



2024-2025 Information



Your School Trustee
Neethan Shan
Ward 17, Scarborough Centre
Tel: 416-395-8787
E-mail: Neethan.Shan@tdsb.on.ca

Find Your School & School Superintendent:
www.tdsb.on.ca/Find-your/School

Board Office at 416-397-3000 or GeneralInquiries@tdsb.on.ca

PA Days & Holidays	Date
Labour Day	September 2, 2024
Elementary School PA Day	September 27, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	October 11, 2024
Thanksgiving	October 14, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	November 15, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	November 29, 2024
Winter Break	December 23, 2024 – January 3, 2025
Elementary School PA Day	January 17, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	January 30, 2025
Board-wide PA Day	February 14, 2025
Family Day	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break	March 10 - 14, 2025
Good Friday	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday	April 21, 2025
Victoria Day	May 19, 2025
Elementary School PA Day	June 6, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	June 26, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	June 27, 2025

First day of classes for students is Tuesday, September 3, 2024
The last day of classes for elementary students is June 27, 2025.
The last day of classes for secondary students is June 25, 2025.

Days of Significance

For more information, please visit

www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolyearcalendar www.tdsb.on.ca/daysofsignificance

Follow the TDSB on Social Media



Parent Concern Protocol

Classroom Teacher

STEP ONE

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments

School Principal

STEP TWO

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal can help.

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration
- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

School Superintendents

STEP THREE

Superintendents are responsible for a Network of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

Trustees

STEP FOUR

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Items on Board Agenda
- Board policies under review
- Board budget
- Collective bargaining

Board Office

You can contact the Board Office directly for any questions or concerns related to:

- Continuing Education
- Night and summer school
- Adult education
- ESL
- Board documents

Phone: 416-397-3000 • Email: GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca

Trustee Neethan Shan

Message from Neethan



August 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian/Caregiver,
Welcome to the 2024-25 school year!

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable and safe summer. As we prepare to embark on a new school year, I am filled with anticipation and excitement for the opportunities and growth that lie ahead for TDSB students and communities.

As the elected public school board trustee for your community, my role is to advocate for you and your child and represent the needs of all students and families in the Toronto District School Board (TDSB). I am extremely proud of the progress we have made in strengthening student achievement, fostering a sense of belonging, and spreading joy throughout our schools and community.

This past school year, we tackled several critical issues, including cell phone use in schools, social media, and academic achievement. These initiatives are at

the heart of our commitment to creating productive and supportive learning environments for all students. Despite the financial challenges we've faced in recent years, we continue to maintain important supports for students while advocating for the Ministry to provide the necessary and sustainable support and adjustments for the TDSB to deliver the highest quality education. For more details about our efforts and the key issues we have highlighted, please review our advocacy letters available on our public webpage.

I am thrilled to share the recently launched 2024-28 Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP), which was developed through extensive collaboration and focuses on high achievement, student well-being, and accountability. We are committed to excellence and addressing the unique needs of each student. Engaging parents, guardians, caregivers, and community partners remains an important part of our strategy in the coming years.

We are also developing a new Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use in Schools Policy, aimed at enhancing student success, belonging, and well-being. A pre-consultation was conducted earlier this spring to gather feedback from school and community partners, ensuring the policy will meet legislative requirements and align with best practices.

To ensure you and your child have a great year ahead, I invite you to explore our website www.tdsb.on.ca for information about the school year calendar, transportation, ways to get involved, as well as helpful resources for the upcoming school year.

I also encourage you to follow us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, and Threads for regular updates and news. Rest assured, important information will still be communicated to you via email from both your school and the school board. You can sign up for my e-newsletter and visit my webpage at www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward17

We will be ready to welcome students back for the first day of the 2024-25 school year on September 3, 2024. I am here to support you every step of the way, ensuring a successful and rewarding educational journey for your child.

Thank you,

Trustee Neethan



To subscribe to my MONTHLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER: Please email me at neethan.shan@tdsb.on.ca

SEARCH FOR TDSB DIRECTOR

In May 2024, Director of Education Colleen Russell-Rawlins announced her retirement from the TDSB after decades of dedicated service to students and staff. After more than 30 years of service to public education beginning with the North York Board of Education and then the Toronto District School Board, Colleen has made the decision to retire from public education. We are truly thankful for her steady, caring, and principled leadership – not just as Director of Education, but as a leader in our system for so many years. Colleen's retirement from the TDSB is effective November 1, 2024. The Board will soon begin a formal search process for a new Director of Education.



