## Dear friends.

As we enter the last stretch of January, it is with a mix of emotions. There have been many holidays to celebrate with joy and community for our Don Valley West and TDSB families -- such as Orthodox Christmas and most recently, yesterday's Lunar New Year -- and yet over the last couple of days, many of us have felt stress and sadness. For many families, last night's Lunar New Year celebrations were tainted by the shocking shootings at a Lunar New

**Don Valley West COMMUNITY COFFEE** Join us for a morning of casual conversation about education with Ward 11 superintendents on January 25th, 2023 Register 9:30 am - 11:00 am Year celebration in California. And for all Canadians, and for Indigenous peoples in particular, last week's discovery of a large number of plausible unmarked graves of Indigenous children near Kenora, Ontario was a further reminder of the

Trustee Chernos Lin invites you to a

to trustees on Friday afternoon in my weekly message, "My heartfelt and deepest condolences go out to the Wauzhushk Onigum Nation, and the victims and survivors of the residential school system and their families. As a Board, our collective response must be centered in reaffirming our commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action through meaningful and intentional work.

injustices and impacts of colonialism and the residential school system. As I wrote

With that in mind, I encourage you to review our Multi-Year Strategic Plan to learn communities to address the knowledge gap about the histories, cultures and

more about the TDSB's important commitment to work with Toronto's Indigenous contemporary realities of Indigenous peoples in Canada including the impact of ongoing colonization and systems of public schooling within those communities." And finally, I know many families are concerned about recent incidents of violence in communities and schools across our city, including in Ward 11. This is something the TDSB is taking very seriously. We have begun by putting a number

of extra measures in place such as increased School Based Safety Monitors, safety audits, and are working to establish an Expert Reference Group and local safety tables with community partners in high priority areas to help advise and support us. As Chair of the Board, I have been meeting regularly with the City of

Toronto's staff lead from Safe TO, the Mayor and officers from Toronto Police

Services, to establish how we can best work together, and I have also met with the Minister of Education to communicate our experiences and advocate for Provincial support. Our schools need to be safe spaces. All children and staff need to FEEL safe at school, as well as BE safe at school. As parents, we always worry about our children every time they leave the house and are out of our care, but we shouldn't be worrying about our children's safety when they are at school. And while all of us at the TDSB do our very best to ensure that this is the case each and every day, the rise in violence in our communities and city is not a problem the TDSB can solve on its own. We need ALL levels of government to come together to work with TDSB and community partners to ensure our city and communities are supported and safe. On a brighter note, this week marks the beginning of the first set of exams for our high school students in several years. I know many students are nervous, but this is also good experience for preparing students for higher education and real-world

scenarios they may experience after they graduate from the TDSB. I was pleased to see all of our high schools offering exam preparation workshops in order to help set students up for success. Wishing all of our students the best of luck as they finish up their cumulative assignments and write exams! Coffee Morning: Wednesday, Jan.25 A quick reminder of my upcoming Coffee Morning this Wednesday. As we alternate between in-person and virtual meetings, this one will be via Zoom, 9:30 - 11 a.m. Please click for the <u>Flyer</u> and <u>Registration</u>.

Finally, see below for a number of important reminders, events, and information that may be of interest to Ward 11 and TDSB families. Finally, as always, feel free to reach out to me by email at Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca. Warm regards, Rachel Rachel Chernos Lin Chair and TDSB Trustee, Ward 11, Don Valley West

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Rachel.Chernoslin@tdsb.on.ca

• Black Student Summer Leadership Program (Info Session January 24) January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

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 TDSB System-wide Virtual Tutoring Support for Students Mental Health and Well Being

schools outside of the school that is designated to serve their home address by applying for Out-of-Area Admissions. Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability and

program suitability. Check the TDSB website for more information about Out-of-Area

It is important to note that an application received on the closing date has equal standing

- Tamil Heritage Month at the TDSB January 2023 • Support for Families - by Community Support Workers. • Preparing for High School - Information
- TDSB Winter Outerwear Drive: Donations very much needed
- Elementary and Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions: Info & Applications Students who reside within the City of Toronto have the right to attend a school which is designated to serve their residential address. Students also have the opportunity to access
- The applications for Out-of-Area Admissions launched earlier this month. There are already over 600 elementary submissions and nearly 1,700 secondary submissions. Applicants may include up to two (2) school choices on their applications.

Out-of-Area Admissions - Applications

with the first application submitted.

guaranteed to all on-time applicants.

