

Trustee Update

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Ontario government decides to delay return to classes until September

The Ontario government has decided to keep schools closed until September of 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Remote learning will continue until the end of June. We know that news of the extended closure may be challenging for some but this decision was made with the safety of students, staff and school communities in mind.

This decision was made after consulting with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, health experts, and medical experts at The Hospital for Sick Children. At the same time, the government is planning for the reopening of schools for the 2020-21 school year, the gradual reopening of child care, and the opening of summer day camps subject to the continuing progress in trends of key public health indicators.

For more information: [<https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/05/health-and-safety-top-priority-as-schools-remain-closed.html>]

Toronto school board director to retire in the Fall 2020

Director of Education John Malloy will retire from the Toronto District School Board effective November 1, 2020. Prior to joining the TDSB, Malloy had a 25-year career in public education as a teacher, guidance counsellor, vice-principal, principal, superintendent before taking on administrative roles as Director of Education for the Hamilton-Wentworth and Toronto DSBs and finally Chief Student Achievement Officer and Assistant Deputy Minister at the Ontario Ministry of Education. The Board of Trustees will now begin a comprehensive search process for a new Director of Education, with the goal of finding his replacement by November 2020.



For more: [<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/News/Article-Details/ArtMID/474/ArticleID/1457/TDSB-Director-John-Malloy-to-Retire>]

Translation Services modified during COVID-19

Ensuring that all students and their families have access to information is critical during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Across the system, TDSB students speak more than 120 languages. Less than 50 per cent of TDSB students use English as their primary language, with more than half of our families speaking a language other than English at home.



The Translation and Interpretation Procedure (PR503) requires the Board to provide these services for families/caregivers when and where required. During the period of school closures during COVID-19, the Parent and Community Engagement Office (PCEO) continues to ensure interpretation and translation services are available to support schools/staff and central services:

All in-person services have been suspended and remote interpretation services via telephone or video conferencing are being offered.

Program and School Services Committee's Early Literacy Report

The PSSC detailed costs and implementation for Early Literacy programs in its May 6 report to the Board. The TDSB has a robust plan to provide literacy support for elementary students covering children with challenges learning to read and promoting reading for early students.



Locations of Early Literacy Intervention Programs and Staff:

Maryvale, Edgewood, Dorset Park, John McCrae and Knob Hill Public Schools are among the schools receiving early literacy intervention staffing during the 2019-20 school year as requested by me.

Canada Emergency Student Benefit available to graduates

If your child is unsure about their next steps after graduating high school, the Government of Canada has opened a **financial aid program** to support high school graduates who are unable to find work under the COVID-19 circumstances.

Click the link to find out more information about federal government support.



Food for Kids – Phase 8 Rollout

This week, the TDSB and TFSS continued the rollout of the **Food for Kids program**, with 17 new schools added to the program as part of Phase 8. The program has now been rolled out to 193 schools across the TDSB, including two high schools, 12 public schools and one alternative education centre in Ward 17. Please see the **[list of TDSB schools](#)** that were part of Phases 1-8 of the program. Given that gift card distribution is based on the Learning Opportunities Index (LOI) and direct donations, the distribution numbers vary among wards.



As of this week, approximately 31,308 \$50 grocery store food cards have now been issued to TDSB families, totaling \$1,565,400. This number continues to increase every day as more families register for the program. The grocery store gift cards will remain activated for three months. Phase 9 is expected to launch next week and we will provide Trustees with the list of schools in advance of the launch.

A decorative banner featuring silhouettes of diverse people and the Toronto District School Board logo. The banner is divided into three horizontal sections: orange, green, and blue. The Toronto District School Board logo is centered in the blue section.

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