

# TDSS GRADE 8 INFORMATION EVENING



# Land Acknowledgement

**We would like to start by acknowledging that we are on the traditional territories of the Wendat the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe peoples, whose presence here continues to this day. We also would like to acknowledge this is the treaty lands of the First Nations of the Mississauga of the Credit and thank them and other Indigenous peoples for sharing this land with us. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community and our partners in education.**

**We acknowledge this land and the people because the first step to reconciliation is recognizing the existence of Indigenous people. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action (numbers 62-63) speak to the significance of education as the key to reconciliation. A shared understanding of how our collective past brought us to where we are today will help us walk together into a better future.**



**TDSS is  
closed to  
transfers for  
the 2025-2026  
school year.**

# TDSS' Administrative Team



**Meshell Lynch-James**  
**Principal**

# TDSS' Administrative Team



**Cynthia Therrien**  
**VP- Grade 9**  
**Grade 12 A-Mal**



**Leonie Patrick**  
**VP-Grade 10**  
**Grade 12**  
**Mam-Sam**



**Elizabeth Sloan**  
**VP-Grade 11**  
**Grade 12 San-Z**

# General Information About TDSS

## Daily Schedule

**Period 1-** 8:00-9:20

**Period 2-** 9:25-10:40

**Period 3-** 10:45- 12:00

**Period 4-** 12:05-1:20

**Period 5-** 1:25-2:40

## Semestered

Semester 1

Sept.-Jan.

Semester 2

Feb.-June

## 2024-25

School Population

1649

## Exams

End of January

End of June

**Grade 9s have a common lunch during period 3.**



Instagram

**@tdssguidance**  
**@tdssteentitans**



**@TDSS\_YRDSB**





Check Us Out @ [bit.ly/tommytimescommunity](https://bit.ly/tommytimescommunity)

## TDSS Community

### ^ News and Information

Forms and Procedures

School Council

Upcoming Community  
Events

Calendar

Guidance Home

Graduation Requirements

Grade 12 Important  
Information

# TDSS News and Information

TDSS School Calendar



How to translate a google website into a variety of languages.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=>





# Elementary vs High School

The transition to secondary school can be a tricky one.

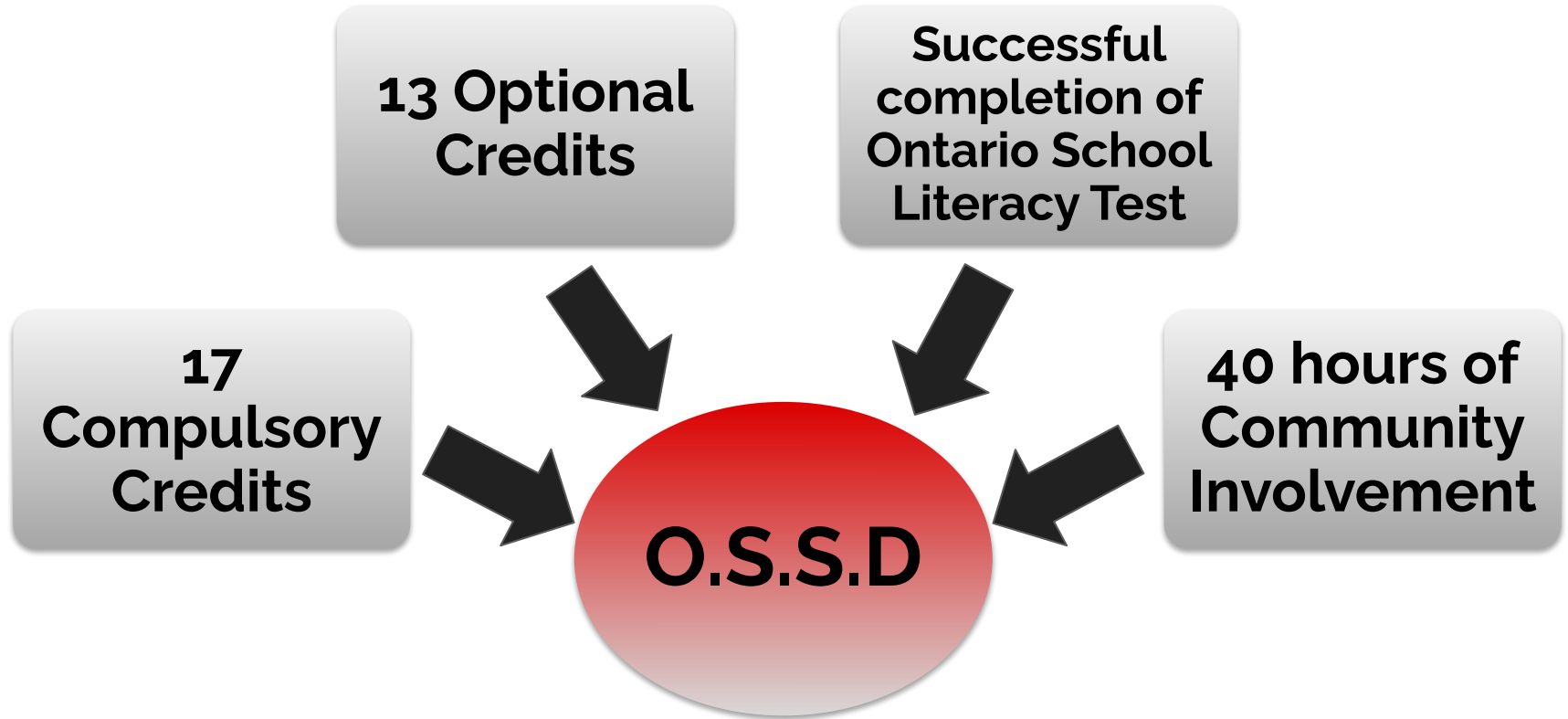
We are here to help you and your child navigate this process.



# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS




# O.S.S.D. Requirements



# New O.S.S. D. Ministry of Education Diploma Requirements

Starting with students entering Grade 9 in September 2024, all students will now be required to earn a Grade 9 or 10 Technological Education and STEM credit.



## What do you need to graduate from high school?

(If you started Grade 9 in Fall 2024 and after)

### 30 Credits: 17 Compulsory Credits and 13 Optional Credits

**Compulsory credits are comprised of the following:**

4 credits in English (1 credit per grade)*	1 credit in The Arts
3 credits in Mathematics (Grade 9 & 10 plus 1 in Grade 11 or 12)	1 credit in Health and Physical Education
2 credits in Science	1 credit in French as a Second Language
1 credit in Technological Education (Grade 9 or 10)	0.5 credit in Career Studies
1 credit in Canadian History (Grade 10)	0.5 credit in Civics & Citizenship
1 credit in Canadian Geography (Grade 9)	1 credit from the STEM-Related Course Group

**STEM-Related Course Group**  
You must complete **ONE** from the following group:

- Business Studies
- Computer Studies
- Cooperative Education\*\*\*
- Mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits currently required)
- Science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits currently required)
- Technological Education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit required)

**In addition, students must complete:**

- ☒ 13 optional credits - 4 can be earned through Dual Credit programs
- ☒ 40 hours of community involvement activities
- ☒ The Provincial Literacy Requirement (OSSLT or OSSLC)
- ☒ Earn at least 2 credits through Online Learning\*\*

\* A maximum of 3 credits in English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Literacy Development (ELD) may be counted towards the 4 compulsory credits in English. The fourth must be a credit earned for a Grade 12 compulsory English course.  
\*\* Families who wish to opt out their child from the Online Learning graduation requirement should speak to their child's school.  
**Notes:**  
• Starting in September 2025, students must earn a new Financial Literacy Graduation Requirement as part of their compulsory Grade 10 Mathematics course. Students will need to achieve a mark of 70% or higher to pass this new requirement and earn their high school diploma.  
• Students achieving an OSSD Red Seal Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) diploma will have additional requirements based on their particular program.

### French Immersion Students

**To qualify for the French Immersion Certificate, students must take at least 10 credits in French Immersion (out of the 30 credits needed to graduate high school). These include:**

- 4 French Immersion French (1 credit per grade)
- Grade 9 Geography
- Grade 10 Civics and Careers
- Grade 10 History
- at least 3 other courses taught in the French language (excluding third languages since the language of instruction should be the third language).

