



Dear Parents and Caregivers –

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! As your local school trustee, I am your link with the Toronto District School Board, which governs Toronto's public schools. As your elected representative, I make decisions with the rest of the trustees on the Board, help you navigate the system and act as your 'sounding board,' should the need arise. I believe we all have a role to play to help our public schools thrive.

After more than two years of the pandemic, our focus must be ensuring that all students have access to the programs, opportunities and supports needed for academic achievement and well-being. That said, as we welcome you back, health and safety are our top priorities. The TDSB will continue to monitor the pandemic and follow the guidance and direction from Toronto Public Health and the Ministry of Education.

The TDSB is also here to support you and your family's mental health and well-being. We know that school can be an exciting and overwhelming time – for both students and parents/caregivers. For tools and resources tailored for you, please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Mental-Health-Well-Being>. To help you and your child have a great year, please visit www.tdsb.on.ca for information on the school year calendar, transportation, getting involved, and so much more.

Should you need information or have questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at shelley.laskin@tdsb.on.ca. You can also follow me on twitter www.twitter.com/shelleylaskin and visit my webpage at www.tdsb.on.ca/ward8. If you need information urgently, please contact Maria Jose Oliveira, TDSB Administrative Liaison, who will be supporting me and answering the Trustees' shared line during office hours. Maria Jose can also be reached directly at mariajose.oliveira@tdsb.on.ca or 416-397-2577.

If you aren't already signed up to my weekly updates which come out Sunday evening at 8:00pm, please do so by clicking on the icon on my website – <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward8>. For system-wide news about the Board, subscribe to TDSB Update at www.tdsb.on.ca/TDSBupdate and follow the TDSB on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. You will also continue to receive important information and updates from your school and the system via email.

We may be the largest school board in the country, but it's the relationships that make our schools feel like family. By getting involved, you're supporting public education, and I look forward to working in partnership with you and your child's school this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shelley Laskin'.

Shelley Laskin
Ward 8