Virtual Secondary School - Weekly Update

Friday, February 28, 2025

Message from the Admin

Dear Virtual Secondary School Students and Parents/Guardians,

Students participated in the first Pause and Pace Day of Semester 2 today. We hope you found it useful and were able to get caught up on missed work.

Our next School Council Meeting (virtual) will be on Wednesday, March 5th at 6:30p.m. Please <u>click here</u> to register for the meeting.

The VSS Art Club and the VSS Student Council are hosting an Art Social next Thursday at 3:20pm. Details are below. It is a great opportunity to meet and connect before the March Break. We hope to see you there!

If you have missed or would like to review our past *Weekly Updates*, please visit our <u>school</u> <u>website</u>.

Sincerely,

Praveena Sivarajah Zorica Prekajski Marlena Rivett

Principal Vice Principal (A - L) Vice Principal (M - Z)

<u>Praveena.Sivarajah@tdsb.on.ca</u> Zorica.Prekajski@tdsb.on.ca 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.

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:		
Monday, March 3	UofT Scholarship Presentation, 3:30pm	
Wednesday, March 5	Grad PhotosSchool Council Meeting (Virtual), 6:30p.m.	
Thursday, March 6	Grad PhotosArt Social, 3:20p.m.	
Friday, March 7	Grad Photos	
March 10 - 14	MARCH BREAK! - No Classes	



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Friday, February 28, 2025

Monday, March 17	Classes Resume

Student of the Week		
Name	Teacher Nominator	Description
Elizabeth K.		Elizabeth has been an exemplary student in our Gr11 Functions & Applications math class with her consistent level of engagement, support towards her peers, and commitment to always presenting a positive attitude towards learning! Her kindness and eagerness to help others in our class has had a profound positive impact for our class and I'm sure she will continue to progress very well in all of her classes this semester! Congratulations Elizabeth!

EQAO Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) Spring Session

The OSSLT is a requirement for graduation, set by the Ontario Ministry of Education. Guided by Ministry policy and procedure all students must write the test in person. There are no exceptions. We cannot accommodate requests to write the OSSLT virtually.

Students who are in Grade 10 AND have earned their grade 9 English credit are expected to write the OSSLT.

The OSSLT is not written by grade 9 students.

Students who need to write the test will receive an email from the school with the student registration link.

We are offering several dates to choose from and an East and West location.

Dates: March 24, 25 April 7, 8, 9

Locations:

East - Toronto District School Board Office - 140 Borough Dr.

West - Denis Ave. Public School - 400 Rockcliffe Blvd.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: Wednesday, March 19th, 2025 8 pm

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Rivett marlena.rivett@tdsb.on.ca

Message from the VSS School Council

Good day to all TDSB parents, students, and staff,

This message is from Margarita Salvatore (your school/parent council chair). I hope this message finds you well and that you had a good Family Day weekend. I am writing to you on a few fronts.

First, I wanted to let you know that TDSB has Excellence Awards and that we as parents can nominate teachers or even the school as a whole. So, please consider doing a nomination for our outstanding staff as it will mean a lot. It will also drive the message to the board and to the



Friday, February 28, 2025

Ministry of Education that virtual schools can be great like our school is and just like any in person school is. The link to the nominations process is here: https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Excellence

Second, I am writing to remind you that the next school/ parent council meeting is this March 5th, 2025, at 6:30 pm. I hope to see you there.

Lastly, I am writing to let you know that if you want to connect and see about what school/parent council does, you can reach us at 1465SC01@tdsb.on.ca . So, feel free to contact us at any time, if you have any questions and concerns.

Message from the VSS Student Council

Hey VSS! Want to participate in all sorts of fun art activities? You're invited to the VSS Art Social, hosted by Student Council and the Art Club. This event will be hosted next Wednesday, March 5, at 3:20 pm. Come join to have fun and meet like-minded peers! The link will be posted on BrightSpace.



Enriched Academy

<u>Enriched Academy</u> is a Canadian Financial Literacy resource that is an excellent support for Math, Careers and Business courses.

With hundreds of TDSB teachers and over 8,000 TDSB students benefiting from it so far, the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Watch this short <u>VIDEO</u> to hear what students and teachers are saying about Enriched Academy!

Students in classes that have signed up for the program will be attending the webinars next week. Only teachers who have signed up for their classes will receive the link to and attend the webinar.

- Tuesday, March 4 Enriched Academy Webinar (Period 1 and 2 classes)
- Wednesday, March 5 Enriched Academy Webinar (Period 3 and 4 classes)



Friday, February 28, 2025

Please contact Ms. Gao (queenie.gao@tdsb.on.ca) if you have any questions.

2025-26 Indigenous Student Trustee Application

Each year, the Indigenous Student Trustee is appointed by the Elders Council in relationship with the Toronto Indigenous Youth Council and System Superintendent of Indigenous Education. The work of the Indigenous Student Trustee is guided by the Elders Council, the Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Council, the Board Lead and the System Superintendent, Indigenous Education, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls To Action, 2015 (TRC), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

One of the primary roles of the Indigenous Student Trustee at the TDSB is to engage with First Nations, Métis and Inuit students across the board and represent the successes, joys, creativity, concerns, and challenges. First Nations, Métis and Inuit students' voices are underrepresented in the education system, and engaging with First Nations, Métis and Inuit youth is of critical importance to shifting current conditions that adversely impact and harm First Nations, Métis and Inuit student well-being.

This position is open to First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who will be in Grade 11 or 12 in the 2025-26 school year. Students interested in applying for this position are asked to submit the Indigenous Student Trustee Application form before 4 p.m. on Friday, March 7.

Secondary administrators and guidance counsellors are asked to share the letter and application form with current Grade 10 and 11 First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who might be interested:

Application: Indigenous Student Trustee Application Form

Letter: Indigenous Student Trustee Letter

Students and staff can email emily.wadsworth@tdsb.on.ca with any questions about the application or position.

Special Education Programs - March Learning Sessions for Staff and Families

Learning and engagement sessions continue to be made available for both staff and families, providing valuable opportunities to explore inclusive and anti-ableist practices and implement concrete strategies in the classroom and at home. These sessions are designed to support student achievement and well-being. Please click this link to access the sessions being offered.

ASD After School Skills Development Program – Spring 2025 Session

The Spring 2025 Session of the ASD After School Leisure Program, available both in-person and virtually, will run every Tuesday from March 25, 2025 to June 10, 2025 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The program is available to students in Grades 4-10 who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This program provides an opportunity for students to develop, build and enhance their social communication skills through either weekly in-person or weekly virtual sessions.

Virtual Secondary School - Weekly Update

Friday, February 28, 2025

Please see the information letter which includes the link for registration to the parents of Grades 4-10 students with ASD. The registration period will remain open until Friday, March 7, 2025.