

# Thornlea SS

Principal: Joe Foti

Vice-Principal: Michelle Dor A-L

Vice-Principal: Leonie Patrick M-Z

September 17, 2021



# Inside this Issue

Message from the Principal	3
Important News	4
Parents' Corner	5
Has your contact information changed?	6
Student Attendance	7
Covid Student Screening Tool	8
YDSB School Year Calendar	12-13
For Families	14-17
Upcoming Events	18

# Message from the Principal

Dear Thornlea Families;

The first week of school is now almost complete as I write this message. I want to make you aware of a few developments at Thornlea. All week our Guidance department has been working to resolve student conflicts and create timetables for our new registrations. If you have concerns about your child's schedule please let me know and we will do our best to remedy the problem. Currently there are about 1080 students enrolled at Thornlea and of that total a little less than 100 students are attending online.

This Tuesday our first school council meeting will take place online at 7:00 p.m. We first need to select our council and then I will update the council on what has taken place at Thornlea so far this year. At the end of my brief presentation I will answer any questions you have about the school and what will take place this year. An invite will be sent to all parent/guardians email address.

We are doing our best to bring back our sports program this semester. We hope to have a cross country team, boys' soccer and a coed tennis team running in the fall. I will explain the limitations that have been placed on our athletic program by Public Health. In addition to athletics our large number of clubs and our drama program will also be up and running shortly. We have traditionally had a club fair the third week of school. We will do this again except we are going to have our sign up occur outside at lunch. More details will be shared shortly.

With our students returning to school we are doing our best to keep everybody at Thornlea safe. If your child has symptoms of Covid please keep them home at home and follow the direction of your family doctor or Public Health. This year the capacity of our cafeteria has been reduced by half. We are encouraging students and staff to eat outside while the weather remains good. There are many picnic tables spread out along our property. Students are also able to eat their lunch in our hallways. We will be opening classrooms as a spot for students to have lunch as the temperature outside drops. I hope that many of you can attend our first council meeting this Tuesday.

Warmest Regards,

Joe Foti  
Principal

Salutations from the Guidance Department!

Our team has been very busy since registration day on Sep. 1<sup>st</sup>. We would like to thank you for your patience in our efforts to support your child for this school year. This is my 10<sup>th</sup> start up as Head of Guidance and this has been a year like no other. The team consists of:

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

The team has been trying their best to support every student that requests a timetable change this school year, both for the Virtual School and the Adaptive Model. To date, we have received over 300 requests. We always start with our grade 12 graduating students. We thank you for your patience and understanding through this extremely busy time.

We realize at this time some students are still hoping for a credit course this semester.

Other options to earn a credit:

Night school elearning – once you have registered please email your “alpha surname” counselor.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/online-learning-formerly-e-learning/online-learning-night-school>

Night School learning – register through your myPathwayplanner account

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/adult-learning/night-school-credit-courses/night-school-courses-offered>

International Languages

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/indigenous-languages-and-international-languages/international-languages-secondary>

Register through your myPathwayplanner account

Day School eLearning (Offered 2<sup>nd</sup> semester only)

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/online-learning/online-learning-day-school>

To register please email your alpha surname counselor.

I would also like to take a moment to personally welcome our learning community to a new school year and supporting all our students towards success.

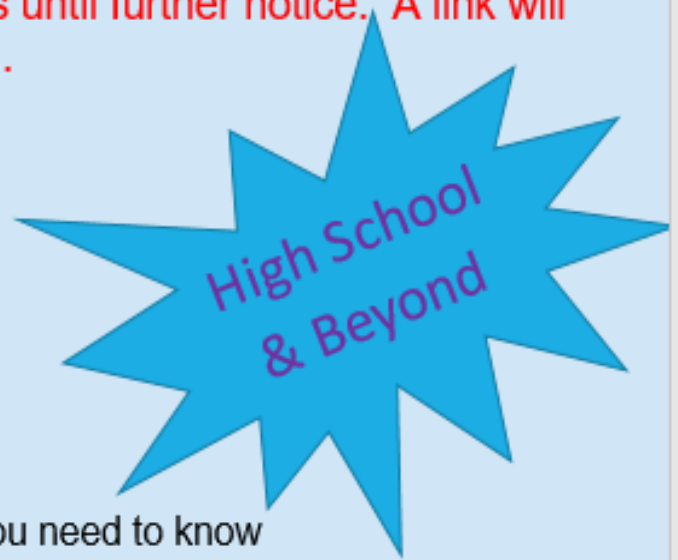
Sincerely,  
Mr. Nizam Alkins, Head of Guidance and Career Education

## *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](mailto:thornlea.ss@yrdsb.ca)

**Thank you!**

# Student Attendance:

If your child is absent, please inform us by:



shutterstock.com · 353367263

Calling 905-889-9696

Press 1 for attendance

OR

Emailing [thornleass.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto: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>





# AFTER SCHOOL WALK-IN COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS AVAILABLE NEAR YOU

Thursday, September 9, 2021

York Region Public Health will be offering after school walk-in COVID-19 vaccination clinics for students, staff and their families requiring a first and/or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Weekend clinics will also be open to the public.

