

Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

October 15, 2021

Vice-Principal: Michelle Dor A-L

Vice-Principal: Leonie Patrick M-Z

Thanksgiving Food Drive Success!!



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Message from the Principal

Dear Thornlea Families,

The month of October is progressing well for our Thornlea students. I would like to congratulate all our students and staff that participated in the Richmond Hill Thanksgiving Food Drive. A big shout out to Mr. McCutcheon's Grade 12 Functions class that are the winners of the pizza lunch for collecting the most food. I would also like to congratulate Madison Scott for winning the consolation final in the regional Varsity Golf tournament. It has been nice to see Thornlea start to return to normal with large numbers of students getting involved in sports and clubs. Our drama students are preparing for the student One Act Play festival and this will be the first time in almost two years they will have the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience. For now the show will be open to Thornlea students but we are hopeful that by December we may be allowed to invite families to our show. There still has been no direction on what winter sports we will be allowed to run. This decision is made by Public Health and when we have the information we will make all our students and families aware.

This Monday our School Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. virtually. An invite will be sent to all our families Monday morning we hope that you can join us. Our Head of Guidance will show parents what their child needs to know to apply to University and College. Students will be receiving the same presentation in their grade 12 classes next week. In addition student pin numbers will be distributed to grade 12 students around October 20th. This number allows them to create an OUAC account and apply to Ontario Universities. More information on this process is contained in the grade 12 Google classroom.

Our common lunch is still working well thanks to the lovely mild weather we have been experiencing. This unfortunately will not last much longer and many of our students will start having lunch inside. When that happens we will use our hallways and empty classrooms to accommodate the overflow. I would like to thank our Thornlea students for keeping our grounds and school clean during lunch.

Warmest Regards,

Joe Foti

Parents' Corner:

Our meetings will be virtual meetings until further notice. A link will be sent the week before the meeting.

Please mark your calendar:

- September 14, 2021
 - Principal's update
 - Parents' Council Election

- October 18, 2021
 - "Universities and Colleges" All you need to know

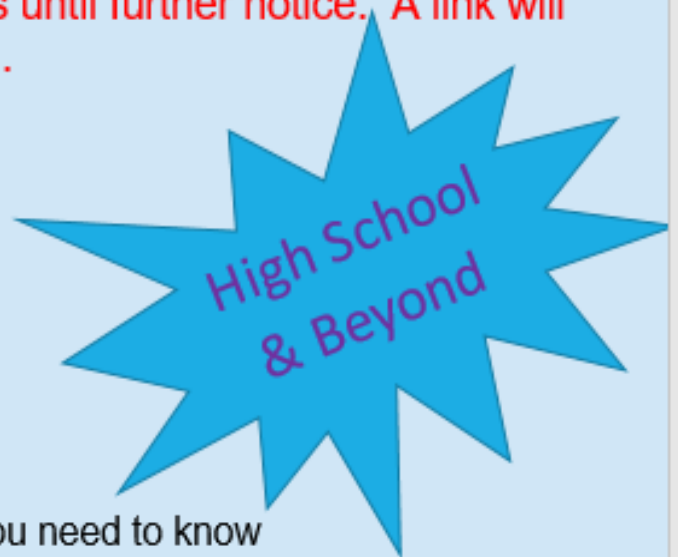
- November 15, 2021
 - "Ways to Pay". All you need to know about scholarships and bursaries.

- January 17, 2021
 - TBD

- February 21, 2021|
 - TBD

- April 18, 2021
 - TBD

- May 16, 2021
 - TBD



Dear Parents/Guardians:

If your contact information has changed,
please don't forget to let us know



Email any changes to:

thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca

Thank you!

Student Attendance:

If your child is absent, please inform us by:



Calling 905-889-9696

Press 1 for attendance

OR

Emailing thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca

COVID Student Screening Tool

Student Screening Tool

If you answered **YES** to any of the questions on the Self-Assessment Checklist **STAY HOME.**



SCAN ME

Before coming in to school, ensure you complete the form. **SCAN THE QR CODE** using your **Camera** on your phone or **QR Scanner**. A confirmation email will be your ticket in the door.

<http://bit.ly/ThornleaSSCheck>



NEWS FROM ARTS DEPARTMENT

		 <p><i>Please support our Thornlea Art Council efforts to raise money to make our school an even more inclusive place.</i></p>	 <p><i>We will draw/ paint your picture in any medium of your choice (pencil, charcoal, acrylic/ oil paints).</i></p>
			

JOIN OUR ARTS COUNCIL!



Dear Students,

We are inviting you to join our Thornlea's Art Council.

We will meet on *Wednesdays at lunch in Room 217.*

We will be working together to make a positive impact on the Arts in our community,

which helps to enrich all lives.

Learn, Earn and Give back to Your Community!

Elizabeth Lee Gr. 12 (Art Council President)

5 Reasons Why You Should Join Arts Council!

1. Help with planning and organizing Thornlea's Fundraising Events: Arts and

Music Nights, Fashion Shows, Digital Media/ Animation Workshops, Arts Field

Trips and Exhibitions;

2. Paint with us Community Murals to beautify our school;

3. Learn Entrepreneurial skills, get a head start on your Career in Arts, Design

and Creative Business;

3. Qualify for exclusive scholarships and Advanced Placement Portfolios;

4. Help to address Socio-Economic challenges in our Community and earn your

Community Hours;

5. Make new friends and create beautiful Art to make your life more meaningful!

Funds raised will be used for raised will be used to support our community's most

vulnerable including children, those living with a mental illness, and victims of violence.