\*\*\* Cooperative Education can qualify as 1 French Immersion credit if students are working with a French speaking community partner in a 2 credit Co-op program.

# Technological Education Course Offerings

## Grade 9 & 10



### **GRADE 9- TAS1O1 Technology and the Skilled Trades**

This course is a general course that exposes students to a wide variety of technological education sub disciplines.

### **GRADE 10- Wide Variety of Course Offerings**

**TCJ2O1- Construction**

**TTJ2O1- Automotive Technology**

**TDJ2O1- Technological Design**

**TFJ2O1- Hospitality**

**TGJ2O1- Communication Technology**

# Additionally, students must also take a STEM Course...

## **STEM-Related Course Group**

**You must complete ONE from the following group:**

- Business Studies
- Computer Studies
- Cooperative Education\*\*\*
- Mathematics (in addition to the 3 compulsory credits currently required)
- Science (in addition to the 2 compulsory credits currently required)
- Technological Education (in addition to the 1 compulsory credit required)

# GRADE 9 COURSE TYPES

## COURSE TYPES IN Gr. 9 & 10

**ACADEMIC**

**DESTREAMED**

**OPEN**

**LOCALLY  
DEVELOPED**



Course Type	Details
<b>ACADEMIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered in the following compulsory course: French,</li> <li>Maximum class size of 29</li> </ul>
<b>LOCALLY DEVELOPED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be offered in the following compulsory courses: Science, Math, English and History (Grade 10)</li> <li>Maximum class size of 16</li> <li>Placement determined through an IPRC meeting</li> </ul>
<b>OPEN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered in the following compulsory courses: Physical Education, Arts, Civics/Careers and all grade 9&amp;10 electives</li> <li>Maximum class size of 29 (exception Technology courses)</li> </ul>
<b>DESTREAMED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offered in the following course, math, English, science, geography,</li> <li>Maximum class size 25</li> </ul>

# Grade 9 Elective Courses



**BEM1O1-** Building the Entrepreneurial Mindset

**PPL1O8-** Healthy Active Living Education (Female)

**PPL1O9-** Healthy Active Living Education (Male)

**PPL1O1-** Healthy Active Living Education  
(All-Gender)

**PAF1O8-** Personal and Fitness Activities (Female)

**PAF1O9-** Personal and Fitness Activities (Male)

Physical and Health Education is an elective but



# Grade 9 Elective Art Courses



**ADA1O1-** Drama



**ACT1O1-** Dance

**AMG1O1-** Guitar

**AMI1O1-** Instrumental Band  
Music

**AMS1O1-** Instrumental Music-  
Strings

**AMV1O1-** Vocal Music

**AMR1O1-** Repertoire Band

**(After School- 9th credit)**



**AVI1O1-** Visual Arts  
All different kinds  
of mediums i.e.  
drawing, painting  
sculpture etc.

# Grade 9 Elective Courses



**HIF1O1 Family Studies**



**GLE1O1 Learning Strategies** (for students that have gone through the IPRC process and are receiving special education support).



**TAS1O1 Technology and the Skilled Trades-**  
elective but also a compulsory course.

# Online Learning Graduation Requirement

Students ***may*** choose to earn at least two online learning credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