We cannot stress enough how important it is to get vaccinated. The Delta variant of COVID-19 is much more transmissible than the original COVID-19 virus. COVID-19 vaccines not only protect you from getting seriously ill, they also help prevent people around you from getting sick, including younger children and siblings who aren't eligible to receive the vaccine.

Children and youth **born in 2009 and earlier** are currently eligible to be vaccinated. If you or your child have not received a first or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, we want to make it as easy as possible. York Region Public Health will be offering walk-in vaccination clinics, with **no appointment required**, at the following dates, clinic times and host school locations:

Dates	Clinic Times	Host Schools
Wednesday, September 15	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Tommy Douglas Secondary School</b> - 4020 Major MacKenzie Drive West, Woodbridge L4H 4E9 <b>Father Bressani Catholic High School</b> - 250 Ansley Grove Road, Woodbridge, ON L4L 3W4
Thursday, September 16	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Emily Carr Secondary School</b> - 4901 Rutherford Road, Woodbridge, ON L4H 3C2 <b>St. Jean De Brebeuf Catholic High School</b> - 2 Davos Road, Woodbridge, ON L4H 2Y1
Friday, September 17	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Stephen Lewis Secondary School</b> - 555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, ON L4J 8X2 <b>St. Elizabeth Catholic High School</b> - 525 New Westminster Drive, Thornhill, ON L4J 7X3
Monday, September 20	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Bayview Secondary School</b> - 10077 Bayview Avenue, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 2L4 <b>St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic High School</b> - 230 Shaftsbury Avenue, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 0E8
Tuesday, September 21	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>King City Secondary School</b> - 2001 King Road, King City, ON L7B 1K2 <b>Newmarket High School</b> - 505 Pickering Crescent, Newmarket, ON L3Y 8H1
Wednesday, September 22	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Sacred Heart Catholic High School</b> - 908 Lemar Road, Newmarket, ON L3Y 1R9 <b>Maple High School</b> - 50 Springside Road, Maple, ON L6A 2W5
Thursday, September 23	4 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School</b> - 1 St. Joan of Arc Avenue, Maple, ON L6A 1W9 <b>Stouffville District Secondary School</b> - 801 Hoover Park Drive, Whitchurch-Stouffville, ON L4A 0A4

Both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna mRNA vaccines will be offered at these vaccination clinics. Those under 18 years of age will receive Pfizer-BioNTech.

#### Second doses:

- Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine must be administered **at least 21 days after receipt of the first dose**
- Moderna vaccine must be administered **at least 28 days after receipt of the first dose**

Children and youth born in 2009 and earlier can provide [consent](#) for themselves to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Parental consent is not required in this age group. If students who need a substitute decision-maker or who are unable to provide their own informed consent attend the clinic on their own, they must bring a completed consent form that has been signed by a parent/legal guardian with them.

## WALK-IN SCHOOL COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS AVAILABLE

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Dates	Clinic Times	Host Schools
Wednesday, September 15	1 p.m. to 7 p.m.	<b>Tommy Douglas Secondary School</b> - 4020 Major MacKenzie Drive West, Woodbridge L4H 4E9  <b>Father Bressani Catholic High School</b> - 250 Ansley Grove Road, Woodbridge, ON L4L 3W4
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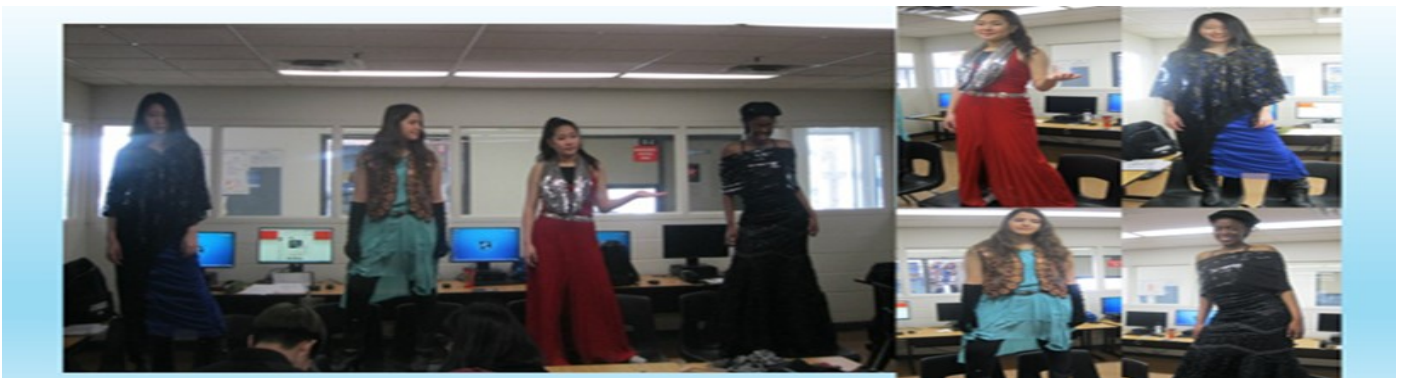


