On November 15th, the new Board of Trustees was sworn in for the 2022-2026

really looking forward to serving students,

Dear friends,

term. I am so grateful for the support and trust given to me by Ward 11 constituents, and am

families and communities over the next four years. After all trustees were sworn in, our Board held its annual Organizational Meeting, where our Chair and Vice Chair were elected and trustees were appointed by the board to committees and to seats on outside boards. I am pleased to announce that as the first order of business at that meeting, I was

elected Chair of the Board. I am thrilled to take on this new leadership role and am looking forward to working together with my Vice Chair, Neethan Shan (Ward 17, Scarborough Centre), our Director of Education, and the rest of our Board of Trustees -- half of whom are returning, and and half of whom are newly-elected -to move our Multi-Year Strategic Plan forward in support of all students and the

TDSB. As Chair of the Board, I now have an automatic seat (and vote) on all Standing Committees, as opposed to a seat on just one, as well as a seat on the Audit Committee. In addition, at our Organizational Board meeting, I was appointed to represent the TDSB at the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (aka OPSBA -- this time as an alternate, not a Director), and I will continue in my role as Co-Chair of the French as a Second Language Committee (FSLAC). I have chosen to cut down on some of the other committee work that I loved and worked on in my first term (such as the Inner City Community Advisory Committee), but with the additional work that comes with being Chair of the Board, it seemed prudent to take a step back to ensure that I could continue to deliver on my

commitment to the students, families and communities of the 24 schools in Don Valley West. I know it will be a challenging and busy year, but I am excited and optimistic about what lies ahead! Below you will find information regarding changes to my coffee mornings (at least for December), upcoming deadlines (Early French Immersion and Student Interest Programs), and board-wide news and events. So grab a comfy seat and a beverage of your choice, and read on! And as always, feel free to reach out to me by email at Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca. Warm regards, Rachel Rachel Chernos Lin Chair, TDSB Trustee, Ward 11, Don Valley West

Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca

New Term, new coffee meeting plans! Trustee Chair Rachel Chernos Lin invites you to a I am excited to announce that I have decided

to hold my first coffee event of the new term **Don Valley West** IN PERSON at the Leaside Longos, upstairs **COMMUNITY COFFEE** in the loft. Many of you will remember these Longo's coffee morning gatherings prepandemic. My intention is to alternate between in person **Register Here** and virtual as the year goes on, but I thought

Friday, December 9th, 2022 it would be nice to try for an in-person 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm gathering before the winter break and to start Leaside Longo's Loft (93 Laird Drive, in the Leaside Village Plaza) Upstairs Kitchen the new term seeing new and old faces in person. Please note, I have had to choose an afternoon for this event as it was almost impossible to find a time that worked between now and the winter break for both me and our Ward 11 Superintendents, Andrew Howard and Roni Felsen. As a result, our upcoming Winter Holiday Coffee will take place <u>Friday</u>, <u>December 9th from 1:00pm to 2:30 pm</u> at the Leaside Longos Loft (upstairs

gatherings where our superintendents and I will give short updates, and then open the floor to discussion about all things education in Ward 11 and the TDSB. Coffee, tea and treats will be provided! Please register/RSVP I hope to see many of you on December 9th! Index

For those of you who are new to our coffee events, these are round-table, informal

kitchen).

Labour Update

and COVID-19.

including in schools and childcares.

of students surveyed said they have unequivocally witnessed an antisemitic event. This study also

found that one in three students think the

unsure if it actually happened.

Counter Rising Antisemitism.

happening.

Holocaust was fabricated, exaggerated or are

On November 9th, Ontario became the first

The Toronto District School Board was happy to

see that the Canadian Union of Public Employees

(CUPE) and the Government of Ontario reached

 <u>Labour Update</u> Toronto Public Health Update Combatting Hate • <u>Early French Immersion (JK Entry) Application</u>:DEADLINE November 25

 Preparing for High School - Information <u>Central Student Interest Programs</u>: DEADLINE November 25, 4pm Post-Secondary Information

 2022-2023 School Council Innovation Grants: Applications open PIAC Conference: Postponed Mental Health and Well Being <u>Image Everybody</u> (by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation)

 Active School Travel webinars TDSB Learn 4 Life: Registration open • TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive: Donations very much needed Policy Consultations Youth Climate Action Grants: Application Deadline December 5

 <u>2023 Prime Minister's Teaching Awards</u> competition is open! Heritage & History Months 2022-2023 School Year Calendar