If you want to sign up, please email Mme Bern:

ilana.bern@yrdsb.ca.

Look at what's cooking in Family Studies!

The Family Studies Department Food classes have been very busy so far this semester! With 4 food courses running (Food and Nutrition, Food and Culture and Grade 9 Family Living) and 4 social science classes (Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology and Social Justice) there are some amazing things happening!

The grade 12s just finished their first unit cooking lab making a one pot meal! They will now be able to eat when they live alone!



Homemade Raman



Fried Rice with Egg

Stay tuned for more delicious creations!

Congratulations are in order for Madison Scott in grade 12. Madison represented Thornlea at the regional Varsity Girls Golf Tournaments these past 2 weeks and managed to shave 15 strokes off her qualifying score to finish the consolation final in first place. This was Madison's first experience in tournament play, and she is the first Thornlea golfer in living memory, male or female, to score under 100 at the regionals. And she's the first to bring home a medal, and First Place at that! Way to go, Madison!



Annual Thornlea Food Drive

This month, our school ran a food drive for the Richmond Hill Community Food Bank. In total, we were able to collect over 1000 non-perishable foods and items! The food and items that we have been able to collect will be distributed among individuals and families that are in need. Congratulations to Mr McCuthchen's class who raised the most amount of donations. Thank you to everyone who was able to donate, way to go Thornlea!



(Photo and article by library co-op photographer Aidan A.)

What's Up In The Library?

Welcome back! We're so excited to be back up and running again. We are open every day to students at lunch for studying, book signouts, and of course class visits. We are also continuing our renovations to make the library a warm and welcoming place. We are exposing our natural-light skylights and have three new wonderful plants.

We have been really busy hosting class visits and our first Truth and Reconciliation Day live Youtube Presentation.

Mr. Ackerman's Photography class used the library to do a very exciting themed book photo shoot which will also be used to decorate our space.

Finally, we are proud to announce our annual Giller Prize Guess the Winner contest where students enter to win prizes.

Please follow us on all our social media, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube @thornleareads!

(article & photos by co-op photographer Aidan A.)



Salutations from the Guidance Department!

This year's Guidance team consists of:

N. Alkins (Head of Guidance)	Student Surname:	
L. Rai	A - KAN	nizam.alkins@yrdsb.ca
T. Gord	KANI - PIN	loleen.rai@yrdsb.ca
V. Estafanos	PIR-TAN	tamara.gord@yrdsb.ca
G. Burdett (Guidance Secretary)	TAY-Z	viviane.estafanos@yrdsb.ca
		gail.burdett@yrdsb.ca

Students are encouraged to connect with us in-person or on-line please complete the bit.ly/Thornlea form. Once you have submitted the form, your alpha guidance counselor will connect with you via their school Gapps email to set-up an appointment.

Please access information through our Thornlea Guidance Webpage:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>

Our Ontario University Slide deck presentation is also ready to view along with our Ontario College Slide deck. Please see links below:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/University.aspx>

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/thornlea.ss/guidance/Pages/College.aspx>

I look forward to presenting at Parent Council next week, please join us, more information to follow from our Admin. Team.

Grade 12's will have a virtual presentation on how to apply to University and College on Wednesday Oct. 20th, during period 4. A googlemeet link will be sent out to the students.

Grade 12's will receive their special OUAC access code/pin on Friday October 22nd to their school email gapps account, along with their OEN for Ontario College applications.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education

A guide for Ontario high school students applying to Ontario's Universities



Step 1: Research



Find a Program

Find out what you need to apply, like prerequisites, grade requirements and more.



Choose a University

Get to know Ontario's universities and where they are located. Find information about campus visits, residence costs and more.



Plan Your Finances

Research what scholarships you can apply for and **how much university will cost**.

Step 2: Gather the Information You Need to Apply



Application Guide

Read the complete guide for applying to an Ontario university.



How-to Videos

Watch tutorials to guide you through the application process.



Attend the OUFs

Learn about the universities of your choice and ask questions at these virtual events: Sept. 25 and Oct. 26.



Get Your PIN

Your high school will provide you with a PIN that links your grades to your OUAC Account. (Oct./Nov.)

Step 3: Apply at www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101



Other Resources

- [Not a current Ontario high school student?](#) Make sure you fill out the correct OUAC application.
- [Ontario Universities' Indigenous Student Resources](#)
- [Ontario Student Assistance Program \(OSAP\)](#)
- [Collaborative University and College Programs](#)
- [Contact the OUAC | Links to Ontario universities](#)

101 Application Deadline:

**JAN
13
2022**

[Other Important Dates](#)

Étape 1 : Faites vos recherches

Info-UO



ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/fr



Trouver un programme

Trouvez ce qu'il vous faut pour présenter une demande – prérequis, exigences relatives aux notes et plus encore.



Choisir une université

Apprenez à connaître les universités de l'Ontario et leur emplacement. Trouvez des renseignements sur les visites de campus, les coûts de résidence et plus encore.



Planifiez vos finances

Faites des recherches sur les bourses d'études disponibles et les coûts de vos études universitaires.

Étape 2 : Recueillez les renseignements nécessaires pour votre demande



Guide de la demande

Lire tout ce qu'il vous faut savoir pour faire demande à une université de l'Ontario.



Tutoriels vidéo

Visualiser les tutoriels vidéo, lesquels vous aideront à naviguer le processus de demande d'admission.



