

Vanier Community Newsletter – Week 40 (June 28th, 2024)

Dear Vanier Family,

We did it...we officially wrapped up the 2023-2024 school year! It was a year full of highs and lows, and yesterday was a high as we held our graduation ceremony. It was a fantastic event as we celebrated all our graduates' hard work over the past four years. Thank you all for coming, and congratulations once again to our graduates. Hopefully, graduates picked up their diplomas at the end of the ceremony, a testament to their hard work and dedication. If not, they may do so between July 2 – 5 and 8 – 12 (diplomas will not be mailed).

Please note that report cards will be emailed to students and caregivers (if a student is under 18) on June 28th, 2024. If you do not receive it, don't hesitate to contact our Main Office between July 2nd – 12th. Our Office will be closed from July 15th – August 16th, 2024.

Before heading off into the summer, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all our students and Vanier staff for a wonderful school year. Your individual contributions and dedication have collectively made Vanier a great place to learn and work.

I also want to express my deep gratitude to all of you, our parents, and caregivers. Your commitment is what makes Vanier a wonderful place to learn, work, and grow. Your trust in us as educators to deliver a quality education program and your collaborative efforts to enhance your child's well-being and success are truly invaluable. A special thank you to our parent council executives for their vital role in ensuring your voice was heard. We eagerly anticipate your return in September, when we will hold elections to select the 2024-2025 School Council Executive. A description of the positions will be made available in September.

The first day of school will be **Tuesday, September 4, 2024**. Students' timetables will be emailed out a few days before school re-opens. I know some students may require changes to their timetables; they can book time with their guidance counselors during the first two weeks of the new school year to do so.

I understand that the summer months away from school can be challenging for some students. To provide support, this newsletter includes some numbers/websites that offer assistance. Please know that help is just a call or click away if you need it.

We wish you a safe and enjoyable summer, Vanier. We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming you back in September for another exciting school year!

Karen Johnson

Principal, Georges Vanier SS
416-395-3250 Ext. 20010

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/georgesvanier>



@GeorgesVanierSS

KEY DATES - SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2024-2025

Professional Activity Days	September	October	November	January	February	June
Elementary Schools	27	11	15, 29	17	14	6
Secondary Schools		11	15, 29	30	14	26, 27

Designation of Professional Activity Days	
Elementary	Secondary
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> September 27, 2024 – Professional Development October 11, 2024 – Professional Development November 15, 2024 – Parent Teacher Conferences November 29, 2024– Professional Development January 17, 2025 – Assessment and Reporting February 14, 2025 – Parent Teacher Conferences June 6, 2025 – Assessment and Reporting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> October 11, 2024 – Professional Development November 15, 2024 - Professional Development November 29, 2024 - Professional Development January 30, 2025 - Professional Development February 14, 2025 - Professional Development June 26, 2025 - Professional Development June 27, 2025 - Professional Development

EQAO: - The following dates have been established:

Gr. 9 Math: TBD
Gr. 9 Math: TBD

OSSLT: TBD
Primary/Junior EQAO: TBD

Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education)	
Labour Day:	September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving:	October 14, 2024
Winter Break:	December 23, 2024 – January 3, 2025
Family Day:	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break:	March 10-14, 2025
Good Friday:	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday:	April 21, 2025
Victoria Day:	May 19, 2025

Mental Health & Well-being

2024 Mental Health and Well-Being Guide, Translated into 23 Languages

The 2024 [Summer Well-being Guide](#) created by the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee, the Mental Health Leads and the System Leader for Mental Health and Professional Support Services, is now available.

It has resources, community connections, events, and ideas for parents/caregivers/guardians to promote mental and physical wellness during the summer months. The resources in this [Guide](#) are culturally responsive with many resources for students with disabilities/special education needs. The [Guide](#) has been translated into the top 23 TDSB languages spoken and is accessible. If you have any questions, please contact mentalhealthandwellbeing@tdsb.on.ca

Mental Health Resources: Mental Health and Well-Being is essential to student success. The TDSB is committed to improving the mental health and well-being of students and has created resources to achieving this goal. Please sure to visit the [MHWB website](#) these resources.



The TDSB has created a new webpage, [Substance Use, Misuse and Abuse](#), with resources for parents, caregivers, guardians, staff, children and youth, including tips, identity-affirming community agency contacts, and where one can seek supports for youth substance use, misuse and abuse.

There is also a new TDSB webpage, [Resources to Address Inappropriate Social Media Images and AI](#). This one is dededicated to helping you, Parents, Caregivers, Guardians, Staff, Children and Youth navigate the digital safety world safely. On the site, you will be able to:

- Explore preventative measures and intervention strategies for inappropriate social media content, sextortion, and sexting.
- Find tips for parents, caregivers, guardians, staff, children, and youth on preventing and addressing inappropriate online content.
- Watch a short video from the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, offering essential insights into protecting children online.