Ontario Public

School Boards'

Leading Education's Advocates

ASSOCIATION

a tentative agreement past Sunday, averting a strike and school closures past Monday. We thank eveybody for their patience and understanding as we move through these labour developments. We'd also like to thank all staff for their hard work to prepare the system for all possible scenarios. Please note that this is a tentative agreement and still needs to be ratified by the Union. Read more in the news release below from OPSBA (the Ontario Public School Boards' Association). OPSBA News Release (Nov.21): Tentative agreement reached with CUPE The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) is pleased to announce that the Council of Trustees'/School Board Associations (CTA) and the provincial government have successfully negotiated a tentative settlement on central terms of a collective agreement

with Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) education workers.

agreed to stop all job action while awaiting ratification of the deal.

"We're very pleased that students will be in the classroom tomorrow," said OPSBA

of our vital education workers and the significant roles they play in our schools."

The details of the agreement remain confidential until ratified by all parties. CUPE has

President Cathy Abraham. "This tentative agreement recognizes the important contributions

OPSBA will continue to negotiate a fair and fully funded agreement with the other unions representing teachers and education workers, with the best interests of students in mind. Click to read the full media release **Toronto Public Health Update** Last week, Toronto Public Health issued an important message with regard to a number of steps that can be taken to help keep children and others safe from an increase in respiratory viruses among children including Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Influenza

Please note that Toronto Public Health, together with Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, **strongly recommends** the wearing of a well-fitted mask in indoor public settings,

Please read the <u>full TPH message here</u>. Topics covered include masking, vaccinations, staying home when sick, cleaning hands, cleaning surfaces - and includes links to further

resources. Please note, a representative from TPH will be coming to our upcoming Board meeting on December 7th to present their latest data and advice. **Combatting Hate** According to the first study of antisemitism and Holocaust knowledge — conducted by Western University and Liberation75 in 2021 — 42 per cent

jurisdiction in North America to make Holocaust education compulsory in Grade 6 beginning in 2023. In addition, the Ministry of Education will work with the Ontario College of Teachers

to develop professional leaning, also known as an Additional Qualification to prepare teachers so they can further support efforts to educate students on the Holocaust. You can read the news release here: Ontario Strengthening Holocaust Education to

As it happens, I had the pleasure of attending this historic announcement along with

students from St. Andrews Middle School and Northern Secondary School (two Ward 11

the Minister of Education and two Holocaust survivors, and our students demonstrated curiosity, empathy, and a genuine interest in connecting with each other and the adults at the table (see picture). Grade 6 is a crucial time to introduce this topic in the curriculum as our data shows that the majority of antisemitic events in our schools occur in Middle School

years. The hope is that by providing this education earlier, we will prevent this from

curriculum to address all forms of hate and bias in our schools.

the deadline is Friday, November 25, 2022.

Preparing for High School - Information

These are links that were shared with families:

Open Houses and Information Sessions

information) and secondary programs (including

Math/Science/Technology and others; <u>application</u> information), to learn about each of the programs,

review program and application requirements, get

dates for upcoming open houses and webinars

chat and links to a comprehensive Q & A.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Post-Secondary Information

years!

Arts, IB/International Baccalaureate,

and all application timelines.

(PCEO) Youtube Channel, here: youtu.be/oGcLBuX67M0

Beyond 8: Transitioning from Grade 8 to 9 video

<u>Central Student Interest Programs</u> (also see item below)

sessions to prepare for High School.

TDSB Beyond 8 website

Choices: Planning for Grade 9

the Application Process.

We know there is much work to be done addressing all forms of hate and bias, and while we are thrilled to see this curriculum change for 2023, we will continue to advocate for

schools). Students had the opportunity to attend a round-table discussion and Q and A with

Early French Immersion (JK Entry) EARLY FRENCH Application: DEADLINE November 25! Junior Kindergarten Entry APPLICATION PROCESS OPENS ON Early French Immersion now begins in Junior October 31, 2022 Kindergarten. For families interested in the Toronto District School Board's system-wide French Immersion Program, we offer an online process to apply for Early French Immersion to those who will be entering JK in September 2023. An offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) is guaranteed to all on-time applicants. To apply to the Early

French Immersion program for September 2023, please complete an online application -

To support our Grade 8 students and families, the TDSB provides various information and

recording to re-watch it at your leisure is on the Parent & Community Engagement Offfice

A Grade 8 to 9 Transition Information Session took place on November 1, 2022, The

