



# Something To Hoot About!

Instagram: @TDSB\_McMurrich

J. Whitfield, Principal  
L. Scott, Vice Principal  
30 August 2024

## Upcoming Dates

**First Day of School –  
Tuesday, September 3rd**

### School Day Schedule

8:45 – First Bell

8:50 – Entry Bell

10:10 – 10:25 – AM recess

11:35 – 12:35 – Lunch

1:55 – 2:05 – PM recess

3:15 – Dismissal

**If a student does not enter  
with their class they need  
to sign in at the office.  
Teachers only mark  
students present or absent,  
they do not mark lates.**

### Saying Goodbye on the First Day of School

Saying goodbye on the first day of school after summer holidays can be rough, especially for students going to school for the very first time! Start practicing and talking about it in an enthusiastic and upbeat way over the weekend! “I can’t wait to hear all about your first day when I pick you up!” is a phrase that might help!

## Welcome Back!

We are thrilled to welcome our McMurrich Owls back to the nest! I hope you all had a summer that included some relaxation, fun and rest. Our caretaking staff has worked hard to get the school clean and shiny and you will notice that our field has had a major refresh over the summer! The new play structure is scheduled to be installed the first week of school and everything else should be installed by the end of October, including a baseball backstop, basketball nets and line painting.

Our busy teaching team has been in the school preparing the classrooms and programs so that they are ready to receive your young people on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>!

To our new families we welcome you to a wonderful, warm, caring and engaging environment. Our staff work hard to provide many opportunities for students inside and outside the classrooms.

Our school is a busy place and we work hard to ensure student safety so we need to know who is in our building at all times. If you have an appointment with a teacher, or have made arrangements to volunteer please start your visit at the school office to sign in. If you are picking up a student or dropping off a student after entry please buzz the front door and we will let the student in so that they can check in at the office.

We are an all-weather OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) school. We know the value of outdoor play in all weather to all our young people.

**We play in rain, snow, mud and sunshine;** we promote all weather recess access and have resources like spare boots and coats. Outdoor play in all weather enhances creativity and imagination, builds resilience and boosts the immune system!

Our students are excellent at playing and playing is hard work so extra clothes and a pair of dry socks would be a good addition to a backpack.

We would like to welcome back our AM secretary Karen and our Office Administrator Sandy. Please remember to treat our front office staff with kindness and respect – they are working hard to keep all of us organized and on track!

## Student Entry Outdoor Line Up Order

**Kindergarten classes will all meet in the kindergarten yard in the rear of the school at 8:45.** ECE's and teachers will greet students at the gate. Please say your goodbyes outside the fenced in playground and then allow your young person to enter the kindergarten yard on their own. We know it can be difficult, but experience tells us that it is much easier for young ones – even if they're crying!

Classes from grades 1 to 6 will meet in the school yard – the numbers have been spray painted on the pavement – find the number that corresponds with your teacher and meet your new class!

### Outdoor Line Up Order

Line Number	Classroom
1	Ms. Masella - grade 1 (205)
2	Ms. D'Mello/Ms. Anker & Ms. Lynn/Ms. Sethi - (206)&(100) (DHH K-3)
3	Ms. Cochran - grade 1 (208)
4	Ms. Greenberg - grade 1 (207)
5	Ms. Burgher - grade 2 (210)
6	Ms. Porter - grade 1/ 2 (203)
7	Mr. McKenzie - grade 3/ 4 (303)
8	Ms. Patel - grade 2/ 3 (302)
9	Ms. McKenzie - grade 2 /3 (306)
10	Ms. Tavares - grade 4 (204)
11	Ms. White - grade 4/5G (209)
12	Mr. Davis - grade 5/6G (304)
13	Ms. Wagner/Ms. Seguin - grade 4 DHH (201)
14	Ms. Boegel - grade 3 (301)
15	Ms. Edwards - grade 4/ 5) (202)
16	Ms. Sanderson - grade 4/ 5 (212)
17	Ms. Barkin - grade 5/6G (200)
18	Ms. Cohen - grade 5/6G (213)
19	Ms. Rambaran - grade 6 (308)

## Lunch Program

In order for us to accurately and safely supervise students at lunch time it is essential that we know who is on school property during the lunch period. This year we ask that you complete this lunch form ONCE at the beginning of the year.

