

Bessborough E & MS Newsletter



Bessborough Elementary & Middle School

211 Bessborough Drive
Toronto, ON M4G 3K2

Safe Arrival:

bessborough@tdsb.on.ca
416.396.2319

LN5 Superintendent:
Andrew Howard

Ward 11 Trustee:
Rachel Chernos Lin

Principal:
Dima Nijmeh-Mantia
Vice Principal:
Frances Themeliopoulos

Office Administrator:
Renee Cronier
Secretary: Toyin Bere

Upcoming Events:

- October 6 – Virtual School Council Meeting at 7:00 pm
- October 9 – Terry Fox Walk (Weather Permitting)
- October 12 – Thanksgiving
- October 13 – Change of class takes effect if family requested a change in learning model (In-Person or Virtual School) by Sept. 30th deadline.



Health & Safety

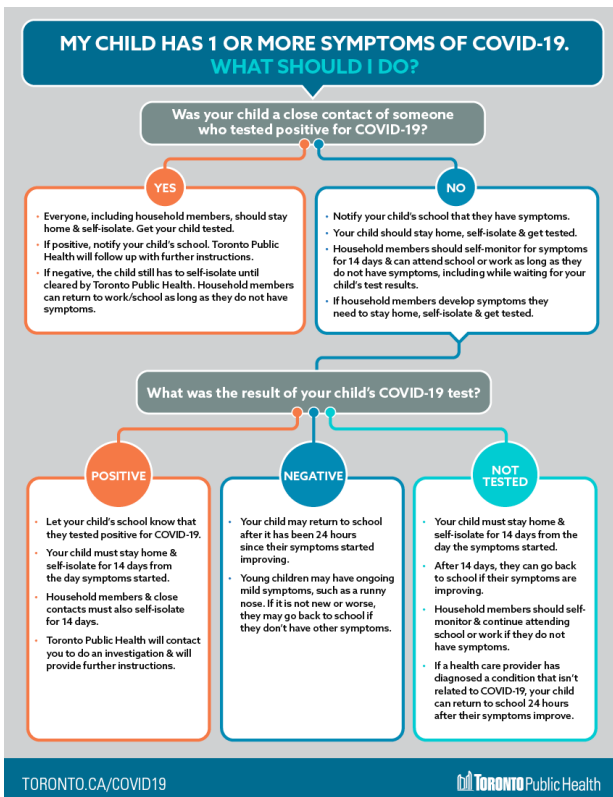
As you know, we continue to regularly reinforce Toronto Public Health and TDSB health and safety guidelines at school. We do depend on our entire community to consistently follow physical distancing and mask wearing on school property, at all times.

We are aware of the revised screening approach [announced](#) by the provincial government. As the TDSB takes its lead from Toronto Public Health (TPH), at this point, we have been advised to continue using the current screening questions and Decision Guide shared by TDSB while the TDSB works with Toronto Public Health to make any updates to the TDSB screening criteria and routines. Our understanding is that you can expect that the TDSB will be making changes and sending out updated information. We will then work to revise our screening links.

On September 29th, Toronto Public Health shared the [following](#): ***“We are seeing an increase in #COVID19 infections in Toronto & many are linked to small social gatherings of people who do not live in the same household. Take steps to protect yourself & others by limiting contact with people you don’t live with & wear your mask”.***

The current expectation is that everyone should be going straight home after school. Please be reminded that **parents/guardians/caregivers are required to wear a mask/face covering when outdoors on school property, during pick-up and drop-off.** For the safety of our staff, students and community, we ask that all adults remain off school property during school hours.

The safety and well-being of everyone in our community is our top priority. We need everyone working together and taking every step to stay safe and well.



Caregivers: find out what you should do if your child attends school & has symptoms of #COVID19.

More details available [HERE](#).

Annual Terry Fox Walk/Run



Bessborough is pleased to announce that we will be participating in The Terry Fox National School Run/Walk on Friday October 9th weather permitting. No rain date will be scheduled at this time.

All students will take part in this school event. Please ensure your child is wearing clothing suitable for physical activity and appropriate for the weather.

This year pledge forms will NOT be available at school. All donations will be **COLLECTED ONLINE**.

You can donate directly or students can set up their online page at:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/BessboroughDriveSchoolToronto>

We appreciate your support of our fundraising for the Terry Fox Foundation and we thank Mr. Pantopoulos and the entire Bessborough Terry Fox team for organizing.

Full details available: [TERRY FOX RUN/WALK](#)

Shared at the request of Toronto Public Health

FALL HOLIDAY PLANNING DURING COVID-19:



Private gatherings have limits of 10 indoors or 25 outdoors.



Keep a physical distance & limit contact with people you don't live with.



Wear a mask if you need to go indoors or can't keep physical distance.



Add a virtual event for out-of-town family & anyone feeling unwell.



Wash your hands often & avoid serving foods that need to be shared.



Avoid non-essential travel to reduce exposure to COVID-19.

TORONTO.CA/COVID19


WHO IS A CLOSE CONTACT AT SCHOOL?

CLOSE CONTACT	NOT CLOSE CONTACT
<p>You were within a 6 feet, or 2 metres distance for more than 15 minutes.</p> 	<p>You maintained a 6 feet, or 2 metre distance.</p> 
<p>Someone in your class, on your school bus or in your after school cohort.</p> 	<p>Goes to the same school, but is not in your cohort.</p> 
<p>You had close physical contact with the person, such as a hug.</p> 	<p>You were briefly in the same room together but kept your distance.</p> 
<p>A person who accidentally sneezed, or coughed on you while talking in close proximity.</p> 	<p>You passed a person quickly in the hall, or at recess.</p> 

TORONTO.CA/COVID19


Toronto Public Health: *Who is a close contact at school?*



Volunteers Needed

A BIG thanks to all those who have volunteered to be a class parent this year!

We've still got some spots to fill - are you interested in being a class parent? The role will look a little different this year than it did in years past. Class parents will act as a liaison between the teachers and parents where needed and will be mainly a communications role.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact Josette Katkic (katkic.ja@gmail.com).

School Council Meeting on October 6th

Our first school council meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, October 6th at 7:00 pm.

Details on how to join will follow. The operating budget will be voted on at the meeting. Though we want to do as much as we can this year, the TDSB has put a restriction on fundraising for the time being.

Agenda

- Welcome and Opening Remarks (Chair) Andrea Bee
- School Council Update
- Being Involved
- School Council By-Laws
- Financial Update Including Operations Budget
- School Update from Admin Dima Nijmeh-Mantia
Frances Themeliopoulos
- Q&A with our new Principal Dima Nijmeh-Mantia



Bessborough E. & M.S. School Council is on Insta

Follow us on Instagram and get messages about events, when forms are due, pictures of the fun goings-on at Bessborough and more!

Follow [@bessboroughschoolcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/bessboroughschoolcouncil)



Virtual School Council Meeting – October 6



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Website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/bessborough/>