If you or someone in your school community encounters issues related to inappropriate social media content or sextortion, please contact your respective Manager of Social Work and Attendance or Caring and Safe Schools for assistance.

***NEW* Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Helpline 9-8-8**

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) through the Canadian Radio and Television Corporation (CRTC) has announced on November 30th, 2023, a national three-digit Mental Health and Suicide Prevention hotline number, 988, will be in effect.

CMH's new role in leading the development of 988 service delivery in Canada builds on their experience delivering Talk Suicide Canada, previously known as the Canada Suicide Prevention Service. The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) has been selected as the organization to lead the coordination of service delivery for the national three-digit number.



In the face of increased demand for crisis services, 9-8-8 provides:

- A number that's easy to remember in a crisis.
- Support in English and in French, by phone and text.
- Quick access to support from trained responders, available 24/7/365.
- High quality, evidence-based, equitable suicide prevention and crisis support for everyone in Canada.

For more information about 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline, visit <https://988.ca>.

More information is also available at [9-8-8 | CAMH](#) and [9-8-8 number for mental health and suicide prevention | CRTC](#)

Kids' Helplines:

Kids Help Phone Line is a 24 hour/7 days per week crisis line that youth can contact for support:
Online Chat: www.kidshelpphone.ca Phone: 1-800-668-6868 Text: 686868

Black Youth Help Line – available 9 AM – 10 PM www.blackyouth.ca 416-285-9944

LGBT Youth Line – Sunday – Friday 4 PM – 9:30 PM – PEER SUPPORT*

Live chat: www.youthline.ca Text: 647-694-4275 Call: 1-800-268-9688

Naseeha - Muslim Mental Health Help Phone – 1-866-Naseeha (627-3342)

Call: 1-866-627-3342 (7 days/week 12-9 PM) Text: 1-866-627-3342 (Mon-Fri 12-9 PM)

Hope for Wellness Help Chat – offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada

Live chat: www.hopeforwellness.ca Call: 1-855-242-3310 (24/7)

Other Resources:

Help Ahead is the centralized resource and intake phone line for multiple trusted community-based mental health organizations in Toronto. Help Ahead has up-to-date information about the available programs and services and can find local supports to address the needs of your child and family.
<https://www.helpahead.ca/> 1-866-585-6486

What's Up Walk-In Clinic provides free mental health counselling for children, youth, young adults and their families, and family with infants. <https://www.whatsupwalkin.ca/resources/>

One Stop Talk is a free, confidential service that lets children and youth aged 0-17 years call or connect online from anywhere in Ontario to get brief mental health services. Parents seeking services are encouraged to visit *One Stop Talk* with their child to ensure access to a session.
<https://onestoptalk.ca/> 1-855-416-8255

Calendar for Next School Year

Please click [here](#) to view the TDSB's calendar for next school year

Trustee Update (Ward 13): June 2024

You may read the latest newsletter from Trustee James Li here: [Trustee Update: June 2024](#)



Parent Concern Protocol

1

Classroom Teacher

Step One

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments

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School Principal

Step Two

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal can help.

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration
- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

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School Superintendents

Step Three

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

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Trustees

Step Four

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Items on Board Agenda
- Board policies under review
- Board budget
- Collective bargaining

Board Office

You can contact the Board Office directly for any questions or concerns related to:

- Continuing Education
- Night and summer school
- Adult education
- ESL
- Board documents

Phone: 416-397-3000 • Email: GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca

School Information

School Phone #: (416) 395 – 3250

School's Twitter: [@GeorgesVanierSS](https://twitter.com/GeorgesVanierSS)

School's Website:

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/georgesvanier>

Our Student Support Team:

Guidance:

Jennifer Hayward (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

Supporting Students with surnames N - Z

jennifer.hayward@tdsb.on.ca

Margarita Leventis

Supporting Students with Surnames G - M

margarite.leventis@tdsb.on.ca

Loraine Chichester

Supporting Students with Surnames A - F

loraine.chichester@tdsb.on.ca

Special Education:

Steven Maurer (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

steven.maurer@tdsb.on.ca

Student Success:

Paula Burgess (Assistant Curriculum Leader)

paula.burgess@tdsb.on.ca

Superintendent: Kurt McIntosh (LC2|LN11)

416-395-8808 • Kurt.McIntosh@tdsb.on.ca

Trustee: James Li • Ward 13

416-395-8787 • James.Li@tdsb.on.ca