

# Central Technical School

## NEWSLETTER

February 6th, 2023

THIS BLACK HISTORY MONTH NOT ONLY WILL WE BE LEARNING ABOUT BLACK HISTORY, BUT WE WILL BE CELEBRATING AND APPRECIATING THE LEGACY OUR BLACK ANCESTORS HAVE LEFT!

THIS MONTH THE BSA HAS COME UP WITH A SERIES OF EVENTS FOR CENTRAL TECHNICAL STAFF AND STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN AND TO BRING UP OUR SCHOOL SPIRIT!



## AT CENTRAL TECH

KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR INDIVIDUAL POSTS ON EACH EVENT IN THE NEXT COMING WEEKS!



### Black History Month:

Each February, the contributions of Black people to Canadian society are recognized and celebrated to acknowledge the 400-year presence of people of African descent in this country. African Heritage Month provides the opportunity for our community to learn more about and celebrate the diversity and richness of the histories and heritages of the African Diaspora.

As part of our CTS's school improvement goal, we ask, "what are the most powerful ways to foster nurturing and identity-affirming learning environments?" We know when Black students and staff can thrive and grow, without barriers, their sense of self worth and belonging grows.

We are committed to understanding and dismantling anti-Black racism and will look to eliminate the conditions created by systemic racism. We hope then our Black students' identity will be affirmed and able to thrive in our classrooms and school community.

Some of the activities we will be doing are:

**February 2nd:** Staff will engage in learning with Itah Sadu. Itah will share and celebrate the stories of Black men and women who were trailblazers in Toronto and were the cornerstone to our community at Bloor and Bathurst. Staff will listen to these stories and collaborate on

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ways to celebrate these folks in their curricula, and on how to partner with the cultural centre to ensure more inclusive and identify-affirming topics and assessments in our classes.

**February 8th:** Students and staff are invited to come together at lunch and watch “Giants of Africa” in Room 263.

**February 13th:** Neil “Logik” Donaldson from SFA (Stolen from Africa) will do a lunchtime presentation on Black Canadian History.

**February 15th:** Classes will be invited to attend a lecture and Q&A with Dr. Clyde Ledbetter Jr. on the theme of “The Importance of Teaching Pre-Colonial African Histories.”

**February 16th:** Students will be given the opportunity to watch “Black Panther: Wakanda Forever.”

**February 22nd:** Field Trip to MSLE Launchpad for a “Black Students Day” celebration.

**February 23rd:** The Black Students’ Alliance (BSA) will be hosting a COOK OUT! Students will be given the opportunity at lunch time to purchase a variety of African and Caribbean dishes. Yummy!

**February 24th:** There will be a school-wide assembly featuring Randell Adjei, who is an amazing arts educator, motivational speaker, the founder of R.I.S.E (Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere), and the first poet Laureate of Toronto!

**February 27th:** Students will be invited to attend a guest presentation by a representative from the Canadian Black Nurses Alliance (CBNA). Q&A to follow.

**February 28th:** Black-identifying students are invited to participate in a photo shoot for a “I am Part of Black Excellence” display.

\*Also, throughout the month, there will be short films and documentaries shown in Room 210, 208, 211, 263. There will be an opportunity for students to discuss after each viewing.

## **CTS and BCI Winter Concert Showcase:**

On January 16th we hosted our first Winter Concert since 2019! It was amazing. The students’ musicianship and skills were showcased beautifully. Congratulations to all of our students and teachers who participated. You all should be very proud.

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It was so nice to see the auditorium filled with the students' peers, families and teachers. Thank you to all of those who came.

I would also like to give a special shout out to Mr. Savo, Mr. McNaughton (Bloor) and Mr. Lush (Bloor) for organizing the evening. Thank you too, to our amazing teachers in both Visual Arts departments for creating displays for families to view, and to all the student and staff volunteers who took pictures, handed out programmes, and broadcasted on Social Media.



## School (Parent) Council Meeting:

Our next school council meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8th at 6 pm. We will be hosting both in-person (room 208) and online.