Assister aux FUO

Renseignez-vous sur les universités de votre choix et posez des questions lors de ces événements virtuels : 25 septembre et 26 octobre.



Obtenir votre NIP

Votre école secondaire vous fournira avec un NIP qui associe vos notes à votre compte OUAC. (Oct./Nov.)

Étape 3 : Faites demande à l'adresse www.ouac.on.ca/fr



Autres ressources

- Vous n'êtes pas actuellement un(e) élève du secondaire en Ontario? Assurez-vous de remplir le bon formulaire de demande de l'OUAC.
- Ontario Universities' Indigenous Student Resources (en anglais seulement)
- RAFEO : Régime d'aide financière aux étudiantes et étudiants de l'Ontario
- Programmes conjoints des universités et des collèges
- Communiquer avec l'OUAC | Liens vers les universités de l'Ontario

Demande 101 – Date limite :

13
JAN
2022

Autres dates importantes



Ontario high school students applying to
Ontario universities

Important Dates 2022

Questions about these dates or the application process? Speak with your guidance counsellor.

JAN
13
2022

Deadline to complete your Ontario university application

The earlier you apply, the better. You can still modify your application after you submit it.

MAY
27
2022

Last day you can expect a response from an Ontario university if you applied by the January 13 deadline.

A response includes an offer of admission, a refusal or a deferral.

JUN
1
2022

The earliest day you may be required to respond to an offer and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration or residence deposit).

All other admission-related elements, including scholarships, other forms of student assistance or financial incentives, and offers of residence, are considered part of the offer of admission.

www.ouac.on.ca/ouac-101

Ontario's Universities

*Applications to the Royal Military College of Canada are made through a Canadian Forces Recruitment Centre. Applications for all other universities listed are made through the OUAC.


Algoma University
Brock University
Carleton University
University of Guelph
Lakehead University

Laurentian University
McMaster University
Nipissing University
OCAD University
Université de l'Ontario français

Ontario Tech University
University of Ottawa
Queen's University
Royal Military College of Canada*

Ryerson University
University of Toronto
Trent University
University of Waterloo
Western University

Wilfrid Laurier University
University of Windsor
York University



Élèves du secondaire de l'Ontario
faisant demande aux
universités de l'Ontario
Dates à retenir 2022

Avez-vous des questions au sujet des dates mentionnées ci-dessous, ou du processus de la demande?
Veuillez consulter votre bureau d'orientation.

13
JAN
2022

Date limite pour remplir votre demande universitaire de l'Ontario

Nous vous encourageons de soumettre votre demande à l'avance. Les demandes peuvent être modifiées après leur soumission.

27
MAI
2022

Dernière date à laquelle vous pouvez vous attendre de recevoir une réponse d'une université de l'Ontario si vous avez soumis votre demande par la date limite du 13 janvier.

Il pourra s'agir soit d'une offre d'admission, d'un refus ou d'une décision reportée.

1
JUIN
2022

La première date à laquelle vous pourrez être exigé à répondre à une offre d'admission et donner un engagement financier (p. ex., acompte pour droits d'inscription, portion des frais de résidence).

Tout autre élément relatif à l'admission, y compris les bourses, les autres formes d'aide et de récompense financières et les offres de place en résidence font partie de l'offre d'admission.

www.ouac.on.ca/fr/ouac-101

Les universités de l'Ontario

*Les demandes d'admission au Collège militaire royal du Canada sont soumises aux Centres de recrutement des Forces canadiennes. Les demandes d'admission aux autres universités figurant sur la liste sont soumises à l'OUAC.

Algoma University
Brock University
Carleton University
University of Guelph
Lakehead University

Université
Laurentienne
McMaster University
Nipissing University
OCAD University

Université de l'Ontario
français
Ontario Tech
University
Université d'Ottawa
Queen's University

Collège militaire royal
du Canada*
Ryerson University
University of Toronto
Trent University
University of Waterloo

Western University
Wilfrid Laurier
University
University of Windsor
York University

Start your research with OUIInfo

Formerly *e*INFO



A guide to Ontario's universities for high school students.



Find a Program

Find the information you need to apply, like prerequisites and grade requirements.



Choose a University

Find out about campus visits, residence costs, scholarships and more!



How to Apply

Find helpful videos, a research checklist and tips and tricks on how to apply.

ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca

Démarrer vos recherches avec Info-UO

Anciennement *e*INFO



Le guide complet des universités de l'Ontario pour les élèves du secondaire.



Trouver un programme

Trouvez des renseignements nécessaires pour faire une demande comme les préalables et les notes exigées.



Choisir une université

Trouvez des renseignements sur les visites de campus, les coûts de résidence, les bourses d'études et plus encore!



Comment faire demande

Trouvez des vidéos utiles, une liste de vérification pour vos recherches et des trucs et des conseils ayant trait à la demande.

ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca/fr



VIRTUAL
EVENT



LIVE

YOUR UNIVERSITY QUESTIONS
ANSWERED

JOIN

OCT 26
5-8 PM

ontariouniversitiesfair.ca



Reflecting on Racism & Discrimination

A Monthly Lecture Series

Human Rights in the Workplace

Join Dr. Lorne Foster for a discussion about how to identify anti-Black racism in the workplace, and what to do about it. Learn about various strategies such as centering Black voices, closing gaps, and improving outcomes.