Please complete one form for each student.

**-JK-3 students must be picked up by a parent/guardian.**

**-Grades 4-6 students are permitted to leave school on their own with this permission form.**

**- Students who are leaving school for lunch, must be off school property the entire lunch hour, and only return for the entry bell at 12:35 p.m.**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\***

If your young person stays at school for lunch, they will only be allowed to leave school property with a dated, WRITTEN note to the teacher from a parent/guardian. Please ensure the note is a paper copy and not an email so that if the teacher is absent, the occasional teacher or office is able to receive the note. Please make lunch plans BEFORE the student arrives at school for the day we will not be able to make phone calls during the school day to make lunch plans.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS [FORM](#) BY Tuesday, September 3rd.

[McMurrich Lunch Program Form](#)



## Boomerang Lunch

This year we will be adopting a “Boomerang Lunch” program for all students eating lunch at school.

Boomerang Lunch means that students will bring back all waste generated by their lunch, including wrappers, cores, pits, peels and any food not eaten. This has a number of advantages;

- you can see what your young person is eating and modify their lunch accordingly,
- organic waste can be disposed of in your municipal organics collection (we don't have organics collection at McMurrich),
- can help prevent insects and rodents in the classrooms.

Please make sure that there is a container to place organic waste in inside your young person's lunch bag so that it doesn't make a mess!

Water is always the preferred drink at school. A reusable water bottle can be refilled at our bottle filling station throughout the day.

Please note that we are unable to accept lunch deliveries from delivery services such as Uber Eats and Door Dash.

## TDSB Property and Dogs

Please remember that dogs are NOT allowed on TDSB property unless they are a certified service animal with proper documentation and apparatus.

If you bring your dog when picking up or dropping off, please ensure that you have someone with you who can wait outside the fence with your furry friend.

Many of us have dogs and we love them however we do want to respect the By-Laws in place to create a safe, hygienic, and welcoming environment for all students.



## Cell Phone Policy

As you may have heard the Ministry of Education introduced a new policy outlining use of mobile devices.

- **Students in Grades 6 and Below** - Students' personal mobile devices must be stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode throughout the full instructional day, except when their use is explicitly permitted by the educator under the circumstances outlined above. If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not stored out of view, they must require the device be handed in for the instructional day and the device must be placed, by the student, in a storage area in a location designated by the principal.

If you need to get in touch with your young person during the school day please contact the school's main office and we can get a message to them and let your young person know that if they need to contact you they should let their teacher know and they will facilitate that contact.

Students at McMurrich have access to Chromebooks throughout the day should they need a device to access curriculum.



# TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## Ward 8

### 2024 - 2025

### McMurrich JPS

H	Statutory Holiday
B	Bd. Designated Breac
PA	PA Day
X	Non Instructional

September						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	H	FD	2	3	4	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	5	1	2	3	4	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	5	1	2	3	4	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	5	1	2	3	PA	
29	30					
	4					

Respect

October						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		5	1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	4	5	1	2	PA	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	H	3	4	5	1	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	2	3	4	5	1	
27	28	29	30	31		
	2	3	4	5		

Responsibility

November						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
					1	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	2	3	4	5	1	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	2	3	4	5	PA	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	1	2	3	4	5	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	1	2	3	4	PA	

Empathy

December						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	5	1	2	3	4	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	5	1	2	3	4	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	5	1	2	3	4	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	B	B	B	B	B	
29	30	31				
	B	B				

Kindness & Caring

January						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
			B	B	B	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	5	1	2	3	4	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	5	1	2	3	PA	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	4	5	1	2	3	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	4	5	1	2	3	

