



Monthly Update from the Board

March 2019

TCDSB SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2019-2020

Number of school days 194 Number of Professional Activity Days 7
Labour Day September 2, 2019
First Instructional Day September 3, 2020
Thanksgiving Day October 14, 2019
Christmas Break December 23, 2019–January 3, 2020
Start of second semester for secondary schools February 3, 2020
Family Day February 17, 2020
Mid-Winter Break March 16-20, 2020
Good Friday April 10, 2020
Easter Monday April 13, 2020
Victoria Day May 18, 2020
Last day of classes for all students June 26, 2020

Seven (7) Professional Activity (PA) Days for ELEMENTARY schools:

October 11, 2019 Provincial Education Priorities/Faith Development
November 15, 2019 Parent-Teacher Conferences
December 6, 2019 Provincial Education Priorities
January 17, 2020 Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
February 14, 2020 Parent-Teacher Conferences
June 5, 2020 Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
June 26, 2020 Provincial Education Priorities

***Seven (7) Professional Activity (PA) Days for SECONDARY schools:**

October 11, 2019 November 15, 2019
December 6, 2019 February 14, 2020
June 24, 25, 26, 2019

Three PA days devoted to Provincial Education Priorities and supporting Article 19 of the Collective Agreement. One PA day devoted to Faith Development. One PA day devoted to numeracy across the curriculum. The remaining two PA days will be devoted to system priorities, annual learning plans and local goals articulated in the School Learning Improvement Plans.

* Secondary schools, in consultation with their Local School Staffing Advisory Committee, may schedule a Professional Activity Day to align with the day following one of the Parent-Teacher Interview nights.

Clocks Spring Forward

Remember that the clocks go forward one hour on March 10th.

Never Miss Out on Important News

Follow @TCDSB on Twitter to stay up to date on parent engagement opportunities, scholarships, contests, employment and community service opportunities for students, weather related cancellations or closures, consultations and more.

Not a Twitter user, no problem.

Subscribe to E-News and have the same information delivered to your email weekly.

<https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

Let's Help Catholic Charities by Supporting ShareLife

ShareLife's mission is to "Live the Gospel by providing for those in need" This is done through their support of many diverse [Catholic social service agencies](#) here in the GTA and beyond.

This year, ShareLife Week for Schools will be celebrated the week of April 8-12. All students and staff are invited **Board-wide Civvies Day on Friday, April 12, 2019** to raise funds for the ShareLife campaign. Your donation of a loonie or a toonie will go a long way to supporting youth, the elderly, the marginalized and the vulnerable.

We thank everyone in the TCDSB community for all that they do throughout the year to help others—giving of their time and their resources to make a difference. We applaud those efforts, and take great pride in the commitment to living our Catholic values and putting faith into action.

Events and Information for Parents/Families:

- ***"Celebrate the PAST, Appreciate the PRESENT, ADVOCATING for the Future"***
OAPCE Toronto Annual Parent Conference
Friday, April 5th and Saturday, April 6, 2019
<https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/oapce-toronto/events/pages/oapceconference-2019.aspx>
- **Lift Jesus Higher Rally**
March 2, 2019
<https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2017-2018/pages/lift-jesus-higher.aspx>
- **Consultation Meeting—Possible Introduction of Extended French at Notre Dame**
March 6, 2019
<https://www.tcdsb.org/schools/notredame/pages/extended-french-@-notre-dame.aspx>

Important Information and Opportunities for Students:

- **Student Trustee Election**
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Visit board website for information www.tcdsb.org (see Students)
- **FaithTalk—Radio Maria Contest**
We are excited to introduce a contest for your students this spring. Please share this information with your students who would be interested! Grade 7 – 12 TCDSB students are invited to submit a two-page (500 word) proposal (in any format) about how they are 'living their faith' today! If selected, a student will be on air, at Radio Maria Canada for a 30 minute segment speaking about their faith during Catholic Education Week May 5-10, 2019!
USE THE HASHTAG #TCDSBFAITHTALK
Topics can include: *Faith and Social Media, Religion in our Classroom, Inclusion and Equity, Virtues of the Month, Catholic Graduate Expectations in Today's World, Catholic Social Teachings, Parish Connection, Christian Meditation, Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become, Acts of Kindness etc.*
Email your submission to ncc.team@tcdsb.org by no later than **Friday April 5, 2019**
Download the [RadioMaria App](#), or visit <https://www.radiomaria.ca/> to listen to programs.

- **We Belong Celebration May 21, 2019**

As we journey through the first year of our pastoral plan, “Rooted in Christ, we Belong, we Believe, we Become”, the Nurturing our Catholic Community Team invites you to share your ideas of belonging. We want to hear from our students and staff about how they are nurturing the concept of belonging and inclusion in their schools, in their families, in their parishes and their community.

We invite you to submit student artwork, written work, videos/slideshows, songs or any other creative expressions of belonging to ncc.team@tcdsb.org by no later than **Friday, March 22, 2019**.

When sharing your initiatives on social media, tweet or post @TCDSB with the hashtag #TCDSBelongs so we can follow your progress. For ideas and resources linked to our pastoral plan, [click here](#).

All submissions will be featured on the TCDSB website, as well as at our year-end celebration to be held May 21st. All schools will be invited to send two representatives (*any combination of student, parent, teaching or non-teaching staff, school administrator*).

- **CSLIT Skating Event**

March 19, 2019

3-5 pm

Downsview Arena

Proceeds to Angel Foundation for Learning

<https://www.tcdsb.org/forstudents/newsandevents/2018-2019/pages/cs litskatingevent.aspx>

- **TCDSB 2019 Music Festival April 1 - 30, 2019**

Elementary: April 1st to April 18th,

Secondary: April 23rd to April 30th,

Registration Dates: From February 25th to March 8th, 2019

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/arts/music/festival/pages/default.aspx>

- **Reminder: TCDSB Anonymous Alerts App**

Toronto Catholic District School Board is pleased to offer students a communications tool called Anonymous Alerts.

The Anonymous Alerts reporting system helps to promote safe, positive and accepting School climates by empowering students to anonymously report inappropriate behaviours to school staff.

The system allows for 1-way or 2-way anonymous encrypted communications between submitters (students, parents or community members) and Administrators and/or school staff.

Users of the system have the option to remain anonymous or to reveal their identity when submitting a report. Click here for more information

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/safeschools/pages/anonymousalerts.aspx>

For information about scholarships, contests, community service opportunities and more, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/default.aspx>

For information about events and initiatives of the Catholic Student Leadership Team, visit <https://catholicstudentleadership.com/>

Important Dates to Note:

- March is [Celtic Canadian Heritage Month](#)
- March 4—[Education Support Staff Appreciation Day](#)
- March 5—[Ordinandi Youth Event](#)
- March 6- Ash Wednesday; [Lent begins](#)
- March 8—[International Women's Day](#)
- March 11-15—March Break
- March 21—[International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)
- March 21—[World Down Syndrome Day](#)
- March 22—[World Water Day](#)
- March 29—[Earth Hour](#) (schools)
- March 30—Earth Hour 8:30-9:30 PM
- April 2—[World Autism Awareness Day](#)