Wednesday, Oct 6 | 7 pm





Community Policing

A presentation by Superintendent Ricky Veerappan of the York Regional Police on community policing and York Regional Police's internal and external programs, and initiatives combatting racism, discrimination & hate crime, addressing community outreach & relationship building, while policing with a global mindset through the challenges and opportunities in serving one of Canada's most diverse communities.

Tuesday, Oct 26 | 7 pm



  Live on Zoom





Accelerated OYAP and Apprenticeship Information Night



Join us on a night to learn about Apprenticeship Pathways and our Accelerated OYAP Program! You should attend this information night if:

- you are a Grade 12 student who is planning on entering the skilled trades
- you are a Grade 10 or 11 student who would like more information on this program to better prepare for this pathway, or
- you are the parent/guardian of a Grade 9-12 student who is considering a career in the skilled trades

Learn about how to start an Apprenticeship in one of these skilled trades while still in high school!

Automotive Service Technician	Baker	Cook
Electrician	Plumber	Carpenter
Child Development Practitioner	Drywall Finisher & Plasterer	Motorcycle Technician
Floor Covering Installer	Hairstylist <i>(pending approval)</i>	
Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Air Systems Mechanic	Truck and Coach Technician	

Join us on Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 7:00 PM!

REGISTER AT: www.bit.ly/OYAP_OPENHOUSE

- 7:00 PM: Overview of OYAP Program with YRDSB and MLTSD
- 7:30 PM: Breakout Information Sessions for Skilled Trade Programs
- 8:30 PM: Closing Q&A with YRDSB

PROGRAM PARTNERS

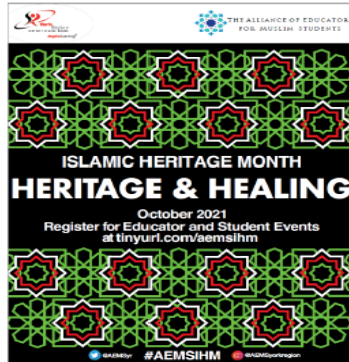


www.yrdsb.ca/oyap



THE ALLIANCE OF EDUCATORS
FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS

Islamic Heritage Month 2021: Heritage and Healing

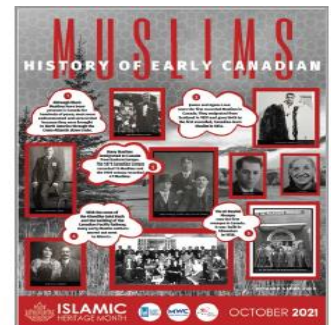


This year, the Alliance of Educators for Muslim Students (AEMS) Islamic Heritage Month is dedicated to creating space for students to come together in community. We recognize the healing that exists in our heritages that value community, togetherness, solidarity, beauty, and creativity. This year's October events will provide students, families, and staff with opportunities to engage in activities and learning opportunities that celebrate this heritage, and will serve as an entry-point for inclusion and affirmation of Muslim identities throughout the year.

Download the [Islamic Heritage Month: Heritage and Healing](#) poster
Access the [workshop registration links](#)

Muslim History in Canada

The history of Muslim peoples and communities on Turtle Island pre-dates Confederation and the formation of the Canadian nation-state. The recognition of this history challenges mythologies that would present Muslims as perpetual foreigners. Schools and educators are encouraged to download this poster for display in school and classroom spaces, thus affirming and making visible this history.



Download the [History of Early Canadian Muslims poster](#)
Download the accompanying [History of Early Canadian Muslims Teacher Guide](#)



Beyond Islamic Heritage Month

Access [online resources for educators](#) to use during Islamic Heritage Month and throughout the school year.



Newsletter

www.LDatSchool.ca



DON'T DIS MY ABILITIES

OCTOBER IS LEARNING DISABILITIES
(LD) AWARENESS MONTH

Help stop the stigma and realize
the ABILITIES!

#LDmonth

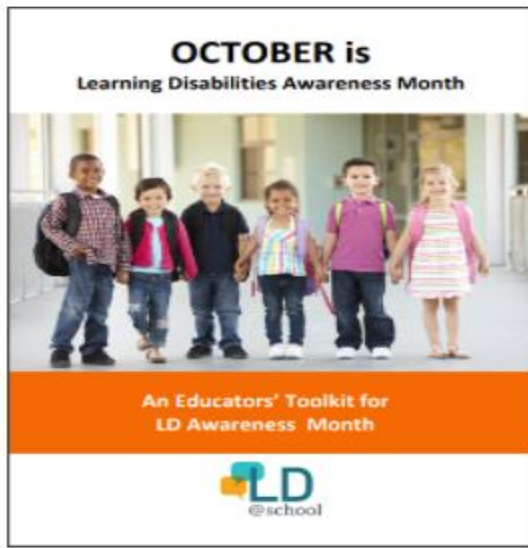


Throughout October, Learning Disabilities Awareness month, the Learning Disabilities Associations of Ontario and LD@school will be raising awareness to reduce stigma to allow people to get the supports they need to reach their potential.

The Stats:

- 1 In 10 people in Ontario are impacted.
- 35% of students with LDs drop out of school
- 62% of students with LDs will be unemployed a year after graduation
- 36% of youth in correctional facilities have specific learning disabilities.
- Almost 50% of adolescent suicides have a diagnosis of an LD.
(Source LDAC survey)

Together, we can reduce the stigma of learning disabilities and change outcomes for people with LDs across the province.



The LD@school team has developed a toolkit for educators to use during Learning Disabilities Awareness Month (#LDmonth) to help spread awareness in your school and classroom. You may choose to use one or all of the resources, share with your colleagues, students, parents or your community.

