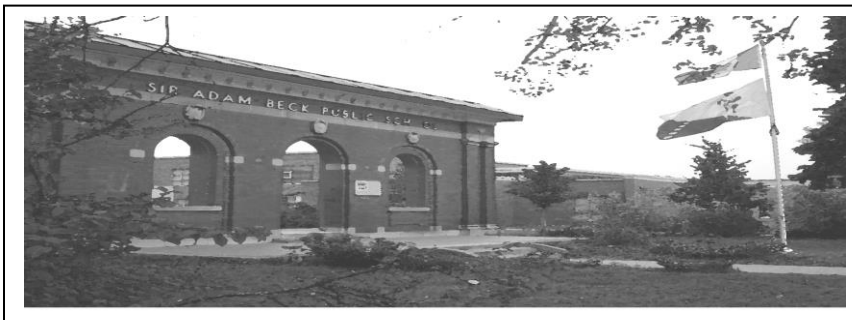


Newsletter

École
Sir Adam Beck
Junior School



April 2022

<https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck>

544 Horner Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M8W 2C2
Tel: 416-394-7670
Fax: 416-394-6142

Will your child be absent from school?
Call our Safe Arrival Number.

416-394-3884

Toronto District School Board website
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca>

Upcoming Events

April

2: World Autism Day

11: School Council Mtg, 6:30 PM
Google Meet joining info
<https://meet.google.com/fgd-gphv-cop>

13: International Day of Pink

15/18: Easter Long Weekend,
No School

22: Earth Day

27: Walk on Wednesday (WOW)

**Character Attribute
Cooperation**

**World Autism Month
Hispanic Heritage Month
Sikh Heritage Month
Latin America History
Heritage Month**



Principal's Message:

Dear SAB families,

We would like to thank the entire school community for their continued support and diligence in using the updated TPH screening tool. Please continue to monitor for symptoms, close contacts and positive RAT/PCR cases of COVID-19 of every family member. Prior to March Break, parents/guardians were informed that schools would continue to provide COVID-19 notification letters to directly impacted classes until the end of March at which time, the practice would be reassessed. While most COVID-19 measures have now been lifted per direction from the Ministry of Education, we know that a number of families continue to find this information very valuable. As a result, the TDSB has decided to continue with these notification letters until the end of the school year. We are very pleased that the extra allocation of lunchroom supervisors deployed to support cohorting will be maintained for the remainder of this school year enabling in-class lunches to continue until June. Let's continue to work together to put an end to the pandemic.

As we head into the final stretch of the 2021-2022 school year the planning and organization process for next September has already begun. I want to reassure parents that staff and administration put a great deal of time and thought into the organizing of classroom groupings each year taking into account the Ministry of Education's Primary Class Size which places a 'hard cap' of 20 students in Primary classes (Gr.1 - 3). Teachers will meet with school administration to discuss the needs of each student. The following factors are taken into consideration:

- The academic needs and learning style of the child
- The social/emotional/behavioural needs of the child
- Support programs - care is taken when placing children who are supported by special programs i.e. Special Ed., ESL
- A range of ability levels of the students in the class
- The class size (primary caps)
- Parental input shared with the teachers regarding the following:
 - i) Academic needs and learning style of their child
 - ii) The social/emotional/behavioural needs of the child;(Please note requests for specific teachers will not be entertained)

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgement in balancing the considerations mentioned above. The final decision for class placements is the responsibility of the Principal.

March came in like a lion with cooler than expected temperatures. Please ensure your child has the appropriate spring weather wear – splash pants, boots and rain jackets along with a spare change of clothes.

Wishing all of our students, families and staff a wonderful Easter long weekend.

M. Kanalec

Principal Michael Kanalec
Vice-Principal Lauren Rovas
Superintendent Dr Debbie Donsky
Trustee Patrick Nunziata
Council Co-Chairs Paul Younger,
& Corrine Frey
Title Photo Credit: Steve Burazin



April 2022 Council Corner

Email: sabschoolcouncil@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/sabschoolcouncil

Website: <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/siradambeck/School-Council>

Fundraiser Update

The chocolate almond fundraiser was very successful, raising approximately \$13,000!

If you have not paid for the box of chocolate almonds, please do so at your earliest convenience. Payments should be made directly through the link you received for Cash Online. Please contact us if you have any questions: sabchocolates@gmail.com

We thank all families who participated and are pleased to announce the top-selling winners:

Top case sellers

- #1. Kosta (Paul) and Leo (Harwood) ANTONIOU with 9 cases winning a \$100 Indigo gift card
- #2. Tomasz (Mahaney) and Katarzyna (Owsianka) TURLEJSKI with 7 cases winning a \$75 gift card
- #3. TIED - Tenzin (Steinecke) and Chesa (Bishop) YANGRU, Sadie (Monpierre) and Tobias (Nolan) REIDEL with 6 cases winning \$50 gift cards

