

# MANNA WONG

Public School Trustee  
Ward 20, Scarborough-Agincourt



manna.wong@tdsb.on.ca

416-395-8787

5050 Yonge St.  
Toronto, ON M2N 5N8

## TRUSTEE REPORT, DECEMBER 2018

### A New Term Begins!

As the new term of the TDSB Board of Trustee begins, I want to once again thank the parents and community members for your support. I am looking forward to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in representing the 29 schools and communities in Ward 20, Scarborough-Agincourt. Please visit my [website](#) for the list of schools and the respective Superintendent of Education. At the Organizational Board Meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, I was appointed as Chair of the Governance and Policy Committee and will also sit on the Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee, Director's Performance Appraisal Committee as well as the Negotiations Steering Committee.



### 2019-2020 Education Funding

The Ministry of Education has just released details regarding the 2019-2020 [Education Funding Engagement Guide](#).

The four areas identified by the ministry for efficiencies are:

- Efficient Price Setting
- Outcomes-Based Funding
- Accountability and Value-for-Money, and
- Other Education Funding Efficiencies

The deadline for responses is Friday, December 14, 2018. TDSB will submit our response which will be discussed at the Board Meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

The questions in the Guide have been framed from a "cost saving efficiencies" perspective. For a strong public education system, however, we need sustainable funding which is need-based. Please send your input on the questions in the Guide to the Ministry of Education "by Friday, December 14, 2018 to: [EDULABFINANCE@ontario.ca](mailto:EDULABFINANCE@ontario.ca), arranged by topic."

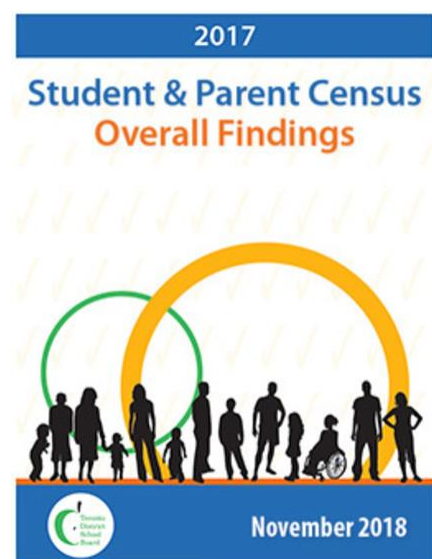
For reference, visit: <https://campaignforpubliceducation.ca/your-input-on-funding-by-friday/>



## **Don't Forget: Provincial Education Reform**

The deadline to submit comments is **December 15, 2018**. Please use this opportunity to share your voice. There is some concern that these questions already express a point of view, but please feel free to comment on your priorities. Submissions can also be sent to the ministry by emailing [fortheparents@ontario.ca](mailto:fortheparents@ontario.ca). Information about the consultation can be found at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/for-the-parents>.

To help with additional context, you can read the Ontario Public School Board Association's [\(OPSBA\) priorities](#), and TDSB priorities through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan Implementation Plans](#).



### **2017 Student and Parent Census Data**

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/research/Research/Parent-and-Student-Census>

Details about who TDSB students are, their school experiences, relationships at school, physical health and emotional well-being are all part of the [2017 Student and Parent Census](#). More than 220,000 students and parents completed the census to provide a comprehensive picture of who our students are. This rich data allows the TDSB to respond directly to student and parent voices to develop strategies and adjust supports to better help students' achievement and well-being.

In line with the 2012 Census, parent data was positive overall showing a majority of parents of students in JK to Grade 6 felt welcome in their child's school, respected, that rules were applied fairly, that their child receives the support they need and that they're satisfied with their child's education.