Visit the TDSB website for more information about Early French Immersion and

 Out of Area Admissions Alternative Schools in the TDSB (also see link below) Community Involvement TDSB Grade 8 Course Selection with myBlueprint Grade 8 Transition Year - At a Glance Also, make sure to check out the Grade 8 to 9 Seconday Alternative Schools Fair video! **Central Student Interest Programs: GRADE 9 TO 12 PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS INSIDE DEADLINE November 25, 4pm** The online application for central student interest Secondary Program Guide programs is open! Visit the TDSB web pages for <u>elementary programs</u> (arts-focus, cyberarts, and elite athlete programs; application

On November 3, Board staff hosted a Student Interest Program Webinar. Over 5,000 people were in attendance and it has been watched on YouTube an additional 5,100+

times. The video is available on the (secondary) Central Student Interest Program Website (www.tdsb.on.ca/CSIP) along with the webinar slides, a list of the links shared through the

The application launched on the afternoon of Monday, November 7. Students and their parents/guardians and caregivers are encouraged to attend Open Houses to learn more about various programs before submitting their final application. An application received on

Please note, the application process closes at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 25.

Friday, November 25 has equal standing with the first application submitted.

LEARN MORE

TDSB Central Stude

ntegrated Tech

Leadership Path

• Dec.1: Ontario Universities Fair - Virtual Info Session Dec.12: Skilled Trades and Manufacturing - Career Fair & Training Expo -Sheraton Centre Toronto (123 Queen St W) **Update Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week: November 20-26** The TDSB recognizes Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (BAPW) runs from

November 20-26, 2022 with school boards across the province. This week is an opportunity to remember the impact that bullying can have on a school community and to talk about the

As a system, the TDSB focuses on prevention efforts and creating a welcoming school community – both in-person and online. Staff and students are engaged through events, activities and prevention programming and encouraged to take on leadership roles to enhance the school community. Supporting a positive school climate is one of the most important ways to support students' well-being. The TDSB is committed to working to

strengthen relationships between students and school adults and improving overall school

individuals, hold students accountable and address issues that may have contributed to the situation and help prevent them from happening again. This work is supported by a number

climate to create inviting and engaging learning spaces where student want to be.

We have a responsibility to respond to incidents of bullying, to support the affected

ways we can report, support and prevent bullying in our schools.

of TDSB policies and procedures, including:

Caring and Safe Schools Policy

Board Code of Conduct Procedure

stories of kindness.

Promoting a Positive School Climate Procedure

Student Attendance and Safe Arrival Policy

2022-2023 School Council Innovation Grant

PIAC Conference: Postponed

Advocacy, School Improvement Plans, and more.

you may need. During these times it is especially important.

<u>You/Mental-Health-and-Well-Being-Professional-Support-Staff-PSS</u>.

counsellors. Call 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868

Everybody builds on the success of our awardwinning Dear Everybody campaign that brought

disability inclusion. This year, Holland Bloorview kids and youth were asked what they imagine for themselves - highlighting some of their stories to help people rethink and change our perceptions of disability. We want to spark the world's imagination so we can all work together to create a world that is inclusive, accessible, and free from ableism.

widespread attention to the importance of

schools or community groups.

Active School Travel webinars

Info & Register here.

Info & Registration here.

Report in advance of the sessions.

held November 18.

school travel during winter months.

TDSB Learn 4 Life: Registrations open

Learn4Life (Adult General Interest Courses) registration opened Wednesday, November 23.

A list of courses is posted on the website (full brochure), with remote and in-person courses

available. Courses will start January 2023

For more information - <u>learn4life.ca</u>.

December 2, 2022.

Green Communities Canada, in partnership with the Clean Air Partnership's The Centre for Active

Mental Health and Well Being

same web page).

Respectful Learning and Working Environment Policy

Check out the following upcoming events for students preparing for their post-high school

Virtual Learning Environment called the Safe and Healthy Schools Hub. The Hub will include policies and legislation, resources created or funded by the ministry and links to external community organizations. The Hub will support educators, by making resources easier to find and more accessible. To access the Hub, including resources to assist with planning for BAPW activities, please visit community.elearningontario.ca/d2l/le/discovery/view/course/21515424 Learn more about how we support students, bullying prevention programs that we offer and the educational partners we work with to support anti-bullying initiatives in our schools and classrooms. Follow along on social media with #TDSBbekind and join the conversation with

The 2022-2023 School Council Innovation Grant (formerly PRO Grant) application opened to all School Councils on November 21st, 2022. Application Deadline is December 9 (5pm).