**These courses are completely asynchronous, meaning**

**there is *no* teacher instruction.** Students can opt out of

**taking online learning classes during the course**

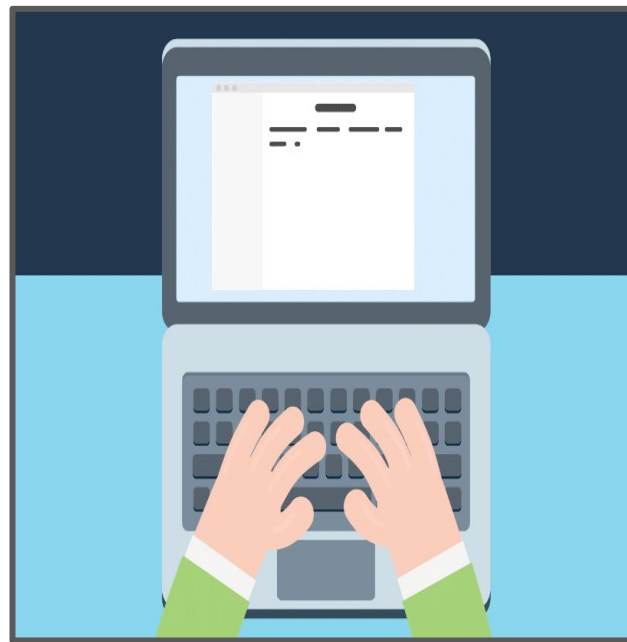
**selection process on MyBlue Print.** To find out more,

please click [here](#). **For new students not currently**

**enrolled in a YRDSB school you can indicate your**

**preference to opt in or out on the course selection**

**form.**



# MORE

ABOUT

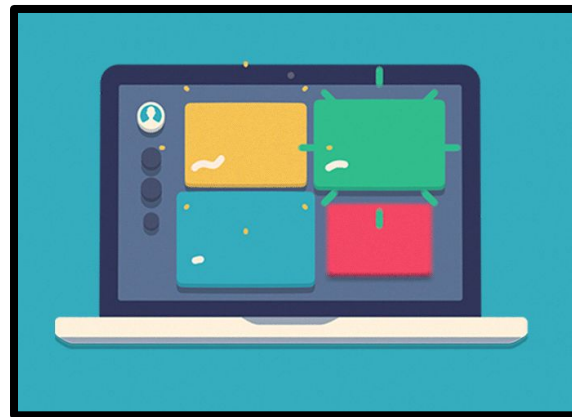
US



# Tommy Douglas' 1:1 Program

A TDSS students and teachers have access to a personal device on a direct and continuous basis for **educational purposes**.

***Students do not share their technology with other students*** but take ownership over their own particular device. Students are taught to **be creators of technology not consumers of technology**.





# Tommy Douglas S.S. Philosophy

Our goal is to develop well rounded, hardworking and resilient students. We provide a wide variety of services and supports to help your child succeed.



