

Bowmore Road Bulletin

80 Bowmore Rd, Toronto, ON M4L 3J3 | Tel: (416) 393-9450

[School Website](#) | [School Council](#)

Date: Monday, November 17, 2025

Principal's Message

Dear Bowmore Families,

The Bowmore Cares Committee would like to thank TDSB Food Bank Manager Malik Thomas, Hafsa Khan, Community Engagement & Design Coordinator (Muslim Welfare Canada), and Durward Anthony, Food Liaison Officer at the TDSB, for donating 45 food hampers and other food items for our Bowmore Cares families. Your support will truly make a difference in our community this winter.

We also want to kindly remind everyone about the **TDSB Parent Concern Protocol**. This protocol exists to ensure concerns are addressed in a timely, accurate, and effective way. When issues are sent to multiple levels of the system before first connecting with the school, the concerns are almost always redirected back to the school administration, creating additional layers of communication, delays, and unnecessary workload for a school of our size, with over 1,000 students and 100 staff. Following the protocol helps us respond quickly and accurately. It also prevents the spread of incorrect or incomplete information, which can cause worry for families. Many questions can be resolved by reaching out directly to your child's teachers or to the school's admin team, who are best positioned to clarify what is happening in classrooms and support next steps. We appreciate your partnership, and we are always here to help. Please continue to connect with us directly so we can support your child and our school community effectively.

We are also reaching out today to ask for your partnership in reinforcing the importance of respectful and inclusive language at school. This week, we addressed a serious incident involving the use of the N-word. Language like this has deep roots in anti-Black racism and violence, and it causes real harm. It is essential that all of our students understand why such words are unacceptable in any context. We kindly ask families to take a few moments at home to speak with your children about the impact of racist language, the importance of kindness, and how we care for one another in our school community. These conversations at home, paired with the work we are doing at school, help us build a safer environment for every student. At Bowmore, staff continue to engage in ongoing learning connected to Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy (CRRP), anti-racism, and equity.

As a whole school, we will also be using restorative practices to help students understand harm, take responsibility, and learn how to repair relationships. We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our staff for organizing and hosting parent-teacher interviews, and to all parents and caregivers who took the time to meet, advocate for their children, and work in partnership with us to support student success, well-being, and a strong sense of belonging at Bowmore.

Finally, a reminder that we have a School Council meeting this week. We value the voices of parents and caregivers and appreciate the ongoing collaboration with School Council as we work together to support a safe, caring, and inclusive school community.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a school where every student feels valued, respected, and safe.

Warm regards,
Kosta, Jacquie & Andrey

Upcoming Important Dates

November 19: School Council Meeting @6 pm

November 25: Photo Retakes

December 5: Pizza lunch

December 19: Last Day before Holiday Break

December 22 to January 2: Holiday Break

January 7: First day back at school

Nutrition Program

Nov 17-Nov 21	
Monday	Breton Bites
Tuesday	Apples
Wednesday	Scones
Thursday	Yogurt Tube
Friday	Cheerios

Beyond Grade 8 News!

Specialized Programs – Important Updates & Resources

With recent changes to the application process for Specialized Programs (formerly Central Student Interest Programs), the TDSB has created a number of resources to support staff, students, and families. Please review the information below and share it with your Grade 7/8 teams and school community.

Key TDSB Resources

- [Specialized Programs Home Page](#) – includes a Google Calendar with all key dates
- [Application & Admissions Overview](#) – basic requirements
- [Academic Achievement & Demonstration of Knowledge and Skills](#) – detailed information, including:
 - Arts submission requirements (elementary & secondary)
 - Audition/portfolio criteria
 - Rubrics (posting next week)
 - Descriptions of in-person assessments for IB, Leadership, and MST
 - Report card marks used for the 30% academic component
- Program Pages: Arts, Leadership, IB, and Math/Science/Technology
- [Report Card Benchmark Calculator](#) – students can check eligibility

[Additional Resources](#) - has links to videos and other resources including:

- [How to save photos and documents as a PDF](#) (for report card and reflection uploads)
- [How to save and share video/audio files](#) (for arts submissions)
- [Application Guide](#) (a video version will be coming)
- [Specialized Program Q&A](#)

Upcoming Virtual Information Sessions ([see attached flyer](#))

Students and their parents/guardians/caregiver can learn more about the application process for Specialized Programs.