JOIN TRUSTEE SHAN'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Last spring, I created a Youth Leadership Committee to provide opportunities for students to develop leadership skills while giving back to their school/community through research, communications, community outreach and event coordination. The committee meets virtually every 2 weeks with training provided at the start of the school year. All youth are welcome to join us!

ADVOCATING FOR CHILDCARE

In July 2024, Mayor Olivia Chow, Councillor Alejandra Bravo, TCDSB Chair Nancy Crawford and I (as the Acting Chair of TDSB) sent a joint letter to the Minister of Education asking the reconsideration of the Ministry's decision to cancel 48 previously approved child care projects in Toronto schools. Scarborough needs these child care centres desperately. Access to childcare is a human rights issue!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER ON OUR SHARED PRIORITIES:

I invite you to join me in addressing many key priorities for 2024 - 2025, including but not limited to the following:

- increasing student success with a focus on math achievement and literacy
- improving parent/caregiver engagement
- improving the safety of our schools with a holistic approach
- increasing leadership opportunities for our students
- advocating for increased funding for public education and advocating against continuous cuts to staff, services, and resources
- increase school-community partnerships with various local organizations and stakeholders
- improving school's capacity to support diverse communities through meaningfully addressing hate, discrimination and racism



SUPPORTING SCHOOL COUNCILS AND IMPROVING PARENT/CAREGIVER ENGAGEMENT:

I am delighted to share that I have been working with many schools in my ward to increase the level of parent/caregiver engagement. I hosted appreciation events to thank all the parent volunteers for supporting our schools. Coming this school year, we will establish a program "Trustee Shan's Parent & Community Leaders Network". If you wish to be part of the network and support our schools, please email me directly Neethan.Shan@tdsb.on.ca



ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS THIS PAST YEAR:

- I moved a motion to set up local safety roundtables across the city where there are higher levels of violent incidents. This roundtable is being implemented across the TDSB and we have one local safety roundtable right here in the central part of Scarborough.
- Following the passing of my motion asking for a strategy to address Islamophobia, the board is now developing a detailed plan in consultation with various stakeholders.
- Throughout last year, I did a weekly spotlight on all 24 schools in my ward, sharing positive highlights and stories about each schools' uniqueness. This initiative helped to foster a positive image, to build pride and to appreciate the hard work of the school and their communities.
- I supported the Multi-Year Strategic Plan (2024-2028) that passed unanimously and can be found on the TDSB website.

Trustee Neethan Shan's Youth Leadership Committee

Inviting Youth from Grade 7 to 12 to Apply

Are you interested in practicing your leadership skills?

Are you looking for ways to give back to your school and the community?

Then, please join Trustee Shan's Youth Leadership Team!



Are you keen on acquiring skills to get yourself ready for secondary education, post-secondary education and/or employment?

The team will work on research, communications, community outreach and event coordination. There will be training provided on a regular basis.

Parental permission required for students 16 or under.

Please send us an email to neethan.shan@tdsb.on.ca

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Trustee Shan's CRICKET DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

2/2



Therefore, be it resolved:

- present a report, at a feasible time within next academic year, on ways to improve availability and accessibility of cricket in Toronto District School Board schools in 2024-2025 school year;
- consider initiating a formation of a time specific volunteer workgroup within the TDSB to review the status of cricket within the board and to provide recommendations;
- explore ways in which cricket can be introduced and integrated into both Stand A and B of the physical education curriculum;
- explore the possibility of developing a cricket strategy for the Toronto District School Board, in collaboration with other levels of government and the cricket related organizations in Toronto;

- That the Chair write to the leadership of the three levels of government inviting them to explore with the Toronto District School Board, potential collaboration to increase availability and accessibility of cricket programming in Toronto.

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MONTHLY COMMUNITY FORUMS

In the past, I organized community forums virtually and in person for students and their families to come together and discuss many topics including literacy, numeracy, school safety, special needs, budget, community partnerships and the TDSB permit application process. This coming school year, we will have at least eight community forums. Please follow my monthly updates for more details.

