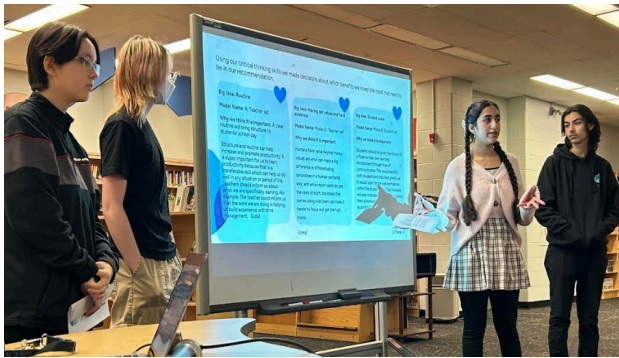


Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

February 4th, 2025



As we reflect on the conclusion of Semester 1, I want to emphasize the significance of final evaluations. These evaluations serve as an essential opportunity for our students to showcase their comprehensive understanding of the course expectations and to celebrate their achievements. Throughout January, students diligently demonstrated their learning through various formats, including labs, projects, presentations, and exams. Each student should take pride in their accomplishments this semester. For those who did not achieve all their credits, I encourage you to meet with your guidance counselor to discuss next steps, such as retaking credits, enrolling in credit recovery, or considering options like Night School or Summer School.

In January, our Vision/Mission Leadership Group had the opportunity to present their insights during our staff meeting. The students tackled a question I posed: "How might we live our school vision, mission, and strategy every day to ensure everyone can learn and thrive?" They examined two learning models: a teacher-led environment and a student-led environment. Through thoughtful discussion and a Pro-Pro chart, they

considered various stakeholder perspectives and articulated their recommendations to our staff. I was truly impressed by their collaboration, critical thinking, and ability to engage over 100 staff members with their presentation.

February is a month rich with activities and events. As we observe African (Black) History Month, we honor the profound contributions and resilience of Black individuals, communities, and cultures throughout history. This month is an opportunity for reflection, celebration, and recognition of the struggles and triumphs that have shaped Canada's journey toward justice and equality. It's important to remember that Black history is Canadian history; it is world history. All students will engage in discussions and activities focused on Black identity, joy, and resilience. We have several exciting events planned, including:

- Black Love Day for Black students on February 11th
- Black is Back: African History Assembly on February 25th
- African Canadian Inventors and Icons Exhibit in the Library on February 27th

Additionally, February marks Chinese Heritage Month, where we celebrate the Year of the Snake: Tenacious and Transformative. Students will explore the rich history and culture of China and reflect on the ongoing challenges of discrimination and racism faced by people of Asian descent.

I am thrilled for this month of celebration, learning, and new beginnings as our students embark on Semester 2. Wishing all students the best of luck!

Indigenous Word of the Month:

To honour the beginning of a new year and semester, this month's Indigenous word is **morning**. Here are those words in the language of the groups recognized in the TDSB Land Acknowledgement:

Anishinaabe: **gigizhebaawagad** (courtesy of the [The Ojibwe People's Dictionary](#); includes pronunciation)

Haudenosaunee: **orhonké:ne** (courtesy of [Mohawk Language in the Workplace](#) pg. 18)

Wendat: **ahsonh o'rahwi'yeh** (courtesy of the [English-Wendat Dictionary](#))

School Council (Parent Council):

The next Council meeting is **Tuesday, February 11th @ 6pm**. The meeting will be virtual. We will be discussing the cell phone policy (there will be a presentation from a vendor that could support a cell phone free school - if you are interested, you should come to the meeting), and fundraising. The link for the meeting is below:

SCHOOL (Parent) Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 11 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Time zone: America/Toronto

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/xmc-uvff-dwd>

Or dial: (US) +1 857-309-5178 PIN: 630 761 949#

In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about School Councils, click here:

<https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/csww/school-council?authuser=0>

OR reach out to us at our soon to be operational email:

SC.centraltechnicalschool@tdsb.on.ca

Support our School: Donations NEEDED!

As you know, activities and programs at Central Technical School require funding to ensure that all students have access to enriching experiences. To help subsidize these costs, we rely on the generosity of our community through donations, fundraising efforts, and activity fees.

If you would like to support CTS students with a monetary donation, we invite you to follow these simple steps:

1. Click here to donate: [Donate: School Cash Online](#)
2. Select Central Technical School from the list.
3. In the "Message to School Board" box, please indicate "Prom 2024" or specify the initiative or club you would like to support.
4. A tax receipt will be automatically generated for your contribution.

Your support makes a significant difference in the lives of our students, enabling us to provide the programs and activities that enrich their educational experience. Every donation, large or small, is greatly appreciated, and you will receive a note of thanks and a tax receipt for your generosity.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute to our school community!

