

Willowdale Middle School



First Meeting of the Willowdale Parent School Council & SAC Nomination Form

The first meeting of the Willowdale MS School Parent Council will be on Monday, September 30, 2024 starting at 6:30PM in the WMS Library.

If you are interested in being considered for an executive position, you must first be nominated and elected to the Council as a "Member at Large." A minimum of 6 council members will be elected as "members at large." Out of these new council members, a subsequent election will be held to fill the executive positions (Chair/Co-chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary). Successful candidates will hold their elected position for a term of one year and will be expected to attend the monthly meetings.

If you are interested in running for one of the executive positions, please see our information flyer [HERE](#) and follow the link to [School Advisory Council nomination form](#).



Curriculum Night/Meet the Teacher

We will be holding Curriculum Night on **Thursday, September 26, from 6:30 to 7:30PM** at school. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents/guardians to meet their child's homeroom and rotary teachers. Parents/Guardians will find out what their child will be learning this year, the opportunities they will have to participate in extra-curricular activities, and to tour the school. The teachers, support staff and administration look forward to seeing all our parents again, and to meet our parents new to our Willowdale community!



Connecting with Willowdale Teaching Staff

| Teacher | Responsibilities | E-Mail Address |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Suzy Romeiro | 6A | Suzy.custodio@tdsb.on.ca |
| Vincenza Clarino | 6B | Vincenza.clarino@tdsb.on.ca |
| Michele Stevenson | 6C | Michele.stevenson@tdsb.on.ca |
| Naomi Wyman | 6D | Naomi.wyman@tdsb.on.ca |
| Keshia Slowly | 6F | keshia.slowly@tdsb.on.ca |
| Michelle Silis | 6/7F | Michelle.silis@tdsb.on.ca |
| Dana Teplitz | 7A | Dana.teplitz@tdsb.on.ca |
| Lukrica Prugo | 7B | Lukrica.prugo@tdsb.on.ca |
| Emma Dolce | 7C | Emma.dolce@tdsb.on.ca |
| Jason Persic | 7D | Jason.persic@tdsb.on.ca |
| Tiberiu Batkay | 7M | Tiberiu.batkay@tdsb.on.ca |
| Karrie Douglas | 7/8F | Karrie.douglas@tdsb.on.ca |
| Kendra Yama | 8A | Kendra.yama@tdsb.on.ca |
| Eric Isaacman | 8B AM / Phys. Ed | Eric.isaacman@tdsb.on.ca |
| Laura Klunowski | 8B PM | Laura.klunowski@tdsb.on.ca |
| Mathew Weidenfelder | 8C | Mathew.weidenfelder@tdsb.on.ca |
| Joshua Harwood | 8D | Joshua.harwood@tdsb.on.ca |
| Konrad Adamski | 8G | Konrad.adamski@tdsb.on.ca |
| Milos Mitrovic | 8E | Milos.mitrovic@tdsb.on.ca |
| Réda Talbi | 8F | Reda.talbi@tdsb.on.ca |
| Victoria Miller | 6,7,8I | Victoria.miller@tdsb.on.ca |
| Brooke Sadler | Resource/Spec. Ed | Brooke.sadler@tdsb.on.ca |
| Angeliki Chantzis | ESL | Angeliki.chantzis@tdsb.on.ca |
| Troy Jones | Music Gr. 7 & 8 | Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca |
| Gary Sahsuvar | Music Gr. 6/ Prep Coverage | Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca |
| Melody Hamdule | Core French | Melody.hamdule@tdsb.on.ca |
| Lauren Ziebell | Library/Guidance/Gym/Resource | Lauren.ziebell@tdsb.on.ca |
| Michael Soriaino | Phys. Ed./Health/Resource | Michael.soriano@tdsb.on.ca |

2024/2025 WMS Spirit Wear -

We are excited to announce that our Willowdale MS Spirit Wear hoodies will be on sale at our Curriculum Night on September 26th! Hoodies will cost \$45 for the screenprint version and \$60 for the embroidered version. During the evening, we will accept cash payments only.

We will have Youth Large, Youth X-Large, Adult Small, Adult Medium, Adult Large, and Adult X-Large available for sale.

We look forward to seeing many of our students rocking their Willowdale gear!



First Day Permission Packages

TDSB has emailed first day permission packages. Please look out for an e-mail to complete the forms electronically. Some of the forms/procedures that will be provided in digital format include [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources](#) (PR088), [Walking Excursion - Immediate Community](#) (PR511H), [Medical Information, Student Media Consent Release Form](#) PR529B, [Code of On-line Conduct](#) PR571, [TDSB Digital Learning Tool Consent Form](#) and other information. Parents will be asked to click on the forms to acknowledge they have read the information and to give consent for their child to participate in school activities.

