

# TORONTO INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS

Student Orientation February 2024



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



“We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and the Inuit peoples”

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/Indigenous-Education/Resources/Land-Acknowledgement>



# TURTLE ISLAND

The Haudenosaunee and other North Americans

# INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

Toronto (Tkaronto) is located on the traditional Indigenous territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, Anishnabee, Haudenosaunee Confederacy and Wendat.

We are located on Turtle Island

The National Day of Truth & Reconciliation is on September 30 and the month of June is Indigenous History Month.

# WELCOME & AGENDA

Here is our agenda for today:

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>10:00am</b> | <b>Introduction &amp; Welcome</b><br>International Students & Admissions Office Team  |
| <b>10:15am</b> | <b>Life in Toronto</b><br>Transitioning, Resources, Culture   |
| <b>10:35am</b> | <b>Study Insured</b><br>Medical Insurance & Important information   |
| <b>10:50am</b> | <b>Reporting, Registration &amp; Custodians</b><br>Roadmap, Documentation, Tips for Success, Responsibilities of Custodians |
| <b>11:10am</b> | <b>Life as a TDSB Student</b><br>Schedule, Policies, Academics, PLE & Responsibilities                                      |
| <b>11:30am</b> | <b>Q&amp;A</b><br>Questions & Answers   |
| <b>12:00pm</b> | <b>End</b>  |

# Introduction & Welcome

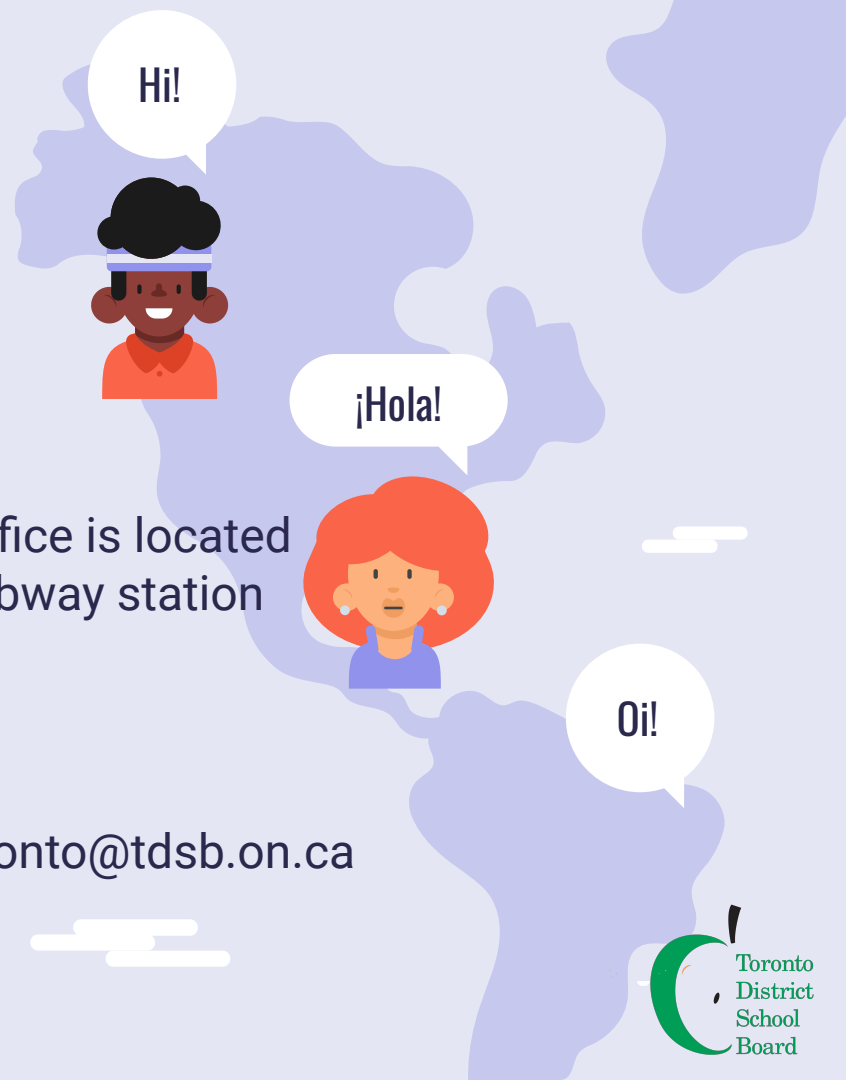
Thank you for joining us!