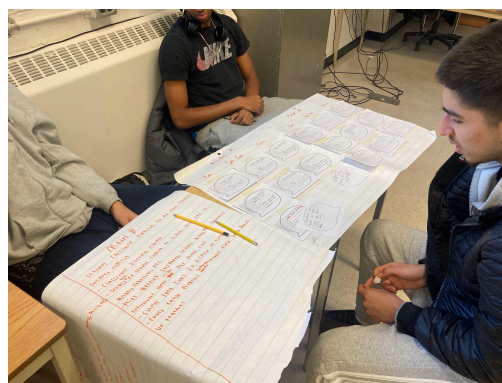
News from the Library Learning Commons:

The CTS Library Learning Commons had a busy start to the new year. Dozens of classes and hundreds of students used the space during the Semester 1 Culminating Period. Mr. Druery and Ms. Bloom used the exam period to reorganize the Learning Commons. The new reading nook has been a hit with students so far in Semester 2. This has just been one of the changes made. Keep your eye on this space for details.



Grade 12 Business Leadership

Students in our grade 12 leadership class worked diligently on a real-world problem solving activity (effective recycling at CTS). They worked over a period of three days on this collaborative project using a unique framework developed by I-Think, which is an education charity founded within the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management.



Congratulations Ms. Cuevas!

Central Technical School is extremely excited to celebrate with Ms. Cuevas as her artwork is being published in a new book that will be released in February 2025. The book features *The Kingston Prize: Canada's Portrait Competition* finalists and winners

across all twenty years of the prize. The book is co-published by Donville Creative, WORK BOOK, and Goose Lane Editions.

It is interesting to note that Ms. Cuevas can be quoted as saying, “Art is an intellectual activity as much as the sciences are; there is Chemistry, Biology, and Psychology in Art too.” As an art teacher, Ms. Cuevas encourages students to take an interest in everything.

To see more of Ms. Cuevas’s artwork, please visit this website:

www.christiennecuevas.com.

CameraLinks 2025: Hidden Worlds

Join us in celebrating the creativity of 13 talented students from the CTS Camera Club and Ms. Fleming’s photography class at Gallery 44’s CameraLinks exhibition! This annual event celebrates the creativity of elementary and secondary school students across Southern Ontario.

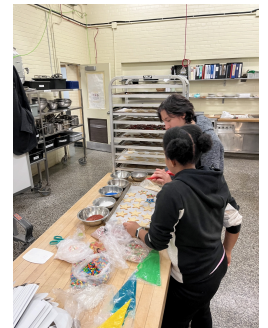
Exhibition dates: February 14–22, 2025

Gallery 44, 401 Richmond St. W, Toronto

For more information, see <https://www.gallery44.org/youth-programs/cameralinks>

CTS KIWANIS Key Club:

Over the month of December, the CTS Kiwanis Key Club was working to raise money for the Ernestine Women’s Shelter. With an ambitious target of raising \$1000, the team set to work deciding on a fundraising scheme and, with the supreme baking skills of Ms. Leckie in Hospitality, managed to raise well over their target through the sale of Holiday Cookies. The team hand decorated each cookie and packaged them into presentation boxes. As part of the project, the students were invited to the Kiwanis Club of Toronto’s Holiday party at the prestigious National Club where our Club President, Igbinosa Adun, gave a wonderful speech on the club and their progress this year.



Important Upcoming Dates:

February 11th: Black Love Day
February 13th: Cupid's Ball (Semi Formal - all students are welcome)
February 14th: PA Day
February 17th: Family Day Holiday
February 25th: "Bringing Black Back" Assembly
February 27th: African Canadian Inventors and Icons Exhibit




Guidance

College Application Deadline - February 1, 2025

- 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>

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 – any student who has a blank on their schedule
 - February 4 – Grade 12 students
 - February 5 – Grade 11 students
 - February 6 – Grade 10 students
 - February 7 – all students

Counsellor	Ms. Ferrari	Mr. Rasmussen	Mr. Cormier
Student Last Name	A-F	G-N	O-Z
<i>Use the scan codes to set up an appointment to see your guidance counsellor.</i>			

- Please use the link below to schedule the appointment for alpha counsellor:
- If an appointment time is unavailable with your alpha counsellor Please contact/see dolores.douglas@tdsb.on.ca in room 205 to set up an appointment. An extra guidance counsellor will be available.

Course Selections

- Grade 10, 11 & 12 Course selections are due March 6, 2025
- Students will use myblueprint.ca/tdsb will be used to input their course selections

- Myblueprint opens Feb 7 and closes March 6, 2025

Course Selection Presentations:

- Preparing for Grade 10 Course Selection Assembly - Feb 10 - auditorium during period 2
- Preparing for Grade 11 Course Selection Assembly- Feb 10 - auditorium during period 1
- Preparing for grade 12 and beyond Course Selection Assembly - Feb 7 auditorium during period 3
- Presentation slide decks, instructions and course selections sheets will be made available in our guidance google classrooms as well as on the [CTS website](#)
- Workshop for caregivers: how to enter courses in my blueprint - February 20 & 26 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm - virtual zoom links will be emailed and posted on the CTS website

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>

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 19th, 2025	February 26th, 2025	Schedule on these days: P. 1: 9:55 am - 10: 55 am P2: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch: 12:00 pm - 1:05 pm P3: 1:05 pm - 2:10 pm P4: 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm *** We ask that your student does not come to school until 9:45 am.
March 19th, 2025	March 26th, 2025	
April 23rd, 2025	April 30th, 2025	
May 21st, 2025	May 28th, 2025	

