



## Message from the Admin

Dear Virtual Secondary School Students and Parents/Guardians,

We have officially completed our first full week of Semester 2. We do have a number of new students to VSS this semester. Just a reminder that our Guidance Team is available every lunch via the [Guidance Drop In](#) (Zoom). Please feel free to drop-in if you have any questions about your classes.

We hope you found our **Course Promotions Fair** this morning useful and that you are now better prepared to make your course selections for next year. Next week, teachers will be providing students some time during class to work on myBlueprint. The deadline to submit your courses in myBlueprint is Friday, February 28th.

Just a reminder that there is a PD day on Friday, February 14th and students will not have any classes. Also, school is closed on Monday, February 17th for Family Day.

If you have missed or would like to review our past *Weekly Updates*, please visit our [school website](#).

Sincerely,

Praveena Sivarajah  
Principal

[Praveena.Sivarajah@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Praveena.Sivarajah@tdsb.on.ca)

Zorica Prekajski

Vice Principal (A - L)

[Zorica.Prekajski@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Zorica.Prekajski@tdsb.on.ca)

Marlena Rivett

Vice Principal (M - Z)

[Marlena.Rivett@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Marlena.Rivett@tdsb.on.ca)

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student absences must be reported to the school, not individual teachers.

To report a student absence, please 416 393 8240 or email

[TDSBVirtualSecSchool@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:TDSBVirtualSecSchool@tdsb.on.ca).

VSS follows a remote, synchronous learning model. Asynchronous learning options are not available. Teachers cannot mark the work submitted by students who are not attending their class. VSS cannot award credits to students who are not demonstrating their attendance and engagement in class.

### Upcoming Events:

<b>Thursday, February 13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OUAC Deadline</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, February 14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PD Day - No classes</li> <li>• OCAS Deadline</li> </ul>
<b>Monday, February 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Day - School Closed</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, February 19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late Start - PLC</li> </ul>



Students of the Week		
Name	Teacher Nominator	Description
Ryan R.	Ms. Rollon	I'd like to nominate Ryan for Student of the Week! Ryan was always ready to participate and ask questions in my math classes. He is responsible, submits all work on time, and always produces excellent projects and assignments. His hard work resulted in him finishing with an excellent mark in Gr. 10 Math. Keep up the great work, Ryan!
Liza V.	Ms. Rollon	I'd like to nominate Liza for Student of the Week! Liza was always eager to learn in my Gr. 10 Math class, and never failed to participate in class and show us her work. She created beautiful notes and was always so kind to her classmates. Great job, Liza!

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## Special Education and Inclusion February Newsletter for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

The Special Education and Inclusion Department is pleased to share the [February Newsletter for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers](#) that highlights some relevant resources and information for families.

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## Upcoming Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Engagement Session: Navigating Transitions

The following are the dates for the upcoming parent/caregiver/guardian session being offered by the Special Education and Inclusion Department. These repeat sessions will focus on the support and services available for students with special needs and disabilities, both within the TDSB and through external organizations.

Date: Wednesday, March 5th - Day (AM)

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Date: Thursday, March 6th - Evening (PM)

Time: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Please see this [flyer](#) for more information.

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## Conversation Series - Parenting for Liberation – In Conversation with Trina Greene Brown

Join the Parent/Caregiver and Community Engagement Office in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement for Parenting for Liberation – In Conversation with Trina Greene Brown. We invite parents and caregivers who identify as Black and/or are raising Black children to engage in a powerful storytelling experience exploring ways to amplify Black children voices and to nurture joyful Black families.



Presenter: Trina Greene Brown is the creator of Parenting for Liberation, a virtual platform launched in 2016 featuring blogs and podcasts that aim to connect, inspire, and uplift black parents. An activist and mother of two, she is also a member of the Resonance Network and the Move to End Violence. She was recently named the 2017 Black Feminist Rising by Black Women's Blueprint and an Inspirational Parent in 2018 by CADRE. She is the author of Parenting for Liberation: A Guide for Raising Black Children.

Time: 6:30-7:30PM

Register for the session [here](#).

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## Workshop - Post Secondary Supplementary Applications

Are you a Grade 12 student applying for University or College? Well Anna Maria and Roberto have you covered.

On February 12th @ 11:45 PM they are hosting a workshop on post secondary supplementary applications and will go through key pointers. Please join using the Zoom link below. We hope to see you soon!



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/94310313044?pwd=XGVSCOapJaQ1HJXO3jqJvviS38UfzQ.1>

Meeting ID: 943 1031 3044

Passcode: 491843

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## Professional Activity Day (Friday, February 14th)

During the school year, TDSB school staff participate in a number of Professional Activity (PA) Days. On these dates, students remain at home and schools are open for staff to engage in professional learning.

Please [click here](#) for more information about the February 14, 2024, PA Day.

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## Message from the VSS School Council



Good day to all new and old Toronto District School Board's (TDSB'S) Virtual Secondary School parents, students, and staff.

This email is from Margarita Salvatore (your school council chair). I hope this message finds you warm and well. I am writing to you as there are some new students/families in VSS (Virtual Secondary School) and as to bring the new and older student families up to date on school/parent council endeavors that have been done to date. In this, I am writing on many fronts which are as follows:

First, I want to welcome you to this awesome school. The staff including teachers, students and families are great. Noting here that there are students from an array of boards like York Region District School Board (YRDSB), so its not only TDSB students.

Second, I am writing to introduce ourselves.

The school/parent council is currently comprised of 3 members. The chair which is me (Margarita Salvatore), Rob Chen (Parent Representative), and Jill Kyle (Parent Representative). The regular members are simply great who will fight for what is right and stand up for student success, equity, and well-being at all costs even if it is hard.

Third, I am writing to let you know of the school/parent council endeavors that have been done to date which are as follows:

\*\*We did a campaign and letter writing to make Virtual school permanent and to increase funding to the Ministry of Education

\*\*We wrote to the main governing body for ALL TDSB school/parent councils which is PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) so that ALL TDSB'S school/parent councils can advocate for proper funding for schools to the Ministry of Education. For more information please email us at [1465SC01@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:1465SC01@tdsb.on.ca).

\*\*We did a books and binge night to discuss books in general which was a magical night where administration including principals, teachers, students, and parents came together to talk about books that they have read. Everyone learnt something new and had a wonderful time.

Fourth, I am writing to let you know that we are going to plan a next event soon. We will let you know through the weekly update/ newsletter or by a separate email sent by the school. So, keep your eyes open for the communications in the weekly update/ newsletter.

Fifth, I am writing to you again, to let you know that your children are in good hands here in TDSB's VSS, as the staff including teachers and the administrators like the principals, are all hard working and who care about the education of all students not only in VSS but also for students throughout Ontario, Canada and beyond.

Thus, I hope this brings you up to speed to what your school/parent council has done thus far during this 2024-2025 school year.

Lastly, if you want to connect and see about what school/parent council does, you can reach us at [1465SC01@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:1465SC01@tdsb.on.ca) . So, feel free to contact us at anytime.

Thank you, and again, welcome to VSS.

Yours truly,

Margarita Salvatore as well as the rest of Your School/ Parent Council