

Dr. Norman Bethune C.I. Newsletter

September 2016

Principal S. Kaskens

Vice-Principals N. Dyal, L. Pagnotta



Principal's News

Hello Bethune Parents/Guardians, Welcome to the 2016/17 school year! I'm happy to report that school got off to a great start. We have welcomed about 250 grade 9's and have organized a number of activities to help them adjust to high school and get the most out of it. Our senior students have been impressed with their enthusiasm and their willingness to ask questions and seek assistance when needed.

All grade 9 parents/guardians are invited to our curriculum night on Thursday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. We promise to give you useful information (and some treats!). There is also an ESL Information session at 6:00 p.m. in the library.

Our first parent council meeting is on Monday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Our meetings are informative and they are an excellent way for parents to meet other parents and to provide the school with valuable feedback and input. Please consider attending our regular meetings!

We are looking forwards to our annual Awards Assembly on Thursday, October 6. Over 100 students will be recognized for their achievement and leadership from last year. Award winners are encouraged to invite their best friend(s) and of course, their parents, to this ceremony. It takes place at Bethune beginning at 1:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. Grade 9 students are also welcome to attend (school will be dismissed early that day).

Finally, as we begin a new school year, I'd like to encourage parents to get involved. We welcome your feedback, and want to work with you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail the school. Our staff will be happy to help.

You can look forward to our newsletter every month for information about programs and up-coming events. Please be sure to visit our website at www.bethuneci.com

Thank you for your continued support.

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ ESL & Grade 9 Curriculum Night
- ◆ Spirit Assembly
- ◆ Club Carousel
- ◆ Grade 9 BBQ
- ◆ Terry Fox Run

Bell Times

SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULES				
PERIOD	REGULAR	LATE START	BEAR (FRIDAY)	ASSEMBLY DAY
1	8:40 - 9:55	10:30 - 11:20	8:40 - 10:10 (9:50 - 10:10 BEAR)	8:40 - 9:40
2	10:00 - 11:15	11:25 - 12:20	10:15 - 11:25	9:45 - 12:00
3	11:15 - 12:25	12:20 - 1:15	11:25 - 12:35	12:00 - 12:55
4	12:30 - 1:45	1:10 - 2:05	12:40 - 1:50	1:00 - 2:00
5	1:50 - 3:05	2:10 - 3:05	1:55 - 3:05	2:05 - 3:05

2016/2017 Bethune Staff

This year we welcome back many of our staff members and we look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

We also have new staff members to Bethune. We welcome Ms. Fisher, Ms. Russell, Mr. Small and Ms. Tharani.

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*"It is noble to
teach oneself; it is
still nobler to teach
others."
Mark Twain*



Adam, D.	Teacher	Metzger, S.	Teacher
Anderson, M.	Teacher - ACL	Mueller, M.	Teacher
Andries, D.	Office Assistant	Ng, C.	Teacher - CL
Aziz, W.	Teacher - ACL	Oortwyn, E.	Teacher - ACL
Barratt, C.	Teacher	Pagnotta, L.	Vice Principal
Barrile, A.	Teacher	Parizadeh, R.	Teacher
Barrs, L.	Teacher	Parmer, D.	Teacher - ACL
Blom, M.	Teacher	Pegg, D.	Head Caretaker
Brown, R.	Teacher	Pham, H.	Teacher
Ceccol, D.	Teacher	Pitt, C.	Teacher
Chard, L.	Teacher	Plona, D.	Caretaker
Chow, A.	Teacher	Rao, V.	Teacher - ACL
Cobrana, P.	Caretaker	Rappos, A.	Teacher - ACL
Covelli, L.	Social Worker	Russell, M.	Teacher
Cullum, M.	Safety Monitor	Rzezniczek, M.	Teacher
Daniels, R.	Teacher - ACL	Scriven, C.	Teacher
Du, M.	Teacher	Selvam, A.	Teacher
Dyal, N.	Vice Principal	Shah, S.	Caretaker
Eisenberg, H.	Teacher	Small, M.	Teacher
Fisher, L.	Teacher	Soni, N.	Teacher - ACL
Focseneau, S.	Teacher	Sylvester, P.	Teacher - ACL
Ho, B.	Sr. Office Assistant	Tam, H.	Teacher - CL
Hum, J.	Teacher	Tharani, S.	Teacher
Ishiguro, J.	Teacher	Thornton, A.	Caretaker
Jiang, J.	Settlement Worker	Thurairasu, P.	Caretaker
Jessa, R.	Teacher	Tibbet, D.	Teacher - ACL
Kaskens, S.	Principal	Till, M.	Teacher
Katrivanos, M.	Teacher - ACL	Tutchener, J.	Teacher - ACL
Kilbride, A.	Teacher	Tuzi, A.	Office Administrator
Kim, G.	Teacher	Van Den Eynde, B.	Teacher
Lac, J.	Teacher	Villamin-Arenas, A.	Teacher
Ladwa, K.	Office Assistant	Villote, N.	Teacher
Laufer, E.	Teacher	Watson, T.	Teacher - ACL
Lee, J.	Teacher	Webster, H.	Teacher
Lee, K.	Teacher - ACL	Williams, G.	Teacher
Lo, J.	Sr. Office Assistant	Willoughby, A.	Teacher
Luong, B.	Teacher	Wojcik, M.	Teacher
MacLellan, N.	Teacher	Wright, C.	Teacher
Malisani, J.	Teacher	Yang, F.	Settlement Worker
Mathrani, N.	Educational Assistant	Yeung, K.	Teacher - ACL



New Superintendent

Bethune welcomes Mr. Louie Papathanasakis as our new school superintendent. Prior to becoming a superintendent, Mr. Papathanasakis was

the principal at Agincourt Collegiate. He is thrilled to be back in this community and we are looking forward to working with him.

