

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

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UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

ELEMENTARY PD DAYS:

June 6, 2025: Professional Development

SECONDARY PD DAYS:

June 26, 2025: Professional Development

June 27, 2025: Professional Development

Special Education and Inclusion Drop-in Sessions for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Learn more about navigating special education services, resources and supports, ask questions, and connect with other families.

[Calendar of Drop-In Sessions for the 2024-2025 School Year](#)

CHECK IT OUT!!

- [School Therapy OT Program - Co-regulation Part 1](#)
- [School Therapy OT Program - Co-regulation Part 2](#)
- [School Therapy OT Program - Co-regulation Part 3](#)
- [School Therapy OT Program - Co-regulation Part 4](#)



Special Education and Inclusion Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Video Series

These videos provide an overview of our Guides to Special Education and Inclusion, designed to help families understand the programs, services, and supports available to students. From learning about Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to navigating the Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) process, these resources can support you every step of the way.

Detailed information can be found in the [full guides](#) on the [Special Education and Inclusion Website](#), where you will find additional Special Education resources for families.

Supporting Autistic Students - Summer to September!!

Click on the links below to access a variety of resources.

Strategies for the Summer!

Summer is coming which provides an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful weather and special activities.



Summer Tips for Students with Autism

Keep a Routine (but allow flexibility)

- Maintain consistent **wake-up, meal, and bedtime routines**.
- Use [visual schedules](#) or **daily planners** to create a predictable day.
- Build in **free time** and allow for **adjustments** when needed to reduce anxiety.

Plan Structured Activities

- Consider [camp programs](#) that cater to neurodiverse children.
- Include [daily movement](#), such as walks, dancing, or sensory play outdoors.

Create a Sensory-Friendly Environment

- Offer a [calm corner](#) at home with favourite calming tools.
- Consider [sensory friendly activities](#) in the community.

Use Visual Supports

- Make a **calendar of summer events**.
- Use **first-then boards** to show what's next ("First breakfast, then park").
- Prepare for new experiences with **social stories** or visual guides.



Preparing for Back to School!

Going back to school can be exciting, but also challenging, especially for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder . [Here are practical tips to help make the transition smoother.](#)

1. Prepare Early

- Start adjusting bedtime/wake-up times 1–2 weeks in advance.
- Reintroduce school-day routines gradually.
- Use **countdowns** (calendars or visuals) to help with understanding time.

1. Visit the School (if possible)

- Meet the principal, or school staff if possible.
- Take pictures of school building and playground to review later.
- Play in the school yard.

1. Practice the Routine

- Try a "**practice run**" of the school morning routine.
- Practice using lunchboxes, backpacks, etc.

1. Create a Visual Schedule

- Include [morning routine](#), transportation, school periods, lunch, and after-school plans.

1. Talk About Changes

- Discuss [what's the same and what might be different this year](#) (e.g., new teacher, locker, subjects,).
- Use [social stories](#) to prepare for new experiences and transitions.




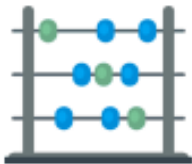



Resources



Psychological Services

Evidence-Based Math Instruction: Tips for Educators

There are proven ways to teach math that can fit into your existing lessons. You can use these techniques to help all students (<https://www.understood.org/en/articles/evidence-based-math-instruction-for-struggling-students>).

	<h4>Explicit Instruction with Cumulative Practice</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model a skill while talking through your thinking process. • Use clear language. • Give students time for guided and independent practice.
	<h4>Visual Representation</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make math more visual and concrete using number lines, tape diagrams/bar models, pictures, graphs, and graphic organizers to help students better understand abstract concepts.
	<h4>Schema-Based Instruction</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach students to identify the schema (type of problem). • Show how to turn the problem into a clear diagram. • Help them choose and use the right math operations based on the diagram and problem.
	<h4>Peer Interaction and Teaching</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning with others can provide support and help students see different solutions.
	<h4>Use Aids</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow the use of calculators. • Teach memory aids/mnemonics. • Post problem solving processes/checklists. • Have students highlight math operation signs. • Use graph paper.