The International Student & Admissions Office is located at 5050 Yonge Street. The nearest TTC Subway station is: North York Centre Subway on **Line 1**.

Our contact information is:

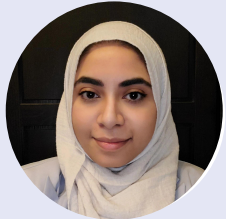
**Phone:** 416-395-8120

**Email:** [studytoronto@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:studytoronto@tdsb.on.ca)



# OUR TEAM

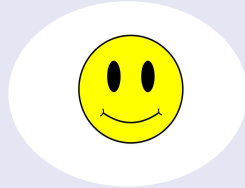
## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS



Aatika Okadia



Kate Mackenzie



Brian Chan



Marytoni Delos  
Reyes



Kimberly Sorokiwsky



Philip Qian



Fred Liu, Manager

## GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS (GCIS)



May Chang



Janice Field



Christine Gillespie



Karen Pak



Rory Stretch

[Find your GCIS here](#)

# WHAT DO WE DO?

Hi!



## GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS

### AT SCHOOL

### INTERNATIONAL (GCIS)

**ALL** students at  
school

Request for  
documents:  
Report Cards,  
Transcripts

School  
registration

Timetable change/  
Course Selection

**International  
Students** at specific  
schools

Transitioning to new  
environment

Medical Insurance,  
Study Permit, Tuition,  
Visa Information

## ALL COUNSELLORS ARE HERE TO:

Listen, Advise, Help, Problem Solve, Plan

Hello,  
Bonjour!