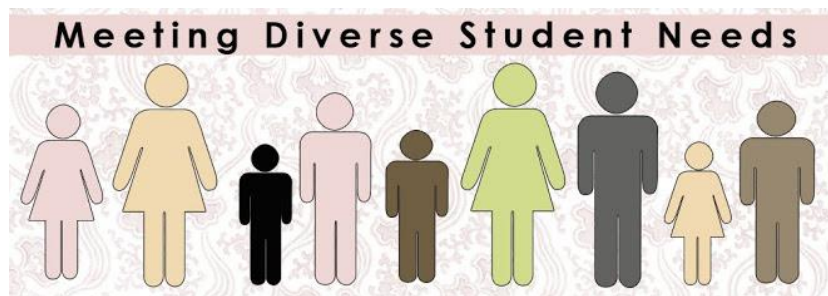
Most students reported feeling accepted, safe in school and that teachers have high expectations of success. Students from Grades 4 to 12 generally felt their schools were friendly and welcoming, that rules were applied fairly and that both their peers and teachers respected their backgrounds. Compared to the 2012 Census, students' general perceptions of teachers were about the same, but fewer Grade 7-12 students felt encouraged or supported. Well-being results demonstrated an incremental decline from the elementary grades to high school as students reported feeling less physically active, having less sleep on school nights and an increase in screen time; a trend that is consistent with national and international data.

Work to review and address this data is already underway. Each of the TDSB's 582 schools uses their school-specific data to help inform decisions that directly impact and benefit their own unique community. At the system level, this data demonstrates trends that the TDSB can address through targeted support such as professional learning for staff, enhancing communication with students through the development of a Student Concern Protocol, for example, and establishing partnerships to enhance well-being programs and initiatives.

## School Statement of Needs

As discussed at the November Priority and Planning Committee meeting, it was decided that the Director will present a report on appropriate methods to enhance the existing process for the development of the School Statement of Needs, with an emphasis on:

- reflecting the diversity of all voices in the school community to support equity of learning opportunity, achievement and well-being of every student;
- strategies to make this important work a priority for all school communities;
- development of an annual communications plan for system-wide implementation by the 2019-20 schoolyear so that there is greater understanding of the School Statement of Needs process.



## TDSB Policy Consultations

**We Want to Hear From You** - We would like to know your thoughts about our policy decisions by inviting you to our [policy consultations](#). Please click on the policy of your interest to see the current draft. You are welcome to provide your comments, including suggestions on the wording and provisions of the draft policies, questions or recommendations using the contact information below.

**Student Dress Code Policy (P042)** - To establish standards and fair and equitable practices for student dress in schools; centered on student engagement and student voice. To recognize that students need the freedom to express themselves and experience school as an important social environment, not a professional work environment, and that dress plays a fundamental role in how students build healthy relationships and express themselves. Click for [Draft Policy](#) (save as word document) [Student Dress Code Policy Survey](#) - **Closes February 28, 2019**

**Restrictions on Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Use Policy (P0XX)** - To promote a working and learning environment that is free from the harmful effects of drugs, alcohol and substance use, including tobacco, cannabis, and its related products. Click here for [Draft Policy](#) (save as work document) - **Closes January 31, 2019.**



### PRESTO Cards for Students and Children

The TTC has been working closely with the TDSB to provide complimentary PRESTO cards to all students. While children up to 12 years of age will continue to ride the TTC for free, they will be required to tap a PRESTO card every time they enter a subway station, board a bus or streetcar. To set a child or student fare on the PRESTO card, visit a Shoppers Drug Mart location along with a government issued ID. You will receive more information and the cards through your school in the next few weeks. Visit [here](#) to learn more about PRESTO on the TTC.

### HOLD THESE DATES

The application process for the **Junior Extended French program** (Gr 4 entry) will open **January 7, 2019** and close **February 4, 2019**. Please visit [www.tdsb.on.ca/french](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/french)

**Eco Fair 2019 – Saturday, April 6, 2019, 11 am – 2 pm.** A fun day of hands-on activities and exhibits of student work in environmental protection and community initiatives on green practices.

#### **Upcoming Ward Meetings:**

Monday, January 21, 2019

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Monday, April 15, 2019

Monday, May 27, 2019

*As always, I look forward to your comments, questions and suggestions for topics to explore at ward meetings and in future updates.  
Please e-mail me at [manna.wong@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:manna.wong@tdsb.on.ca)*



*Wishing You and Your Family a Happy Holiday Season  
and a Joyful New Year!*