



Use this bitly to access the school website bit.ly/BPCIWeb

Friday, Jan. 8, 2021

From the Desk of the Principal

anton.skerritt@tdsb.on.ca

Student Engagement during the Lockdown: All Virtual Learning is Not Created Equal

We are in lockdown until Jan., 25th, 2021 and as a result we are all actively engaged in a virtual learning environment. It is important that we note that the virtual learning environment is very different than last Spring when the pandemic first hit us.

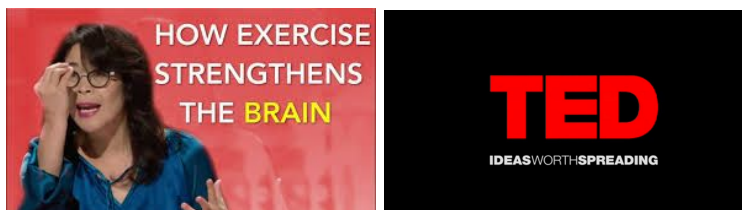
Virtual Learning - Spring 2020

In the Spring 2020 students' marks could not decrease during the virtual learning period. In other words, if you went into the lockdown in March 2020 if your mark was at 75% at the time of the lockdown your mark could only improve by the end of the year in June 2020.

Virtual Learning NOW- January 2021

That is not true during this virtual learning period. Student attendance is required, participation is required, submitting work is required and all classroom activities will help the student to be successful in earning their credit. If students are not attending and submitting work for evaluation it will negatively impact their ability to achieve the desired marks. Our staff will be reaching out to make sure that your child is engaged and is on track to earn their credit. If your child is not actively engaged in virtual learning over the next few weeks during the lockdown please reach out to your child's teacher, guidance counsellor or our Administration team for support.

These are challenging times for all of us. But we are committed to ensuring that every child, no matter what challenges they face, has an opportunity to be successful in earning all of their credits.



[Click here for Ted Talk: The brain-changing benefits of exercise by Wendy Suzuki](#)

How do I contact the school if I have a question?

Staff and role	Role / Student Alpha Responsibility	Email address
Anton Skerritt	Principal	anton.skerritt@tdsb.on.ca
Debora Ferrari	Vice Principal (Last names A-K)	debora.ferrari@tdsb.on.ca
David Fewson	Vice Principal (Last names L-Z)	david.fewson@tdsb.on.ca
Bea Kay	Office Administrator	beatrice.kay@tdsb.on.ca
Jo Grundy	CL Guidance (Last names I-R)	jo-ellen.grundy@tdsb.on.ca
Jennifer Munro	Guidance (Last names A-H)	jennifer.munro@tdsb.on.ca
Andrien Pargassingh	Guidance (Last names S-Z)	andrien.pargassingh@tdsb.on.ca
Andrea DiCarlo	Student Services Office Support	andrea.dicarlo@tdsb.on.ca

Quad 3 Learning Platform Change Request

If you would like to change the learning platform for your child for Quad 3 (Feb. 8-April 20) please complete the google form found here.

[Click here to change Quad 3 Learning Platform](#)

Please note that the deadline for platform changes for Quad 3 is January 11, 2021.

Important Dates

[Click here for TDSB important dates in Secondary School](#)

Midterm Marks

Students and parents should now have access to midterms marks. You can access marks by logging into Teach Assist using your students username and password. Parents do not have a separate login account. Similar to quadmester one, for the second quadmester, there will not be formal parent/guardian-teacher conferences. During the time period of **January 11 to January 15**, parents/guardians and teachers who would like to connect to discuss student progress in a course will set up a mutually-convenient time to do so. For our grade 12 students, marks will be transmitted to OCAS/OUAC by February 15.

Finally, please note that full disclosure for Quad 3 was originally scheduled for April 5; however, because it falls on Easter Monday, the new date is now **April 6, 2021**. Thus, the full disclosure dates for the remaining quads are as follows: **Quad 2: January 18, Quad 3: April 6, and Quad 4: June 7**

If you have any questions, please email your alpha VP. For students with surnames from A-K deboraferrari@tdsb.on.ca and for surnames L-Z david.fewson@tdsb.on.ca

EQAO Math

The EQAO Math field test that was originally scheduled on February 3 and 4 for all grade nine math students taking the academic course, has been cancelled for Quad 2 due to the lockdown. We anticipate that the field test will proceed in Quads 3 and 4.