On the 8th, we will look closely at course selection and MyBluePrint. This information will help parents/caregivers and guardians support their students in planning post-secondary options. Please use this link to register for the meeting (it is new because Ms. Khan has left):

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/99554717744?pwd=YWZ1UTlLa3N3eIJ5UGFodVhDVVZ2UT09>

## Important Upcoming Dates:

- **Report cards will be distributed by Feb. 8th**, the report cards will be sent to the parent/caregiver or guardian on file, as well as the student.
- February 9th - is a late start due to our COURSE FAIR!
- Feb. 9th - Course Selection Fair
- Feb. 6th - Mar. 3rd - My Blueprint is open for students to make their choices.
- March 3rd: Course Selections are due!

## Guidance

College Application Deadline - February 1, 2023

- Applications for equal consideration are due February 1, 2023
- If a program is not highly competitive, you may still apply after this deadline

- Link to application - <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en>
- No PIN required
- [Application guide](#)
- [College Information](#) in [grade 12 google classroom](#)

#### Semester 2 Credit Recovery Night School

- Students who did not pass a course in sem 1 or a previous course within the last 2 years may register for credit recovery night school.
- Night School in semester two is Online only.
- No minimum mark is required
- Follow the [link](#) for more information
- Credit recovery registration closes February 10 @ 4pm.

#### Semester 2 e-Learning

- Beginning with students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year, all students must earn at least two online learning credits as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), unless they have opted out or been exempted.
- More information can be found here: [TDSB Online Learning Requirement](#)
- If you wish to opt out of this requirement, you can download the form here: [TDSB Opt Out/Withdrawal Form](#). Please return the completed form to the Guidance department.
- Registration for Semester 2 e-Learning is open until February 23, but most courses are currently waitlisted. For more information go to: [TDSB e-Learning](#).

#### Semester 2 Timetable Changes

- Students may see a counsellor to make changes to their semester 2 schedule, by appointment only according to the schedule below.
  - February 3 – Grade 9 Students and students who have a blank on their schedule
  - February 6 – Grade 12 students
  - February 7 – Grade 11 students
  - February 8 – Grade 10 students
  - February 9 & 10 – all students
- Please use the link below to schedule the appointment for alpha counsellor:

Mr. Rassmussen		Ms. Ferrari		Mr. Cormier	
A - F		G - N		O- Z	

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- If an appointment time is unavailable with your alpha counsellor Please contact/see [dolores.douglas@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:dolores.douglas@tdsb.on.ca) in room 205 to set up an appointment. An extra guidance counsellor will be available.

#### Course Selections

- Course selections are due March 3, 2023
- Students will use [myblueprint.ca/tdsb](https://myblueprint.ca/tdsb) will be used to input their course selections
- Myblueprint opens Feb 6 and closes March 3, 2023

#### Course Selection Presentations:

- February 7 – period 2 – Grade 10 Course Selection Assembly – Preparing for Grade 11
- February 8 – period 2 – Grade 11/12 Course Selection Assembly – Preparing for grade 12 and beyond
- February 10 – period 3 – Grade 9 Course Selection Assembly – Preparing for grade 10
- Presentation slide decks, instructions and course selections sheets will be made available in our guidance google classrooms as well as on the [CTS website](#)

#### Course Selection Fair

- February 9 during period 1 and 2. Students will get a chance to explore their course options by talking to teachers from each department.

#### Scholarship Presentation

Thursday, February 23 - 12:00 pm -room 214

#### Guidance Google Classroom links

- Grade 9/10 <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzUwNzA1MTc0MjM2?cjc=6hdk43k>
- Grade 11/12 <https://classroom.google.com/c/MzcxNDIzMjQ2OTcy?cjc=rzzv44l>

#### Job and Career Planning

[Reboot Plus](#) is a FREE education and career exploration program that develops skills & workplace connections, for youth who are currently facing difficulties with finishing high school or still have a connection to their high school but are not currently attending. Start date Feb. 13, for students 17-24 years of age. 16 week program.