# Special Education at TDSS



**Sandra Ciummelli**  
**Head of Special**  
**Education**

**Susanne Ling**  
**Assistant Head of**  
**Special Education**

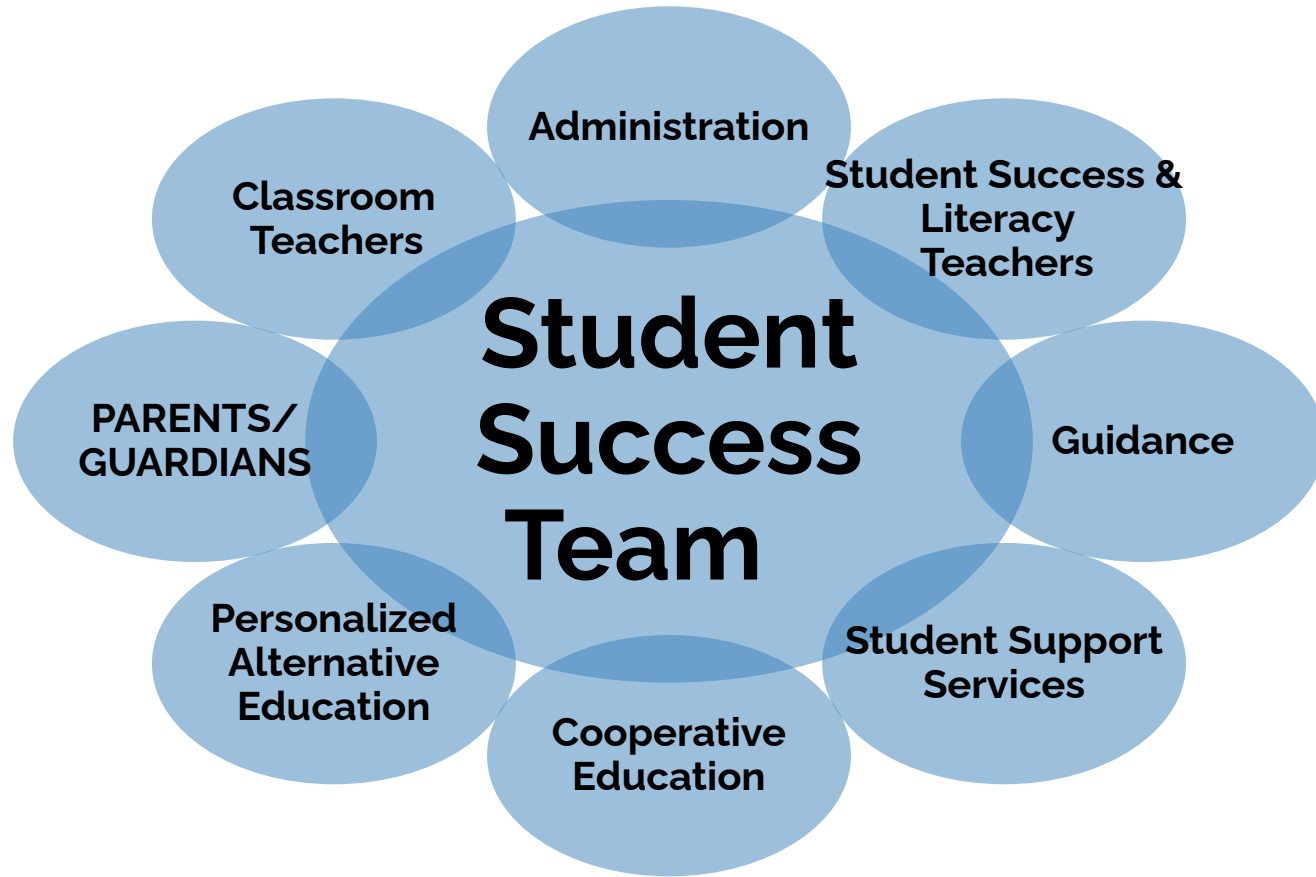
# Students Receiving Special Education Supports

- Students will receive support according to the needs outlined in their Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Students receive accommodations in regular programming such as extra time, chunking etc.
- For students needing modifications please reach out to our special education department.



It is important to seek the support of experts i.e. your child's teachers and or SERT. They are here to help guide you in making decisions along the way.





# Meet Your Student Success Lead

Questions?  
Visit me in  
room 109!



Stephanie Lim

Student Success Lead

x 109

## The Role of Student Success

To support through direct instruction non-identified students to ensure they are academically successful. Student success teachers work collaborative with administrators, teachers, parents and guidance where need be.

# MLL Support at TDSS

Questions?  
Visit me in  
room 232!



**Cynthia Yeo**

Head of ESL & MLL Support  
Teacher

[cynthia.yeo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cynthia.yeo@yrdsb.ca)  
Extension 656

**There are student translators in the front foyer for those who would like to ask questions or receive translation support.**



# Graduation Coach for Black Students

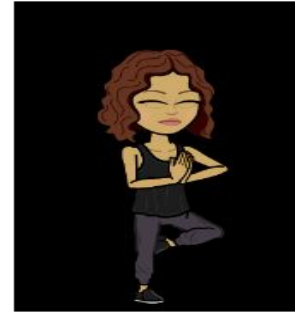


**The role of the Graduation Coach for Black students is to provide intensive culturally-responsive support to help improve academic achievement and well-being.**

**To connect with TDSS' Graduation Coach for Black Students please reach out to guidance.**

# TDSS' Guidance Team

Questions?  
Please visit us  
in room 103.  
We are here to  
help!



