

Good afternoon Parents/Guardians & Families,

Please see below for important information/details and next steps.

In-School Learning Update

We would like to thank students, staff and parents for a very successful opening two weeks of in-school learning. Students were very excited to see their friends and teachers. They participated in engaging academic activities in the classroom and even brought learning outdoors. In addition, students learned about cohorts, how to play with each other during recesses and lunches, and the importance of hygiene when entering the building.

It was evident that students understood the importance of the health and safety had practiced wearing masks and understood many of the Toronto Public Health (TPH) guidelines prior to the beginning of the school year.

Screening Process for Students

There has been a slight revision to the communication that was sent to you regarding the screening process for your child. As was stated, before coming to schools or an administration building, all students and staff must conduct an active health screening self-assessment with the verification being the Health Safety Paper Pass or Health Safety App.

COVID-19 Protocol

Attached are the TDSB guidelines for what happened if a student or staff member has COVID-19 symptoms. Please take a moment to review.

Parents/Guardians Wearing Masks or Face Covering

There's been an update in our TDSB policies. To maintain safety and to stop the spread of COVID-19, parents/guardians, **are required to wear masks outside on school property, especially at peak times such as pick-up and drop-off.** We are also asking that you practice physical distancing when waiting in the parent area in the morning and after school.

Switching Students

This is just a reminder that the deadline to switch your child from virtual schools to in-school learning and vice versa is **September 30th**.

Switch Requests will ONLY be accepted by Parents/Guardians who have completed the Google Form. No other action is required at this point.

Switching from Virtual Schools to In-School
<https://forms.gle/wz6r7sXNhZTgbZmg8>.

Switching from In-School to Virtual Schools

<https://forms.gle/mowRn8mALHZRtjrj9>

Orange Shirt Day (September 30)

Phyllis Webstad was six-years-old when the new orange shirt she excitedly chose for her first day of school was taken off her back. She never saw it again.

It was the early '70s and Webstad was the third generation of her family to attend St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, B.C. Most people knew it as The Mission. She was a kid. She didn't know that merely being born an indigenous child surrendered her to an education system designed to break down her identity.

From the 1880s until the last school shut down in 1996, Canada's residential school system forced about 150,000 First Nations, Inuit and Metis children to attend church-run facilities.

It took Webstad 40 years to find a way to re-frame her experience to fight racism and bullying under the motto "every child matters" — and by using orange.

On Sept. 30, 2013, Webstad organized the first Orange Shirt Day in Williams Lake to acknowledge the harm that Canada's residential school system has left in generations of indigenous families and their communities. And every year on Sept. 30, Canadians are asked to wear orange as a sign of support.

"When I was in school, I didn't know my own history," Webstad explained in a video. She said she is now "overjoyed" by the growing number of people participating in the event each year, from schools to reserves to businesses.

Virtual School Council Meeting

Please join us for our first school council of the year Tuesday October 6th @ 6pm. A link will be sent next week.