



Trustee  
**Gerri Gershon**  
Ward 13, Don Valley West



Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year – a year of promise and progress. I hope you and your family had a restful and safe summer.

As your elected public school board trustee, my job is to assist you if needed and to represent the needs of students and parents/guardians within the Toronto District School Board.

As your Trustee, I visit neighbourhood schools, maintain contact with the principals and attend special events. Hearing from parents is also important. I meet with parents in the evenings at **Ward Forums** and also during the day at the **Community Coffee With Gerri**. Please watch for the dates of these meetings in my e-newsletter or through the principal's updates. The meetings are interesting and enjoyable and I encourage you to attend.

I also use Twitter to highlight educational issues. Please follow me [@gerrigershon](https://twitter.com/gerrigershon). Finally, to stay informed about news and events throughout the year, please sign up for my e-newsletter by emailing me at [gerri.gershon@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:gerri.gershon@tdsb.on.ca) and visit my webpage [www.tdsb.on.ca/ward13](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward13). For system-wide news about the TDSB, visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/TDSBupdate](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/TDSBupdate).

As you return to school, the TDSB has created a webpage with key information and resources including homework tips and the school year calendar. Learn more at [www.tdsb.on.ca/needtoknow](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/needtoknow).

Information about the TDSB and Trustees translated into 22 languages, visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/multilingual](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/multilingual).

Parent/guardian participation is an important aspect of every student's education. There are many ways to get involved. School councils provide a forum for student, parent and community voices and advise principals and the Board on school issues. To learn more about school councils contact your school or visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolcouncil](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolcouncil). For information about the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), a TDSB-wide parent group, visit [www.torontopiac.ca](http://www.torontopiac.ca).

TDSB parents/guardians with children who are transported by school buses can now access their children's transportation information online and receive email notifications if there are any school bus cancellations or delays, thanks to the launch of a new online transportation portal. For more information please visit [www.torontoschoolbus.org](http://www.torontoschoolbus.org) and select "Parents" from the top right hand corner of the screen. This portal is one of several improvements being made to transportation services to ensure an effective start to the 2017-18 school year.

Thank you and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year,

Gerri Gershon



# Who to contact when you have questions or concerns about issues in the classroom, your school or the TDSB.

## 1 Classroom Teacher

Step One

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments



**Your School Trustee**  
Gerri Gershon  
Don Valley West - Ward 13 Schools  
416-395-8787  
Gerri.Gershon@tdsb.on.ca



**Your School Superintendent**  
Leila Girdhar-Hill  
Learning Centre 1  
416-394-2038  
Leila.Girdhar-Hill@tdsb.on.ca

## 2 School Principal

Step Two

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal can help.

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration
- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

## 3 School Superintendents

Step Three

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

## 4 Trustees

Step Four

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Items on Board Agenda
- Board policies under review
- Board budget
- Collective bargaining

### Board Office

You can contact the Board Office directly for any questions or concerns related to:

- Continuing Education
- Night and summer school
- Adult education
- ESL
- Board documents

Phone: 416-397-3000 • Email: GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca

### PA Days 2017-2018

PA Days	October	November	December	January	February	June
Elementary	6	17	1	19	16	8, 29
Secondary	6	17	1		1*, 16	27*, 28, 29

PA Days & Holidays	Date
Labour Day	September 4, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	October 6, 2017
Thanksgiving	October 9, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	November 17, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	December 1, 2017
Christmas Break	December 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018 (inclusive) Last day of school is December 22, 2017 School resumes January 8, 2018
Elementary PA Day	January 19, 2018
Secondary PA Day - (Semestered Schools only)	February 1, 2018*
Board-wide PA Day	February 16, 2018
Family Day	February 19, 2018
March Break	March 12 to 16, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	April 2, 2018
Victoria Day	May 21, 2018
Elementary School PA Day	June 8, 2018
Secondary School PA Day (Full Year Schoolonly)	June 27, 2018*
Secondary School PA Day	June 28, 2018
Board-wide PA Day	June 29, 2018

\*The first day of second semester is February 2, 2018. Secondary school calendar includes a PA day for semestered schools only on February 1, 2018 and a PA Day for full-year schools only on June 27, 2018.