Help spread awareness in your classroom and celebrate your students' ABILITIES!

[Download the Educator's Toolkit](#)

Do you know someone who wants to learn more about LDs?

Share these resources:



Are you looking for an article or webinar on a specific topic? Do you have questions for our experts?

You can request a resource from LD@school at any time by emailing info@ldatschool.ca



York Region District School Board's Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) presents

Islamophobia Disrupted: Affirmation through Storytelling

Celebrate IHM with us!



The York Region District School Board is hosting a **series of professional development**

learning opportunities for staff who are committed to creating learning environments in which Islamophobia is intentionally disrupted and eliminated. Specialized workshops will be offered during Islamic Heritage Month, Ramadan and the National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack.

Developed in partnership with **National Council of Canadian Muslims** and the **Alliance of Educators for Muslim Student**, these interactive workshops are based on an anti-oppression framework, and are differentiated to support staff in directly impacting practices.

This workshop will use storytelling, including prose, creative writing, and mixed media, to critically deconstruct existing narratives/myths about Muslims. We will examine how to engage and tell stories from an anti-racist/anti-Islamophobia lens. Strategies for effective allyship and engagement will be explored.

Join us on Oct 12 or Oct 19 from 4:00-6:00 pm

Register on [Connect To Learn](#)

For more information, please contact icsc@yrdsb.ca



NATIONAL
COUNCIL
OF CANADIAN
MUSLIMS

CONSEIL
NATIONAL
DES MUSULMANS
CANADIENS



THE ALLIANCE OF EDUCATORS
FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS

The Weight of Freedom

In Conversation with Holocaust Survivor Nate Leipciger

Nov. 3, 2021 | 7:00pm - 8:15pm

Please register using the [online registration form](#).
Registration is open to YRDSB staff, educators and parents/guardians.

Brought to you by The Azrieli Foundation - Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program

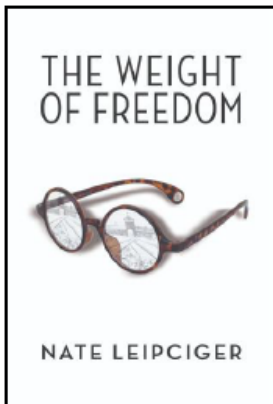
In honour of Holocaust Education Week, please join us when author and Holocaust survivor Nate Leipciger will speak about his personal experiences during the Holocaust in an online presentation, which will take place over Zoom on November 3rd, 2021, 7:00PM - 8:15PM.

Registered YRDSB staff and educators will receive a copy of Nate Leipciger's memoir, *The Weight of Freedom*, and the Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program's 2021 Educator Catalogue of all the books and resources offered to educators at no charge.



Biography:

Nate Leipciger was born in Chorzow, Poland, in 1928. He immigrated to Toronto in 1948, where he eventually obtained a university degree in engineering. Nate was a member of the International Council of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum for fifteen years and has been an educator on the March of the Living for nineteen years. Nate lives in Toronto with his wife Bernice, their children, many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Nate is the author of the memoir, *The Weight of Freedom*.



Book Synopsis:

Nate Leipciger, a thoughtful, shy eleven-year-old boy, is plunged into an incomprehensible web of ghettos, concentration and death camps during the German occupation of Poland. Demonstrating incredible strength of character as he struggles to survive, he forges a new, unbreakable bond with his father and yearns for a free future. With memories that remain etched in tragedy and pain even as he looks optimistically to the future, Nate builds a new life in Canada. Introspective and raw, yet ever hopeful, *The Weight of Freedom* is Nate's vivid journey through a past that can never be left behind.



York Region District School Board's Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS) presents

Reflections on Antisemitism: Past, Present & Future



“Antisemitism has no place in Canada—or anywhere else. It is unacceptable that Jewish communities and people still face violence, hate, and discrimination in our country. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to continue to take concrete action to combat antisemitism in all its forms. Only together can we build a Canada where we celebrate diversity, compassion, and inclusion as our strengths.”

—The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

The York Region District School Board is hosting a series of professional development

We live in a time where Jews are facing a sharp rise in antisemitism. This intensifying hate is a profound risk to the Jewish community and to all oppressed and marginalized communities.

Jewish Canadians are the most **targeted religious group for hate crimes** in the country (Statistics Canada). In York Region, the Jewish community was the **victim of 79% of reported hate crimes** motivated by religion, and more than **18% of hate crimes overall**.

Building on the pillars of the Director's Action Plan, this session is an opportunity for all YRDSB staff to explore antisemitism from its roots to its present incarnation, and to discover ways to become allies in countering the world's oldest form of discrimination.

Goals and Objectives

- Introduce and build an understanding of the historical roots of antisemitism
- Investigate how antisemitism has adapted over the years and how it continues to manifest itself today
- Understand how antisemitism fits into the greater context of other forms of hatred and intolerance
- Build tools that help identify and address antisemitism in educational settings

Strategies to Fight Antisemitism

1. Name it.
2. Educate yourself.
3. Be an ally.
4. Stand Up. Speak Out.
5. Reach out.

Check out and register on [Connect2Learn](#) for session dates and times [Connect To Learn](#)
For more information, please contact iscs@yrdsb.ca



Community Connections

The YRDSB and SEAC have established many community partnerships to provide seamless supports for all students with exceptionalities and their families. Click on the text to access the websites of these partnerships.

