

Sept. 23, 2022

*****PDPS School Council Elections– September 26*****

School Councils are important advisory bodies to the schools and school board. The purpose of a school council is, through the active participation of parents, **to improve student achievement and increase accountability of the education system to parents.** PDPS is extending an invitation to all families and community members to attend our first virtual School Council Meeting for the election of our Executive on **Monday, September 26 at 6:30 pm.** *We would strongly encourage all families to attend the meeting. The link is below. You do not need to download Teams to participate as there is a web-based version that can be accessed.* Please consider contributing to our school community by joining our School Council, which meets monthly throughout the year. We encourage all families to participate as Executive or Members. Sub-committees of the Plattsville School Council include Fundraising, Safe Schools, and the Welcome Committee, to name a few. **Attending the meeting does not commit you to an executive or sub-committee position – these are volunteer positions only!** We hope to be conducting ‘hybrid’ meetings (attend in-person or virtually) going forward, as we have been provided with some new technology to assist in this process.

Nomination forms will be accepted up to 12:00 pm on Monday, September 26.

[Election Procedure Bylaws](#) [School Council Roles & Responsibilities](#) [Nomination Forms](#)

Agenda and Microsoft Teams [link](#) to meeting

****Student Support Supervisors *Desperately* Needed at PDPS!****

A very important role in our PDPS community is that of our Student Support Supervisors. At this time, we are in need of regular support on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:35 – 11:35** to help with adequate supervision of students both inside and outside during our nutrition breaks. **THIS IS A PAID POSITION** that does require an application to be completed. If you are interested in one or more days, please contact Ms. Elcombe directly at t.elcombe@tvdsb.ca or 519-684-7436 ext. 4 to begin the process. Thank you for your consideration!

Terry Fox Run at PDPS

PDPS staff and students will be participating in our school run on **Thursday, September 29** during the middle block of the day (raindate Friday, October 7). The Terry Fox Foundation has created an online fundraising page for our school as well as provide student/classroom “Terry” activities. Help us beat our achieved goal of raising \$1500 last year! You can **donate online at:** <https://schools.terryfox.ca/9249> . We will also be collecting ‘toonies for Terry’ on the day of the run. Thank you in advance for supporting this important annual fundraiser!

Meet the Community Night

We will be having our ‘Meet the Community Night’ on **Thursday, September 29, 5:30 – 7:00 pm.** During the evening, families can look forward to participating in a Terry Fox-themed scavenger hunt, helping families navigate around the school. Students will display their Panther Pride by showing off their favorite places to learn and spend their time throughout the school day, providing you with a glimpse of their home away from home. This is also an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet their educators and other school staff. We are really looking forward to having your families join us for this special event. If possible, we ask families to bring in a TOONIE for TERRY, helping us raise funds for cancer research! We look forward to building many positive relationships with our students and their families in 2022-2023.

Student Information Verification

Thank you to everyone who has completed the Student Verification forms for each of their children. *There are still 143 students who have either not had their information verified in the system, or have indicated that changes need to be made, but have not provided the school with the new information.* Please make sure to verify the student information forms and privacy form in the Parent Portal as soon as possible. **If you have indicated changes to student information is needed (e.g., change of cell phone number, alternative emergency contact, etc.), this must be sent to the school ‘in writing’ either through email plattsville@tvdsb.ca or on paper for each child.** Changes cannot be made through the Parent Portal. If you have any questions or issues with the portal, please contact plattsville@tvdsb.ca as well.

Orange Shirt Day/Truth and Reconciliation Week

Our school will be participating in various activities to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Week this coming week. We would ask everyone to **wear orange on Friday, September 30**, which will be recognized as ‘Orange Shirt Day’ across Canada to recognize and honour Residential School Survivors and remember those who didn’t make it home.

Rowan's Law Day

Every year, the last Wednesday in September is Rowan's Law Day – a day to increase awareness for students, staff, and parents/guardians about concussions and to share the story of Rowan Stringer, a 17 year-old rugby player who died after being hit in the head twice in less than a week while playing high school rugby. It was the belief that she could shake it off and get back in the game that ultimately ended Rowan Stringer's life. Concussions in sport are a recognized health concern – but brain injuries are not limited to people who play sports. Everyone is at risk. All TVDSB students and staff are encouraged to **wear purple** in recognition of Rowan's Law on **Wednesday September 28, 2022**.

