

Givins/Shaw
Junior Public School
Toronto District School Board



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September 29, 2021

Dear Givins/Shaw Families:

Each spring, Givins/Shaw PS creates an organizational model for the school based on the projected enrolment numbers we receive from the Toronto District School Board's planning department. The number of teachers allocated to the school is based upon the expected number of students. The guidelines (there may be some exemptions) used are as follows:

- Maximum size for Kindergarten classes is not to exceed 29
- Maximum size for Primary (Grade 1 – 3) classes is not to exceed 20
- Junior classes (Grade 4 – 8) are to have a system-wide average of 24.5

In most cases, the student numbers we receive in the spring, align with the actual numbers we see in our September classrooms. For example, our 2021/22 primary and junior student numbers are almost exactly what we expected to receive; even though we are at 30 students in each of our junior classes. However, there is a discrepancy in our Kindergarten student numbers. We were expected to have 70 Kindergarten students and, to date, we have 48.

If there is a notable difference between the projected and actual student numbers, then a school may be asked by the TDSB to re-organize based upon the current information. The date by which all TDSB elementary schools are to be informed if we will need to re-organize or not is **Monday, October 4** and if we are required to make any changes they are to be in place by **Tuesday, October 12**.

Given the student numbers in Kindergarten, there is a chance that we will be asked to create a new organizational model that has two full kindergarten classes of 24 students with a teacher and Early Childhood Educator (ECE) assigned to each class. Our current model has two full classes (20 students and 17 students respectively) plus a third class with one teacher assigned without an ECE and a maximum of 15 students allowed (it currently has 11 students). There is also a chance, given our high numbers in our junior classes, that we may also be asked to make changes to our grade 4, 5 and 6 structure.

The staff are all aware of this possibility and we have a plan ready in case we are asked to proceed in this manner. As you can imagine, any re-organization is as stressful on staff as it is on the students and families. We will keep you informed whether any changes are required, but I did want to provide you with some advanced notice that it may occur.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Taylor".

Dan Taylor

Principal

Givins/Shaw PS