01

# LIFE IN TORONTO

Transitioning, Resources &  
Culture





**PREPARING TO COME TO  
TORONTO!**

# PRIOR TO COMING TO TORONTO

Important websites to check and refer to

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Study Toronto  
Policies

## TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH

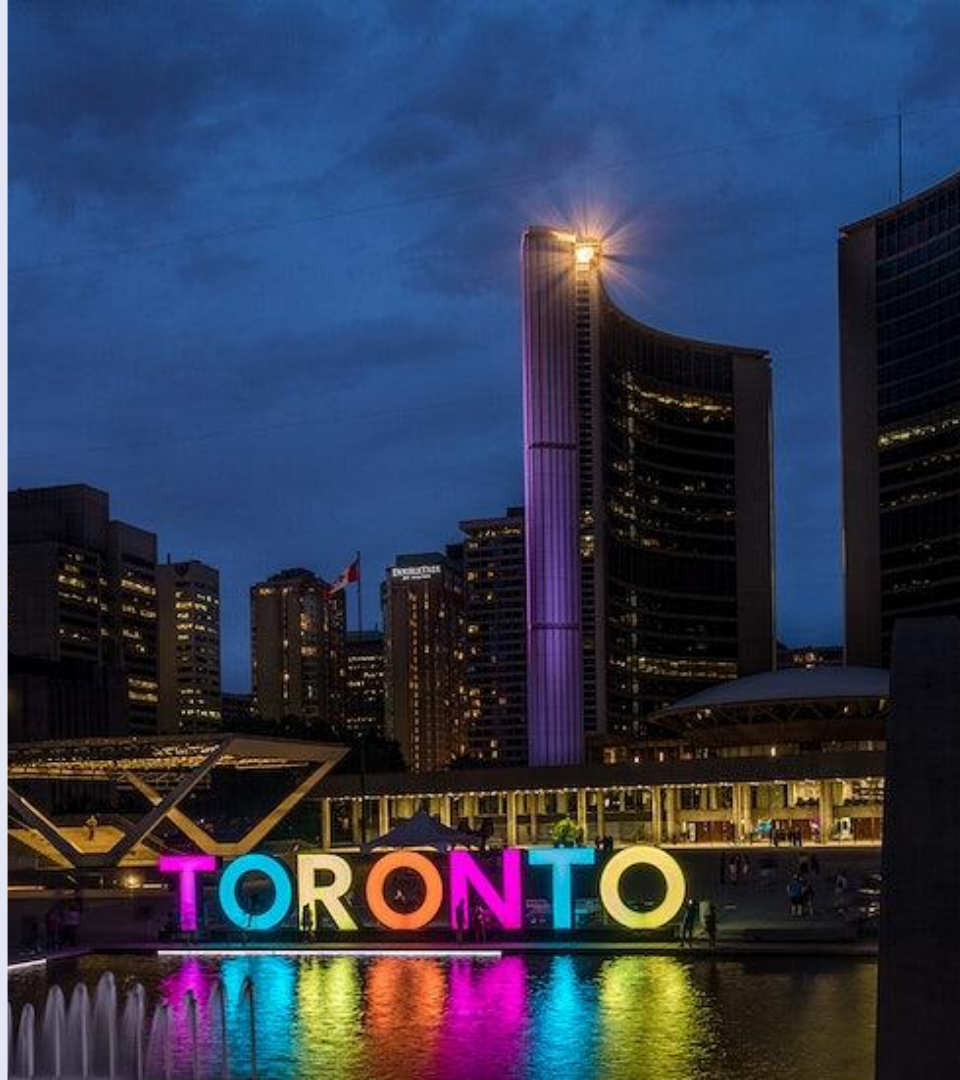
Advisories  
Immunization

## TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Board Info  
Updates  
Holidays

## IRCC

Visas, Permits  
Documents, Travel



# CULTURE SHOCK



Culture shock is VERY normal when you arrive in a new place. There are FOUR stages you might experience:

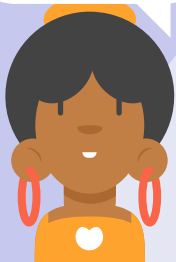
- Honeymoon Stage
- Frustration Stage
- Adaptation Stage
- Acceptance Stage



<https://www.concordia.ca/students/international/living-working/living-in-canada-/culture-shock.html>

# LIVING IN TORONTO

Ni hao!



## DIVERSITY

Toronto is one of the most diverse cities in the world. Almost 200 languages are spoken here



## TRANSPORTATION

The Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) is the public system that includes subway, buses and streetcars (\$2.40 for 13-19 with 2hr transfer)

Kia Ora!



## WEATHER (WINTER)

Toronto can get VERY COLD and dark in the winter. Be sure to prepare with boots, hat, scarf, gloves



02

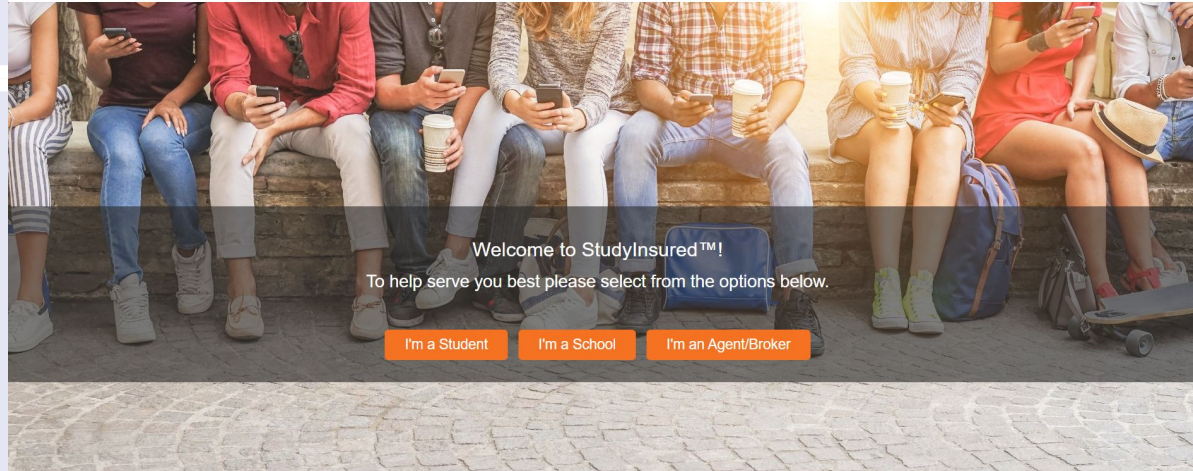
# STUDY INSURED

International Student  
Health Insurance

**tdsb** [www.studytoronto.ca](http://www.studytoronto.ca)

studyinsured™

EN | FR



Welcome to StudyInsured™!

To help serve you best please select from the options below.