- Middle French Immersion,

Visit the TDSB website for more information about

policy will be shared with the Board in the spring 2023

For interested parents/caregivers, there is a

Friday, January 27, 2023.

mandatory training session (virtual) on Tuesday, February 7, 6-8pm.

27. Parents will be scheduled for only 1 day each of interviewing.

Admissions.

Middle French Immersion Application Process (deadline February 3) The entry point to the Middle French Immersion program for September 2023 is Grade 4.

The online application process for Middle French Immersion takes place between **January** 9 and February 3, 2023. An offer of placement in the program (not a specific school) is

Families with an older sibling currently enrolled in a French program and who will be in attendance next year are still required to complete an online application for the new

student. Please select the "sibling option" within the online application

- the Application Process. Check out a summarizing presentation. Elementary Alternative Schools - Apply until February 16 On October 26, 2022, the Board approved revisions to the Alternative Schools Policy. As part of the TDSB's commitment to ensure equitable access, admissions, and

opportunities for all students and to support implementation of the Board decision regarding elementary alternative schools (May 26, 2021) and the revised Alternative Schools Policy

(P062), the TDSB has developed a new centralized application process and online

application form for elementary alternative schools. The accompanying procedure to the

The centralized application process and online application form is in place for students and

alternative schools is available on the TDSB website. The form is available until Thursday,

families to request admission for September 2023. Information related to elementary

- Virtual & In-Person Information Sessions (tomorrow, January 24, 10am!), and/or

Raise a Reader; Read to Succeed, Anbu **Autism Caregiving series** Raise a Readen Learn strategies to make reading fun, while Resources provided to help your reader building fluency and confidence as a reader - for January 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM all families including French Immersion. January Click here to register 24 at 6:30pm. Click here to register. Also, check out information below

Reading Strategies Educational Games Community and Education Resources Four-Part Workshop

> Wednesday December 7, 2022 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday January 25, 2023 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Join us for a time to learn about: Phonological Awareness



24 at 6 p.m. Supported by the Graduation Coaches for Black Students, TDSB Black-identifying social workers, professional researchers and various TDSB staff, the Black Student Summer Leadership Program provides paid learning experiences and enrolled students are able to receive mentorship, career training, and placements in an employment area that reflects their passions. Students also participate in Youth Participatory Action Research where they

conduct their own research and presentations within social justice education.

An additional bonus is that students can enroll in an optional co-operative education

We look forward to another successful year of the Black Student Summer Leadership Program at the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement (check out their

Friday, January 27, 2023

Please join us virtually as we welcome Pinchas Gutter, Holocaust Survivor and contributor to the Azrieli Foundation's 'The Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program' and USC Shoah Foundation's 'Witness: Dimensions in Testimony'.

Live Stream: https://www.tdsb.on.ca/stream/livewebcast-2023-01-27.html

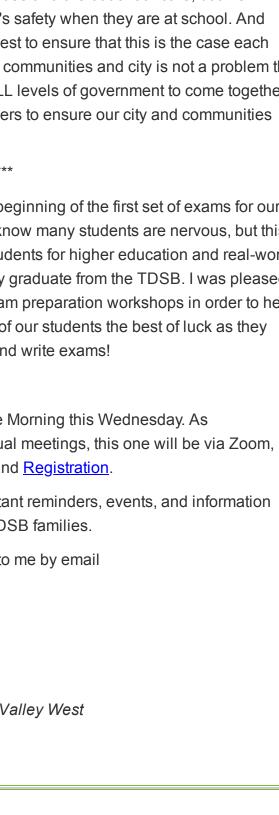
After the presentation, students can ask Pinchas their own questions using Dimens Testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation This talk is brought to you by the TDSB's Jewish Heritage Committee and their partners in honour of International Holocaust Remembrance Day

For Grades 6 and Up

Azrieli

selection, where they are eligible to gain up to 2 credits towards their Ontario Secondary

priorities. The first priority being the importance of joy, engagement and belonging in our schools as a foundation for academic achievement and student success; and the second priority being the elimination of disproportionate outcomes for students. Black Joy emulates how Black People have been able to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally as a People and as a Community, despite the systemic barriers and oppression faced. To kick off African Heritage month at the TDSB, all students, staff, and the TDSB community are invited to join in marking this significant month with entertainment, and noteworthy speakers. Announcements about several educational opportunities that are being planned throughout the month of February and beyond will also be shared at the African Heritage Month Virtual Launch on Wednesday, February 1. African Heritage Month Virtual Launch Date: Wednesday, February 1st, 2023



Worth repeating Inclement weather FSLCAC Newsletter Save the Date: EnVision Conference

## Late applications will not be accepted Students self-identifying as First Nations, Métis or Inuit are not required to apply through Out-of-Area Admissions to attend a school of their choosing. For more information, visit <u>Supporting Students Outside of Out-of-Area Admissions</u>.

