



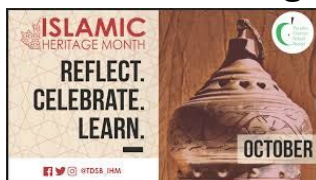
Use this bitly to access the school website [bit.ly/BPCIWeb](https://bit.ly/BPCIWeb)

Friday, October 16, 2020

## From the Desk of the Principal

[anton.skerritt@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:anton.skerritt@tdsb.on.ca)

### October is Islamic Heritage Month



We are happy to be celebrating Islamic Heritage Month this month. Please join any of the many events in the local community celebrating the rich Islamic Heritage.

### October is Somali Heritage Month



We are happy to celebrate with our brothers and sisters from the Somali Community during the month of October.

### **Parent - Teacher Interviews originally scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2020 will be postponed**

Our originally scheduled first parent's night this year will be postponed until further notice. We are awaiting direction from the TDSB on the timing and format of the evening. Our staff are being encouraged to reach out to parents to update families on the progress of their children.

## Curriculum Night via Google Meet

We held our first curriculum night virtually this past Wednesday Oct. 7th. It was nice to share with some of our grade 9 parents aspects of our curriculum and pathways from grade 9 through to grade 12 and beyond.

## Teach Assist

Student midterm grades will be available for viewing starting next week. Students and parents/guardians may log-in to [Teach Assist](#) using the student's TDSB student number and last name. Parents/guardians do not have a separate log-in.

## Achievement

TDSB in consultation with the MOE has made revisions to assessment, evaluations and reporting for the 2020-2021 school year. Here are the highlights of the changes for your information:

- No culminating activities, i.e. no exams
- No formal written mid-term report cards
- Teachers will share student progress with students and families using Teach Assist or a marks print out
- Ministry Report Cards will be issued at the end of each quad based on 100% term work

## BPCI School Council Elections

School Council Elections will take place on **Monday Nov. 2** via ZOOM. The link to the election will be provided to the election for parents/caregivers who are registered to vote. In order to register to vote please complete the registration form provided here. To register to vote: [bit.ly/BPSchoolCouncilVoterReg2020](https://bit.ly/BPSchoolCouncilVoterReg2020)

If you are interested in running for a position on the Birchmount Park CI School Council please the School Council Nomination form provided here. To nominate either yourself or someone else: [bit.ly/BPSchoolCouncilNominationForm2020](https://bit.ly/BPSchoolCouncilNominationForm2020)

## Brightspace Learning Platform: Parent Guide

In-School teachers are using either Google Classroom or Brightspace to deliver their virtual lessons. All teachers in the Virtual School are required to use Brightspace. If parents would like to get information about what is happening in their child's Brightspace environment they should visit [Brightspace for Parents](#) to learn how.

## Important Dates

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

### The Week Ahead @ Birchmount Park Collegiate

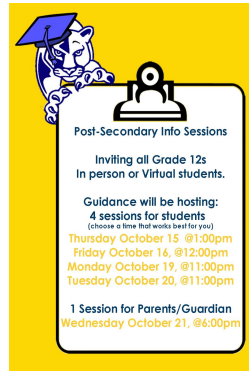
Monday Oct. 19	Tuesday Oct. 20	Wednesday Oct. 21	Thursday Oct. 22	Friday Oct. 23
Day 2 Post Secondary - College Focus Workshop	Day 3 Post Secondary - College Focus Workshop	Day 4 Post Secondary - Parent Session (Virtual)	Day 1	Day 2

### **Meeting our Grade 9s**

Guidance and Peer Leaders met with students in online meetings this week. We worked through some technical issues and are looking forward to trying again in a few weeks as we build a feeling of community in our school.

### **Grade 12s are getting ready for applying for learning after Bichmount.**

Many students have met online to attend our virtual seminars to focus on applying for post-secondary. There are two more scheduled for Monday and Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. and a night session for Parents and Guardians on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.



The meeting code for students is: <https://meet.google.com/hho-ymiw-dzg>

The meeting code for the evening parent/guardian session is:

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/91447522816?pwd=dzlBdGZ6TEYzWGxGbnhOVScxVmZKdz09>

Meeting ID: 914 4752 2816

Passcode: BPCI

We have also posted the Google Guidance calendar. This calendar will list all future deadlines and tour info for Ontario universities and colleges.

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/birchmountpark/Guidance/Guidance-calendar>

We continue to plan ways to assist our 12s with all their post-secondary needs. Please direct students to fill out the following survey:

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/birchmountpark/Guidance/Grade-12-Survey>

## BEAP News

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Wayne Simminds is coming home! The BEAP alumni has signed a one year contract with the Toronto Maple Leafs! Go Leafs Go!

The Birchmount Park CI Library and Learning Commons continues to safely host classes in the computer lab and to collaborate with teachers by creating screencasts for virtual lessons on research and citation.

Students can log on to AW to access library books by completing the [Book Request](#) form. Also, a selection of ebooks are available from [Teen Book Cloud](#) on our [Virtual Library](#). Check it out!



## Special Education/DD

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### Individual Education Plans

The Special Education Team is developing this year's Individual Education Plans or IEPs. The IEPs for 2020/2021 will be available and sent home during the week of October 19th. Please note, IEPs are not final until the end of the school year and are often updated to reflect any changes that may occur.

The DD program is very proud of all efforts made by both staff and students with regards to following safety protocols. The students have been so responsive in daily handwashing, mask wearing, and social distancing both in and out of the classroom. Way to go team!

The students in the DD Program have been learning about friendship and the qualities of a good friend. Together the students decided that a good friend is respectful, fun, makes you feel good about yourself and is there to help, when you need them. We can all benefit from having a good friend, it has a positive impact on our mental health and happiness.



## Student Success and Gifted Program

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We are setting the stage for our first round of Credit Rescue. This is a Student Success initiative where students are provided extra time necessary for the completion of missed assignments. The week of October 19 - 23 will be dedicated to our grade 10 students registered in Civics or Careers.

As I reached out and connected with many of our students I realized that they are experiencing difficulties. I salute our students for employing self-advocacy and resiliency. As a reminder, I am here as a support and a guide for all of our students as they set goals and investigate their interests.

## Other News

Grade 10 students currently taking Civics or Careers - These are half credit credits which will end on October 16. The switch of courses will take place on Monday, October 19. Final marks will be provided to students by the end of next week.

## Teacher Quote of the Week

**“Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.”**

**James Baldwin**