

BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2016

MANNA WONG

**School Trustee, Ward 20,
Scarborough-Agincourt**



tdsb



Dear Parents, Guardians and Public Education Supporters,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. I hope you and your family had a restful and safe summer.

As the School Board Trustee for Scarborough-Agincourt, my role is to maintain a focus on student achievement and well-being and to participate in making decisions that benefit the entire board while representing your interests. To be an effective and meaningful advocate on your behalf, I need to hear from you directly, meet with you whenever possible, and involve you in the process of making the TDSB a better school board for everyone. Your voice is critical to ensuring we maintain an accountable and transparent system.

Please sign up to receive my regular Trustee Reports and Updates at my website or email me and ask to be put on the email list. I appreciate every opportunity I have to speak with you. Let's work together for our students and for our community.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Manna'.

SCARBOROUGH-AGINCOURT SCHOOLS AND LEARNING CENTRE 2

The TDSB has created four Learning Centres to improve the effectiveness of our schools and to make us more responsive to the needs of our communities. These Learning Centres will be hubs where staff can collaborate and share resources. Each centre will be staffed by:

- Learning coaches who will provide extra support for teachers in the classroom
- Seven superintendents, led by an executive superintendent
- Staff from the TDSB's professional support services department, including psychologists, social workers and counsellors.

For more information visit www.tdsb.on.ca/learningcentres

Starting in September 2016, all Scarborough-Agincourt schools will feed into Learning Centre 2 and we will welcome Superintendents Beth Veale, Louie Papathanasakis and Lynn Strangway to our schools. Please visit my website for a list showing all Ward 20 schools and their respective Superintendent.

Looking for some useful tips on getting your children off to a great start this school year?

Getting ready for school in September can be both exciting and nerve-wracking. Whether you're a new student or a returning one, we have many resources to help make your transition this year a great one and as smooth as possible. Learn more at www.tdsb.on.ca/needtoknow.

Homework Tips

Homework is an important part of the school experience for all students. Find out more about homework in elementary and high school, including the amount of time a student should spend on homework, what parents can do to help and where homework help is available: www.tdsb.on.ca/ElementarySchool/Getinvolved/Homework.

Get Involved in Your School Community

Parent involvement is one of the most important factors in the success of a child's education: www.tdsb.on.ca/community/HowtoGetInvolved. From volunteering in your local school to participating in school councils and advisory committees, you can make a difference and have your voices heard.

Enhance your learning in high school outside by participating in your school's Social Justice Initiatives or at local community groups such as the Steeles-L'Amoreaux Youth Empowerment (www.slye.ca) and Across U-Hub (www.acrossuhub.com).

Student Safety

We recognize Caring and Safe Schools Week in early September to bring important issues about school safety into focus for staff, students, and parents. Caring and Safe programs and initiatives include Character Education, Second Step, Future Aces and Let's Stop the Bullying.

Resources Available

- Tips on helping your child with reading, writing and math, as well as tips on homework, talking to the teacher and more at www.ontario.ca/abc123.
- Find out what students need to graduate, a credit tracker and information on innovative new programs at www.ontario.ca/morestudentsuccess.
- Help find and map out extra-curricular activities: www.kidsPrograms.ca
- A wonderful resource to empower special needs parents: www.specialneedsroadmaps.ca
- 6 Parent Tips for a Smooth Back-to-School Transition, www.understood.org
- Starting High School/Starting New School, www.kidshelpphone.ca
- How Parents Can Prepare for Back to School Time, www.teachhub.com

HAVE YOUR SAY! PARENT REPRESENTATIVES FOR WARD 20 NEEDED

To better serve the needs of our students and life-long learners, I would like to invite you to become a Ward representative for Ward 20. At our November ward council meeting, we will need to elect new Ward representatives to both the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (www.torontopiac.com) and the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee (www.tdsb.on.ca/community/howtogetinvolved/communityadvisorycommittees/frenchasasecondlanguageadvisorycommittee)

If you are an interested parent who would like to interact directly with trustees and senior staff at the Board level to provide us with your best advice, please contact me for more information. It is important that our Ward is represented at the table.

Connecting with you on school issues is important to me.

你对学校问题的看法对我非常重要。
请随时联系教育委员 黄婉贞

“கல்வி சார்ந்த உங்கள் விடையங்களை
தயவு செய்து என்னுடன் பயிர்ந்துகொள்ளவும்.
என்னை எந்நேரமும் நான் நான் நாடலாம்.”

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Ward Council Meetings

Ward Council meetings are held throughout the school year in order to share information and encourage dialogue among our parents/guardians, superintendents and myself as your trustee. Locations will be announced via email and on my website and meetings are from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

- Thursday, October 13, 2016
- Monday, November 28, 2016
- Monday, January 16, 2017
- Tuesday, February 28, 2017
- Monday, April 10, 2017
- Tuesday, May 23, 2017