I'm a Student

I'm a School

I'm an Agent/Broker

03

# REPORTING, REGISTRATION & CUSTODIANS

Roadmap, Documentation, Tips for  
Success & Responsibilities of  
Custodians

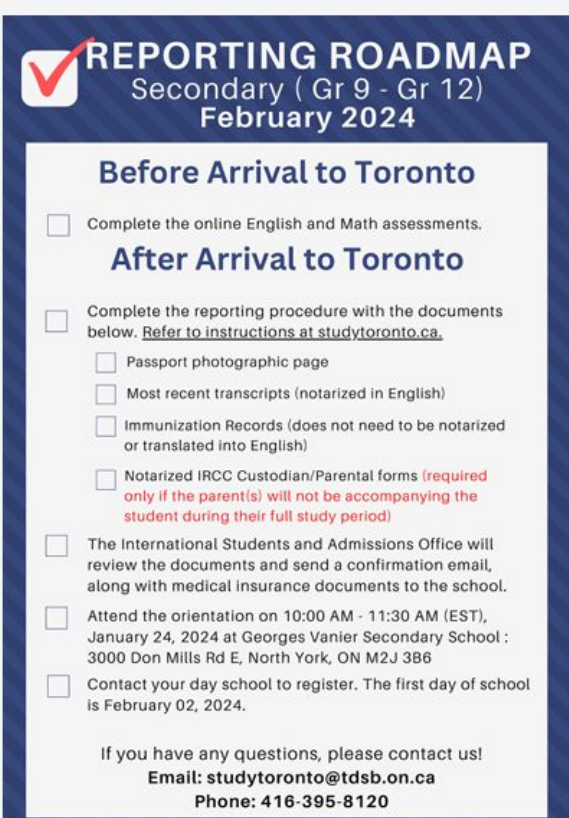



# #1 REPORTING ROAD MAP

Use this roadmap provided on the [Study Toronto Website - Arrivals and Reporting](#) webpage to make sure you have everything you need to report when you arrive.

In-Person Reporting Dates & Location	January 15 – 26, 2024 (excluding weekend) <b>5075 Yonge Street, 10th Floor, North York</b>
Recommended Dates for School Registration	January 29 - February 1, 2024

After January 26, 2024, students Reporting procedures will be at ISAO (5050 Yonge St., 1st Floor).



 **REPORTING ROADMAP**  
Secondary ( Gr 9 - Gr 12)  
February 2024

**Before Arrival to Toronto**

- Complete the online English and Math assessments.

**After Arrival to Toronto**

- Complete the reporting procedure with the documents below. [Refer to instructions at studytoronto.ca.](#)
  - Passport photographic page
  - Most recent transcripts (notarized in English)
  - Immunization Records (does not need to be notarized or translated into English)
  - Notarized IRCC Custodian/Parental forms (**required only if the parent(s) will not be accompanying the student during their full study period**)
- The International Students and Admissions Office will review the documents and send a confirmation email, along with medical insurance documents to the school.
- Attend the orientation on 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (EST), January 24, 2024 at Georges Vanier Secondary School : 3000 Don Mills Rd E, North York, ON M2J 3B6
- Contact your day school to register. The first day of school is February 02, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact us!  
**Email:** [studytoronto@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:studytoronto@tdsb.on.ca)  
**Phone:** 416-395-8120

# #2 ENGLISH & MATH ASSESSMENT

- Required for high school placement
- Vital English and Math Assessments must be completed **BEFORE** school registration

Questions about Assessment?

Contact [Philip.Qian@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Philip.Qian@tdsb.on.ca)



# REPORTING & SCHOOL REGISTRATION

- STEP 1:** Report in person at ISAO (5050 Yonge St) with docs  
Vital ENG/MATH Assessments are complete
- STEP 2:** Reporting package sent to your home school (*please allow at least 24 hrs before connecting with your home school*)
- STEP 3:** Make appointment with school GUIDANCE or  
STUDENT SERVICES department to register & pick  
classes

\*Student Activity Fee and locker assignments upon school registration or soon after

# SCHOOL REGISTRATION PROCESS

**WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING TO ISAO: 5050 Yonge St., 1st Floor**

- Valid Study Permit
- Valid Passport
- Most recent school documents/transcripts from home country
- Immunization (Vaccine) Record
- Newcomer Profile
- Custodianship Documents Forms 1 & 2 (Notarized)
- Custodian and Homestay: Phone #s and email
- Assessment Results (high school students only)