ABC Ontario



[ABC Ontario](#)



AutismONTARIO
see the potential

[Autism Ontario](#)



Children's
Treatment Network

[Children's Treatment Network](#)



Georgina

(905) 722-8947

[Community Living - Georgina](#)



Central York

[Community Living - Central York](#)



York South

Inspiring Possibilities

[Community Living - York South](#)



[Down Syndrome Association of York Region](#)



[Easter Seals Ontario](#)



Idayr • Learning Disabilities
Association of York Region

The right to learn, the power to achieve

[Learning Disabilities Association of York Region](#)



VIEWSON.ca

VIEWSON for the Visually Impaired

[VIEWSON for the Visually Impaired](#)

VOICE

FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN

[Voice for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children](#)



[Early Intervention Services of York Region](#)



[York Support Services Network](#)



For more information please visit the [York Region Special Education Advisory Committee \(SEAC\) webpage](#).



Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS)

invites you to our

2021-2022 Launch:

Affirming Black Identities

When

Monday, October 25, 2021 (online)

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm (EST)

[Registration](#)

More than a racialized identity referring to people of African descent, to be Black is to evoke an embodied experience with shared histories and cultures. Blackness is the epitome of agency and resistance. It is the awakening of the critical consciousness required to counter anti-Blackness through positive affirmations, Black cultural pride and liberatory spaces. Black identities are not homogeneous. Rather, the diverse ways of knowing and of being Black span the vastness of the African continent and her diaspora. Thus, to affirm Black identities is to value the humanity, diversity and lived realities of Black people. Please join AEBS in *Affirming Black Identities* throughout the York Region District School Board and beyond.

For additional information please contact aebzca@gmail.com

 [@AEBSyrdsb](https://twitter.com/AEBSyrdsb)

Free Virtual Group Mentoring Programs Information to be shared with Parents/Guardians



Free Virtual Group Mentoring Programs Information to be shared with Parents/Guardians

Brothers Big Sisters of York (BBBSY) is offering free virtual group mentoring programs designed to empower youth while keeping them connected to their peers. Please see information about each program below with links to register your child. If requested, participants may be placed in groups with classmates or friends. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Congiusti at Sara.Congiusti@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Virtual Go Girls! is designed to connect and empower female-identified youth between 6-15 years old. Facilitated by trained Mentors, participants are provided with the opportunity to engage in fun and interactive discussions and activities. The program promotes physical activity, balanced eating, self-confidence, and stress management. It is delivered once a week for 6-8 consecutive weeks, depending on the age group, using a secure online platform. Each group will be coordinate so similar aged participants are paired together.

- To enroll your child in Virtual Go Girls! Please complete our <https://york.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/online-go-girls/>

Virtual Game On! Supports male-identified youth between the ages of 10-15. Facilitated by trained Mentors, participants are provided with the opportunity to engage in fun and interactive discussions and activities. The program promotes physical activity, positive nutrition, stress management, and building relationship skills. The program runs once a week for 8 consecutive weeks and will be delivered using a secure online platform.

- To enroll your child in Virtual Game On! Please complete our online registration

Morning Announcements

Please visit the site below for a recap of our daily announcements.

Thornlea Daily

Announcements:

<https://sites.google.com/site/thornleabulletins/>



Leading Public Education

SOQP@OPSOA

Register now for
OPSOA's SOQP Modules 1 and 4!

Post-Pandemic Promotion
Save \$200 per module

Fall 2021 – Module 1: Personal Leadership Perspective

October 14 (3 hours), October 22-23, October 30 (these sessions will be virtual)

Registration deadline: September 15, 2021

Fall 2021 – Module 4: System Leadership Perspective

October 14 (3 hours), October 22-23, October 30 (these sessions will be virtual)

Registration deadline: September 29, 2021

OPSOA's SOQP...

- ★ Brings renowned provincial leaders and presenters to candidate discussions
- ★ Provides time in small mentor groups for candidate reflection, sharing and networking
- ★ Engages experienced and provincially recognized supervisory officers as mentors
- ★ Allows for highly interactive, engaging and thought-provoking learning discussions

OPSOA'S SOQP Mentors - Fall 2021



Jacqueline Spence
*Superintendent, Equity, Anti-
Oppression and Early Years*
Toronto DSB

Shawn Lehman
Superintendent of Instruction
Ottawa-Carleton DSB



Jeff Pratt
Associate Director & Treasurer
(Financial Services, Human
Resources, Capital Planning)
Thames Valley DSB

Camille Logan
Associate Director of School
Improvement and Equity
Peel DSB



Visit [OPSOA SOQP webpage](#) for more information and to register!

If you have questions, please contact us at soqp@opsoa.org.

We welcome candidates who have taken modules with other providers.

360°kids

80F Centurian Drive, Suite 200
Markham, ON L3R 8C1

T: 905.475.6694

F: 905.475.5733

E: info@360kids.ca

Charitable registration #89703 6620 RR0001

To learn more or to make a donation please
visit 360kids.ca



Housing

At 360°kids we believe that each individual is valuable and unique and deserves a nurturing environment to call home. Targeted towards youth 16-26 years old.

Nightstop

Is a temporary housing program providing a safety net to youth forced to leave their home. Nightstop places young people in a safe and warm home for the night or up to 3 weeks, provided by a vetted and approved volunteer host family.

Contact the Nightstop team at **905-475-6694 prompt 6.**

Connections

Connections is the first emergency housing facility in the southern part of York Region for homeless youth. The facility offers 14 single-occupancy rooms for youth, 7 days a week and provides basic needs, wraparound services; and assistance finding appropriate, affordable, and stable housing.