**Diamando  
McLarnon**

Head of  
Guidance

A-E

x 308

**Yasmin**

**Kassam**

Guidance  
Counsellor

F-Lo

x 310

**Amir**

**Al-Hassani**

Guidance  
Counsellor

Lu-Ra

x 311

**Niki Rowe**

Guidance  
Counsellor

Ri-Z

x 309



Daniela Buscema

Our All Knowing & Amazing  
Guidance Admin Assistant!

x 103



## Educational Counselling

- ❑ Assistance with choosing courses
- ❑ Educational plans
- ❑ Study skills, Peer tutoring, resources
- ❑ Night school, Virtual school, E-learning, Academic Exchanges, Summer school, other YRDSB programs
- ❑ All your child's records are with us - CCS, OSR



## Career Counselling

- ❑ Research of post-secondary programs leading to specific careers
- ❑ Assistance with resumes, cover letters, job applications

## Personal

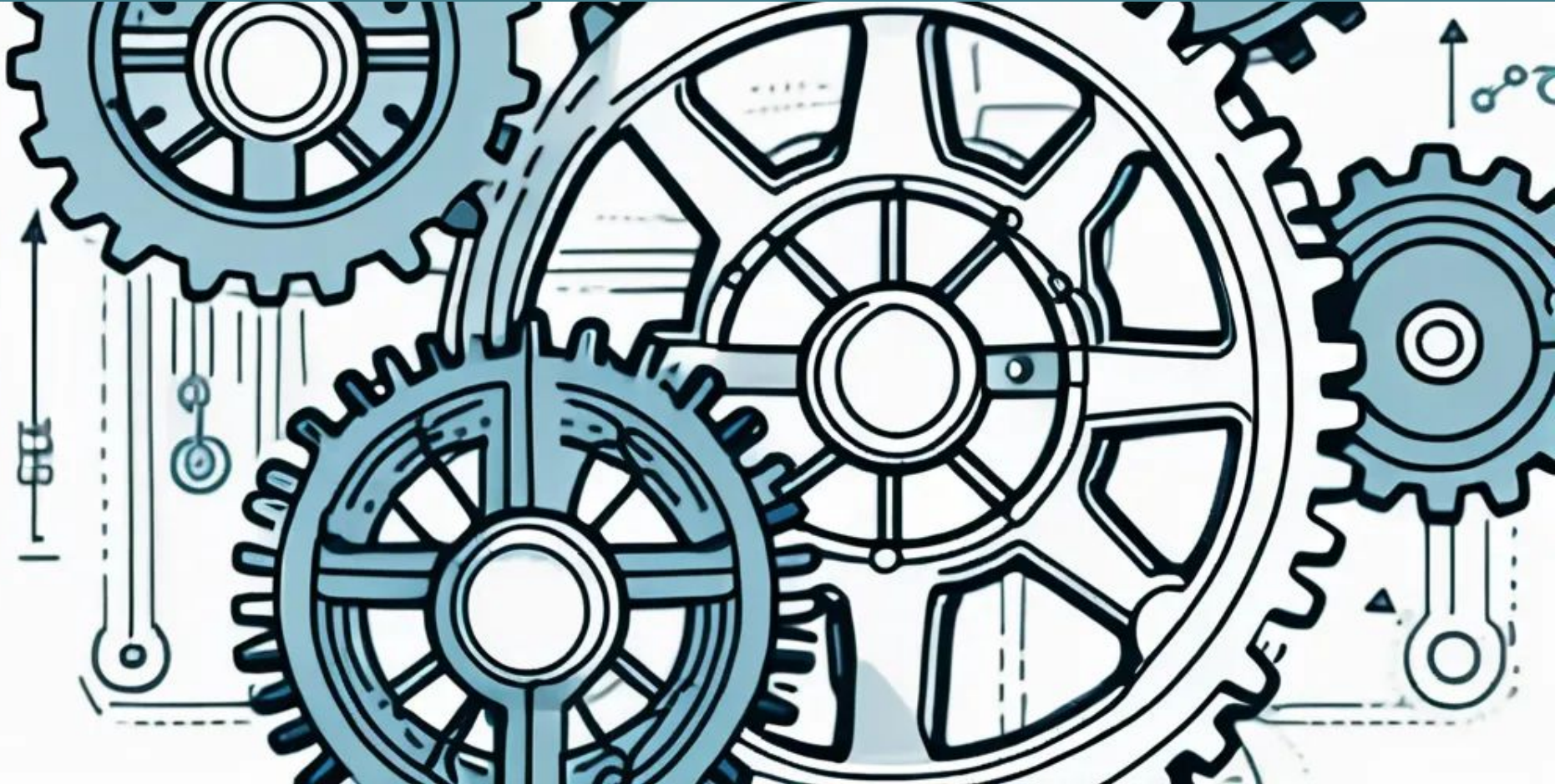
- ❑ Listen and assist with problem solving, resolving conflict
- ❑ Referrals to Professional Counseling
- ❑ YRDSB Social worker (Ms. Cassandra Fezzuoglio)
- ❑ Additional specialized social workers support the following communities: 2SLGBTQIA+ plus, African Caribbean, Chinese, East Asian/ Tamil, Indigenous, and International Students Social Worker
- ❑ Specialized counsellors can be arranged to support at school such as a trauma counsellor, bereavement counsellors, addiction counsellors