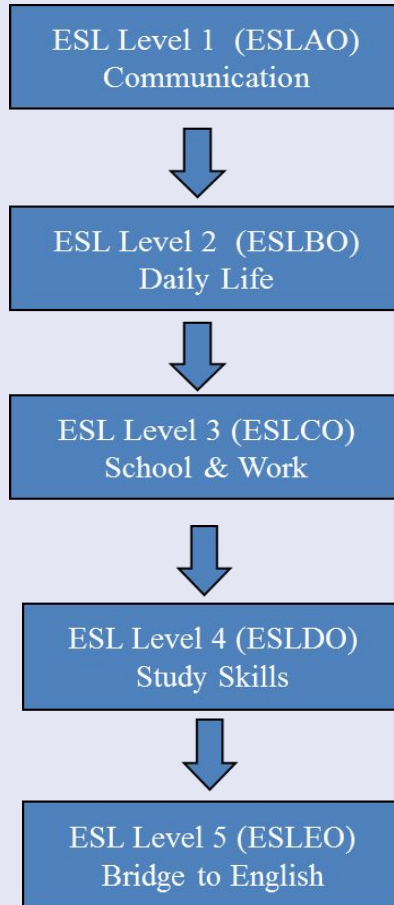
# Guidance Appointment

- Custodian & Student meet the home Guidance Counsellor
- Review ENG/MATH results, previous transcript (for PLEs)
- Review Ontario Secondary School Graduation (OSSD) requirements
- Review courses offered at your language level and/or grade level
- Choose courses to build cross-curricular language skills, interests, and fulfill course requirements for the OSSD Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- Direct you to resources (Guidance Google Classroom, etc)

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

- ESL placement is based on **LEVEL OF COMPETENCY** rather than on grade
- Can take up to 2 ESL/ENG courses per school year due to semesters

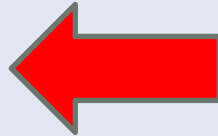
# ESL Cont'd



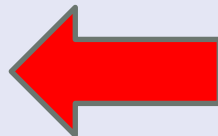
**A maximum of 3 ESL credits count toward the Compulsory English Credits.**

**However, you must complete a ENG4C/U to attend college or university**

**ENL1W  
ENG2D**



**NBE3U /3C  
ENG4U /4C**



# REQUIREMENTS FOR OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma)

1. Minimum 30 credits that must include:
  - 18 Compulsory Courses
  - 12 Elective Courses
2. Literacy Requirement - OSSLT
3. 40 Community Service (Volunteer) Hours
4. 2 online e-learning courses  
(can “opt out” with an opt out form)



# Reading Course Codes

**BAF3M1**

**BAF**

The first three characters indicate the name of the course

**3**

The 4th character indicates grade

- 1 - grade 9
- 2 - grade 10
- 3 - grade 11
- 4 - grade 12

**M**

The 5th character indicates the level

- O - open
- W - destreamed
- D - academic
- C - college
- M - mixed
- U - university

**1**

The last character is the type of program

- 1- regular program
- 8 - ESL support
- 0 - AP

# 1st letter of course code = Subject Area

**E**SLDO8   **M**PM2D1   **S**BI3U1   **T**DJ4M1

**A** = Arts

**B** = Business

**C** = Canadian and World Studies

**E** = ESL & English

**F** = French (FSF1O1 - for Gr. 9 International students)

**G** = Guidance course

**H** = Humanities

**I** = Information technology and Computer Studies

**M** = Mathematics

**N** = Natives course

**S** = Science

**T** = Technology



# Previous Learning Equivalency

**What is PLE?** The process involves a review of your grade 9, 10, 11, 12 transcripts from outside of Ontario for **previous learning equivalency** towards your OSSD.

**Who reviews?** Home Secondary School guidance counsellor

**When added?** Once student has successfully finished a minimum of one semester in TDSB

**Where documented?** Student Status Sheet and Transcript

# ATTENDANCE

## Students must be in school everyday

- 24 hour voicemail available at all schools (main line)
- Absences - verify with a note or call **prior to absence** and upon the student's return
- Absence = phone call home
- 15 consecutive absences will lead to demittance from school
- Planned absence = send note ahead of time
- Students leaving during the day MUST sign out in the main office with custodian/parental permission

# CUSTODIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Attend Registration appointment with student**
- **Regular communication regarding student progress**
  - Newsletters, emails, fact sheets, phone calls, letters
- **Support - student and school**
  - Ensure that the student is attending all classes
  - Attend parent-interviews, school presentations, concerts
  - Help student prepare for school (sleep, nutrition)
  - Communicate with parents regularly
  - Monitor student's progress, check-ins about homework, tests etc.
  - You may request a meeting with the teacher at any time during the year
  - Make sure that students renew and make payments on time (see [www.studytoronto.ca](http://www.studytoronto.ca) for more information)