Residential Youth Homes

Our youth residence is a voluntary program that offers a combination of housing and support for youth who are facing a housing crisis. We have two residential homes with 13 beds located in East Markham. Youth are accepted from anywhere in York Region.

For all inquiries about our youth housing programs please contact:

360°kids Housing Worker | 647.205.3070
10415 Yonge St., Suite C, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 0Z3

S.T.A.Y. (Supportive Transitional Apartments for Youth)

This is a voluntary transition to independent living program for youth where clients pay rent and are able to stay for up to one year. 360°kids provides opportunities for youth to participate in recreation, health and fitness, cooking, skills upgrading, and employment programs. A Youth Mentor is available to support with goal setting and accomplishment, problem solving and achieving success.

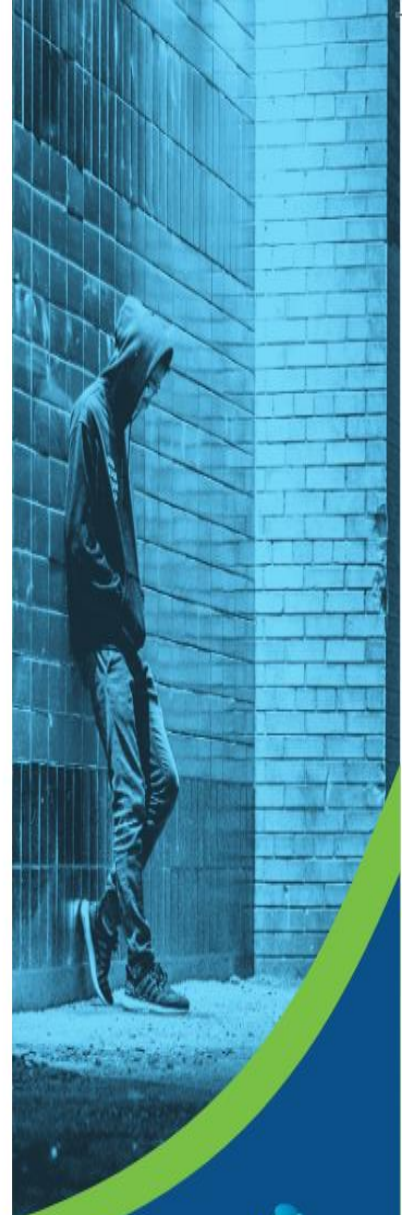
HOPE Program

Human trafficking is not just a problem that is present in many remote areas of the world. There has been a heightened awareness of the issues around human trafficking and sexual exploitation in our community. In 2014, 360°kids launched the HOPE program to provide supportive housing to female victims of human trafficking.

Transitions

Transitions is our extended transitional housing program for youth. The program works on a graduated market rent concept with case management support. Youth are able to live at Transitions for a period of up to 3 years or when their goals for independent living are accomplished and they have determined that they are ready to move on.

For more information contact **647.467.0356**



@360kids_york
360kids.ca

If you or someone you know needs
help, we're here.



360°
kids
Surrounding kids
in crisis with care

In support of Ontario families this school year, TVO has assembled [free K-12 learning resources and tools](#) to complement in-class learning or to be used on their own.

Along with [tvompower.com](#), we recommend bookmarking these websites or sharing them with anyone

who might appreciate the support when it's needed.

- [TVO Learn \(Grades 1-8\)](#) | TVO Learn has expanded to include new adult-guided Learning Activities for Grades 1 through 8 math, language, science and technology and social studies. More are coming soon.
- [TVO Mathify \(Grades 6-11\)](#) | TVO Mathify offers free, 1:1 math tutoring with Ontario Certified Teachers. From September 20 until August 2022, Ontario students in Grade 11 will also be able to use the platform.
- [TVO ILC \(Grades 9-12\)](#) | High school students in Ontario can access 144 courses developed by Ontario Certified Teachers. These not-for-credit courses are designed for independent study or study support.
- [TVOkids \(K-Grade 6\)](#) | The TVOkids *Power Hour of Learning* will air weekdays at 1 pm on TVOkids until September 8, and anytime on [TVOkids.com](#), [TVOLearn.com](#) and [YouTube](#). There's also [How Do You Feel?](#), a series that helps young viewers work through their thoughts and emotions.
- [TVO current affairs](#) | Parents can also rely on daily COVID-19 updates and insight on the status of Ontario schools via [TVO.org](#) and [TVO's newsletters](#).

September 2021

Engagement Matters

Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PEAC)
Advisory Committee Newsletter



Welcome Back!

- School Council Forums
- PEAC Meetings
- Chalk the Walk
- Supportive Resources for New Families
- Fundraising Ideas
- Contacting Us
- Policy Review

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! Learning continues, even during a pandemic. Schools play a critical role in supporting students' learning, as well as children's emotional health and overall well-being. Throughout the pandemic, YRDSB staff, teachers, students and their families showed resilience and an incredible ability to overcome many challenges. With this experience, we are hopeful that together we will be able to make the most of this upcoming year and enjoy it to the fullest!

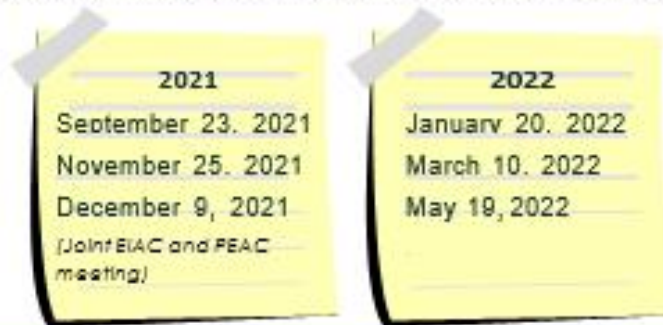
Save the date...