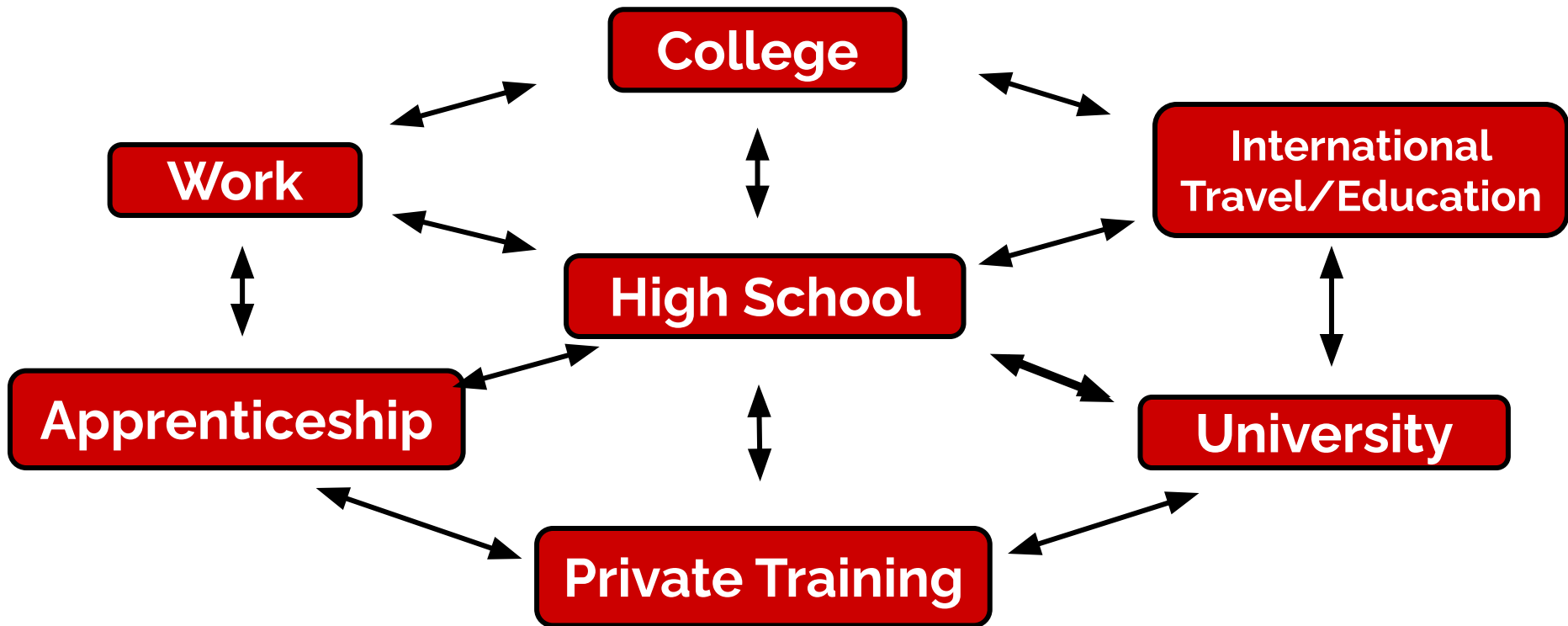
**In our role as guidance counsellors we can help make connections to internal YRDSB and external services.**



# LET'S SWITCH GEARS



# Course and Post-Secondary Pathways are Flexible







**The magic formula:**

**interest + aptitude + hard work +  
determination + school and  
community involvement = success.**



mental  
health  
matters



Does the thought of your child transitioning to high school make you feel like this? Don't worry we've got your back! Their mental health and yours matter to us!