NEW TDSB Mobile Device Policy




Many students travel to and from school with mobile devices. However, the province and TDSB now require that all students turn OFF their personal mobile devices and STORE them ***“Out of sight during instructional time.”*** This means that mobile devices (including cell phones, watches, tablets, video game devices and other items connected to the Internet) are NOT permitted during school hours, including lunch time, so that this does not interfere in academic and social time at school.

All students are required to adhere to the following expectations:

- Mobile devices should be placed in a student's locker at the start of the academic day and remain in the locker for the duration of the day (including lunch time).
- Students are only permitted to bring their 1:1 Chromebook, provided by the TDSB.
- Mobile devices are not to be used at lunch time while students are on Willowdale property.
- If a student needs to contact their parents, they must come to the office to use the school phone.

These expectations have been reviewed with your child(ren) at school, but we ask that you please discuss this with your child(ren) as well.

Instrumental Musical Fee

 Students will be able to purchase a music package for the music program through [School Cash Online](#). If you have any questions and/or need financial assistance, please contact Mr. Jones at Troy.jones@tdsb.on.ca or Mr. Sahuvar at Gary.sahsuvaroglu@tdsb.on.ca.

WMS Band Rehearsal Schedule

2024 / 2025

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
| AM 7:45 - 9:00 | MUSIC COUNCIL (Room 2) | Wind Ensemble (Room 2) | Concert Band (Room 2) | Motown Band (Room 1) | Wind Ensemble (Room 2) |
| LUNCH 11:30 - 12:30 | Open Practice (ROOM 2) | Open Practice (ROOM 2) Clarinet Sectionals (Room 2) Trumpet Sectionals (Room 2) | Open Practice (ROOM 2) Alto Sax Sectionals (Room 2) Trombone / Euph Sectional (Room 2) | Open Practice (ROOM 2) Tuba Sectionals (Room 2) | Open Practice (ROOM 2) Flute Sectionals (Room 2) Tenor Sax Sectional (Room 2) |
| PM 3:15 - 4:30 | Jazz Combo (Room 1) Percussion Sectional (Room 2) | Festival Winds (Room 2) | Stage Band (Room 1) | Festival Winds (Room 2) | Stage Band (Room 1) |

Parking at Willowdale

A very important reminder to parents/guardians about taking extreme safety measures while driving to and from school. There are numerous children walking home, and crossing streets, both from Willowdale and neighbouring schools. Please remember there is a pathway at the front of our school which students use continuously by crossing the car loop. It is imperative that parents follow the speed limits in our car loop, on our roads, and to remind their children about road safety measures. We also ask that parents do not park/stop in front of the school entrance, as we have school busses that enter to and from school. We thank you for your help and cooperation with this.



School Hours

Please ensure your child arrives to school on time every day. Below you will find our daily school day schedule.



| TIME | EVENT |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:45 AM | Supervision begins on the yard |
| 8:55 AM | Student entry from the yard |
| 9:00 AM | Instructional Day begins (Announcements) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students entering after this time are considered LATE |
| 11:30AM - 12:05PM | Lunch recess outside |
| 12:05 - 12:30PM | Students eat lunch in their classroom |
| 3:00 PM | Student Dismissal |
| 3:00 - 3:30PM | Extra support; Extra-curriculars; Student meetings with Teachers |
| 3:10 PM | Supervision ends |

Immunization Forms

Toronto Public Health will be holding a clinic at Willowdale MS for all Grade 7 & 8 students on November 25, 2024, from 9:15AM to 2:45PM. This clinic will provide free vaccinations against three diseases: Meningococcal, Human Papillomavirus; and Hepatitis B. Vaccination packages have been distributed this week to students. Parents are asked to complete the consent form and have your child return it to their homeroom teacher by **September 23, 2024**. For more information about this clinic and/or the vaccinations, please visit the Toronto Public Health website at www.toronto.ca/SchoolVaccines or call (416) 338-7600.

Toronto Public Health Back-to-School Information

Please click on this [link](#) to view the letter sent to parents/guardians from Toronto Public Health.

WMS Picture Day



SMILE! 😊

Our school picture day, will take place on **October 8, 2024**.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Orange Shirt Day

On Monday, September 30, 2024, Willowdale MS will be honouring National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day.

On this day, we recognize the legacy of the residential school system for First Nations, Métis and Inuit families and communities. We acknowledge the legacy of residential schools in Canada by wearing orange and we honour the survivors. We remember the thousands of children who were murdered and buried in unmarked graves.

Of specific note, Willowdale MS will be hosting a school-wide assembly and class-based activities on Monday, September 30, 2024, with student participation in the gym to honour the survivors of the residential school system.

As we prepare to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we are encouraging all members of the Willowdale community to find an orange shirt to wear on September 30th. Several retailers sell shirts; however, please be mindful to try to purchase shirts from Indigenous retailers as we support the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



Terry Fox Run



We will be hosting our annual Terry Fox run on **Thursday, September 26th**. More details to follow in upcoming weekly updates.

