

Trustee Update

David Smith • Ward 17: Scarborough Centre

Toronto District School Board

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Happy Ramadan

Trustee David Smith would like to wish the Muslim community of Scarborough Centre and beyond a very happy Eid Mubarak as they complete this season of Ramadan.

Trustee David Smith strongly believes in a community that embraces and values all aspects of every culture. Trustee Smith is very proud when he sees cultural diversity reflected throughout Scarborough Centre. Trustee Smith wants to ensure his constituents that his dedication and commitment hasn't waived in making all schools welcoming and embrace diversity throughout the TDSB.



Lifting of Masks in all of Ontario Schools

Since the lifting of the mask mandate throughout the TDSB from the Toronto Public Health Department and the Chief Medical Officer of Ontario, schools have been cautiously adjusting to a more traditional school setting. Trustee Smith still

advises that families and students alike who feel that masks are necessary should continue using them for their own comfort. Please remember if there's any symptoms that indicate the likelihood of Covid-19, please check with your doctor, and keep your child home to avoid any spread of the virus. Only together can we

keep our community safe.

Small Introduction about Trustee Smith

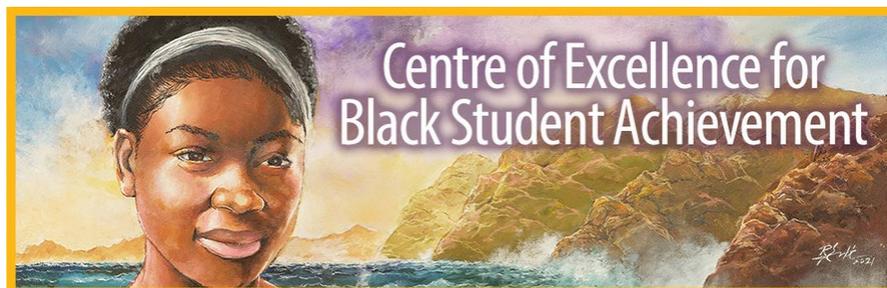
Trustee David Smith has been your Trustee for twelve years serving you with integrity, conviction, and dedication to service. The constituents of this ward are Trustee Smith's priority. He lives in the ward and knows the needs of the community. Trustee David Smith has implemented numerous initiatives to aid the community, championed the building of a Secondary school, improvements to existing school buildings and ventilation, increased staffing, cleaning up of playgrounds and prioritizing safety.

David and Mary Thompson Officially opens on May 28th, 2022

After two and half years of transitioning David and Mary Thompson Collegiate and Bendale BTI from their respective schools to the new flagship of Scarborough, we are now officially ready to open the school to the public. This event will be open to all students, family, and members of the community at large. We have extended an invitation to: Education Minister Steven Leece, MP Salma Zaid, Mayor John Tory, Deputy Mayor-Michael Thompson, Alumni, parent council and the community to celebrate our fabulous school and the state-of-the-art athletic field.



Trustee Smith has ensured that permits will be issued for use throughout the summer and fall of 2022.



Launching of Center for Black Excellence at Winston Churchill

The Center for Black Excellence, which is housed at Winston Churchill Institute is about to open its doors in September 2022. The center will be open to help Black students across the system learn and develop skills necessary for attaining success throughout their secondary levels of learning and beyond. I encourage Alumni, parents, and parent council attend the opening. The programs offered are designed to help students in advance their learning through College, University, Skills Trade, and the Workforce. Trustee David Smith invites you to join the celebration in opening this center.

Slowing Down of Traffic

Trustee David Smith has started a campaign of slowing traffic in school zones. As the weather starts changing and residents begin to spend more time outdoors doing various activities and children migrate from indoor to outdoor activities; Trustee David Smith is urging all motorists within school zone areas to proceed with caution and be mindful of the fact that photo-radar is still operational in these zones. Signage will be placed throughout the wad to remind motorist to careful and drive diligently. Please be mindful!



Supporting Healthy, Safe and Respectful Schools

As we move to a more sustainable model of living with COVID-19, a number of health and safety measures continue to remain in place. Please be respectful of others and individual choices.

[Learn more.](#)

Letter: Student Trustee Governance

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board, Chair Alexander Brown issued a letter to Minister of Education Stephen Lecce to request amendments to the Education Act 1990 to better support [student trustee governance](#).



Elementary Summer School 2022

The focus of the 2022 Elementary Literacy and Numeracy Summer School Program is to continue student engagement through the month of July. Programs, embedded in Literacy and Numeracy, are developed by the local summer school principal to reflect the local school focus.

Programs are offered **in-person** to students in K to Grade 8, from July 4 to July 29, 2022. This year, one online (remote) summer school program will be available.