# Teen Titan Mentorship Program



I am NOT a grade!



I have talents and interests  
and my grades DO NOT  
determine my self-worth!

TEEN TITANS PRESENT THE...

## PEER TUTOR PROGRAM

JOIN THE GOOGLE CLASSROOM TO APPLY AS A TUTOR OR TUTEE  
woj3q4



# DONUT STRESS



Just  
Do Your  
Best



# **We need your help!!**



**Encourage your child to participate in school based activities. Youth that are involved in school life are less likely to get involved in risky behaviour.**



**School involvement is an important protective factor!**

# Extra-Curricular Activities- Teams

- Alpine (Downhill) Skiing
- Badminton
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Cross Country Running
- Curling
- Golf
- Flag Football
- Field Hockey
- Ice Hockey
- Rock Climbing
- Slo-Pitch
- Snowboarding
- Soccer
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track & Field
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball



# Extra-Curricular Activities- Clubs

Allies for Equity  
Announcement Club  
Art Council  
Athletic Council  
Automotive Club  
AV Club  
Baking  
Board Game & Chess  
Best Buddies  
Between the Pages (Book Club)  
Boys 2 Men  
Broadcasting Club  
Crochet  
Concours d'Art Oratoire (French Speech)  
Dare 2 Care  
Dance  
DECA  
Douglas Donors  
Drama Council  
Empowering Student Partnerships (ESP)  
Fashion Club  
Fitness Club  
Investment Club  
Games 4 Girls

Girls' Empowerment Club  
Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA)  
Glee Club  
Green Team  
Guitar  
HOSA  
Makeup and Nail Art  
Minds On Me  
Multicultural Club  
Music Council  
Mock Trial  
Model United Nations (MUN)  
Nintendo  
Photography  
Robotics/ Programming  
Science Club  
Ski and Snowboard Club  
Student Council  
Tech Crew  
Teen Titans  
Tennis Club  
Titans Locker  
Woodworking Club





**Let's take a look at  
strategies for supporting  
your child through the  
elementary to high school  
transition process.**

# Supporting your child through the Transition Process...

Normalize  
Feelings of  
Anxiety

Discuss Changes  
that Your Child  
Can Expect

Discuss Different  
Ways to Make  
Friends

Pay Attention to  
How Your Child is  
Coping

Be Available  
When Things Get  
Tough

Stay Connected  
and Informed  
with the School

Keep Lines of  
Communication  
Open- Ask Question  
Other than About  
Academics

Help Your Child  
Become an  
Independent  
Problem Solver

THE MOST  
IMPORTANT  
THING



**Keep lines of communication open with your child. It is an important protective factor.**

# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

	GRADE 8 YRDSB STUDENT	GRADE 8 STUDENT NOT ENROLLED IN A YRDSB SCHOOL
	Living in TDSS Catchment Area	Living in TDSS Catchment Area
<b>Registration Information</b> (Link to YRDSB site & required documents)	Students who are not continuing with YRDSB must use the "Not Returning" feature in My Pathway Planner.	Complete <u>registration form</u> and submit to TDSS by <b>January 31st, 2024</b> .  <u>Required Documents (Step 4)</u>  Students with an IEP are asked to fill out the <u>TDSS Special Education Form</u>
<b>Course Selection</b>	Select courses in <u>MyPathwayPlanner</u> by <b>February</b> . Dates to be determined and shared with families closer to the time..	Please submit a course selection form with your registration package. Course Selection Forms  <a href="#">Tommy Douglas GR 9 course selection form</a>  <a href="#">Tommy Douglas GR 10 course selection form</a>  <a href="#">Tommy Douglas GR11 course selection form</a>  <a href="#">Tommy Douglas GR 12 course selection form</a>

Classroom Visits– Click on the QR Code for a Map!



SCAN ME