Teamwork

February						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	4	5	1	2	3	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	4	5	1	2	PA	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	H	3	4	5	1	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
	2	3	4	5	1	

Fairness

March						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	2	3	4	5	1	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	B	B	B	B	B	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	2	3	4	5	1	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	2	3	4	5	1	
30	31					
	2					

Honesty

April						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
		3	4	5	1	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	2	3	4	5	1	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	2	3	4	5	H	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	H	1	2	3	4	
27	28	29	30			
	5	1	2			

Co-operation

May						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
				3	4	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	5	1	2	3	4	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	5	1	2	3	4	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	H	5	1	2	3	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	4	5	1	2	3	

Integrity

June						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	4	5	1	2	P	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	3	4	5	1	2	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	3	4	5	1	2	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	3	4	5	1	LD	
29	30					
	x					

Perseverance

**Professional Activity Days:**

1. Friday September 27, 2024
2. Friday October 11, 2024
3. Friday November 15, 2024
4. Friday November 29, 2024
5. Friday January 17, 2025
6. Friday February 14, 2025
7. Friday June 6, 2025

**Dates to Remember:**

**Labour Day:** September 2, 2024

**Thanksgiving:** October 14, 2024

**Winter Break:** December 23, 2024 - January 3, 2025 (last day of school December 20, 2024; school resumes January 6, 2025)

**Provincial Family Day:** February 17, 2025

**Mid-Winter Break:** March 10 - 14, 2025

**Good Friday:** April 18, 2025

**Easter Monday:** April 21, 2025

**Victoria Day:** May 19, 2025

**First Day of School:**  
Tuesday September 3, 2024

**Last day of school for Elementary students:**  
Friday June 27, 2025



# Trustee Shelley Laskin

Ward 8, Eglinton-Lawrence and Toronto-St. Paul's

September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians/Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year! I hope you and your family had a good break over the summer.

For those of you who have not met me yet, let me introduce myself. I am your local school trustee. I am your link with the Toronto District School Board, which governs Toronto's public schools. As your elected representative, I make decisions with the rest of the trustees on the Board and act as your advocate and 'sounding board,' should the need arise. I believe we all have a role to play to help our public schools thrive.

This past school year, we tackled several critical issues, including cell phone use in schools, social media, [combating hate and racism](#), mental health and wellness, and student achievement in literacy and math. These initiatives are at the heart of our commitment to creating productive and supportive learning environments for all students. And yes, we still have work to do. Despite the financial challenges we've faced in recent years, we continue to maintain important supports for students while advocating for the Ministry to provide the necessary and sustainable support and adjustments for the TDSB to ensure our students achieve success. For more details about our efforts and the key issues we have highlighted, [please review our advocacy letters available on our public webpage](#).

With Equity as a guiding principle and a commitment to Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action, we recently launched the [2024-28 Multi-Year Strategic Plan \(MYSP\)](#) which serves as a road map towards realizing the collective vision for the students and staff served by the TDSB and is a reflection of the rich perspectives, ideas, and goals of TDSB communities. Our goals are for all students to BELONG, ACHIEVE, and THRIVE in REVITALIZED facilities.

As mentioned, we are also developing a new [Cell Phone/Mobile Device Use in Schools Policy](#), aimed at enhancing student success, belonging, and well-being. A consultation was conducted earlier this spring to gather feedback from school and community partners, ensuring the policy will meet legislative requirements and align with best practices.

If you aren't already signed up to my weekly updates which come out Sunday evening at 8:00pm, please do so by [clicking here](#). For system-wide news about the Board, I invite you to explore our website [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) for information about the school year calendar, transportation, ways to get involved, as well as helpful resources for the upcoming school year.

I also encourage you to follow us on [Facebook](#), [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#), and [Threads](#) for regular updates and news. You will also continue to receive important information and updates from your school and the system via email so it is critical the school office has your up-to-date contact information.