Top classes

- #1. TIED Nolan and Mahaney with 39 cases winning Scientists in School and a gym class with Mr. Kanalec
- #2. Bishop with 32 cases winning a gym class with Mr. Kanalec
- #3. Steinecke with 29 cases winning a gym class with Mme. Rovas

Council also met last month to discuss how best to use the fundraising profits. We are grateful to our wonderful teaching staff who worked with us to identify areas of need for the classrooms and for students more generally. Funds have been allocated to the following items:

- \$1,437 - Riding toys (2 tricycles and 1 twin taxi) and
- \$250 - Playground toys (Kindergarten)
- \$200 - iPad chargers (Kindergarten)
- \$200 - Big Crunch Apples (JK- Grade 5)
- \$3,150 - Levelled Book Readers for 18 classrooms (JK-Grade 5)
- \$800 - Mallets, Boomwhackers and ukuleles for the music department
- \$565 - 2 speakers related to Diversity and Inclusion
- \$600 - Colours of the World Pencil Crayons and crayons (JK - Grade 5)
- \$800 - Grade 5 graduation ceremony
- \$550 - Courier bags

- \$2,500 - Carry-over funds for the start of the new school year
- Activities related to the Centennial celebration

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Sikh Heritage Month

April is Sikh Heritage Month (pronounced “Sick”) celebrating Sikh Canadians rich, unique and diverse heritage. Canada has the largest diaspora population outside of Punjab, India. The first Sikhs arrived in Canada in the early 1900s in British Columbia. Sikhi founding principles based on equality, justice for all and selfless service (Sewa). Various events will be happening throughout the month, including the 3rd largest parade in Toronto called Khalsa Day parade (Nagar Kirtan) which is open to all.

The International Day of Pink

This is a worldwide anti-bullying and anti-homophobia event held annually during the second week of April, this year on April 13, 2022. Though similar to Pink Shirt Day in that it also seeks to end all bullying, the Day of Pink is more specifically aimed towards anti-LGBTQ+ bullying. Discrimination can be based on race, age, disabilities, gender or sexuality. The purpose is to create a more inclusive and diverse world. This day encourages people to challenge social norms, ask more questions of educators, and stand up against bullying.

Path to Action: What does allyship look like when it comes to gender identity for our children?

Affirming a child’s gender is important, especially if they are figuring out what gender norms feel right for them. Model what compassionate calling-in looks like for your kids. It’s OK to correct someone, even a grown-up! A quick and clear “actually, she’s a girl!” or “yep, he’s a boy who likes dresses” helps the child feel validated, empowers them to stick up for themselves, and signals that you have their back when it comes to gender identity. If the person persists, kindly pull them aside and let them know how misgendering impacts others and it’s not ok. If at any point a situation feels unsafe, or you can see your child feels uneasy, be the judge and leave.

Learning Corner:

The TDSB has the following upcoming workshops that might be of interest:

Parent Reboot Recorded Session with Dr. Shefali Tsabary

TDSB is pleased to be offering parents/caregivers FREE access to this great three hour recording Reboot session with Dr. Shefali Tsabary who will help answer parents/caregivers questions and concerns on 5 stressors for parents/caregivers (1) screen addition, (2) children disrespect (3) lying (4) tantrums and (5) anxiety. The session provides golden nuggets to address the 5 stressors children commonly face.

If you are interested in watching this session, [REGISTER HERE](#) and a link will be sent to the video. You will have access to the video for about 6 months to watch at your leisure OR when you are most in need.

Islamophobia & Its Impact on Muslims & Muslim Youth

March 31, 2022

6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Presenter: Jasmine Zine, Professor, Sociology/Religion & Culture/Muslim Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University

As the author of *Under Siege Islamophobia and the 9/11 Generation*, Dr. Zine will be exploring Islamophobia and what the experiences of Islamophobia and anti-Muslim racism have been like for Muslim children and youth. Register in advance for this webinar: https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JktCes9kQW27JipU-ak8KA

Passcode: 051544

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Nurturing Children's Gender and Identity

Thursday, May 19, 2022

6:30 - 8 p.m.

Presenter: Vivek Shraya

Vivek's talk will focus on her personal journey starting from her experiences in adolescence – at home and at school – the challenges she faced as well as what helped her become the confident, self-aware, and compassionate person she is today. She will also speak to how parents and caregivers, teachers & staff can be better allies, and how we can ensure our schools and homes are safe places where our kids can explore and learn more about gender & identity.

Next Council Meeting

Join our next Council meeting on Monday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. to meet other parents and get the latest updates from the principal on school activities. The Google Meet link is included on the first page of this newsletter. You can also follow the Council on [Facebook](#).

World Autism Day

On Friday, April 1st our school will Raise the Flag along with Autism Ontario and schools across the TDSB in recognition of World Autism Awareness Day. Raising the Flag helps school communities recognize this day and bring to light people who live with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). To learn more, please visit www.autismontario.com.