School Council Forums - please save the date for your respective area. Events run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. More details will be posted on the [PEAC website](#) closer to the date, and shared with your school administrators and school council chairs.

North/Georgina	Wednesday, November 3, 2021
North/Newmarket	Monday, November 8, 2021
East	Wednesday, November 10, 2021
West	Monday, November 15, 2021
Central	Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Join our PEAC Meetings

PEAC meetings are public events, and all are welcome to attend. Do you and your school council have a positive practice that you would like to share with our Board and other school councils? Let us know, and you may have an opportunity to speak at one of our upcoming meetings, or be featured in a future edition of Engagement Matters. |



Chalk the Walk

Chalk the Walk is a fun community event where people come together to write positive messages and draw pictures with a simple sidewalk chalk.

It is a low cost event because everyone can bring their own chalk. You can safely follow COVID protocols and social distance requirements by inviting students, staff and families to come throughout the day to avoid a large crowd.

Simply make a drawing and wait until the next day to see the smiles on everyone's face as they enter the building. It is very easy to organize. Just spread the word and watch the miracle happen!



Supporting New Families with a Family Ambassador Program

Each year, we welcome new families to our schools, and we can all relate to the feeling of when you are new to a school and there is so much unknown and uncertainty ahead. In addition, having English as your second language, or being a newcomer to Canada, can be a stressful time.

To help our new families, consider launching a Family Ambassador Program at your school. This program is aimed to connect families seeking support in the new community to families who are willing to give them that support. To do that, you will need to create a database to connect volunteers with new families and support the process.

Steps to creating a Family Ambassador Program

- Set up two Google forms (one for Ambassadors and one for the new families seeking support)
- Have a volunteer maintain a database of people and connect them to one another
- Include information about the program in the school information package, and promote it in your school newsletters
- Seek feedback on what is working and what is not, and adjust the program accordingly

Examples of the Forms

Use these forms to help guide you when setting up your program.

- [Ambassador Form](#)
- [New Family Form](#)



Fundraising During a Pandemic

Many schools engage in fundraising as a way to help enhance their students' academic experience. Fundraising during a pandemic may require some creative thinking, but it is still a fun and potentially profitable way to engage your school community. Here are some tips, ideas and guidelines to help you with your efforts.

Guidelines and tips...

- o At this time, lunch programs are not permitted.
- o If you are selling packaged goods, find vendors who can deliver the product directly to the consumer's home through the mail or a courier company.
- o Remember that Public Health safety guidelines must be followed when planning and hosting a fundraiser or event.
- o Guidelines to inform the school's fundraising plan and activities can be found in the YRDSB Policy and Procedure #676, [School Fundraising and Administration of School Generated Funds](#)

Fundraiser Ideas

Have a virtual
Read-a-thon

Hold a technology
fund drive

Setup a Mabel's Labels
account for your school
and receive a portion of
the sales

Create a digital yearbook,
cookbook or creative arts
book

Plan a virtual walk, run
and ride

Host a virtual games
night (bingo, trivia)

Promote everyday essentials,
such as detergent and socks,
and receive a portion of the
sales

Join an online fundraising
program with a retail outlet,
such as Chapters



Start a Scholastic
catalogue book sale

Host an art night and sell
kits from (art kits) or
make your own

Help sprout a green thumb with the
sale of fresh, local, organic vegetables
for the garden with Plantables.ca

Be creative! Reach out to your schools
staff and families for new and exciting ideas
specific to your community.

You got this!

Best of luck with your fundraisers!

Communicating with School Councils and PEAC



Your voice matters, especially when it comes to your child's education. Finding ways to be involved, sharing your ideas, and learning more about how to support your child are just some of the ways that you can enhance your engagement with the school. Here are some access points to help you connect with your school council or PEAC. You may also contact your school office for information that is specific to your school council.

Who...	What...	How...
PEAC	Great for board-wide resources, Ministry documents, calendar of events, meeting links, newsletters, inspiring ideas	Email: leadershipdevelopmentengagement@yrdsb.ca Website: YRDSB PEAC Website Phone: 905-727-0022 ext. 3650 Twitter: @leadershiptyrdsb Instagram: id_yrdsb
School Councils	Great for activities and resources specific to your school, volunteering, staying up-to-date with your school community, sharing your ideas.	Email: "schoolname"@sc.yrdsb.ca Website: link on school's webpage

Supporting Policy Review

Policy #238, **Parent, Family and Community Engagement**, and Policy #262, **School Councils**, are currently under review, and we are asking for your feedback. Share your ideas and suggestions by following this link, [Policy Review and Feedback](#).

School Council

Fall 2021 Invitation to School Councils for Policy

Policy#238, Parent, Family and Community Engagement, and Policy#262, School Councils, are currently under review until November 1, 2021. Parents and families can read the policies and provide feedback using two separate Google forms on [the policy and review webpage](#).

Upcoming Events

October 18	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
October 18-21	Parents' Night Appointment Bookings through TeachAssist
November 3 (NEW DATE)	Virtual Parents' Night Interviews 6:30-8:30pm
November 15	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
November 19	PA Day
December 20-December 31	Christmas Break
January 17	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
February 4	PA Day