

Central Technical School

NEWSLETTER

October 1, 2021

A great start to the year!



A message from your new Principal - Anne Chirakal

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! I am thrilled to invite our students back and I am honoured to be placed as Principal at Central Tech. I feel extremely privileged to work with such an outstanding group of students and staff of teachers, educational assistants, school based safety monitors, office assistants, caretakers and administrators.

I never thought I was going to leave the Peel District School Board. It became my home away from home. Teaching was my life. Coaching was my life - it was all I did. I started teaching science and dance, and then I worked my way into phys-ed for 8 years. Eventually, I became an instructional coach where I worked closely with all subject areas, in particular math, English, social studies, and science, supporting kindergarten to grade 12. It was an incredible experience that led to a lot of learning for me, especially on how to be responsive to the learning needs of students and teachers.

I then became a Vice Principal. I was fortunate to serve in three different schools as a Vice Principal, and to learn both from and with many different teachers and administrators. I opened a school and I closed a school, and had lots of experiences in between.

While in Peel, I recognized that if I wanted to start dismantling anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism and other forms of oppression I needed to be connected to my community. I needed to work where my family is: where I bike, shop, volunteer, walk my dog and where my kids play and go to school. I feel very fortunate to have been placed at Central Tech, especially as I have had the opportunity to meet the students and staff this past month.

I recognize that parents and caregivers play a vital role in our schools. I welcome the opportunity to partner with parents, caregivers and community as their involvement will positively benefit teaching and learning at the school. This monthly newsletter is one tool through which I hope to provide information and updates about the school and opportunities to participate in school life at Central Tech!

On that note, we will be having our first **School Council** meeting on **Tuesday, October 5th at 6 pm**. The meeting will be virtual. I hope you can make it. Please email centraltechnicalschool@tdsb.on.ca for a link to the meeting.

An Update about COVID

The pandemic is not over. We all need to do our part to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Some actions include:

- Complete the [daily health assessment](#)
- Stay home if you have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- Wash hands and sanitize regularly
- Wear a mask at all times
- Maintain physical distancing

For our grade 12 students, if you have a spare we ask that you are not in the building at that time. If you have period 1 off, please stay home until period 2, and if you have period 2 off, please make your way home after your period 1 class.

I would also encourage you to check out [questions and answers](#) as related to COVID-19 and daily school life on the TDSB website.

Extracurriculars

TPH has now given us the go ahead to resume extracurricular activities. HOWEVER WE ARE PROCEEDING WITH CAUTION. When they begin, secondary students may participate in a maximum of two indoor in-person activities in the fall, outdoor activities with appropriate physical distancing, and virtually any number. This number may increase when it is safe to do so and procedures are well established. As our procedures are finalised, clubs and activities will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office, as well as on teacher Brightspace pages.

Guidance

The guidance department is made up of 3 full-time counsellors who help students with career planning, volunteering, employment, course planning, mental health & well being and more.

Below is your child's counsellor's name as well as contact information:

Peter McDonagh (A – F)	(416) 393-0060 ext 20043	email: peter.mcdonagh@tdsb.on.ca
Eleonora Ferrari (G – N)	(416) 393 – 0060 ext 20042	email: eleonora.ferrari@tdsb.on.ca
Mike Cormier (O – Z)	(416) 393 – 0060 ext 20046	email: michael.cormier@tsb.on.ca

Night & Saturday School (see your counsellor for more information):

- All classes are remote and attendance is mandatory.
- Classes run from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (night school)
- Classes begin the week of October 18
- Students will receive a welcome email on October 12 and have access to their brightspace on October 15

Upcoming Virtual Presentations (links will be posted in our guidance google classrooms)

TDSB Post Secondary Fair

October 6 at 7:00 pm

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/94708169240>

York University

October 7 at 4:00 pm

University of Toronto (all campuses)

October 13 at 4:00 pm

X University (formerly Ryerson U)

October 28 at 4:00 pm

Mini-College Fair

TBD

Everything you need to know about applying to University

October 21 at 4:00 pm

Ontario University Fair

October 26 at 5:00 pm

<https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/>

Everything you need to know about applying to College

October 27 at 4:00 pm

Free Tutoring offered by the University of Toronto

Universal Minds - deadline October 15

Universal Minds matches University of Toronto students with local high school students virtually, once a week. If your child is struggling with English, Math or Science, they may qualify for free tutoring once a week. Email your child's guidance counsellor for an application.

University of Toronto Saturday Program (St. George Campus).

The Saturday program provides free tutoring and mentorship to high school students in Toronto who may be struggling academically. The program puts an emphasis on mentoring and guiding students as they navigate high school and begin to prepare for post-secondary pursuits.

More information about the program can be found on the website here: saturday-program.com.

The program start date is set for January 15, 2022 and will run for 10 select Saturdays until April 9, 2022.

Applications can be found by clicking on the link: <https://bit.ly/3hyQQt9>

Guidance Google Classroom/Codes:

The guidance department has created google classrooms per grade in order to advertise/provide important information concerning student's high school experiences. Caregivers may join to receive notices of postings.

Grade 9: 6hdk43k
Grade 10: qfv4msg
Grade 11: ly2p2ud
Grade 12: rzzv44l

Student Council



The Student Council is overjoyed to welcome students and families to the 2021/2022 school year! Although it has been a tough year for all of us, we are very excited to once more connect CTS students with our school spirit this upcoming year. As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, the SAC is putting in extra efforts to raise spirits while following all safety and health protocols. For the duration of the school year we have planned an array of events that both virtual and in-person students can enjoy! We encourage students to regularly visit the Student

Council Announcement board, located across from the main office, to keep up with all the exciting things coming out this year. In addition, the SAC is very active on our Instagram page, [@cts.council](#) and our TikTok, [@CentralTech.SAC](#). We will always post announcements and reminders on our social media. Our message inboxes on both TikTok and Instagram are always open to address any questions or concerns. We hope to have many more fun events that students and teachers can participate in this school year! Let's go blues!!!!

The First National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

On Thursday, September 30 we recognized Orange Shirt Day and the First National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. This is a day to recognize the First Nation, Metis and Inuit survivors of residential schools, as well as those children who did not make it home, and to reflect on what we can do individually and collectively to support reconciliation. We held a school wide virtual assembly and classes participated in dialogue about this important subject.

Late Start Schedule

October 6, 2021 ****	October 27, 2021	<p style="text-align: center;">Schedule on these days:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Course 1/3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:00 pm-12:45 pm - Lunch</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:45 pm -2:45 pm - Course 2/4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*** We ask that your student does not come to school until 9:50 am.</p>
November 17, 2021	November 24, 2021	
December 8, 2021	December 15, 2021	
January 19, 2022	January 26, 2022	
February 16, 2022	February 23, 2022	
March 23, 2022	March 30, 2022	
April 20, 2022	April 27, 2022	
May 18, 2022	May 25, 2022	