The Elementary application remains open until Friday, February 10 at 4 p.m.

The Secondary application closes on Friday, January 27 at 4 p.m.

February 16, 4 p.m. TDSB Parents needed for Participation on SUPPORTING PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN ED **Vice-Principal Interview Teams** Parents needed for Participation on VP Interview Teams Each year, the TDSB interviews teacher candidates for vice-princip Each year, the TDSB interviews teacher positions. PIAC helped gain parent participation on the interview teams for teachers applying to get promoted to the VP list. candidates for vice-principal positions. There is a mandatory training session on **Tues. Feb. 7, 6-8pm**. The 2023 interview sessions will be held on 2 of the following 3 days: Feb. 21, Feb. 23. Feb. 27. Parents will be scheduled for only 1 day each. This is an important way for parents to have a Interested parents/caregivers should complete the Expression of Interest form (https://bit.ly/PVPSpring2023) no later than Friday, January 27, 2023 direct voice in who will be administrators in our schools. More info on our News page: torontopiac.com/whats-happening/news

The 2023 interview sessions will be held on 2 of the following 3 days: February 21, 23, or

Interested parents/caregivers should complete the Expression of Interest form no later than

More on the <u>website of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee</u>, PIAC (here).

 for a seperate Read to Succeed online workshop series for Parents & Caregivers (next session: January 25, 6:3- - 8:00 pm). and an Anbu session for caregivers of students living with autism (next session: January 26, 6:00 - 7:30 pm) [both also organized/facilitated by the TDSB's Community Support Workers (www.tdsbHUB.ca)]

Read to Succeed

Online Workshop Series

for Parents & Caregivers

COMMUNITY

tdsb**HUB**.ca

Wednesday March 29, 2023 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Wednesday April 26, 2023 - 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Presenters: Jocelynn Smith and Miguel Pink, Community Support Workers Linda Kwan, Early Reading Coach Tricia Lee-Smith, Teacher

> Lindsay Taggart, Speech Language Pathologist Kevin Williams, Middle Years Student Success Counsellor

For any questions, please contact Jocelynn Smith, Community Support Worker jocelynn.smith@tdsb.on.ca 416-770-3576 Click here for resource Website

**CLICK HERE** TO **REGISTERI** 



\*Light refreshments will be provided

Interpreter services available - Any accommodation requests please contact Aara Vivekananthan aara.vivekananthan@tdsb.on.ca or 416 879 7178

Register here

or scan the QR Code

https://docs.google.com

/forms/d/Ive4QDRaswd D70UgG5sLkBnqLWQeo r-8t32KUJtfx14k/edit

In My Mosque: Love and

**Belonging in Community Spaces** 

Tuesday, January 24

This session commemorates the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia. M.O. Yuksel and Hatem Aly, the author and illustrator of the book In My Mosque, will engage TDSB students and staff in an interactive storytelling session focused on love and belonging in community spa

Classrooms Sessions (Kindergarten to Grade 6) 12:45- 1:45 p.m.

Community Session 5-6 p.m.

January 26th 2023 | 6:00-7:30pm

Cornell Junior Public School

61 Holmfirth Terrace

Scarborough Ontario M1G 1G8

In My Mosque: Love and Belonging in

The TDSB's Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-

Oppression Department is offering Kindergarten to

Grade 6 TDSB students, families, as well as staff

the opportunity to attend the virtual session *In My* 

Mosque: Love and Belonging in Community

Two sessions are available, one for staff and students; and one for families / guardians /

please complete this Google Form.

School Diploma (OSSD).

December newsletter).

Remembrance Day

**January 27: International Holocaust** 

Friday, January 27 is designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International

ceremonies are held to mark the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and to honor

the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and

At the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) the

webpage on the TDSB website for more information about:

Willesden Reads Concerts January 31 & February 1

• Pinchas Gutter: In conversation with TDSB's Shari Schwartz-Maltz

Willesden Reads: Hold on to Your Music with author Mona Golabe

Canadian Premiere of Willesden READS! (concert livestream Wed. Feb.1, 10 am)

Read-aloud video and performance by author Mona Golabek and Lee Cohen of the

children's version of The Children of Willesden Lane - Hold onto your Music (for

a webcast for grades 6 and up, Jan.27, 10:15 - 11 am (poster)

For more information, contact <a href="mailto:Shari.Schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca">Shari.Schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca</a>.