Next Week@ Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute

Monday Jan. 11	Tuesday Jan. 12	Wednesday Jan. 13	Thursday Jan. 14	Friday Jan. 15
Day 2	Day 3 Staff Meeting	Day 4	Day 1	Day 2

Staff Meeting Schedule for Tuesday Jan. 12	Time
Period 1	8:45am - 12:05pm
Lunch/Study	12:05pm - 1:35pm
Period 2	1:35pm - 2:35pm

School Council Co-Chair Message

Please join the discussion at our next School Council meeting Tuesday, January 12 at 6:30pm

Topic: BPCI Parent Council

Time: Jan 12, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/94867028556?pwd=MnhuQlNQZnpLRk9ZbFBLOE9YMjhNZz09>

Meeting ID: 948 6702 8556

Passcode: 561245

From your School Council Team Question of the week:

Would you like ideas on supporting your child in:

1. Time Management
2. Stress Management
3. Math
4. Writing
5. Community Volunteering Opportunities
6. Post Secondary Preparation

Please email your responses to Candice.rees@tdsb.on.ca or Carol.warner@tdsb.on.ca

Any questions: Please email Candice.rees@tdsb.on.ca or Carol.warner@tdsb.on.ca



"I don't start riots. I start ideas, influence thought, and incite intelligent actions.

— Jeffrey G. Duarte

In light of what happened recently in the US Capitol we must continue to stand together as

ONE BIRCHMOUNT



Guidance Corner

jo-ellen.grundy@tdsb.on.ca

Happy New Year!

Guidance Continues to be available to our school community online.

We hold open office hours for 'drop-in' appointments as follows:

Counsellor	Drop-in Office hours	Please copy and paste into your browser:
Jo Grundy	9:30am - 11:30am	http://doxy.me/grundyguidance
Jennifer Munro	12:00pm - 2:00pm	http://doxy.me/munroctp
Andrien Pargassingh	1:00pm - 3:00pm	http://doxy.me/mrpguidance

We are also available for appointments outside of these times. Please email us directly for an appointment.

These are difficult times, we are here to support you in any way that you need.

Reminder:

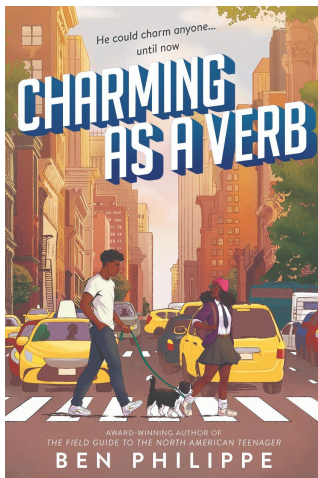
University applications are due Friday, January 15, 2021.

College applications are due February 1, 2021

These are not soft deadlines, please ask us for help if you need it.

BPCI Library

vanessa.vila@tdsb.on.ca



Featured Read

Charming As a Verb is Ben Philippe's second novel and a White Pine award nominee.

Henri 'Halti' Haltiwanger is a charming, bright student at the prestigious FATE academy. He is the dutiful first generation Haitian son, and his easy smile masks his burning ambition to attend his dream college.

Flirty, fast paced, and funny, with a desperate twist at the end, *Charming as a Verb* is an insightful YA novel.

Virtual Reads

Check out [Destiny Discover](#), available through the [Virtual Library](#).

Password needed, check the library google classroom [Library Google classroom](#) (class code k4fpeje).

Special Education Virtual Resource Room

The hours to the VRR have been changed to provide support to students during asynchronous/independent learning periods. Students can access VRR daily from:

- 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

DD Program

Students in the DD program will continue to learn from home until January 22nd. The DD Team will continue to connect with the students and their families to provide instruction and support by email, Google Classroom and phone calls. Parents are encouraged to connect with their child's teacher if they need additional information or support.

Student Success and Gifted

Happy New Year Everyone!

We spent some time of our first week back reaching out and conversing with students. Our aim is to identify challenges that our students faced and continue to face in Quads one and two. We are recruiting other staff members to share their input as we devise plans of action to eradicate these challenges so that learning can be less of a burden and more joyous for everyone involved in the learning process.

We have invited staff members who are leaders in the school to participate in discussions around Credit Rescue and Credit Recovery. We want to implement these initiatives so that they are most effective for our students. Their feedback and perspectives are necessary and meaningful in order to achieve this goal.

I will be hosting online office hours between 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm. Just copy and paste the following link into your browser: <http://doxy.me/mrpguidance>. If you have any questions, concerns, feedback, or ideas that you would like to share, please reach out.

Be well and please stay safe.

Congratulations to our Winter Break Fitness Challenge Winners:

★ Jian Da Ros

★ Kamran Champatsingh

★ Maya Clark

★ Will Boyer

★ Cameron Sailsman

★ Hannah Gyde!

★ Shae Robinson

★ Ciara Clifton

Teacher Quote of the Week

“In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist. We must be anti-racist”

Angela Davis