



# HARBORD COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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## September 8, 2023 Newsletter

### Hello Harbord parents/guardians and students:

It has certainly been a hectic, busy, but FUNOMENAL start to this school year! Seeing the smiles on both the students' and staff's faces brings joy and happiness to your Harbord Admin team. It's only been the end of the first week but Harbord is ROARING with many activities starting up including our student leaders heading off to prepare, organize, and get training for our grade 9 Camp Robin Hood Day — we have over 260 grade 9 students this year! Extra-curricular sports team-tryouts are starting and the BUZZ in the building is BACK!!! Students: Interested in learning more, joining or trying out for Harbord Tigers Athletics Clubs & Teams? **Join our Google Classroom using the code exf7pfl** and listen to morning announcements for more information. Staff advisors and coaches are communicating opportunities already!

Tigers: let's continue to always look after EACH OTHER, think of EACH OTHER, and learn from EACH OTHER. Let's go Tigers...let's be BETTER every day... let's have FUN every day!

As always at Harbord, lots of activity happening and lots of information to share:

### Welcome to Harbord!...some new staff faces (and some familiar ones)

- A. *New Office Staff:*
  - i. *Adi Perreira (Office Administrator)*
  - ii. *Maxine Francis (Guidance office) - temporary staff*
  - iii. *Temmi (Timmy) Fagbote - (Safety Monitor) - temporary staff*
- B. *Teaching Staff Returning from Leaves and Other Schools:*
  - i. *Jodi Goodfellow (Co-Op and Visual Arts)*
  - ii. *Vasan Persad (Chemistry/Science)*
  - iii. *Adrienne Garner-Pringle (English)*
  - iv. *Karla Faulconbridge (Guidance)*
- C. *Long-Term Occasional teacher*
  - i. *Isabel Jankowski (Science)*

### Enrolment and Class Sizes

Our school enrolment this year is larger than projected. We were projected for approximately 870 students and we currently have 943 students at Harbord. As a result, our class sizes at the moment are quite large in some courses. We have been working hard on addressing those issues by adjusting timetables and moving students into other sections and courses to balance class sizes. If class sizes remain high through the end of September, we may be splitting classes and receiving additional staffing. Harbord is absolutely a 'roaring' — packed with wonderful Tigers and we thank you for your patience and understanding as we work hard to address these class size issues.

## Welcome back from Guidance and Student Success!

### Guidance and Student Success team for 2023/24:

Yuri Narula (she/her): students whose surnames begin with A-G

Karla Faulconbridge (she/her): surnames H-P

James Steele (he/him): surnames Q-Z

Hillel Heinstein (he/him): Dual Credit/SWAC contact

Welcome everyone! As we begin another exciting school year, we wanted to include a bit of info from the Guidance department in Mr Yee's Bulletin.

### [Guidance Website](#)

- Our website is linked from Harbord's homepage and contains information about counsellor allocations, registration, diploma requirements, Community Service Hour form and much more.

### Guidance Google Classroom

- Every single student should enroll in our Guidance Google Classroom. It's through this Classroom that we deliver info and reminders about things like Night/Summer School, workshops, scholarships, grade 12 info, post-secondary deadlines, volunteer/job opportunities etc.
- The code is **Iti3zch**

### Timetable Changes

- The only changes that can be considered for sem I are those due to errors, summer school achievement, missing prerequisites, and SPECIFIC courses required for post-secondary programs.
- Rather than waiting in long lines outside our office, we've created a Course Change Form that students should fill out by September 11th. The form generates an email to parents asking for permission.
- We're working as fast as we can to call down students for whom we have permission to make a timetable change.
- Changes at this point are very tricky as many of our classes are full, however we will try our best!
- Students will have all of sem I (Sept. 25-Jan. 22) to speak with counsellors about sem II timetable changes.

### Night School/eLearning

- Reminder that the registration for both [eLearning](#) and [ConEd/Night School](#) is open. eLearning reg closes Sept 22 and ConEd/Night School registration closes Sept. 29
- Parent permission is required before we can approve the enrollment.
- Please visit the sites linked above for Key Dates, program info, course lists, and registration link. There are even How-To videos!

### Grade 12 Post Secondary Planning Session

- We'll be holding a Post-Secondary Planning for all grade 12 students on September 28th in period 4.

- During that presentation, we'll go over important info about when and how to apply to post secondary programs.
- If you haven't already, we strongly recommend using myBlueprint to do some preliminary research into programs and requirements

### Stay Connected With Harbord with Two New Communication Tools

The TDSB is offering two new ways for parents and caregivers to stay connected with their school and the TDSB.

1. Parents and caregivers will also be provided an opportunity to opt in to receive text messages from their school and TDSB. A text message will be sent to you to the phone number you have on file in September inviting you to opt in.
2. **Using the [School Messenger](#) app or website provides a faster and easier way to report absences directly to our school information system (no need to call the school!)** and receive communication sent by the TDSB and your school (this will also go to the email that you have on file). This app is available for download now. More details about how to get started with School Messenger are available in this link here: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Home/ctl/Details/mid/42863/itemId/11>.