## JOIN OUR “PASSION FOR FASHION” CLUB- **Turn Your Passion Into Purpose!** Kate Morozova Gr. 12 (Club President)

Check this link to [Watch Our Promo Movie](#)

### **5 Reasons Why You Should Join Our Fashion Club!**

- 1. FREE Starter Kit!**
- 2. Learn Entrepreneurial skills, get a head start on your Career in 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;**



If you want to sign up, please email **Mme Bern**: [ilana.bern@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ilana.bern@yrdsb.ca).

***We are looking forward to an ARTful and productive school year!!!***

## YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD 2021-2022 LEARNING CALENDAR

(excluding the following secondary schools: Bill Crothers, Keswick, Maple, Markville, and Sutton District)

This calendar has been created to help you plan your family holidays, medical and dental appointments around your child's learning. The most important days - the ones unmarked (excluding weekends) - are the days which students are expected to attend school. For your information, professional activity days and holidays are also listed.

SEPTEMBER 2021							FEBRUARY 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			E/S	E/S	E/S	4			1	2	3	E/S	5
5	H	H	H	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	H	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30			27	28					
OCTOBER 2021							MARCH 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	H	12	13	14	15	16	13	H	H	H	H	H	19
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	27	28	29	30	31		
31													
NOVEMBER 2021							APRIL 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	E/S	20	10	11	12	13	14	H	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	17	H	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30					24	25	26	27	28	29	30
DECEMBER 2021							MAY 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	H	H	H	H	H	25	22	H	24	25	26	27	28
26	H	H	H	H	H		29	30	31				
JANUARY 2022							JUNE 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1				1	E	3	4
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9	10	11	12	13	E	15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	26	27	28	29	S		
30	31												



<b>H</b>	School Holiday
<b>E</b>	Elementary P.A. Day
<b>S</b>	Secondary P.A. Day
<b>P</b>	P.A. Day for All Schools

**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**

**FIRST DAY OF CLASSES:  
Thursday, September 9, 2021**

**LAST DAY OF CLASSES:  
Secondary: Wednesday, June 29, 2022  
Elementary: Thursday, June 30, 2022\***  
\* Early release

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Labour Day	Monday, September 6, 2021
School Holiday	Tuesday, September 7, 2021
School Holiday	Wednesday, September 8, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 11, 2021
Winter Break	Monday, December 20, 2021 to Friday, December 31, 2021 inclusive
Family Day	Monday, February 21, 2022
Mid-Winter Break	Monday, March 14, 2022 to Friday, March 18, 2022 inclusive
Good Friday	Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday, May 23, 2022

Please see the Holidays & Observances calendar on the Board website for significant faith days.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY  
- NO SCHOOL**

**Elementary:**

Wednesday, September 1, 2021  
Thursday, September 2, 2021  
Friday, September 3, 2021  
Friday, November 19, 2021  
Friday, January 14, 2022  
Friday, February 4, 2022  
Thursday, June 2, 2022

**Secondary:**

Wednesday, September 1, 2021  
Thursday, September 2, 2021  
Friday, September 3, 2021  
Friday, November 19, 2021  
Friday, February 4, 2022  
Friday, May 6, 2022  
Thursday, June 30, 2022

Ultimately, parents are responsible for deciding whether to send their child to school. To find out if buses are cancelled due to weather conditions, you can check:

- the YRDSB website
- the @YRDSB Twitter account
- Instagram @yrdsb.schools
- the Student Transportation Services' (STS) website at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) or hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- school websites
- radio and television media outlets

York Region District School Board  
60 Wellington Street West, Aurora L4G 3H2  
(905) 727-3141, 895-7216, 722-3201, (416) 969-8131  
Automated: (905) 727-0022, 895-7227, 722-6255, (416) 969-7170  
Facsimile: (905) 727-1931  
Website: [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca)  
Twitter: @YRDSB

Louise Sirsko  
Director of Education



Cynthia Cordova  
Board Chair

# TVO Learning that Connects

At TVO, we invite you to explore these resources to enhance your students' at-school and at-home learning.

TVO's digital resources complement learning and are created with Ontario educators to maximize engagement, relevance, and student success.

Our Outreach Team provides online sessions to demonstrate how TVO's K-12 resources can be used in your classrooms today!