BEAR - Be Excited About Reading

Every Friday during period one, students will take part in the Bethune school wide reading program. Everyone – staff and students – will read in silence for the last twenty minutes of period one. Students are to bring their own choice of reading material: a novel, a comic book, Manga or even a magazine – the choice is yours. Students can visit the Library to see the wide range of reading materials available.



News from the Health & Phys. Ed. Department

Another school year is upon us again and exciting things are happening. Some of our upcoming events are: Terry Fox Run, CIBC Run for the Cure, Ultimate Frisbee Basketball, Intramurals and of course our Fall Sports: Golf, Rugby, Field Hockey, Boys Volleyball, Cross Country and Girls Basketball.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands & Territories

At the TDSB, it is now customary to acknowledge the Traditional and Ancestral lands of Aboriginal peoples. All schools will begin their day with an acknowledgement of the territories.

Skateboard Park in Scarborough-Agincourt

Dear Constituents, we are happy to announce that on September 22, 2016, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm, we will be holding public consultations on the creation of a Skateboard Park in our Ward at Dr. Norman Bethune Collegiate Institute, 200 Fundy Bay Boulevard. Please let your children know that we will need their input and advice too. If you have any questions or wish to be added to my mailing list, please call my office at 416-392-1374. You can also visit my website at <http://karygiannis.net> and/or send me an email at jim@karygiannis.net

Hon. Jim Karygiannis



Québec Trip February 2017!!

Bethune will be organizing an immersion-style trip to Quebec, open to students in grades 10-12 who are enrolled in French courses, on February 19-22, 2017. All students will have opportunities to get involved in winter sports (skiing, tubing, snowboarding, skating, snow shoeing), participate in workshops on the environment, play interactive games, make music and more ALL IN FRENCH!!! See Mme Focseneau for details and an application package. Merci et à bientôt!

Mme Focseneau



Director of Education for TDSB

On behalf of the Toronto District School Board of Trustees, I am happy to announce the appointment of Dr. John Malloy as permanent Director of Education for the TDSB. Since joining the board nine months ago, John has been a strong leader and has illustrated a deep commitment to the students of Toronto. Through the introduction of a new Learning Centre Strategy, the TDSB is more focused than ever on improving student achievement and well-being, creating effective learning conditions in every classroom, school and department and ensuring the system is responsive to the needs of our families and communities. John has demonstrated his commitment to inclusiveness and shared leadership by continually providing open and regular communications with central and school staff as well as with parents/guardians and community members across the system. With this strong foundation in place, we will continue to focus on improving morale among staff and engaging parents as partners in all of our schools. We are confident that Dr. John Malloy is the Director the Toronto District School Board needs now and in the years ahead and we are extremely pleased that he has accepted the permanent position to continue as Director of Education.

*Robin Pilkey
TDSB Chair*



*"Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation."
C. Everett Koop*



Social Work

My name is Lenka Covelli and I am the school Social Worker at Dr. Norman Bethune C.I. In this role I get the privilege of working with students and their families, teachers, and other support staff to maximize a student's educational experience. This is done through a variety of means such as individual counselling, referrals to community agencies, consultation, and advocacy. Areas of support include but are not limited to: anxiety; transition to a new country;

gaming/computer concerns; bullying; child abuse; depression; family issues; mental health; social relationships or social skills; self-esteem; sexuality and stress. Please see the attached flyer regarding information on parent workshops available through CAMH if you are concerned about your child's excessive video gaming or misuse of technology. If you would like more information on how to access services, please contact the Guidance Department.

Lockdown & Fire Drills

At the beginning of each school year, our students and staff prepare for the year ahead by establishing the foundations for a successful year. One of the ways we know we can help students be successful is to create a safe environment in which to learn. Though no one ever wants to see an emergency happen at a school, it's important for school staff to be equipped to deal with those situations, should these occur.

The safety of students and staff is a top priority at our school and to that end, as with all emergency drills, it is essential that we are prepared and understand the importance of procedures that will help ensure the safety of everyone in our school.

The TDSB has taken steps to ensure your child's safety while in school. Each school has developed emergency preparedness plans that include steps staff will take in the event of an emergency, how staff will get students away from possible dangers, and how students' families will be contacted.

One aspect of emergency preparedness is the lockdown and fire drill. All schools are required to conduct a minimum of two lockdown drills and six fire drills each school year. Lockdown drills, like fire drills, are an essential component to ensuring student and staff safety. It is important that all staff and students are prepared and know how to respond in cases of emergencies. The drills last approximately 5 minutes and ensure plans are effective and can also systematically identify any safety concerns.

Communication is also very important in any emergency situation. The emergency contact information kept on file is important in helping this happen. It lists the people who can pick up a student from the school. If you have not yet provided this information to the office or have updates to the information on file, please make sure our office staff members have that information as soon as possible.

Continuing Education - Learn English

Adults can build literacy and English language skills for FREE for eligible learners. Learn about your community and the services available. TDSB offers a wide range of classes from beginner to advanced to help you improve your conversation skills, further your education,

and prepare for citizenship and language proficiency tests.

Registration opens the week of August 29 and is ongoing. For more information visit www.ESLtoronto.ca or call 416-338-4300.

@TDSB_ConEd

Continuing Education - Community Programs

Take up a new hobby, learn a language, and meet people in your community. Put your hands to work and decorate and glaze your own pottery or sculpture. Stay active with co-ed basketball/volleyball, tennis and golf. Gain knowledge on how to invest in the stock market or prepare

your taxes. Register today at www.learn4life.ca.

Facebook.com/TDSBLearn4Life

@TDSB_ConEd

Classes begin the week of Saturday, September 17, 2016.