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March Newsletter

TRUSTEE SRISKANDARAJAH

Important School Closure Information

Through request from the Minister of Education, the Ontario government has ordered school board to close all school to minimize contact between people, especially children, in order to contain the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). Due to school closures, all childcare centres located inside TDSB schools will also be closed and all TDSB Extended Day Programs will be cancelled from March 14 through to April 5, 2020. These closures can pose significant challenges for many families, especially those with limited childcare options and/or work flexibility. However, this approach is taken to ensure the health and wellbeing of all families and is consistent with the Ministerial Order to close schools and the decisions of many other school boards.

As all TDSB schools and sites will be closed, the following programs and services will also be closed/cancelled from March 14 to April 5, 2020:

- All Continuing Education and Night School Courses
- All permits
- All Authorized Recreation Programs
- All EarlyON Child and Family Centres
- All TDSB eLearning courses
- All field trips, athletic events, and arts performances
- All school-based meetings and other public meetings and consultations

For more information, including a complete list of impacted programs and services, please visit the [TDSB website](https://www.tdsb.on.ca), which we will be keeping updated with the latest information. Please note that the Ministry of Education has indicated that it will be providing resources that will be available online to support student learning during the closure.

March 2020

Changes to School Start and End Times

Effective September 2020, the

| School | Current | | Revised | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | AM BELL | PM BELL | AM BELL | PM BELL |
| Alexander Stirling Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:20 PM | 9:10 AM | 3:45 AM |
| Charlottetown Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:20 PM | 9:10 AM | 3:45 PM |
| Chief Dan George Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:20 PM | 8:45 AM | 3:20 PM |
| Highland Creek Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:15 PM | 9:15 AM | 3:45 PM |
| Thomas L. Wells Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:20 PM | 8:20 AM | 2:55 PM |
| William G Miller Public School | 8:45 AM | 3:15 PM | 8:15 AM | 2:45 PM |

TDSB will be changing school start and end times at 131 elementary schools across the city. By staggering the start and end times of these schools, the TDSB is able to plan bus routes more efficiently and this will be better for our students by ensuring that: Students get to school on time; and we reduce the number of busses used for transporting students. Additionally, this is projected to save the TDSB approximately \$2.5 million, which is important as the TDSB currently spends more on student transportation than we receive from the government. This decision was made in June 2019 as part of last year's budget process. TDSB Trustees approved an operating budget plan for the 2019-20 school year that required \$67.8 million in staff reductions and changes to programs/services to address provincial government funding reductions and the TDSB's annual structural deficit.