Lockdown Drill

Our first lockdown drill will take place at **2:30PM on September 18th**. Teachers will be going over the proper procedures with their students prior to our first drill.

Lunch Box Program



We are excited to offer "The Lunch Box" program for the 2024/2025 school year! A reminder that Parents/Guardians may purchase their child's lunch through this program by ordering on-line. **Orders must be in by Sunday at noon for the upcoming week.**

You can choose to participate for all five days (Monday to Friday), or you may choose any day/days of your choice. Please [click here](#) for information on how to order!

The restaurants are as follows:

| | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Monday | Mr. Greek |
| Tuesday | Hero Burger |
| Wednesday | Osmow's |
| Thursday | The Basil Box |
| Friday | Boston Pizza |

Current WMS Sports Teams

WMS is proud to announce that the following early fall sports will be offered to our students. Please ensure that your child listens to announcements, checks the weekly update, or the screen at the front of our school for tryout details! Tryouts are in full swing and will be announced regularly on the morning announcements. Please note that students should listen carefully, as tryouts and practices will be announced with weather and field considerations in mind. Some tryout dates have been announced below under our key dates section, and more will be added next week.



| Early Fall Sports: | Teachers |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Grade 6 Boys Soccer | Soriano |
| Grade 7 Boys Soccer | Mitrovic, Hamdule |
| Grade 8 Boys Soccer | Mitrovic, Hamdule |
| Grade 6 Girls Soccer | Wyman |
| Grade 7 Girls Soccer | Hamdule |
| Grade 8 Girls Soccer | Batkay, Prugo |
| Grade 6-8 Cross Country | Weidenfelder, Adamski, Ziebell |
| Grade 6 Co-Ed Flag Football | Soriano |
| Grade 7/8 Co-Ed Flag Football | Ziebell, Chantzis |
| Grade 7/8 Girls Touch Football | Ziebell, Chantzis |
| Grade 7/8 Boys Touch Football | Ziebell, Chantzis |
| Grade 6-8 Borden Ball | Batkay |

Anaphylaxis - Taking the Necessary Precautions

Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that can be life threatening. This medical condition can cause a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials and can result in death within minutes. Although foods such as peanuts, milk, eggs, and sesame seeds are the most common cause of anaphylaxis, insect stings, medicine, or latex can also cause a reaction. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students. The TDSB, in partnership with Toronto Public Health, is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff.

As required by Sabrina's Law, the TDSB has established policies and procedures to prevent and manage anaphylactic reactions and to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common school areas.

Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to raise awareness about this life-threatening condition. Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are consumed in their environment or shared with them. As prevention is the best approach, we ask that you speak with your child about not sharing their snacks or lunches with other students and please do not send any snacks or lunches with your child that contain peanuts.

If your child has health problems of any kind, please inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken and to ensure everyone's co-operation for a safe learning environment.

Whether you are living with the allergy yourself, caring for someone who is, or concerned about people in your community, more information about life threatening allergies is available at <http://foodallergycanada.ca>.

Letter from Ward 12 Trustee Weidong Pei

Please click on this [link](#) to view the letter sent to parents/guardians from Ward 12 Trustee, Weidong Pei.

Inclement Weather Days



A reminder that supervision at school begins at 8:45AM every day. If it is raining, staff will permit students to enter the school at 8:45AM (not earlier), and they will be supervised inside. Entry time is 8:55AM so we ask that all students are at school for this time. Any student who arrives after 9:00AM will be recorded as LATE. Please ensure your child arrives to school on time.

Important Upcoming Dates

| SAVE THE DATE | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, September 10, 2024 | Grade 7 and 8 Boys Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM |
| Wednesday, September 11, 2024 | Grade 6-8 Cross Country Tryout @ 8:00AM |
| | Grade 7 and 8 Girls Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM |
| Thursday, September 12, 2024 | Grade 7 and 8 Boys Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM |
| Monday, September 16, 2024 | Grade 7 and 8 Girls Soccer Tryout @ 3:00PM |
| Wednesday, September 18, 2024 | Lockdown Drill @ 9:20AM |
| Thursday, September 26, 2024 | Terry Fox Run - PM |
| | Curriculum Night - 6:30PM - 7:30PM |
| Friday, September 27, 2024 | P.A. Day - No School for Students |
| Monday, September 30, 2024 | Parent Council Meeting - 6:30PM WMS Library |
| Tuesday, October 8, 2024 | Picture Day |
| Friday, October 11, 2024 | P.A. Day - No School for Students |
| Monday, October 14, 2024 | Thanksgiving Holiday - WMS is Closed |

If your child is going to be away or late, please call the **Safe Arrival Program** (School Messenger) at

1-833-250-2290

If you are signing your child out during the school day, you are required to come into the office, or to send a written note, or email to willowdale@tdsb.on.ca

We acknowledge that Willowdale MS is hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognise the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.