



# Focus on Fairglen

# MARCH 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This February has flown by and as such, March Break is just around the corner! Thank you to our parents that attended the Parent-Teacher Interviews on February 14th. A strong and supportive partnership between home and school to support student learning is critical to student success.

March Break takes place next week from March 16-20. We will see everyone on the first day back after the Break on Monday, March 23, 2020.

## PARKING PROCEDURES FOR DROP OFF/PICK UP AT FAIRGLEN

If you pick up or drop off your child to school, please do so at the back of **Sir John A. MacDonald's parking lot**. The community is once again reporting traffic concerns around safety and congestion both in our school parking lot and also along Sesame St. and Fairglen Ave. Parents, please do not use our school parking lot in order to drop off or pick up students at entry or departure times as TDSB staff are unable to find parking spaces for their vehicles. The parking lot at Sir John A. MacDonald has many spaces to accommodate our community, and our 2 schools are connected by a supervised pathway.

The TDSB bus loop at the back of Sir John A. MacDonald lot is **supervised by a Fairglen Staff member**. The pathway located there connects the parking lot to the Fairglen property. Junior students are expected to walk on the pathway that leads to our supervised pavement and playground area at the back of the school.

Parents of Primary students are asked to park their vehicle and walk their child(ren) to/from the Sir John A. MacDonald parking lot along the path that detours around the back of our school and onto the paved area. The parking lot at the **front** of Fairglen school

is only allotted to parents for parking who need to arrive early to pick up their child for an appointment.

The Traffic Operations Department recently audited Sesame Street and will be replacing existing signs with newer, clearer ones indicating that there is No Stopping on the South side of the street. Please help us keep our students safe by abiding by these traffic signs.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Zwicker, Principal

### **Changing Bell Times for Fairglen JPS for September 2020**

Last June, Toronto District School Board Trustees approved an operating budget plan for the 2019-20 school year that required \$67.8 million in staff reductions and changes to programs/services to address provincial government funding reductions and the TDSB's annual structural deficit.

One of the changes approved last year was to stagger school start and end times at a number of elementary schools starting September 2020. Staggering school start and end times allows us to plan bus routes more efficiently, which is projected to save the TDSB approximately \$2.5 million dollars. This is important as the TDSB currently spends more on student transportation than we receive from the government. We anticipate that these changes will also result in improvements to our transportation services.

**As of September 2020, the start and end times of Fairglen JPS will change to:**

- **Start time (morning bell): 9:05 a.m.**
- **End time (afternoon bell): 3:30 p.m.**

Please note that supervision will continue to be provided 15 minutes before the morning bell and 15 minutes after the afternoon bell.

We understand that this may be a change to your family's routine. However, if we did not reduce transportation costs by staggering school start and end times, we would have to reduce other services and supports to students that would have more direct and negative impact on classroom teaching.

Beyond the cost savings of adjusting bell times to find efficiencies in student transportation, other benefits include:

- Improving service to remaining routes, as fewer bus drivers will be needed, which will help address the ongoing bus driver shortage;
- Ensuring that we maintain transportation services for all students currently being bussed (no service reductions) and maintain other important supports and services for all students; and,

- Removing approximately 55 busses from transportation routes, thereby reducing the board's carbon footprint by approximately 2,750 metric tonnes per year.

### Public Meetings and Webinars

We will be holding in-person and online information meetings to answer questions and provide any additional information parents/guardians may need in order to assist with this transition.

#### In Person Meetings:

- **NEW** Monday, March 23 at 7 p.m. at Danforth CTI (800 Greenwood Ave, Toronto)
- **RESCHEDULED** Wednesday, March 25 at 7 p.m. at Richview CI (1738 Islington Ave., Etobicoke)
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#### Virtual Information Meetings – Online Webchat:

- Thursday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Thursday, March 26 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) at the dates and times listed above to connect to the Virtual Information Meeting (online webchat).

While we understand that these changes may impact some families more than others, we are hopeful that everyone will understand that changing school start and end times will help prevent further cuts to programs and supports for students.

Please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/belltimes](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/belltimes) for more information about the changes. If you have any questions, please email [belltimes@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:belltimes@tdsb.on.ca) or speak with your school Principal.