Should you need information or have questions, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at [shelley.laskin@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:shelley.laskin@tdsb.on.ca). Please also follow me on X (formerly Twitter) at [www.twitter.com/shelleylaskin](http://www.twitter.com/shelleylaskin) or visit my webpage at [www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward8/](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward8/).

I am always looking to learn more about your local school successes, issues, and priorities. If you have something to share or wish to speak with me directly, please do not hesitate to e-mail me or call and leave a message at 416 395-TRUS (8787).

We will be ready to welcome students back for the first day of the 2024-25 school year on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. We may be the largest school board in the country, but it's the relationships that make our schools feel like family. By getting involved, you're supporting public education, and I look forward to working in partnership with you and your child's school this year.

Thank you,

Shelley Laskin Trustee, Ward 8



# 2024-2025 Information

## Your School Trustee Shelley Laskin

Ward 8, Eglinton - Lawrence & Toronto-St. Paul's  
416-395-8787 | [Shelley.Laskin@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Shelley.Laskin@tdsb.on.ca)  
Twitter @shelleylaskin | [www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward8](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Ward8)

Find Your School & School Superintendent:  
[www.tdsb.on.ca/Find-your/School](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Find-your/School)

Board Office at 416-397-3000 or [GeneralInquiries@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:GeneralInquiries@tdsb.on.ca)

PA Days & Holidays	Date
Labour Day	September 2, 2024
Elementary School PA Day	September 27, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	October 11, 2024
Thanksgiving	October 14, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	November 15, 2024
Board-wide PA Day	November 29, 2024
Winter Break	December 23, 2024 – January 3, 2025
Elementary School PA Day	January 17, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	January 30, 2025
Board-wide PA Day	February 14, 2025
Family Day	February 17, 2025
Mid-Winter Break	March 10 - 14, 2025
Good Friday	April 18, 2025
Easter Monday	April 21, 2025
Victoria Day	May 19, 2025
Elementary School PA Day	June 6, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	June 26, 2025
Secondary School PA Day	June 27, 2025

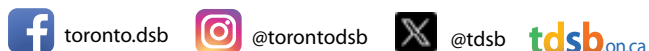
First day of classes for students is Tuesday, September 3, 2024.  
The last day of classes for elementary students is June 27, 2025.  
The last day of classes for secondary students is June 25, 2025.

### Days of Significance

For more information, please visit:

[www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolyearcalendar](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/schoolyearcalendar) [www.tdsb.on.ca/daysofsignificance](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/daysofsignificance)

### Follow the TDSB on Social Media



## Parent Concern Protocol Classroom / Subject Teacher

### STEP ONE

If you have any questions or concerns, the first person to go to is your classroom teacher. The classroom teacher can help with:

- Any questions about the classroom
- Classroom rules and consequences
- Homework and assignments

## School Administrator(s)

### STEP TWO

If you would like more information or you have questions that are beyond the classroom, the school principal and/or vice principal can help with:

- Concerns about an individual school
- Student registration
- Student schedules
- Student suspensions
- Report card concerns
- Classroom concerns
- Code of Conduct
- Safety and security
- Budget and fundraising
- School Council

## School Superintendents

### STEP THREE

Superintendents are responsible for a Family of Schools. They support school staff and can be contacted if you have questions that have not been answered or for help with:

- Alternate attendance request
- Suspension appeals

## Trustees

### STEP FOUR

Trustees are your elected community officials. They are available to help you with the following areas of the TDSB:

- Concerns about your community
- Ideas and suggestions for the Board
- Items on Board Agenda
- Board policies under review
- Board budget
- Collective bargaining

## Board Office

You can contact the Board Office directly for any questions or concerns related to:

- Continuing Education
- Night and summer school
- Adult education
- ESL
- Board documents

Phone: 416-397-3000 • Email: [GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca](mailto:GeneralInquiries@TDSB.on.ca)