Each session will also include program-specific information and tips! Links can be found on the Specialized Program Google Calendar and on the Specialized Programs website.

Arts Programs - November 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

- Tips for preparing a visual arts portfolio or audition video

Leadership Programs - November 20 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

- Strategies for writing a Leadership focused reflection piece

Math, Science, and Technology (MST) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs - November 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

- Strategies for answering multiple choice format questions
- Interactive demonstration for approaching problem solving questions in Mathematics
- Strategies for writing an opinion paragraph (IB only)

Producing Photo Identification

Students writing an in-person demonstration of knowledge and skills are required to bring a piece of photo identification, showing their first and last name. Some Middle Schools provide student cards, which will meet the requirement. Alternatively, students can bring other forms of identification.

Direct Support for Students Applying to Specialized Programs

Students who are applying to Specialized Programs can request support from school staff. This could include:

1. Providing students with time after school to record their arts audition video on the school stage or in the gym.
2. Assisting students who are taking photos of their artwork for their portfolio with the technology support to complete this work.
3. Supporting students as they navigate the website application process.
4. Ensuring that students who identify that they require supports beyond the school are connected with additional Board resources/departments including: the Urban Indigenous Education Centre, The Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement, Special Education

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES

Follow us for updates!

Don't forget to check the School Council website (www.bowmoreschoolcouncil.ca) and our instagram account (<https://www.instagram.com/bowmoresc/>) for real time updates from our School Council about school events!

School Council Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Our next School Council meeting will be held this coming Wednesday, November 19! The meeting is scheduled from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. All parents, caregivers and members of our school community are warmly invited to attend. We are pleased to be able to offer this meeting in a hybrid format, with both in person and virtual attendance options. Please RSVP [here](#) if you are able to attend, either in person or virtually.

If you are coming in person, please meet us in the staffroom (2nd floor of the junior building). The doors will open early at 5:30pm for pizza, drinks and time to socialize before the start of the meeting. Childcare is available, with cheese pizza offered for the kids.

If you aren't able to join us in person, we will offer a virtual attendance option via Microsoft Teams. A meeting link will be shared in advance of the meeting with those who RSVP to request a link.

Topics to be discussed at the meeting include:

1. Safe & Caring Schools Committee Update
2. Presentation on Bill 33 and other school funding topics.
3. Presentation on Bowmore Cares Fund
4. Update on Central Student Interest Program applications for grade 9
5. Other committee and admin team updates

A full agenda will be circulated prior to the meeting to those who RSVP.

Please reach out to bowmoresc@gmail.com, check out our website at www.bowmoreschoolcouncil.ca or follow our Instagram page at bowmoresc if you have any questions about the meeting or any of our other Council initiatives.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Pizza Lunch

Reminder: Our next pizza lunch is on Friday, December 5th!

First off, we would like to apologize for the way pizza lunch went last week and thank everyone for their understanding and patience. It did not run as planned or expected and we are working hard to ensure this does not happen again. A HUGE thank you to our parent and student volunteers for supporting and being calm in the face of chaos. THANK YOU to the teachers and students for being patient and understanding as we worked to get the pizza delivered to you.

Our next pizza lunch is on Friday, December 5th. Ordering is open on Lunchbox for all of our future pizza lunch dates. Please see our FAQ document [here](#) for a full list of our pizza lunch dates, help with ordering, and much more. If you have any questions about pizza lunch, please reach out to us: bowmorepizza@gmail.com.