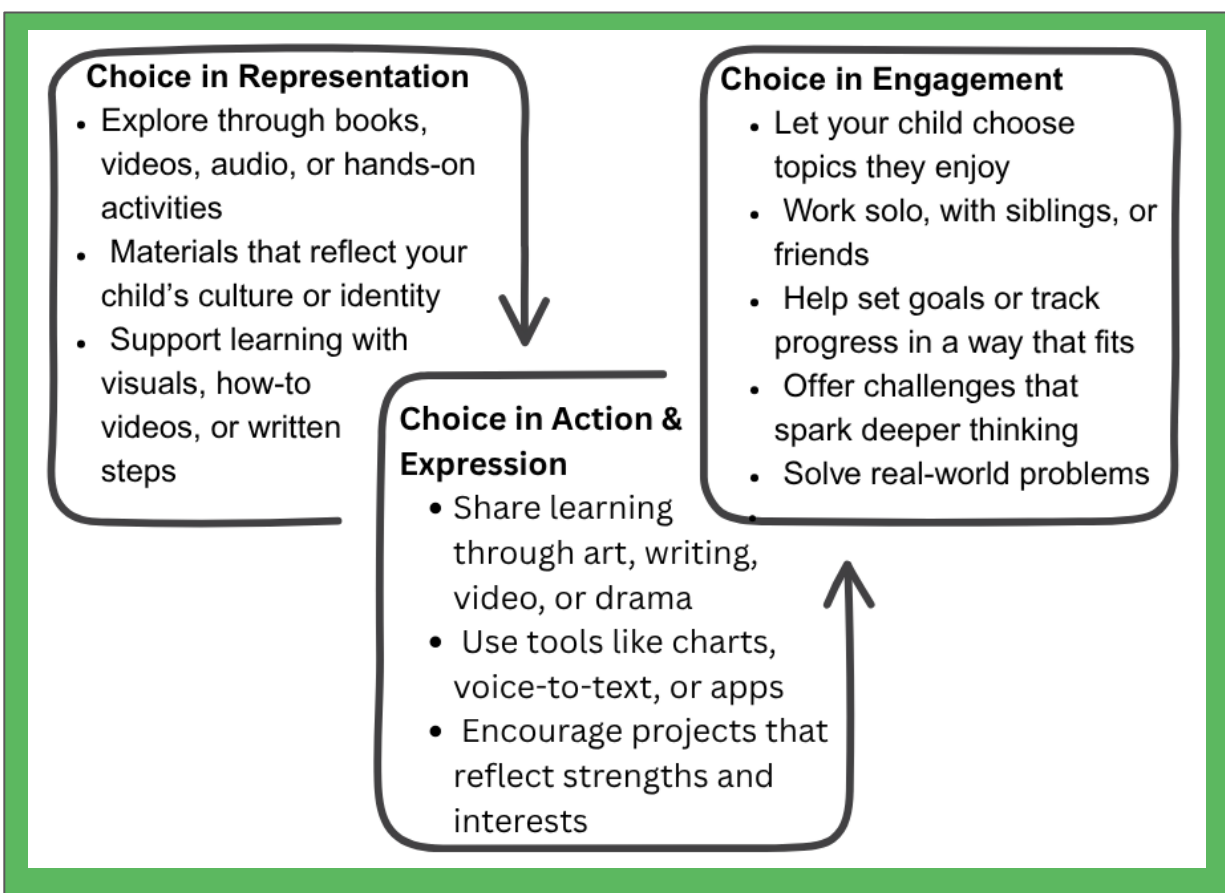
For more information and resources, please check out our Google Site at:
<https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/psychologicalservices/home>



Resources

Supporting Gifted Learners : Voice, Choice, and Challenge

At school, teachers use Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to offer gifted students meaningful choice in how they learn, stay engaged, and show what they know. At home, families can support this approach by encouraging exploration, offering flexible ways to think and create, and recognizing each child's unique interests and strengths. The examples below show how UDL can support learning in both classroom and home environments.



- offer your child meaningful choices
- offer your child opportunities for enrichment and exploration in areas of interest through books, documentaries, or educational programs.
- encourage independent projects at home
- allow your child to explore topics in depth through independent or group projects that align with their interests and talents.
- engage your child in meaningful activities that reinforce concepts and strategies learned at school.

