

October 19, 2014

Items of Interest from Trustee Shelley Laskin, Ward 11

Website click on [Trustee Shelley Laskin](#)

www.tdsb.on.ca/laskin

Twitter @shelleylaskin

Mathematics Information from Program and School Services Committee, October 1st, 2014

I thought you might find the following few slides from the Program and School Services Committee as they debunk the myth that multiplication is no longer taught in schools.

Multiplication in the Curriculum

- In grade 2 students begin to learn what multiplication and division mean
- In grade 3, students use different strategies to memorize multiplication facts to 7×7
- In grade 4, students use different strategies to memorize multiplication facts to 9×9
- In grade 5, students use different strategies to memorize multiplication facts to 12×12
- In grade 6, students begin multiplying decimals

Diagnostic Tools

- Used to identify a student's needs and abilities and the student's readiness to learn new concepts.
- Usually used at the start of a school year, term, semester, or teaching unit.
- Results are used by teachers in planning instruction and setting appropriate learning goals. (Growing Success)
- Teachers can choose which tools to use and how often they administer the diagnostics.

Math Resources

- [Homework Help](#)
- [EQAQ Sample Questions Grades 3 and 6](#)
- [EQAQ Sample Questions Grade 9](#)
- [e-Practice and CLIPS](#)
- [e-Workshop](#)
- [Financial Literacy](#)
- <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Findyour/Schools/LibraryCat.aspx>
- <http://www.edugains.ca/newsite/math/homesupport.html>

Humewood Community School Celebrating 100 years

I was so proud to be at the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Humewood Community School Saturday... from the media release –

“Located just one block north of St. Clair and Christie, when first built it was just outside of the borders of the City of Toronto. The first kindergarten classes in the building averaged about 50 students! Humewood has changed with the times over the years including being an open concept school at one time and housing Cherrywood Alternative School, and now is a dual track school with both English and French tracks. One thing has not changed: “Our school has truly been the heart of this community for so many years,” said Principal Julie Whitfield. “It’s an honour for the current staff here today to carry on a tradition of excellence forged by all of the professionals that have taught here before us who have had such a meaningful impact on shaping students and the community.”

Thank you to the students, parents and staff who threw a wonderful birthday party! It was a joy to celebrate with the community.

Make a difference in the lives of children and youth: say 'yes' to participate in the 2014 Ontario Child Health Study and School Mental Health Surveys

The 1983 Ontario Child Health Study told us that *1 in 5 children and youth experienced serious mental health challenges*. This estimate is outdated as is much of what we know about child and youth mental health in Ontario. The 2014 Ontario Child Health Study will tell us about the mental health status and needs of

children and youth living in Ontario today. From October 2014 to May 2015, Statistics Canada will be inviting 7,000 families with children aged 4 -17 years to complete an interview in their home. At the same time, McMaster researchers will be conducting School Mental Health Surveys in 240 Ontario schools to help us learn new ways of promoting and addressing student mental health needs.

Together, these studies will be the first of their kind in Canada to examine the influence of family, community and school environments on child and youth mental health.

The results will be used to develop programs and services to improve the mental health of young people in Ontario. Results from the 1983 Study were partially responsible for over 3 billion dollars of investment in federal and provincial programs and services, resulting in the creation of programmes such as the Ontario Early Years Centres. Participation in the 1983 Ontario Child Health Study was over 90%. Make sure you are heard in 2014 as well. Let's make our province a better place for children and youth. If invited to participate, please say 'yes' to the 2014 Ontario Child Health Study and School Mental Health Surveys.

www.ontariochildhealthstudy.ca

Information from OPSBA

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario resumes next Monday October 20, 2014. OPSBA will continue to monitor legislative proceedings and review and possibly comment on those bills that affect the education sector. The following 3 bills were re-introduced last session and will require OPSBA to consult with our member boards and education partners to develop position statements and submissions.

- **Bill 8, Public Sector and MPP Accountability and Transparency Act, 2014** was introduced by Deb Matthews, President of the Treasury Board, on July 8. OPSBA had begun to review the bill and its various schedules including Schedule 1, Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Act, 2014 and Schedule 9, Amendments to the Ombudsman Act and Related Amendments.
- **Bill 10, Child Care Modernization Act, 2014** was introduced by Minister of Education Liz Sandals on July 10. The Act will amend the Education Act to require school boards to ensure before-and after-school programs are available to six-to-12 year-olds, where there is sufficient demand. The Child Care Modernization Act would also authorize the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities to assign Ontario Education Numbers (OEN) and permit the sharing of performance data between the ministry and the Ministry of Education, allowing Ontario to track and measure student performance from the early years through post-secondary education.
- **Bill 20, Ryan's Law (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools) 2014** was introduced by PC MPP Jeff Yurek on July 17. This bill was formerly known as Bill 135 and had (prior to the election) reached the committee stage of the legislative process. OPSBA had sent a letter and a submission asking for a comprehensive approach to the management of multiple medical conditions.

Take Our Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 5, over 200,000 Grade 9 students across Canada will spend the day at work, job shadowing a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host. This is a great opportunity to participate in a shared experience with your child and discuss possible career paths based on actual experiences. This program is sponsored by "The Learning Partnership". Check out information available within your school regarding participation. You can read about the program at <http://www.thelearningpartnership.ca/TOKW>.