[Learn more.](#)



tdsbCARES Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal

As the war in Ukraine continues and the resulting humanitarian crisis worsens each day, the TDSB has launched the tdsbCARES

Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal to support the Canadian Red Cross and UNICEF in their ongoing efforts to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to those impacted. This initiative will run until May 31, 2022.

For more information, including how to donate, please visit the webpage for [tdsbCARES Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal](#).

Bicycle Safety

With warmer weather approaching, children may be participating in more outdoor activities like bike riding. To



help keep children safe while playing outdoors this summer please follow social distancing and all other guidelines provided by Toronto Public Health.

When children are riding their bicycles, parents and caregivers can take steps to protect them.

Here's how:

1. An adult should always supervise children 10 years of age or younger when they are using a bicycle or other wheeled sports equipment. Even older children may need on-going supervision when riding near the road.
2. Make sure children wear the correct helmet properly when they ride. Ontario's bike helmet law requires all children and youth under age 18 to wear an approved bike helmet when riding a bicycle.
3. Keep children away from traffic when they use wheeled sports equipment. Make sure they ride in a safe place.
4. Teach children how to:
 - o steer, brake and ride in a straight line
 - o wear the right safety gear, and
 - o do a safety check every time they ride a bicycle, scooter, skateboard, use in-line skates or wear shoes with wheels.
5. Be within arm's reach when your children are learning to ride any wheeled equipment.
6. Always walk a bicycle, scooter or skateboard across a street intersection, instead of riding across.
7. Tell children that you are happy when you see them riding safely.
8. Remind children of the safety rules when they forget.
9. Be a good role model - wear a helmet and safety gear yourself. Children copy what adults do.

Barrier-free employment resource centre in Scarborough

Did you know Community Services operates a free employment resource centre

in Scarborough? The Scarborough Centre for Employment Accessibility provides free resources to all job seekers, including people with disabilities.

Visit www.AccessibleErc.com now.

Becoming an Ontario-licensed hairstylist through TDSB

The TDSB Community Services' Studio500 Hairstylist program offers an extremely accessible pathway to become a licensed hairstylist in Ontario. Visit www.studio500.tdsb.on.ca for more information!



Backpack and School Supplies Drive

All students should have access to backpacks and school supplies to help them get the most out of their school experience – and you and/or your business can help our students and families in need with a donation to the [TDSB's Backpacks &](#)

[School Supplies Drive!](#)

Backpacks and school supplies can be expensive. They can also wear out easily or are often lost or misplaced by students throughout the school year. They represent a difficult purchase for some students and for their families.

The TDSB is Canada's largest and most diverse school board, with more than 247,000 students in 583 schools across Toronto. One in every three children live in poverty right here in our city and many of our students are new to Canada. We know that there are many students who are not equipped with school supplies for the school year. As we continue to deal with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need is even greater for many of our families.

This year's Backpacks & School Supplies Drive will run from March 1, 2022 to the end of September 2022. Individual donors and companies can help our students by making a monetary donation and/or a donation of **new** backpacks and school supplies. Tax receipts are available for these donations.

Kensington Market historical walking tours for Jewish Heritage Month (May 2022)

Throughout the month of May (Jewish Heritage Month), TDSB's Jewish Heritage Committee and the Ontario Jewish Archives are offering a lively and historical guided walking tour of Kensington Market to Grade 6 & 7 TDSB students.

"A Trip to the Market" is an engaging exploration of the history, music and architecture the market has to offer. This opportunity will connect students to a significant part of Toronto's local history as a destination for new immigrant groups.

The walking tour focuses on the stories of Toronto's early Jewish community, largely immigrants from Eastern Europe. TDSB's TUSC (Toronto Urban Studies Centre) staff will guide the groups through the sites, smells, and sounds of the market. Destinations include historical homes, former businesses, and culminates at the beautiful and historic Kiever Synagogue.

Please see attached "A Trip to the Market" Kensington Walking Tour flyer! For additional resources please visit <https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/tdsbjewishheritagecommittee/home>. For more information please contact Shari Schwartz-Maltz; shari.schwartz-maltz@tdsb.on.ca.

Heritage and History Months

The Toronto District School Board is proud to celebrate the following heritage and history months during May:

- [Asian Heritage Month](#)
- [Jewish Heritage Month](#)

Upcoming Meetings

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25, 2022. For a list of upcoming meetings, please click on the [calendar](#) on the main webpage of www.tdsb.on.ca.

TDSB Update

Sign-up for [TDSB Update](#) and stay informed about recent Board decisions and district-wide news.

Follow the TDSB

Join the conversations happening on TDSB's social media communities. You'll find the most up-to-date information about us on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

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