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TRUSTEE REPORT, JUNE 2016

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

TDSB Operating Budget for 2016-17

The Board approved a balanced operating budget for the 2016-2017 year. TDSB has an annual operating budget of \$3.1 billion. Projected deficit for 2016-17 is approximately \$21M. The approved balanced budget plan includes a number of central department reductions (totaling \$15.2M) for 2016-17. An additional \$5.8M will need to be found in-year to fully balance the budget. Staff will continue to review operational expenditures to look for efficiencies. It should be noted that no additional costs are associated with the creation of the Learning Centres. The Board will approve the Capital Budget when it approves the Long-Term Program and Accommodations Strategy and Annual Plan at its June Meeting.

The detailed Operating Budget 2016-2017 Report can be viewed here:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/AgendaMinutes.aspx?Type=A&Folder=Agenda%2f20160414&Filename=160414+Budget+Plan+2812.pdf>

Learning Centres Update

TDSB continues working towards reorganizing the wards into four Learning Centres. Our network of schools in Ward 20, Scarborough-Agincourt will be working with three wonderful and experienced Superintendents of Education in Learning Centre 2 - **Louie Papathanaskis, Lynn Strangway and Beth Veale.**

With fewer schools, the Superintendents will have the ability to get to know their communities and be more responsive to them. Developing and maintaining good communications and supportive relationships among parents, principals, staff and trustees is an essential part of their role. We will plan for opportunities to meet our new Superintendents during the first Ward Meeting in the 2016-17 school year. For more information on senior team responsibilities and learning centre boundaries:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/AboutUs/DirectorofEducation/LearningCentres.aspx>

New Gifted program Screening Process

Currently children can be put forward for gifted level IQ testing at the request of a parent or teacher, but there is no universal screener. Starting this fall, **all** Grade 3 children will be given the Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT). If all criteria are met and parents are in agreement, a child can be put forward to an IPRC committee for a potential gifted designation and the opportunity to learn in a congregated program adapted to giftedness exceptionality.

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/AgendaMinutes.aspx?Type=A&Folder=Agenda%2f20160331&Filename=160331+Gifted+Screening+Process+add.pdf>

Board to Establish Black Student Achievement Advisory Committee

The Black Student Achievement Advisory Committee will reflect the voices of Black students, parents and community members and serve as a collaborative forum for staff and community members to discuss and recommend long term strategies to close the achievement gap and support student success. http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20160510/f0/d9/d1/b0/8c15d648a541eedaf08d3e8f/160331_BS AAC 2779_3 .pdf

OTHER NEWS AND INITIATIVES

Kick-Start Your Child's Education Savings

The TDSB has partnered with **SmartSAVER** to launch a board-wide campaign to help families access free money for their children's future education.

Open a no-fee, zero contribution Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) account and apply for the Canada Learning Bond. The Canada Learning Bond is a grant from the Government of Canada to help kick-start the education savings account of eligible kids with up to \$2,000.

Don't wait! Get started at www.tdsb.on.ca/SmartSAVER

On-Line School Council Survey - Deadline Extended to June 13

The TDSB, in collaboration with the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), is pleased to launch the first system-wide School Council survey. The primary objectives of the survey are to:

- Assess the current status of School Council operations across the Board;
- Identify areas of effective practice and areas needing further attention or support and;
- Guide next steps for improvement.

Responses will be tabulated and shared with School Councils and used by the Board's Parent & Community Engagement Office (PCEO), Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) and Trustees to better aid and support School Council efforts.

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/HowtoGetInvolved/SchoolCouncils/SchoolCouncilSurvey.aspx>
<https://eforms.tdsb.on.ca/lfserver/schoolcouncilsurvey2016>

Changes to Immunization Program

According to a new government fact sheet, "Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, Ontario will offer the HPV vaccine free of charge to all boys and girls in Grade 7. If you have a daughter entering Grade 8 in the 2016-17 school year, she will also be offered the vaccine through school-based clinics." The Fact Sheet can be found at www.ontario.ca/hpv.

There are also other amendments being proposed to the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA). They include parents needing to attend an education session delivered by a medical officer of health should they wish to exempt children from immunization. And the other is the streamlining of the reporting process by having health care providers report immunization records to local public health units. These Amendments are working their way through the Legislative process.