# MEDICAL ISSUES

- **Toronto Public Health (TPH):**  
<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/>
- **Immunization**
  - must be up to date and complete
  - lice, chickenpox must be reported to the School office
  - fax immunization records to TPH (include student name, school ID, school name
  - TPH Booking an appointment, link is [here](#)
- **In case of Emergency (9-1-1)**
  - maintain correct address & phone# (custodian / home)
  - provide additional emergency contact
  - provide special medical history / medication
- **Long Term Illness, Allergies, and Medication**
  - Refrain from bringing peanut products to school and heavy fragrance
  - Inform main office if you carry an EpiPen®
  - provide medical documentation for illness more than 5 days



@TDSB  
@StudyTDSB

04



# LIFE AS A TDSB STUDENT

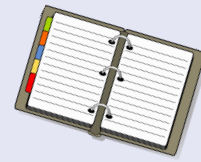
Schedule, Policies, Academics & Responsibilities



[www.studytoronto.ca](http://www.studytoronto.ca)



# SCHOOL RESOURCES



- Payment of School Registration Fee / School Activity Fee
  - Set up School Cash Online account once Student ID becomes available
- Agenda & Timetable
- Lockers provided, bring your own combination lock
- Textbooks are provided
- Provide your own supplies (notebooks, pencils, pens, etc.)
- Contact with custodians and parents is common
- Parent nights, Curriculum nights, School performances....

# SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR (GENERAL)

<b>October</b>	Curriculum Night/Meet the Teacher Night
<b>November</b>	Progress / Mid-Term Report; Parent/Teacher Interview Fall OSSLT
<b>December</b>	Winter Break
<b>January</b>	Culminating Activities / Examinations; Winter Math EQAO (Gr. 9)
<b>February</b>	Final Report Card (Semester 1)
<b>March</b>	Spring Break / March Break Spring OSSLT (Gr. 10)
<b>May</b>	Spring Math EQAO (Gr. 9)
<b>June</b>	Culminating Activities / Examinations; Final Report Card (Semester 2)

# SECONDARY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

<b>Regular Day Schedule</b>	<b>Day 1 (odd calendar days) e.g. February 5</b>	<b>Day 2 (even calendar days) e.g. February 6</b>
9:00 - 10:20 a.m.	Class A	Class A
10:25 - 11:40 a.m.	Class B	Class B
11:40 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
12:40 - 1:55 p.m.	Class C	Class D
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.	Class D	Class C



# DAILY ROUTINE



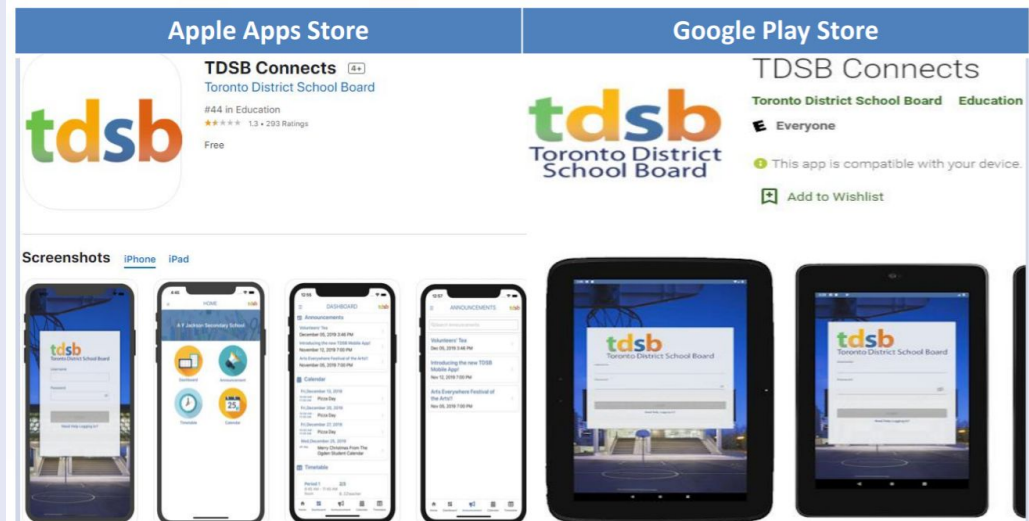
- “O Canada”, Land Acknowledgement & Announcements
- Bring healthy lunch - not all schools have food service
- After School Activities include Sports, Clubs, Homework Help...
- Money/Valuables – avoid bringing to school
- High School Classrooms Rotate by Subject
- Final Examinations and / or Culminating Assignments
- TDSB School Year Calendar - for holiday dates, PA days, etc.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/School-Year-Calendar>