Craig Snider

Executive Officer, Finance

尊敬的Fairglen JPS學生家長/監護人,

去年六月，多倫多教育局董事會批准了2019-20學年的運營預算，要求通過人員裁撤和項目/服務變更以達成6780萬元的預算縮減，從而應對省政府投入資金的減少與TDSB年度結構性赤字。去年批准的多項變更之一，便是從2020年9月起錯開各中小學的上學和放學時間。各學校錯峰上下學使得校車線路安排可以更加高效，預計可以為TDSB節省約250萬元。這十分重要，因為目前TDSB在學生接送方面的支出大於政府給予的資助。我們預測這些變化也會提升我們的接送服務水平。

從2020年9月起，您孩子所在學校的上下學時間將會變更為：

- 上學時間（入校鈴）：上午9:05
- 放學時間（放學鈴）：下午3:30

學校將繼續在入校鈴響前15分鐘及放學鈴響後15分鐘提供學生看管服務。

我們理解這可能會改變您全家的時間安排。但如果我們不通過錯峰上下學來降低學生接送成本，我們將不得不削減其他學生服務和支援，這將會對教學產生更直接的負面影響。

調整上下學時間不僅可以提升學生接送服務的效率從而減少運營支出，還會帶來其他好處，包括：

- 所需的司機數量會減少，幫助解決目前的校車司機短缺問題，從而提升保留線路的服務水平；
- 確保目前由校車接送的學生都能繼續得到接送服務（不減少服務人數），並且繼續向所有學生提供其他重要的支援和服務；以及
- 從接送線路中移除約55輛校車，可以使教育局每年減少約2750公噸的碳排放。

請於上述時間訪問 [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) 以加入虛擬資訊會議（線上交流）。

我們明白部分家庭將會在此次調整中受到比其他家庭更多的影響，但我們仍然希望每個人都能理解調整學校的上下學時間有助於防止學生項目和服務被進一步削減。

請訪問 [www.tdsb.on.ca/belltimes](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/belltimes) 以瞭解更多有關此次調整的更多資訊。如果您有任何問題，請發送郵件至 [belltimes@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:belltimes@tdsb.on.ca) 或與所在學校校長溝通。

此致，

Craig Snider  
財務執行官



## **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD TO ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME?**

**There are many benefits your child will gain from arriving on time to school and class.**

### **Did you know?**

- ❖ **The likelihood of success in learning is strongly linked to strong participation in school programs which is linked to arriving on time.**
- ❖ **It is very important for children to develop habits of arriving on time at an early age, beginning from the time they start school.**

### **Some Gains for Your Child**

#### **Arriving On Time for School and Class:**

- ❖ **Makes sure that your child doesn't miss out on the important learning activities that happen early in the day when they are most alert.**
- ❖ **Early morning learning activities is often reading or writing, your child can lose so many opportunities to learn critical life skills.**
- ❖ **Helps your child to learn about routines and commitment.**
- ❖ **Gives your child time to greet their friends before class and this can reduce the possibility of disruptions in the classroom.**
- ❖ **Class disruption can make your child feel uncomfortable and can upset other children.**
- ❖ **Arriving on time every day makes children feel good about themselves!**

#### **Are these some reasons why your child does not get to school on time?**

- ❖ **Your child won't go to bed at night or get out of bed in the morning**
- ❖ **Your child can't find their clothes, books, homework, school bag.....**
- ❖ **The school lunches are not ready**

- ❖ Homework's not done
- ❖ Your child is slow to eat breakfast
- ❖ Your child is watching TV late at night or when they should be getting ready for school
- ❖ It's your child's or someone else's birthday
- ❖ There is a test or presentation at school today
- ❖ Your child is screaming or not letting go of you

### Things to Try

Here are some suggestions based on setting regular routines:

- ❖ Have a set time to go to bed
- ❖ Have a set time to be out of bed
- ❖ Have outfit and school bag ready the night before
- ❖ Make lunches the night before
- ❖ Have a set time for starting and ending breakfast
- ❖ Set a time each day for homework. Try straight after school with the TV off so your child can relax for the rest of the night and have a reward when finished.
- ❖ Turn the TV on for set times and only if appropriate.
- ❖ Be firm that children must go to school.
- ❖ Give your child lots of positive encouragement and acknowledge they are organised and get to school on time.
- ❖ Be firm: a birthday does not equal a holiday.
- ❖ On arrival look for some of your child's friends and encourage your child to go and play with their friends.
- ❖ Once settled leave quickly.

**REGULAR ROUTINES ARE IMPORTANT**





# Focus on Fairglen

**MARCH 2020**

## Dates to Remember

**March 9 – 13: Spirit Week: Wednesday – Dress as a famous person or character  
Thursday – Sports Jersey/shirt or hat  
Friday – St. Patrick's Day theme**

**March 16 – 20: March Break – no school**

**March 24, 25 & 26: Dental Screening**

**March 25: School Council Meeting – 6:30pm in the staffroom/child minding available**

**March 27: Spirit Friday wear Fairglen colours of red and white!**

**April 8: Day of Pink**

Lisa Zwicker

Principal

Ian Allison

Superintendent

Manna Wong

Trustee

Twitter - @FairglenJrPS

School Website - <http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/fairglen/>