Resources from "Tweets" you may find interesting

@GerriGershon Why the #Arts in schools: "Top 10 Skills Children Learn From the Arts"

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2013/01/22/top-10-skills-children-learn-from-the-arts/> ... via @washingtonpost #artsed

@edutopia What would you add? Read the entire list: <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/educating-parents-about-education-mythbusters>

@OPSBA_Official .@TDSB uses math & science initiative to inspire girls | CityNews <http://ow.ly/CUMti> #OntEd

@TO2015 Be part of an experience like no other. Enter now for a chance to carry the #TO2015 Pan Am flame. <http://www.toronto2015.org/torch-relay>

@shelleylaskin I think it's more about what they learn..."@edutopia: "It's not always what you teach, but how you teach it." <http://edut.to/101J5Ss> "

@OPSBA_Official October 27 is Ontario's school board elections day! Find all your local candidates @ <http://ow.ly/Csx4k> #OntEdVotes #OntEd

Worth Repeating

High School Information Nights

Parents are encouraged to attend their home school's Grade 8 Information Evening as well as the Information Evening at other schools you are interested in. The information evenings are listed on the TDSB website. Click on [Open Houses and Information Nights](#).

Early French Immersion (SK entry)

The Early Immersion Program begins in Senior Kindergarten. It offers 100% French instruction in the classroom until the end of grade 3, although some specialist subjects may be taught in English. English instruction is gradually introduced beginning in grade 4 until it becomes a half-day program from Grades 6-8. Designated school pathways exist to ensure that students have a continuation of program from the SK entry to the end of grade 12. There are 56 schools across the TDSB that offer entry to the Early Immersion Program. **The application system for Early French Immersion (SK Entry) will open on November 3, 2014. Deadline for applications for this program is December 5th, 2014. Click on [http://secure.tdsb.on.ca/pars/\(S\(xvaj3t45nwodmm55vkb0ct45\)\)/public/welcome.aspx](http://secure.tdsb.on.ca/pars/(S(xvaj3t45nwodmm55vkb0ct45))/public/welcome.aspx)**

The attendance area for an Early French Immersion program is created by a group of "associated" English feeder schools. To locate the Early French Immersion school in your area, you must first confirm the English school for your home address, then visit our French Immersion Location Finder. Note: Attendance areas as well as associated feeder schools for Early French Immersion programs may be changed at any time in accordance with Board policy and procedures.

Information Nights are scheduled as follows:

- Brown PS 454 Avenue Rd 416-393-1560 November 19, 2014 7:00 pm
- Davisville PS 43 Millwood Rd 416-393-0570 November 4, 2014 7:00 pm
- Humewood PS 15 Cherrywood Ave 416-394-2383 November 18, 2014 6:30 pm
- John Fisher PS 40 Erskine Ave 416-393-9325 November 18, 2014 7:00 pm
- Rawlinson CS 231 Glenholme Ave 416-394-3080 November 17, 2014 6:30 pm

For a complete list of Information Evenings, please click on:

<http://tdsb.on.ca/ElementarySchool/SchoolChoices/FrenchPrograms/InformationEvenings.aspx>

Note - The application period for Junior Extended French or Middle Immersion (Grade 4 Entry) is between January 5th and January 29th, 2015.

People for Education News

- [Upcoming elections about more than mayors](#)
- [P4E conference: sex, special ed, community schools](#)
- [It's walk to school month](#)
- [Celebrating Sheldon Levy](#)
- [MWM survey results](#)
- [Events](#)

New video from People for Education: Parent involvement in three minutes!

People for Education has a new video for parents—in [French](#) and [English](#). It's three minutes long and it illustrates the top 4 things parents can do to help their kids succeed in school. Based on our [Parent Involvement that Makes a Difference](#) tip sheet, the video highlights the key research findings on parent involvement and provides concrete tips for parents. [Watch this parent-friendly video on our Youtube channel](#). School councils, education and community organizations, and people working with families are welcome to post a link to the video on your own sites. It is also a great way to start a conversation with parents. Coming soon, the second video in our series, focusing on special education. [Watch the teaser now](#).

Events of Interest

People For Education's 18th Annual Conference

Saturday, November 8, 2014, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto

This year's Making Connections conference features keynote speaker Paul Tough, the author of *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character*, as well as a range of panels and workshops covering financial literacy, education funding changes, entrepreneurship, community schools, sex ed, and more. Register <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/events-workshops/come-to-our-conference/>
If you are an interested parent but can't afford registration fees, please let me know.

PIAC Presents: The 8th Annual Parent Involvement Makes a Difference Conference

Saturday November 15, 2014, 8:30 am at Earl Haig Secondary School

For information visit: www.tdsb.on.ca/parentconference

Dates to Remember

2014-2015 School Year Calendar

TDSB's school year calendars are on Google Calendar (add to yours!). Elementary: <http://t.co/SRsxJzPYgL>
+ Secondary: <http://t.co/s1sWVP0naB>

Board-wide PA Day	November 14, 2014
Board-wide PA Day	December 5, 2014
Christmas Break	December 22, 2014 to January 2, 2015 (inclusive)
Last day of school	December 19, 2014
School resumes	January 5, 2015
Elementary PA Day	January 23, 2015
Secondary PA Day	(Semestered Schools only) January 29, 2015
Board-wide PA Day	February 13, 2015
Family Day	February 16, 2015
March Break	March 16 to 20, 2015
Good Friday	April 3, 2015
Easter Monday	April 6, 2015
Victoria Day	May 18, 2015
Elementary School PA Day	June 5, 2015
Secondary School PA Day	June 24*, 25, 2015
Board-wide PA Day	June 26, 2015

* High School Semester Change: The first day of second semester is 30 January 2015. The seven days noted for secondary school include a PA day only for semestered schools on 29 January 2015 and a PA Day for full-year schools only on 24 June 2015.

Before scheduling events, please check the TDSB Days of Significance Calendar [2014 - 2015 Days of Significance](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these weekly e-mails, please let me know at shelley.laskin@tdsb.on.ca