# TDSB CONNECTS APP

Download the app at Google Play or Apple to access:

- My Day
- Announcements
- Timetable
- Calendar
- School Info
- School Resources



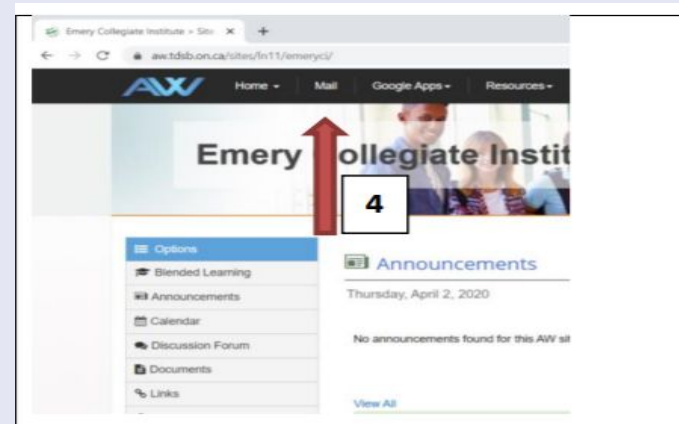
***Use your TDSB email!***

***Location setting: Canada***

# CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY

Access TDSB email and TDSB Google Drive through Academic Workspace at <https://aw.tdsb.on.ca>.

Enter your SCHOOL student number (9 digits) and password.



# BRIGHTSPACE

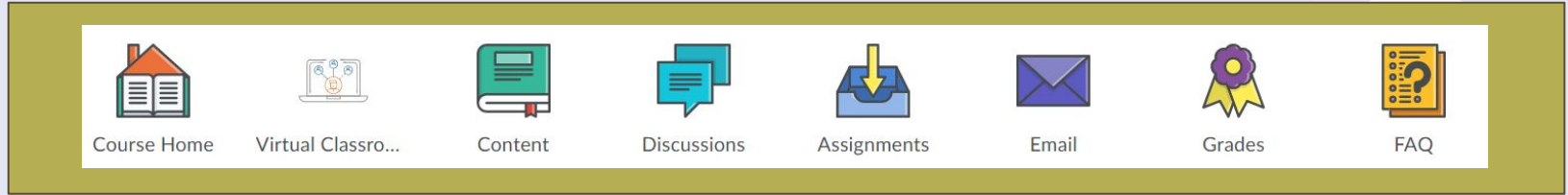
The screenshot shows the TDSB Brightspace homepage for user Patricia Davies. The header includes the TDSB logo and navigation links for G Suite Tools, Teacher Tools, Course Request Form, and Get Help Here. The main content area is titled "Welcome, Patricia! We're Glad You're Here!" and features several sections:

- Announcements:** A notice titled "Internet Explorer & Brightspace Access" posted on Jan 7, 2020, at 10:45 AM. It states that as of Jan. 1, 2020, users will no longer be able to access Brightspace using Internet Explorer. It lists supported browsers: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Edge. An image shows hands using a laptop and tablet.
- My Courses:** A section titled "Online Staffroom" with a thumbnail image and a "View All Courses" link.
- My Courses in Other Boards:** A list of courses including "eCommunities Available for Self-Registration (e-Community - Ontario - Communauté d'@pprentissage)", "Supporting Student Success K-12: Professional Learning Community (e-Community - Ontario - Communauté d'@pprentissage)", and "VLE 101 / EAV 101 (e-Community - Ontario - Communauté d'@pprentissage)".
- Calendar:** A partially visible section at the bottom.

A "WELCOME!" message with confetti is displayed at the bottom of the page.

After logging in, you will be at your TDSB “My Homepage” where you'll find links to all of your courses, system wide news and technical support information.

# BRIGHTSPACE NAVIGATION BAR



***Use your TDSB email in order to access this!***

***Each Course Homepage has a Navigation Bar or Nav Bar.***

The Navigation (Nav) Bar is customizable by your teacher. Ask your teacher for help!

You will likely find links to the Content, Discussions and Assignments.

