



Trustee **Jerry Chadwick**

Ward 22, Scarborough East



Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome to the 2017-18 school year. I hope you and your family had a restful and safe summer. Our schools are ready for the new academic year! Our staff members are well rested and excited to receive their new students. Special thanks go to our caretaking and maintenance staff who have worked tirelessly to have the building ready. Our office staff have been in for weeks, doing registrations, finalizing class lists and getting the start-of-school packages ready to go home.

In many of our schools, we have new staff members who have joined us – administrators, teachers, office staff, early childhood educators, educational assistants, caretakers, bus drivers and more. I want to take the time to welcome them all to Ward 22 and to thank them for the time they have spent in preparation for a new school year. In Ward 22 and across the TDSB, we are committed to creating classrooms and schools where every student can grow and thrive. Each day, teachers and school staff work to support the well-being and achievement of all students.

I look forward to another positive year. I will be working with two wonderful Superintendents of Education this year, Nadira Persaud and Kerry-Lynn Stadnyk. Together, we collaborate to find solutions to issues, to bring resources to our schools, to support student achievement and well-being, and to respond to concerns from parents, guardians and community members. I also want to thank Superintendent Anne Seymour who was responsible for two Ward 22 schools last year, but with realignment will no longer be involved with Willow Park and Galloway Road.

At the end of the 2016-17 school year, a great honour was bestowed on a Ward 22 school. I was negligent and did not celebrate this impressive accomplishment at the time. For that, I sincerely apologize, and am pleased to share the information with Ward 22 in this newsletter. I am referring to **Guildwood JPS** winning the prestigious **Premier's Award for Safe and Accepting Schools**. Ontario recognized 10 schools across the province through the Premier's Awards for Accepting Schools. These awards are given annually to recognize teams of students, educators and parents for creativity and leadership in creating positive school environments, and supporting student achievement and well-being. Guildwood was the only TDSB school to be so recognized. **Congratulations to all students, staff and community members of Guildwood Jr. P.S!**

As the elected public school board trustee for your community, my job is to advocate for you and to represent the needs of students and parents/guardians within the Toronto District School Board. For information about the TDSB and Trustees translated into 22 languages, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/multilingual.

As you return to school, we have created a webpage with key information and resources including homework tips and the school year calendar. Learn more at www.tdsb.on.ca/needtoknow.

Equity is a top priority in our school system. This means ensuring that all students, especially those who have been underserved, have access to the programs, opportunities and supports they need to reach their full potential. We will continue to work with students, staff and communities to address and overcome discrimination, racism and oppression in our schools. For more information, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/AboutUs/Equity.aspx.

Parent/guardian participation is an important aspect of every student's education. There are many ways to get involved. School councils provide a forum for student, parent and community voices and advise principals and the Board on school issues. To learn more about school councils contact your school or visit www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolcouncil. For information about the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), a TDSB-wide group, visit www.torontopiac.com. Our Ward 22 PIAC rep is Jennifer Sparks, parent from William G Miller Public School. You can contact her at piacward22tdsb@gmail.com.

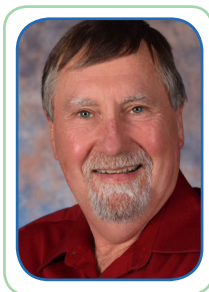
At the start of the last school year, we had numerous transportation disruptions that inconvenienced students and their families. Our staff have been working diligently to ensure that there is not similar confusion this year. TDSB parents/guardians with children who are transported by school buses can now access their children's transportation information online and receive email notifications if there are any school bus cancellations or delays, thanks to the launch of a new online [transportation portal](http://www.torontoschoolbus.org). For more information and to register for the new services, please visit www.torontoschoolbus.org and select "Parents" from the top right hand corner of the screen. Created by the [Toronto Student Transportation Group](http://www.torontostudenttransportationgroup.com), which oversees bussing for the TDSB, the portal is one of several improvements being made to transportation services to ensure an [effective start to the 2017-18 school year](#).

Finally, to stay informed about news and events throughout the year, please sign up for my e-newsletter by emailing me at jerry.chadwick@tdsb.on.ca and visit my webpage www.tdsb.on.ca/ward22. For system-wide news about the TDSB, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/TDSBupdate.

Thank you and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year,



Jerry



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PA Days & Holidays	Date
Labour Day	September 4, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	October 6, 2017
Thanksgiving	October 9, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	November 17, 2017
Board-wide PA Day	December 1, 2017
Christmas Break	December 25, 2017 to January 5, 2018 (inclusive) Last day of school is December 22, 2017 School resumes January 8, 2018
Elementary PA Day	January 19, 2018
Secondary PA Day - (Semestered Schools only)	February 1, 2018*
Board-wide PA Day	February 16, 2018
Family Day	February 19, 2018
March Break	March 12 to 16, 2018
Good Friday	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday	April 2, 2018
Victoria Day	May 21, 2018
Elementary School PA Day	June 8, 2018
Secondary School PA Day (Full Year Schools only)	June 27, 2018*
Secondary School PA Day	June 28, 2018
Board-wide PA Day	June 29, 2018

*The first day of second semester is February 2, 2018. Secondary school calendar includes a PA day for semestered schools only on February 1, 2018 and a PA Day for full-year schools only on June 27, 2018.

To learn more about important school year dates at the TDSB visit www.tdsb.on.ca/aboutus/calendar.