regular Day SchedulePer 19:00am to 10:20amCourse 1		
	Per 2	10:25am to 11:40am	Course 2
	Lunch	11:40am to 12:40pm	LUNCH
	Per 3	12:40pm to 1:55pm	Course 3
	Per 4	2:00pm to 3:15pm	Course 4

*Please keep in mind that the "Cycle Day" (Day 1 or 2) corresponds to the actual date (odd days - 1st, 3rd, 5th, etc are Day 1, even days - 2nd, 4th, 6th, etc are Day 2)

Wednesday, March 8 th	AYJ Late Start Schedule – classes begin at 9:55am		
Friday, March 10 th	Final Day of classes BEFORE March Break (Day 2)		
Mon Mar 13 th to Fri Mar 17 th	MARCH BREAK – School CLOSED, NO classes		
Monday, March 20 th	First Day of classes AFTER March Break (Day 2)		
Monday, March 20 th	AYJ Parent-Teacher Interviews – IN PERSON Parent Interview Bookings OPEN at 8:00 am		
Wednesday, March 22 nd	Day 2 AYJ Late Start S	chedule – classes begin at 9:55am	
Monday, March 27 th	AYJ Parent-Teacher Interviews – IN PERSON Parent Interview Bookings CLOSE at 12:00 pm		
Tuesday, March 28 th	AYJ Parent-Teacher Interviews – IN PERSON Day 2 Morning Classes Special Schedule Period 1: 9:00am - 10:20am (Day 2 period 1) Period 2: 10:25am - 11:40am (Day 2 period 2) Dismissal is at 11:40am		
Parent-Teacher Interviews – IN PERSON			
	Afternoon Session	2:00pm to 4:00pm	
	Evening Session	6:00pm to 8:00pm	
Wednesday, March 29 th at 12:40pm	Day 1 Afternoon Classes Special Schedule – classes begin		
1	•	rive at 12:40pm om - 1:55pm (Day 1 period 3) om – 3:15pm (Day 1 period 4)	

Wednesday, April 5 th	Semester 2 Credit Rescue Day -by teacher appointment only -students NOT participating in Credit Rescue Day will work Asynchronously at home
Friday, April 7 th	HOLIDAY – School CLOSED, NO classes
Monday, April 10 th	HOLIDAY – School CLOSED, NO classes

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

Ρ

Peter Paputsis Principal AY Jackson SS ... Getting Back to Business! 416-395-3140

TDSB Greek Heritage Month

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

Any questions, please feel free to contact <u>anna.epitropou@tdsb.on.ca</u>

TDSB Ukrainian "Laskavo Prosymo" Welcome Fair

TDSB Ukrainian "Laskavo Prosymo" Welcome Fair is taking place 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 15, at Western Technical-Commercial School, 125 Evelyn Crescent. All TDSB Ukrainian secondary students and families are welcome.

Please use this registration form

Deadline for registration is April 1, 2023.

Peter Paputsis (he/him) Principal A Y Jackson SS ... Getting Back to Business! 416-395-3140