Pop Tabs for Dylan

PDPS will be collecting pop tabs to help a 5 year-old Ingersoll student with Cerebral Palsy to get a new stroller. Collected tabs can be brought to the office. Thanks for helping!

Updated Home Access to TVDSB Databases

The TVDSB provides home access to students and families to a number of carefully vetted databases containing information services and sources including articles, journals, newspapers, ebooks, as well as audio and video media to support learning and curriculum objectives at home and at school. Databases have organized vast collections of information into organized, searchable formats to help students in their inquiry process. The attached brochure provides information regarding logins and passwords for these databases.

Parent Volunteers and Police Checks

As our extra-curricular activities are starting up, and field trips being booked over the next month, this is just a reminder to parents that if you wish to volunteer with students (e.g., driving to games/events, accompanying class on trip, working with students in the school), you **MUST** have a valid Police Check on file and have signed an annual Offence Declaration for 2022-2023. The 'vulnerable sector check' is free, and can be completed online, but you will need to have a letter signed by Ms. Elcombe in order to go forward with the process. You can let your child's teacher know that you would like a copy of this letter, and one will be sent home.

<https://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=147&lng=en>

Southwestern Public Health – focus on Mental Health and Well-Being

September Mental Health

In a society consumed by online technologies, it is imperative students learn the skills to navigate the digital world so that they can use these resources safely. This month's Mental Health Series offering focuses on digital literacy and staying safe online. The month includes the topics of screen time and gaming, social media and media representation, and cybersecurity and privacy

September: Digital Literacy and Online Safety

For additional resources, check out our new "School Health" webpage.

<https://www.swpublichealth.ca/en/community-health/school-health.aspx>

Individual School Photos

Edgelmaging will be coming out to PDPS on Wednesday, October 5 to do individual school photos. A digital reminder notice will be emailed to every home. No advance purchase necessary. Orders are placed after photo day. All you need to do is bring your smile and dress appropriately! We will make sure that any students leaving early that day for the Cross Country Meet have their photos taken first thing in the morning. Individual Grade 8 graduation photos will be taken in April, 2023.

Bicycles and Scooters on School Sidewalks

It's wonderful to see so many of our students riding their bikes and scooters to school each day. This is just a reminder to everyone that once they are on school property, they should be dismounting and walking them on the sidewalk to the racks for storage, as there are often a lot of students and families with younger children and strollers also using the pathways, and have been a lot of 'near misses' for injuries this past week. We also want to remind all of our students that they should never be riding or walking their bikes or scooters through the parking lot in front of or between cars before and after school for safety reasons. Thank you for helping to keep our students and families safe at PDPS!

Drumbo Fair

Due to unforeseen circumstances, PDPS was unable to set up an art display at this year's Drumbo Fair. We would still encourage you to attend with your families this weekend and check out some of our students' individual entries!

Lost & Found

With the changes in temperature from morning through afternoon, we have started to find some 'discarded' clothing on the yard following nutrition breaks. If you recognize any items in the photos, please let us know so we can return them to your child.

Upcoming Dates

September 24, 25	Drumbo Fair
Monday, September 26	Truth and Reconciliation Week begins School Council Elections Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, September 28	Rowan's Law Day – wear purple
Thursday, September 29	Terry Fox Run Meet the Community Night
Friday, September 30	Orange Shirt Day
Wednesday, October 5	Individual School Photo Day Regional Cross Country Meet at Pittock Yom Kippur
Friday, October 7	Terry Fox Run (raindate)
Monday, October 10	Thanksgiving Monday
Thursday, October 13	Grade 7 Immunizations
Wednesday, October 19	IEPs home
Thursday, October 20	The Big Crunch
Monday, October 24	PA Day
Monday, October 31	Halloween

Have a wonderful weekend, Panther families!

Contact Us at plattsville@tvdsb.ca or 519-684-7436.