#### Volunteer Opportunities

- Join the CTS Guidance google classroom to receive information about the latest volunteer opportunities advertised by the guidance office.
- Grade 9 and 10 classroom code: 6hdk43k
- Grade 11 and 12 classroom code: rzzv44l

#### OYAP Virtual Open House

- Will be hosted on Feb 23 from 6pm-8pm. You can use the following link to access the open house

- <https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/97967656143>

#### Help and Distress Lines

- [Kids Help Line](#)
- [What's Up Walk In](#)
- [Mental Health TO](#)
- [Black Youth Helpline](#)
- [LGBT Youthline](#)
- [Naseeha](#) - Mental health hotline, resources, workshops, web therapy and more for Muslim and non-Muslim youth and individuals.
- [Indigenous Youth Help Line](#)
- 911

#### Free Math Help - Grade 6 - 11

- <https://www.tvomathify.com/students>

## **Late Start Schedule**

February 9th, February 15th, 2023	February 22nd, 2023	<b>Schedule on these days:</b>  <b>P. 1: 9:55 am - 10: 55 am</b> <b>P2: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm</b> <b>Lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:05 pm</b> <b>P3: 1:05 pm - 2:10 pm</b> <b>P4: 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm</b>  <b>*** We ask that your student does not come to school until 9:45 am.</b>
March 22nd, 2023	March 29th, 2023	
April 1st, 2023	April 26th, 2023	
May 24th, 2023	May 31st, 2023	

## **From our Trustee, Deborah Williams:**

Please find the meeting notice for the next Ward 10 Forum below (link to view online)

[Ward 10 Forum - Caring and Safe Schools on Thurs Feb 9 from 6 to 8 PM](#)

## **From Cecil Community Centre:**

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**Youth Drop-in Program** – Monday to Friday from 3:00pm – 6:00pm. It's a place where youth can come in, relax, work on homework, get advice, play video games, learn about volunteer & job opportunities, play sports, ping pong, be mentored and snacks are provided.

**Cecil Tutors** – Are you looking for a tutor or want to be a tutor? Join Cecil Tutors! Earn volunteer hours as a tutor or get help on your homework or certain subjects at school. Youth interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more details and to sign up.

**Youth Drop-in Basketball** – Every Wednesday from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Youth can drop-in at Ryerson Public School Gym at 96 Denison Avenue to play basketball.

**Youth Drop in Ping-Pong/Badminton** – Every Monday from 4:00pm-5:00pm. Youth can drop in and play ping pong or badminton at Cecil Community Centre.

**Seeing Ourselves in Symphony Program** - The Toronto Symphony Orchestra is hosting a new program at Cecil Community Centre. Composer Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser & Kevin Lau will be hosting the program starting in January 2023 for the program starting in January 2023. Learn from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, build musical community connections, learn about music, work with Orchestra musicians, and more. To register for the program and for more information email [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca)

**SOCirC Program** - Social Circus Organization led by professional circus artists trained in social circus approaches. They work alongside community workers to create community and space to build artistic voices, communication skills, self-esteem, relationships, and creativity. All of this is achieved while engaging the artistic expression and movement of circus skills. This is a free community program for youth ages 15-29, every Thursday, from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. The evening includes a free meal at 6:00pm for all participants. Email ([rachel@socirc.ca](mailto:rachel@socirc.ca)) for more information to register

**Below are some summaries of current and upcoming volunteer programs we have available at Cecil. Have a great day!**

**Cecil Tutors** – Are you looking for a tutor or want to be a tutor? Join Cecil Tutors! Earn volunteer hours as a tutor or get help on your homework or certain subjects at school. Youth interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more details and to sign up.

**Youth Event Planning Committee** – Between the ages of 13- 19 and interested in leading in planning fun event in the community? Join the Youth Event Planning Committee to plan out



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youth events, develop leadership skills, while building your professional resume. Limited spots available. Those interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more information

**Youth Program Planning Committee** – Between the ages of 13- 19 and interested in leading in planning fun programs in the community? Join the Youth Program Planning Committee to plan out youth programs, workshops, develop leadership skills, while building your professional resume. Limited spots available. Those interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more information

**Girls Workshop/Event Planning Committee** – Are you a girl between the ages of 13- 19, interested in leading in planning workshops and events for girls in the community? Join the Girls Workshop/Event Planning Committee to plan out workshops and events for girls. Develop leadership skills, while building your professional resume. Limited spots available. Those interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more information

**Youth Outreach Assistants** – I am looking for Youth interested in helping with Outreach. As a Youth Outreach Assistant you will earn volunteer hours while handing out posters for youth programs in the school year. Youth interested can email me at [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more details and to sign up.

**Cecil Kids Volunteers** – Do you enjoy working with children and want to earn volunteer hours? Cecil's Children's Program is looking for volunteers. Those interested can email [adam@cecilcentre.ca](mailto:adam@cecilcentre.ca) for more information about volunteering.