To Learn More: [TDSB Psychological Services Supporting Gifted Learners](#)

Resources

TDSB Speech Language Pathology (SLP) Services

June is a time for celebration and reflection as the school year comes to a close. It's also a great opportunity to keep building your child's oral language and literacy skills in fun and meaningful ways. Try talking about your child's favourite memories from the school year, or what they're excited about for the summer. These conversations help grow storytelling and vocabulary skills.

You can also explore new ways to play with language - singing songs, reading together, or even making up silly summer poems!

Need more inspiration? Take a look at our [June calendar](#)! It's full of simple, activities designed to support your child's communication skills at home.

Explore more parent resources on our [Website](#) 

Wishing you a joyful start to summer!



fun

TDSB OT/PT Services

As the summer nears, some families may wish to continue to work on developing fine motor skills. There are a variety of videos that provide strategies on supporting [fine motor development](#) on the OT/PT Services' website (scroll to the bottom of the website). One that may be of particular interest is our video on [pencil grasp skills](#) - it provides easy and quick tips on how to support handwriting skill development - happy writing!

June is National Deafblind Awareness Month

The month of June serves as a platform for raising awareness about the distinctive challenges encountered by individuals with an identified dual sensory loss. Deafblindness, a combination of sight and hearing loss to varying degrees, profoundly impacts communication, mobility, learning, and access to information. Those who are deafblind often rely on alternative communication methods, such as tactile sign language, braille, or assistive technology.

In Ontario, students are identified as deafblind when neither sense can fully compensate for the loss of the other, meaning that neither can be used as a primary means of learning. They have unique and complex needs, requiring services and supports which are different from those designed exclusively for individuals who are blind or have low vision, are Deaf or hard of hearing, or have multiple exceptionalities. When both vision and hearing challenges exist, attention and consideration must be given to both senses simultaneously. Environmental adaptations, positioning adjustments, and modifications in information delivery are needed.

To learn more about the local deafblind community, please visit [Deafblind Awareness Month | DBCS](#)

Resources

Summer Opportunities



The Access to Entertainment Card from **Easter Seals Canada** is designed for people of all ages who have a permanent disability and require the assistance

of a support person. With the Access to Entertainment Card, the support person can enter the event for free.

Many of these entertainment venues have sensory options and other accommodations. For example, enjoy some time at Ripley's Aquarium, the Zoo, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Casa Loma, the CN Tower, the Ontario Science Centre, the Royal Ontario Museum or the movie theatre (Cineplex, Empire Theatres and Landmark Cinemas). Click [Access 2 card](#) for more details and click the [Access 2 card application form](#) to apply.



lumenus
Community Services

Lumenus' Respite program is geared towards dually diagnosed adolescents who require the development of social, leisure, and life skills. Youth in this group should possess basic group skills and some knowledge of social, life and leisure skills. For more information, click [here](#) or email respite@lumenus.ca.



For information on TDSB Summer Programs, **click the image** below.



See the attached [guide](#) for more information on summer camp experiences for autistic children, youth and adults with complex needs through Geneva Centre for Autism.



Resources

West Hill Collegiate Institute invites you to the 2nd annual

WEST HILL CI DISABILITY-FOCUSED COMMUNITY FAIR AND STUDENT DANCE

**THURSDAY JUNE 5 2025
5:00-7:00PM**

350 MORNINGSID AVENUE

Get information, fill out applications, and talk with representatives from:

Developmental Services Ontario

Pooran Law

Scarborough Centre for Healthy

Communities

Holland-Bloorview

Community Living

SMILE Canada

Toronto Paramedics

Springboard Services

Hong Fook*

Sawubona Africentric Circle of Support*

*= paper resources only, no representative available

Ontario Camps Association

TTC

Kerry's Place

South Asian Autism Centre

Camp and Club Kodiak

Strides Toronto

Caribbean African Canadian Social

Services

Safe Haven

L'Arche Toronto

TheraBounce

Toronto Public Library

RSVP by scanning this QR code
with your phone's camera



Plus a supervised student dance!

**Drop your student off at the dance across the hall while you check out the
community fair!**

Questions? Email christopher.sands@tdsb.on.ca