In light of various challenges, the 16th annual parent/caregiver Ready - Set - Engage conference from PIAC (the Board's Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) has been postponed until the Spring (the event was originally scheduled for Sunday, November 27).

workshops that are designed to build and strengthen greater positive experiences for

Titled Bridging the Gap, this virtual conference will offer (among other things) free, curated

parents, guardians, and caregivers alike, while navigating the elementary and secondary years at the TDSB, Canada's largest school board. Workshops span a diverse range of subjects such as: School Council 101, Parent Engagement, TDSB Consultations, Student

The TDSB's Professional Support Staff (PSS) are here to help with anything you need to support your mental health and well-being and to help you navigate the tools and resources

Please note the staff holds regular virtual office drop-in sessions (see the calendar on the

Kids Help Phone is available 24/7 for ages 5-29 for anonymous care from professional

to tools & resources to support their mental health, cope with stress and navigate peer

Input from over 2,400 students across Ontario indicated that students want greater access

support safely. School Mental Health Ontario has this latest report online in addition to many resources - click smho-smso.ca/blog/online-resources/hearnowon-2021-student-voices-on-

For more information, please click <u>www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/Supporting-</u>

Bridging & the GAP Part II

To learn more about the grant, please visit <u>School-Council-Innovation-Grant</u>.

Programs for Students on Long-Term Suspensions and Expulsions Procedure

cyberbullying, we are pleased to share that the ministry is launching a new section on the

To support the TDSB and the Ministry's commitment to the prevention of bullying and

mental-health-final-report/. Image Everybody (by Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation): Holland Blcorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospita Exciting news: Holland Bloorview Kids IMAGINE I HAVE Rehabilitation Hospital recently launched it's disability inclusion campaign, *Imagine* Everybody. Image Everybody is part of Holland Bloorview's ongoing effort to confront stigma and amplify the voice of its patients and families. Imagine

As part of its campaign, Holland Bloorview offers FREE and interactive, educational

You can check out www.imageeverybody.ca for more information, or follow Holland

Transportation (TCAT), is hosting a series of webinars to provide key insights from their policy recommendations report, sharing best practices for traffic calming and winter

November 25: Traffic Calming and Active School Travel in Ontario

have been harnessed to enhance and encourage active school travel.

December 2: Winter Snow Maintenance and Active School Travel

It is recommended to read the <u>Investigation of Supportive Policy for Active School Travel</u>

Note: the first webinar, "Policy Recommendations to Support Active School Travel " was

maintenance. The remaining two sessions will take place at noon ET on November 25, and

This session will explore Ontario-based case studies where traffic calming measures

This session will explore snow maintenance and its critical role in encouraging active

Bloorview on Twitter (<u>@HBKidsHospital</u>) or Instagram (<u>@HollandBloorview</u>)

Spread the word, and check out the opportunities to contibute!

workshops on disability inclusion and ableism that are delivered by young people with lived experience with disability. Their team is available to present live or virtually at workplaces,

Ontario Active School Travel

s@tdsb.on.ca | 416-338 **TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive: Donations** needed! It is never too early to help families prepare for the winter season. The TDSB holds an annual Winter Outerwear Drive to help ensure that all students have warm winter outerwear to get to and from school, and are prepared to participate in all of the fun outdoor activities winter has to offer. You can support our students and their families by donating warm winter coats, pants, hats, gloves, and boots Our need for winter outerwear is greater this year. Canada is welcoming newcomer families from Ukraine & Afghanistan, to name a few, and the TDSB is welcoming many of these newly-arrived students into our schools. Newcomer students are adjusting to their first Canadian winter and can benefit from your generous support. The students need proper winter outerwear such as coats, boots, mitts and hats to be able to attend school. This year's Winter Outerwear Drive will run from October 2022 to the end of February 2023 To learn more (including how to donate money via schoolcashonline) on the TDSB website. **Policy Consultations**

Everybody is always welcome to read the draft policies from the TDSB, provide your

recommendations. Please use the contact information below. For more information surf to

Sexual Misconduct Policy - To prevent sexual misconduct from taking place and to

investigate and respond to incidents and complaints of such behavior in an

- E-mail comments until January 8, 2023 to Maria. Valente-deSa@tdsb.on.ca

Calling all TDSB students! City of Toronto grants of up to \$1,000 are available to student

Applications for grant funding are now open and the deadline to apply is December 5, 2022.

