



**SCHOOL YEAR
SCHOOL YEAR
CALENDAR
2017-2018**

First Day of School
September 5, 2017

Thanksgiving Day
October 9, 2017

Christmas Break
**December 25, 2017 –
January 5, 2018**

Start of second semester
for secondary schools
February 5, 2018

Family Day
February 19, 2018

Mid-Winter Break
March 12–16, 2018

Good Friday
March 30, 2018

Easter Monday
April 2, 2018

Victoria Day
May 21, 2018

Last day of classes for
elementary students
June 28, 2018

*Professional Activity (PA)
Days for ELEMENTARY
schools:

**October 6, 2017,
November 17, 2017,
December 1, 2017,
January 19, 2018,
February 16, 2018,
June 8, 2018,
June 29, 2018**

*Professional Activity (PA)
Days for SECONDARY
schools:

**October 6, 2017
November 17, 2017,
December 1, 2017,
February 16, 2018,
June 27, 28, 29, 2018**

*(Please confirm these
dates with your local
school)

YOUR TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Important Information

To **apply for registration** to a TCDSB elementary school, please visit:

<https://soar.tcdsb.org>

For additional information about admission and registration, call 416-222-8282 ext. 5320.

Secondary school students who are new to the country are invited to make an appointment with the **Orientation Centre** by calling 416-393-5500.

For information about **adult education**, click here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORCOMMUNITY/AdultEducationESL/Pages/Default.aspx>

Transportation Information, including safety tips and up to the minute reports on cancellations or delays can be found online: <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org/>

If you wish to rent a school or TCDSB facility for a community event, contact the **Permits department** at 416-222-8282 ext. 4370.

Board and Committee Meetings:

Standing committees and Board meetings are generally held on Thursdays. All meetings take place at the Catholic Education Centre, and these public committee and Board meetings are webcast live via the website at <https://www.tcdsb.org/LiveAtTCDSB/Pages/Default.aspx>

If you wish to address the board as a delegation, please register online here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/TrusteesoftheBoard/boardmeeting/information/Pages/Delegation-Information.aspx> Agendas and minutes, as well as archived video from past meetings, are also available via the board's website www.tcdsb.org.

New School Bus Parent Portal

As we all know, last year's school bus service got off to a rocky start. While this year's start up was much smoother, the Toronto Student Transportation Group has launched a new Parent Portal to help keep parents up to date with the latest information on their children's bus routes. The new portal provides information on pick up times and locations, bus company contact information and notifications if your bus is late.

Parents are encouraged to register today by visiting

www.torontoschoolbus.org

Formed in 2011, the TSTG is responsible for planning, maintaining and coordinating the operations of TCDSB and TDSB school bus routes and oversees all bus operations. This online portal is one of several improvements being made to ensure an effective 2017-18 school year.

Secondary School Open Houses

Grade 8 students and their families are reminded to check out their high school options by attending one of the open houses in their area. For Ward 7, please note dates and times below:

- October 26, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Morrow Park
- October 26, 7 p.m. at Brebeuf
- November 1, 7 p.m. at Jean Vanier
- November 2, 7 p.m. at Mary Ward

Find the complete list online here:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/school/OpenHouses>





YOUR TRUSTEE'S REPORT



416-512-3407



mike.delgrande@tcdsb.org

Trustee Support 416-222-8282

Amanda Condello ext. 2660

Colin Johnston ext. 2659

**MIKE
DEL GRANDE**



TRUSTEE WARD 7

**SCHOOLS
(by SUPERINTENDENT):**

Peter Aguiar (Area 4):
416-222-8282 ext. 2267

- Blessed Trinity 416-393-5289
- Holy Redeemer 416-393-5353
- Our Lady of Wisdom 416-393-5273
- Precious Blood 416-393-5258
- St. Agnes 416-393-5345
- St. Kevin 416-393-5300
- Brebeuf 416-393-5508 (secondary)
- St. Joseph Morrow Park
416-393-5516 (secondary)

Kevin Malcolm (Area 7):
416-222-8282 ext. 2263

- Epiphany of Our Lord 416-393-5378
- Holy Spirit 416-393-5282
- St. Aidan 416-393-5350
- St. Albert 416-393-5335
- St. Henry 416-393-5395
- St. Lawrence 416-393-5264
- St. Sylvester 416-393-5373
- Jean Vanier 416-393-5554 (secondary)
- Mary Ward 416-393-5544 (secondary)

PARISHES:

- Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
416-445-1760
- Blessed Trinity 416-226-0262
- Epiphany of Our Lord 416-499-2196
- Holy Spirit 416-293-7974
- Precious Blood 416-751-2661
- St. Aidan's 416-494-2704
- St. Lawrence Martyr 416-759-9359
- St. Maria Goretti 416-261-0076

Welcome to the 2017/2018 School Year

I hope that you have all had a safe and restful summer, and have had opportunities to explore, reconnect and indulge in some favourite activities. Now that we have begun to settle in to a new school year, I look forward to working with all of our school communities in Ward 7 throughout the year ahead. I'm sure it will be an exciting and fulfilling experience for all of our students, staff and their families.

A special welcome to those students, staff and families who are just joining the

TCDSB community, or those who are taking on new roles this year. In particular, I congratulate newly appointed Director of Education Rory McGuckin, Associate Director of Academic Affairs Dan Koenig and newly appointed Superintendent Flora Cifelli. I look forward to working with all of them, as well as the many school administrators who are newly appointed to schools in this ward, or who have been transferred into our school communities. These include:



Celebrating the sod turning at the new St. Joseph Morrow Park campus.