2016-2017 SuperCouncil and Student Trustee Elections

We would like to officially welcome our two newly-elected Student Trustees – Shams Mehdi from Leaside High School and Saad Wazir from SATEC @ W.A. Porter Collegiate Institute. Shams and Saad were elected along with SuperCouncil Executives on May 13, 2016. As a result of the work of outgoing Student Trustees Sammy Al Rubaie and Hamima Fattah, Shams will be the first Student Trustee to serve a two-year term.



TDSB's First Public Interactive Webcast with Parents

Director John Malloy and Chair Robin Pilkey hosted our first live webcast chat with parents on May 3. It was an engaging conversation that touched on many subjects and issues of importance to families and communities including Special Education, school repairs, the curriculum, Learning Centres and many other topics. Check here to see highlights from the post-webcast survey: <http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20160506/59/8d/4b/aa/8bbe1acb72ead69adb1c2b66/WebchatAnalytics.pdf>

TDSB Summer Programs

Summer International Languages Elementary and African Heritage Programs are being offered at Terry Fox PS. Registration is now open. Visit www.ILEprograms.ca for more information.

Elementary summer school programs are also available at Silver Springs PS and Lynngate JrPS. For complete information on summer programs: tdsb.on.ca/summer

Bike to School Week

Bike to School Week (May 30-June 3, 2016) is a celebration of cycling and active transportation with the goal of increasing the number of children who bike to school. School boards, public health units, NGOs, municipalities, and regions across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area are working with Smart Commute to coordinate this second annual Bike to School Week. 269 schools have already registered!

Research shows that biking to school improves children's physical and mental health, and academic performance, while also reducing traffic congestion (and related safety and air pollution effects) in school neighbourhoods. To find out more: <http://www.bikemonth.ca/biletoschool>.

School Traffic Safety in the City of Toronto

Below is an excellent infographic in support of TDSB's Charter for Active Transportation. It's based on research from York University and the Hospital for Sick Children. There isn't a week that goes by that I don't get an e-mail from either a school or community member worried about traffic around our schools. Many of the complaints are about illegal parking! The messages are clear - walking to school does not increase child pedestrian accidents if the built environment is safe. Built environment modifications reduce unsafe driver and pedestrian behaviours leading to a reduction in collisions. Schools with crossing guards have 14% more students walking to school. And interestingly, the installation of speed bumps was associated with a 45% decrease in collision rates in children.

For the full infographic:

http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/sites/default/files/Final_2page%20infographic.pdf

SAVES THESE DATES

TDSB Healthy Schools 5k Run/Walk: June 4, 2016, 9 am – 12 noon

On Saturday, June 4, 2016 the Health and Physical Education Department is hosting a celebration of all the healthy active living that happens in our schools and communities every day. Students, staff, parents/guardians and community members are invited to join us at Downsview Park for the TDSB Healthy Schools 5k Run/Walk.

www.tdsb.on.ca/AboutUs/Innovation/HealthySchools5kRunWalk/RunWalkEventDayInformation.aspx

Fix Our Schools Campfire, June 9, 2016, 6 – 9 pm

The Fix Our Schools campaign (www.fixourschools.ca) is a grassroots, non-partisan, parent-led campaign focused on ensuring safe, well-maintained school buildings in Ontario. Please mark down June 9th, 6-9 pm on your calendars to join members of the Fix Our Schools working group at a family-friendly campfire at Dufferin Grove Park! This is a great opportunity to meet other parents engaged in this important campaign and find out more/exchange ideas on how we can work tougher to Fix Our Schools! Marshmallows and hot chocolate will be served.

Sir Ernest MacMillan Sr PS hosting 5K Race, June 21, 2016

5K race for students, staff, and families from across ER18 with over 475 runners registered. Come and cheer them on for a great day of exercise, friendly competition and fun.

This is the time of year where celebrations abound and I hope you and your family enjoy participating in these events with your communities and recognizing the work of students and staff. Clockwise from top left: South Asian Community Festival at Stephen Leacock CI; Congratulations to Mr. Tramposch of John Buchan Sr. PS on receiving TDSB 2016 Excellence Award; Kennedy PS Photo Exhibit at the Board; and having a lot of fun at the 2016 Folk Dance Jamboree.