Canada

NOMINATE AN

Teaching Excellence

Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology,

Engineering and Math (STEM)

VISIT CANADA.CA/PM-AWARDS #PMAWARDS

TODAY!

EXCEPTIONAL

2023

PRIME

MINISTER'S AWARDS

Nomination

January 17, 2023 (11:59 AM Pacific

standard time

The TDSB's <u>EcoSchools team</u> is available to support student groups develop their action projects and assist with best practices for grant writing proposals. For more information

groups who want to foster climate action projects in their schools and communities.

comments, including suggestions on the wording and provisions, questions or

www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations.

Youth Climate Action Grants: Application Deadline December 5

accountable, timely and effective manner.

about the grant program, visit Youth Climate Action Grants.

2023 Prime Minister's Teaching Awards:

Do you know a terrific teacher or early childhood

educator? Consider nominating them for a 2023

remarkable educational achievements and

out previous teaching and early childhood

Looking for inspiration? Check

Prime Minister's Award! This program honours the

commitment of elementary and secondary school

teachers, as well as early childhood educators.

Indigenous perspectives on treaties, Indigenous leadership, achievements, resurgence, futurities, and creativity.

For more information please read this **TDSB** news release and surf to the web pages for

the TDSB Urban Indigenous Education

Centre.

Hindu Heritage Month

2022-2023 School Year Calendar

then February 17 (both elementary and high schools).

4. December 2, 2022 - Professional Development

5. January 13, 2023 - Assessment and Reporting

7. June 2, 2023 - Assessment and Reporting

Gr. 9 Math: TBD

Gr. 9 Math: TBD

Labour Day:

Thanksgiving:

Winter Break: Family Day:

Good Friday:

Victoria Day:

Easter Monday:

Mid-Winter Break:

6. February 17, 2023 – Parent Teacher Conferences

EQAO: - The following dates have been established:

nominations open!

- Draft Policy (Word; PDF)

- <u>Survey</u>

education award recipients. For nomination information, see 2023 nomination packages. The nomination deadline is January 27, 2023. **Heritage & History Months** The Toronto District School Board is proud to celebrate the following heritage and history months in November. **INDIGENOUS** EDUCATI≌N Indigenous Education Month: an MºNTH important reminder to centre First Nations, Métis, and Inuit perspectives, voices, histories, and contemporary realities across the TDSB. It is an opportunity to learn from

There are no classes for students on the dates listed above (also check out the Days of Significance Calendar and the key school calendar dates listed below). **KEY DATES - SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR** 2022-2023 The official school year calendar for the Toronto District School Board runs from September 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, inclusive. Sep **Professional Activity Days** Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb June 6 18 13 17, Elementary Schools Secondary Schools 6 18 2, 17 29, 30 **Designation of Professional Activity Days** Elementary 1. September 6, 2022 - Professional Development 1.September 6, 2022 - Professional 2. October 7, 2022 - Professional Development Development 3. November 18, 2022 - Parent Teacher 2.October 7, 2022 - Professional Development Conferences 3. November 18, 2022 - Professional

Development

OSSLT: TBD

Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education)

December 26, 2022 - January 6, 2023

September 5, 2022

October 10, 2022

February 20, 2023

April 7, 2023

April 10, 2023

May 22, 2023

March 13 - 17, 2023

Primary/Junior EQAO: TBD

4. February 2, 2023–Professional Development

5. February 17, 2023–Professional Development 6. June 29, 2023- Professional Development

7. June 30, 2023 - Professional Development

This year's theme as selected by the TDSB Hindu Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee is: Bhoomi Devi: Our Sacred Mother Earth. For more more information

Mark your calendars! Upcoming Professional Activity and Professional Development days are December 2 and January 13 (elementary only), February 2 (high schools only) and

read this TDSB news item and follow @tdsb HHM on Twitter.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions, comments or concerns! ~Rachel Rachel Chernos Lin, Chair, Toronto District School Board and Ward 11 Trustee, Don Valley West Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca

If you notice anything at a school that concerns you, please call the TDSB 24-hour Call Centre (416) 395-4620, 311 Toronto, and/or Toronto Police Services Dispatch (non-emergencies via 416-808-2222). If you or a family member is in crisis, please contact <u>Kids Help Phone</u>: 1-800-668-6868 or get support right now by texting CONNECT to 686868. Share this email: Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove™ Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails. View this email online. 5050 Yonge Street Toronto, Ontario | M2N5N8 CA This email was sent to . To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

Subscribe to our email list.