These include:

- Anne Martin - New Principal at Holy Spirit
- Melanie Wyatt - New Vice-Principal at St. Lawrence
- Paul Cane - New Vice-Principal at Holy Spirit
- Kathleen Wong – New Vice-Principal at Mary Ward
- Mariko Mackasey – New Vice-Principal at Jean Vanier

Their leadership will be invaluable in the months and years ahead.

Wishing everyone a successful and happy school year.

Sincerely,

Mike Del Grande, Trustee Ward 7

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For further/general information visit tcdsb.org and follow @TCDSB on Twitter.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Parents/ratepayers may find the following list of contact telephone numbers helpful:

Admissions
416-222-8282,
ext. 5320

Communications
416-222-8282,
ext. 5314

Continuing
Education
416-222-8282,
ext. 2491/2556

24-hour Information
Line
416-222-8282,
ext. 2873

Permits
416-222-8282,
ext. 4370

Security
416-229-5360

Curriculum and
Accountability
416-222-8282,
ext. 2490

Special Services
416-222-8282,
ext. 2486

Transportation
416-229-5313

For news and
information:
TCDSB web site
tcdsb.org

Subscribe to ENews
[tcdsb.org/News/
eNews/Pages/default.
aspx](http://tcdsb.org/News/eNews/Pages/default.aspx)

YOUR TRUSTEE'S REPORT

School Cash Online

TCDSB is pleased to introduce School Cash Online, an easy to use, safe and convenient way for parents and guardians to pay for their children's school fees including agendas, yearbooks and class trips.

This new cashless system offers parents the option of paying online for school activities and purchases from the convenience of your own home! This includes payments for school trips, activities, sports-related fees, and pizza lunches (just to name a few), as well as providing the following benefits:

- A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- Reduces paper
- Student safety - no more need to send cash or cheques to school

School Cash Online will be rolled out across the TCDSB during the 2017/2018 school year in five phases.

For more information, frequently asked questions and to find out when the program will be available in your school visit <https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/schoolcashionline>.



OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

Parent and Student Charter of Principles

In support of its vision of transforming the world through innovation, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is the first school board to formally adopt guiding sets of principles outlining parent and student rights.

The TCDSB is taking the lead in establishing principles designed to address the basic rights elements of a sound Catholic education to which parents and students are entitled during a period when individual rights is a major topic of discussion in other sectors such as the airline travel industry.

The Student Charter of Principles starts: *"A student is entitled to reasonably participate in decisions that affect his/her education and school life. The Board will pursue equity and inclusion for all students of the Board. A student is entitled to a spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically safe, and positive, school environment, where he/she is respected and treated in a manner consistent with our Catholic values and teachings."*

The Parent Charter of Principles begins with:

"The Board will provide a faith-based publicly funded school with education grounded in Catholic doctrine, traditions and teachings for your child. A parent or guardian will have opportunities for involvement in his/her child's education. A parent or guardian is entitled to a reasonable expectation that his/her child is learning in a safe, healthy, caring and accessible school, free of discrimination, prejudice, bullying and harassment."

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Child Care Programs

The TCDSB, in partnership with party operators, will offer a licensed child care program in schools where there is **confirmed interest from at least 20 families**. To determine interest, parents are asked to fill out an online form as part of the SOAR registration system beginning in January. Parents will then be notified in April on whether there is sufficient interest for a program the following September.

For more information on child care programs, including locations where child care is currently offered, please visit <https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/EarlyYears/ChildCare>.

Financial Update

This spring, the TCDSB Board of Trustees passed a balanced budget for the 2017/2018 school year, including the elimination of its accumulated deficit a year ahead of schedule. To get to this point, the TCDSB has had to make some difficult decisions while balancing competing spending priorities.

With a much stronger financial footing, I am expecting the Board to reinvest additional dollars into our system and our students. You can expect this investment to include renewed religious education resources and information technology infrastructure.

Liability Coverage

You may have read in a Toronto Star article about a court case in which our school board's insurer filed a cross-claim for damages against two students involved in a rough-housing incident during recess that caused a personal injury (broken arm) to a third student.

Although both parents said their children had not intended to hurt anyone, the insurance companies play by their own set of rules. This may seem shocking, but experts in insurance law say naming minors in lawsuits is not uncommon and is used to trigger a parent's insurance policy to cover costs of a settlement.

I brought this issue into a public forum because most parents are not aware they can be sued for something as innocent as a school yard accident. This means you may incur legal and court costs in the event of you are sued for damages.

Ontario school boards sell Student Accident Insurance, but it only covers injuries for the child who's injured, not the child who causes the injury.

To protect yourself, you should check your home insurance policy to ensure you have liability insurance. In most cases this will be sufficient to cover legal costs in the event this happens to you. Coverage includes the cost of hiring a lawyer, which may cost several thousand, can surpass the cost of a settlement or judgment, and can run into six figures. Standard policies for homeowners and tenants typically include liability coverage of \$1 million to \$2 million for policyholders, your children and other household members.

We live in a very litigious world today. It can happen to anybody and that's one of the reasons you buy insurance.

International Language Programs

An International Language is any language other than the two official languages of Canada. Every child has the opportunity to participate in the International Languages Program regardless of his/her particular ethnic heritage. The Toronto Catholic School Board has been offering International Languages programs since September 1977 both outside of school hours and as part of an extended day. Languages offered include Italian, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Tagalog and more.

To establish an International Languages Program (Elementary) outside school hours, the regulations require an enrolment of at least 25 children. Extended day programs require approval of two thirds (67%) of families attending the school.

For more information, please contact your school Principal or the Continuing Education department at 416-222-8282, ext. 2495.