# GOOGLE CLASSROOM

*Use your TDSB email in order to access this!*

The screenshot shows the Google Classroom interface for a class named "Equity and Social Justice 12 (HSE4M) 1A". At the top, there are navigation tabs for "Stream", "Classwork", "People", and "Marks", with "Stream" being the active tab. The main header area features the class name, the class code "gpkbnoe", and a "Meet link" to a Google Meet session. Below this, there are options to "Select theme" and "Upload photo". The background of the header area includes illustrations of a red book, pink-rimmed glasses, and a newspaper. At the bottom of the page, there is an "Upcoming" section indicating "No work due in soon" and an announcement box with the text "Announce something to your class" and a refresh icon.

# GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

## AY Jackson International Students

Daily drop-ins: Mon.-Fri. - 11am-12pm; link: <https://meet.google.com/yha-huph-asm>

Class code [qsfyqf4](#)


Meet link [Generate Meet link](#)


### Upcoming

No work due in soon

[View all](#)

### Saved announcements (2)


 Announce something to your class


 **May Chang**  
12:15 p.m.

**Student Senate Election (2020-21)**  
International students are encouraged to participate in the TDSB Student Election on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2021, students will elect their Student Senate for the 2020-21 school year.

Please vote and make your voice heard!

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/HIGH-School/TDSB-Student-Senate/Student-Senate-Voting>

 **Student Senate Voting**  
<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-...>

 Add class comment...





Stream **Classwork** People Marks

[+](#) Create [Meet](#) [Google Calendar](#) [Class Drive folder](#)




### All topics

- COVID 19 Updates
- 1. School Stuff
- 2. Course Selection
- 3. University/Colleg...
- 4. TDSB Tuition Ren...
- 5. Insurance Info
- 6. IELTS Info (Englis...
- 7. Volunteering Opp...
- 8. TDSB Night/Sum...
- 10. TDSB/Communi...

## COVID 19 Updates

-  COVID 19 FAQ Posted Mar. 31, 2020
-  TDSB International Check-in (Repost) Due Apr. 2, 2020
-  Video Tutorial: How to renew tuition online Posted May 19, 2020
-  Wellness Tips Posted May 19, 2020

## 1. School Stuff

-  TDSB International Student Website Posted Oct. 22, 2018
-  TDSB Password Reset Posted Oct. 22, 2018
-  TDSB International Student Programs Social... Posted Dec. 10, 2018

# STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Student expectations and responsibilities are clearly indicated in the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) Code of Conduct, which applies to all students within the TDSB.

Please review and understand the Code of Conduct in the student agenda which you will get when you register at your school, or review on your school's website.

It is also available on the TDSB - [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca)

It is expected that students will:

- Be at school and be on time
- Be prepared to learn
- Complete class work, homework, and assignments in a timely fashion
- Follow all school rules





# RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

- IRCC asks our office about your attendance when you renew study permit
- Let your parents know that it is common for your school to contact students' custodian and parents
- Get to know and use your school resources:
  - Library and extra-curricular activities
  - Guidance counsellors (including GCIS)
  - Settlement workers
- Planning for your education is critical, consult one of the guidance counsellors.
- If you want to change your custodian or homestay, please discuss with your parents, and let your school know.

# HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL

- Ask questions
- Make new friends
- Participate
- Volunteer
- Get extra help
- Speak to teachers, guidance counsellor, vice principal, principal



# SAFETY TIPS



- **Covid-19: Students are welcome to wear a medical mask at school (optional)**
  - [Toronto Public Health](#)
- Parents, Guardians, Visitors must go to the school's office to 'Sign In' or 'Sign Out'
- Severe Weather
  - Bus or school cancellation, check [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) or local TV, Radio, Internet
  - Students remain in school until picked up
- Communication Record
  - **Custodian and Emergency contact information (phone/email) must be correct!**
- **Change of Address must be given to:**
  - Your School
  - International Students and Admissions Office

# REPORT BULLYING

- TDSB has strict anti-bullying policies
- TDSB is committed to creating a safe environment for all students
- Bullying online or in person will result in suspensions or expulsion from school
- If you are being bullied, talk to your teacher, parent, guardian or someone you trust and report it to the school right away.
- **Remember: You are not alone!**

Thank You!



**WE HOPE THIS YEAR IS  
FULL OF WONDERFUL NEW  
EXPERIENCES!**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**

**Exit Survey:**



<https://forms.gle/9ah7fSBDRmkf9oaw9>

# Q&A

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