Jewish Heritage Committee is hosting several events TDSB staff and students: Check this

Holocaust Remembrance Day (IHRD).

On this annual day of commemoration,

millions of other victims of Nazism.

educators of grades 2-5).

*Time:* 10:00 am - 10:45 am

memories close to home.

CampTO: Information & Registration

Registration for Summer CampTO opens

At Toronto's seasonal CampTO's, children and

youth can be active, learn new skills and make fun

Zoom Webinar Link: https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/97398652590

**Community Spaces webinar** 

Spaces

Anbu

**Black Student Summer Leadership Program** Registration for the <u>Black Student Summer Leadership Program</u> is open! Toronto District School Board students from Gr. 10 – 12 who self-identify as Black and can commit to the requirements of the program are eligible to apply. The <u>application</u> closes January 31. In

addition, students, families and staff are invited to join an Information Session on January

caregivers, on Tuesday, Jan 24, 2023. Both sessions commemorate the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia. M.O. Yuksel and Hatem Aly, the author and illustrator of the book In My Mosque, will facilitate an

The community session will take place from 5 - 6 p.m. To register for the community event,

interactive storytelling session focused on love and belonging in community spaces.

African Heritage (Black History) Month: Virtual Launch: February 1st During the month of February, the TDSB proudly recognizes African Heritage (Black History) Month. It is an occasion to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of peoples of African descent to Canada and the world. The chosen theme for 2022-2023 is **Black Joy**. The theme of Black Joy was selected this year by the African Heritage Month Volunteer Planning Committee. This academic school year, "Joy" is one of TDSB's two overarching

(non-emergencies via 416-808-2222). If you or a family member is in crisis, please contact Kids Help Phone: 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

<u>Instagram @Torontodsb</u> 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 Toronto, Ontario | M2N5N8 CA This email was sent to . To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Elementary Secondary 1.September 6, 2022 - Professional 1. September 6, 2022 - Professional Development 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 4. December 2, 2022 - Professional Development Development 5. January 13, 2023 - Assessment and Reporting 4. February 2, 2023-Professional Development 5. February 17, 2023-Professional Development 6. February 17, 2023 - Parent Teacher Conferences 6. June 29, 2023- Professional Development 7. June 2, 2023 - Assessment and Reporting 7.June 30, 2023 - Professional Development EQAO: - The following dates have been established: Gr. 9 Math: TBD OSSLT: TBD Gr. 9 Math: TBD Primary/Junior EQAO: TBD Dates to Remember - School Year Holidays (as per Ministry of Education) Labour Day: September 5, 2022 October 10, 2022 Thanksgiving: Winter Break: December 26, 2022 - January 6, 2023 Family Day: February 20, 2023 Mid-Winter Break: March 13 - 17, 2023 April 7, 2023 Good Friday: Easter Monday: April 10, 2023 Victoria Day: May 22, 2023 Stay Connected with your School The TDSB is offering two new ways to stay connected with your school and the TDSB. Learn about opting in for text messages and using the School Messenger app, which provides a faster and easier way to report absences. Learn more. TDSB Update Sign-up for TDSB Update and stay informed about recent Board decisions and district-wide news. **Upcoming Meetings** The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2023. For a list of upcoming meetings, please click on the calendar on the main webpage of www.tdsb.on.ca. Follow the TDSB Join the conversations happening on TDSB's social media communities. You'll find the most up-to-date information about us on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. Twitter @TDSB Facebook @toronto.dsb

**Professional Activity Days** Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb June **Elementary Schools** 17, Secondary Schools 6 29, 30 **Designation of Professional Activity Days** 

February 11, 2023 at 7am. Registration for March Break CampTO is open Choose from: CampTO, CampTO Explore, toronto.ca/camps CampTO Plus, Counsellor in Training, or Adapted & Inclusive options for campers with disabilities or needing additional support. For more information surf to the city's CampTO web page. 2022-2023 School Year Calendar Mark your calendars! Upcoming Professional Activity and Professional Development days are February 2 (high schools only) and then February 17 (both elementary and high schools). There are no classes for students on the dates listed above (also check out the <u>Days of</u> <u>Significance Calendar</u> 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.

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