March monthly virtual assembly held on Friday, March 25th, 2022

SAB Centennial and World Water Day

The students in room 202, the Student Council and some grade 5 students prepared and presented a virtual assembly on Sir Adam Beck. Some researched and wrote about this great man who was knighted in 1909 for the good he did to the community, including creating a hospital for poor children with tuberculosis, and creating what will become Ontario Hydro, “to bring electricity in all homes”. Students from other classes worked on the form: “Sir Adam Beck is ...” to express their opinions on our school. Some staff members did too. The children’s artwork and writing will be posted for everyone to enjoy. If space allows, staff’s work will also be posted.

Mme Monpierre and Ms Harwood

The assembly continued with a presentation about World Water Day. Students at Sir Adam Beck participated in World Water Day by wearing blue. Students also participated in the Great Gulp. It was a splashing success! Over 281 gulps were taken out of reusable water bottles. This year’s World Water Day theme was groundwater. Students shared that groundwater is a hidden treasure that makes our lives better. Most of the groundwater that we drink comes from groundwater. The EcoSchools team students learned that Toronto water is safe to drink from the tap, but there are dozens of communities across Ontario and Canada that have boil water advisories. Students can help keep our groundwater fresh by reducing their single use plastic water bottle use, to help keep harmful plastics out of our water.

Mme Brown



Volunteer Annual Offence Declaration

We acknowledge all of our amazing volunteers even though volunteering in the school has been put on hold. If you are listed on our volunteer data base it is important for you to carry out your annual Offence Declaration. All volunteers currently on our Volunteer Database with an approved police reference clearance are required to carry out an annual offence declaration. This can be done by contacting the main office (416 394 7670) or virtually during the COVID restrictions by emailing Michael.kanalec@tdsb.on.ca to initiate the process.

Kindergarten Student Drop Off Update

FDK families were notified earlier this week that there will be a minor change to the morning drop-off routines beginning on Monday April 4, 2022.

As of Monday morning, Sir Adam Beck Teachers and ECEs will be greeting all FDK children in the FDK East Yard (with the playscape) between 8:20 – 8:35AM. Students are to be dropped off at the East gate where a Teacher/ECE will welcome your child into the play area.

The AAASI Daycare will have exclusive use of the Naturalized Area to allow children who participate in Daycare the opportunity to enjoy some outdoor time before the day begins.

There is no change in afternoon pick up routines. Please continue to pick up your child from the established dismissal locations at 2:50PM.

Thank you in advance

FDK Team

Outdoor Gear

Parents/guardians are asked to monitor daily weather conditions and to send their child to school dressed so that they are comfortable participating in all aspects of the school day. Daily outdoor activities require boots, splash/snow pants, jackets, toques and glove mittens.

Indoor Shoes

Please make sure your child has indoor shoes at school at all times. The damp spring weather brings with it rain and mud. Students are asked to change their footwear when they enter the school in order to keep their feet dry and warm and to keep the hallways clear of mud and dirt. Indoor shoes should be proper shoes with soles, appropriate for indoor activities.

Important Notice of Teaching Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations

The Ministry of Education released The Ontario Curriculum for Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8, in August 2019. At the same time, the Policy/Program Memorandum entitled - Exemption from Instruction Related to the Human Development and Sexual Health Expectations in the Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1 to 8, was also publicly released for implementation by November 30, 2019.

TDSB acknowledges the importance of a child's understanding of human development and sexual health and that students are best served when schools and parents work together to support learning about healthy living.

Education related to Human Development and Sexual Health will be taught in a developmentally appropriate manner and delivered to meet the learning needs of students at different ages. The goal of this learning is to help students build the skills they need to develop personal responsibility for lifelong health, contribute to an inclusive school culture and make responsible choices that protect themselves from potential harms.

Procedure 727 has been created based on the specific requirements outlined in PPM 162. [PR727](#) provides a specific process with forms, letters and checklists attached to be followed by staff and parents which allows for students to be exempted at the request of a parent/guardian from all of the expectations related to the Human Development and Sexual Health found in Strand D of The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education. Please note that this component of the Health Curriculum will be taught in May/June this year. Parent/guardians must be given a minimum of 20 (school) days notice prior to the teaching of any of the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations.

Parent/guardians have until 5 days prior to the first day of teaching Human Development and Sexual Health to request an exemption. **If you would like to request an exemption please contact your child's teacher by Monday April 25, 2022**

The 3 options that can be selected are the following:

Option 1: remain in the classroom without taking part in instructional activities related to Human Development and Sexual Health. (I understand that my child's activities unrelated to Human Development and Sexual Health during the exemption period will be at the discretion of the teacher.)

Option 2: leave the classroom and remain in the school under staff supervision. (I understand that my child's activities during the exemption period will be at the discretion of the teacher or principal. Note: While the school will make every effort to accommodate your request, a school's ability to effectively supervise students may not be operationally feasible.)

Option 3: be released into my care as parent/guardian or the care of my approved designate.