Request an online session:  
[bit.ly/TVOEventRequest](https://bit.ly/TVOEventRequest)

Explore TVO's Digital Resources:  
[outreach.tvolearn.com](https://outreach.tvolearn.com)

tvo  
2021-2022

K-5	<b>Advertising-Free Videos, Games and Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free 24/7 YouTube livestream of TVOkids programming</li> <li>50+ one-hour lessons for Power Hour of Learning</li> </ul>	
K-6	<b>Game-Based STEM Learning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★NEW games for K-6 Financial Literacy and Algebra/Coding</li> <li>65+ free online games that support foundational math skills</li> </ul>	
Gr. 1-12	<b>Learning Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★NEW 500+ Learning Activities for Grades 1-8</li> <li>Grades 9-12 searchable high school course content</li> </ul>	
Gr. 6-11	<b>Personalized Math Tutoring and Interactive Whiteboard</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★NEW Grade 11 math tutoring available</li> <li>Question Bank features 200+ whiteboards with math questions</li> </ul>	
Gr. 9-12	<b>High-Quality Secondary Course Material</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide students with engaging high school courses</li> <li>ILC offers 144 courses in English and French</li> </ul>	
K-12	<b>Library of Educational Content</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance online learning with interactive multimedia content</li> <li>Search over 10K+ videos and articles by grade, subject &amp; keyword</li> </ul>	



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**



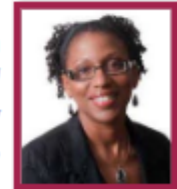
**Jacqueline Spence**  
*Superintendent, Equity, Anti-Oppression and Early Years*  
 Toronto DSB

**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](mailto:soqp@opsoa.org).

*We welcome candidates who have taken modules with other providers.*

FRIENDS OF  SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER  
FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES



# FREEDOM DAY

## STUDENT ACTIVISM

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 AT 1PM EDT**

Inspire and empower your students at Freedom Day 2021.

### THIS YEAR'S GUEST SPEAKERS

Andy Reti, Eva Meisels, Hannah Alper,  
Maddison Tory, Charlene Rocha,  
Theland Kicknosway, Cameron Davis,  
Zehra Alvi, Raya Treibicz

## Register today!

To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/freedom-day-2021-tickets-167764440959>

Contact us at [education@fswc.ca](mailto:education@fswc.ca) or call 416-864-9735 x40 for inquiries about this  
FREE event

Freedom Day was created to commemorate the life of Holocaust survivor and human rights advocate Simon Wiesenthal and to carry on his legacy of inclusion, justice and human rights. Now in its 12th year, Freedom Day has expanded into a highly anticipated, multicultural celebration of Canadian values. Thousands of elementary and high school students from public, Catholic and private schools from across Canada kick their school year off with Freedom Day, and are inspired to take action to create positive change in their homes, schools and communities.



## Message From Our Trustee, September 2021

We have many reasons to feel optimistic as we begin the 2021-22 school year. Schools are reopening to in-person learning, vaccination rates continue to increase, and our students can start to resume some of their favourite school activities.

As we return to school, our [reopening plan](#) continues to prioritize the health and safety of students, families and staff members. We are working with public health to ensure we are taking all appropriate measures. For more information on the plan, including health and safety measures, please visit [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening). You can also find additional information from York Region Public Health at [www.york.ca/safeatschool](http://www.york.ca/safeatschool).

The pandemic and last year's school closures affected students and families in many different ways. This has been a challenging time. Our caring, skilled and dedicated staff members are prepared to prioritize the mental health and well-being of students as they transition back to school, as well as supporting their academic learning and growth. If you are worried about your child, please speak to your child's teacher or principal. You may also find some of the [learning and well-being resources](#) on our website helpful.

Whether your child will be attending school in person or online, we know how important it is that they feel safe, respected and valued. We want every student to feel supported, to take pride in their identities and to know that they matter. Any form of hate or discrimination in our schools is not acceptable. This school year, we will continue to implement the [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#) launched in March to address anti-Black racism in schools. We also remain committed as a school board to honouring the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#). As your trustee, it is imperative that we create learning environments that enable all of our students to feel valued and to be successful, and I welcome the insights that were shared at the National Summit on Antisemitism and National Summit on Islamophobia.

It is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#). We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

The relationship that we have with families is so important, and I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website. You are welcome to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

There are also many other ways you can stay connected with what's happening in the school board. Visit our [newsroom](#). Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow us on [Twitter @YRDSB](#) and on [Instagram @yrdsb\\_schools](#). Watch the latest videos, including news, features and profiles about our schools, students and staff members on our [YouTube channel YRDSBMedia](#).

As we begin another school year, I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

David Sherman  
Trustee – Markham Ward 1, Vaughan Ward 5

# Upcoming Events



September 21	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
October 11	Thanksgiving Monday
October 18	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
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