### Camp Robin Hood Grade 9 Cooperative Activities and Leadership Day

As part of our Harbord tradition every year, we are taking our grade 9 students on a one day field trip to Camp Robin Hood Leadership Centre in Markham, Ontario on Thursday, September 14, 2023. Our grade 9 students will participate in adventure-based, co-operative and recreational activities. All of the activities promote the development of lifelong abilities and skills, such as problem solving, trust building, teamwork, communication, perseverance, social skills, experiential learning and spirit! This 'fun-filled' trip will also provide our grade 9 students with opportunities to connect, get to know their peers, and feel more comfortable with each other — and part of our Harbord family. **The field trip form can be accessed via the Excursion Management Application (EMA), a web-based application which allows Parents/Guardians to complete and submit field trip (or excursion) permission, athletic forms and Medical Information forms online. Click this link to access the login page: <https://parent.ema.tdsb.on.ca/>**

Grade 9 families are asked to complete the EMA field trip permission form and submit as soon as possible. We expect all grade 9 students to attend this day. There is NO cost to the students and lunch is provided (Harbord is paying for all costs). If parents are having difficulty accessing and completing the permission form on EMA, a PDF copy of the field trip has been provided to your child. All completed forms must be submitted via EMA online or the paper copy to the main office by 9am on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. Completion via EMA is strongly preferred.

### 1:1 Student Device Program (Grade 9's)

The 1:1 Student Device Program continues for the third year in 2023-24. Current year grade 9 Harbord students will be receiving Chromebooks at the end of September. A [program overview brochure](#) has been created to familiarize parents with the program (click the link for more information). A signed agreement will be required by the parent/guardian of each student prior to obtaining a device. This form will be sent to the parent/guardian through Permission Click by IT Services on behalf of all schools shortly. Grade 9 parents, please be on the lookout for it!

## First School Council Meeting

**Our first School Council meeting this year will be on Monday, September 25, 2023.** We are excited to hold this school council meeting in-person in the library. Our meetings are open to all parents and caregivers with children attending Harbord. The meeting is from 6:30pm – 8pm. **All parents are welcome to attend the school council meetings.**

At our first council meeting, voting members/Council Members will choose/elect our executive positions at Harbord CI. The executive positions include: Co-Chairs, Secretaries, Treasurer, Ward Rep, French Rep, Grade 9 Reps, Safe Schools Committee Parent Rep, and Members at Large. The nomination form for voting members of our Harbord CI School Council for 2023-2024 is attached to the email.

**Please complete and return the nomination form to Harbord CI by noon on September 25, 2023 or email to [steve.yee@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:steve.yee@tdsb.on.ca).**

### School Councils – General information

School Councils work to improve student achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system. They are governed by the Ontario Ministry of Education Regulations 612 and 613, which contains very clear guidelines regarding School Council elections. Regulation 612 outlines the roles, the responsibilities and the processes for School Councils. Regulation 613 outlines the responsibility of the Principal in supporting School Councils. As collaborators in education, schools and School Councils recognize that all parents/caregivers have an equitable place in our schools' community, free from racism, classism, and other isms, intentional or unintentional. There is an understanding that participation can take many forms and work to:

- offer parents/caregivers a variety of ways to share their voices, knowledge and expertise;
- recognize that relationship building is key to breaking down walls and barriers;
- strive to identify and to eliminate barriers to participation for parents/caregivers
- disrupt practices that contribute to oppression based on race, class, nationality, abilities, gender, education, or language.

### Lockers

Locker distribution continues to take place in period 1 classes until next week. Locker locations are based on your semester 1 period one classes. After next week, students need to see the Main Office for lockers.

Please note the following:

- The locker is the property of Harbord Collegiate Institute and can be opened and searched at any time if deemed necessary by school administration
- The school is not responsible for any items kept in the locker
- Dudley high security combination locks are available for sale in the Main Office for \$8. Students may also use their own locks.

## Student Activity Fees (SAC FEE)

As mentioned previously in other communications, our Student Activity Fee collection helps support the clubs, councils, and sports teams at our school to run activities and events for our students. The school yearbook is also included in the fee as well as your Student Photo ID. **This year's fee is \$60.** Parents can pay the fee via School Cash Online. School Cash Online can be accessed via this our website or this link: <https://tdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

### UPCOMING: September 11-22

Monday, September 11	Harbord cafeteria service begins
Wednesday, September 13	Junior Grades and Senior Grades - School Information Assembly (Special Schedule)
Thursday, September 15	Camp Robin Hood Grade 9 Field Trip - all day
Wednesday, September 20	Late Start - PLC ( <b>school starts at 9:55 am</b> )
Friday, September 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome Back Assemblies</li><li>• Club Fair (lunch)</li></ul>

### Lastly ...TDSB CONNECTS APP

Please have your child/student use the [TDSB Connects App](#) as it not only has their timetable on it, it has our school calendar, school information, and live/updated announcements that are pertinent to their Harbord life! No more missing morning announcements because the students are too loud in class — we now have them all on our TDSB Connects App. Whether it is information about club meetings or sports team tryouts and practices, information will be posted in the announcements section (and read via the PA system as well). Download now if you have not done so already!!!

And remember, at **“Harbord, we CARE for each other. TOGETHER. We are ONE!”**

Have a FUNomenal weekend!

Steve and Admin Team!