



Claude Watson School for the Arts

Weekly Update - Friday May 10, 2019

Upcoming Events

May 15

- Summer Showcase Auditions gr. 4-8
- Gauss Test 3:30pm
- New Student Info Night 6 – 7 pm
- Solobtrations 7-9 pm

May 20

- Victoria Day Holiday

May 23

- "Love, Limits, Live it" Parent Event 6:45 pm

May 25

- School Council Event 8 am - 12 pm

May 27 – 30

- EQAO

May 30

- "Love, Limits, Live it" Parent Event 6:45 pm

May 31

- Track & Field

June 3-6

- Dental Screening

June 6 (revised date)

- CWSA Dance Night at Earl Haig

June 11

- Track & Field

TDSB Budget and CWSA



I've been receiving a lot of emails and calls from parents who have questions about staffing allocation and programming at the Claude Watson. In consultation, with our school superintendent Linda Curtis, I can confirm:

- we have committed to an extended day for next year
- we will continue to support rich arts programming for students at Claude Watson.

There are many rumors floating around. If you have concerns please contact me directly. We are awaiting information about our final staff allocation, but we are working hard to create different models to be prepared for a variety of scenarios. Please rest assured that I will continue to advocate for our school community along with our school superintendent Linda Curtis. Again we all value and are committed to the extended day and enriched arts program that are expected to continue next year.

I think it important to understand that these challenges are not limited to CWSA. As you may know, The TDSB is projecting a budget shortfall of \$54.4 million. On Monday, May 13, Trustees will be provided with a proposed budget plan that outlines the reductions and changes to the delivery of services and program. Challenging decisions will need to be made by the Board of Trustees to balance the budget while best supporting student learning and achievement and providing equitable allocation of resources.

You can watch a live webcast of the budget presentation of staff's proposal to balance the budget on Monday at 4:30pm. Visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/> and follow the live broadcast link. On Tuesday, May 14, the webcast along with more information will be posted on the [TDSB's web site](#). You are encouraged to review the information and provide input on the proposed budget reductions at [TDSB Budget Consultations](#).

The Board has set aside dates and times for public presentations or written submissions to FBEC the Board's Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee. Meetings have been scheduled for:

- **Wednesday, May 15 at 6 p.m.**
- **Monday, May 27 at 4:30 p.m.**
- **Monday, June 3 at 4:30 p.m.**

Requests to speak in person must be submitted in writing to Governance and Board Services by 4 p.m., two working days before the committee meeting day. FBEC will deliberate and report to the Board on a budget plan for approval at the end of June. The Board is required by legislation to have a balanced budget.

In the interim, our school is in a holding pattern but we are working with staff to produce a staffing model that reflects our rich arts programming. As I get further information I will share it with the community. If you have concerns, again, please contact me directly.

Ms. Jones

Gauss Math Test

CWSA Gauss Math test date is **Wednesday, May 15th, 2019** at **3:30 pm – 4:45pm**. Students are asked to go to their lockers afterschool, put away their belongings and bring only a pencil, eraser and calculator to the test. Students will line up outside rooms: 304, 305, 306, 307. Students will be dismissed at 4:40 pm sharp! Parents please pick-up students at 4:45pm.

Summer Showcase Auditions

Ms. Gage will be running auditions for all students in grades 4-8 interested in auditioning for our Summer Showcase end of year show and /or our Saturday, May 25th School Council Neighbourhood Day from 8 am – 12pm.

Volunteer & Staff Appreciation Lunch

School Council will be providing a potluck Volunteer appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 from 11:30 – 1:15pm in the staff room. Come and bring an item to share. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Pavel Gouchtchine: gpawel@gmail.com, 647-272-5690. See the Flyer at the end of the newsletter.

School Council - 'Celebrating Claude Watson Neighbourhood Day! [CW neighbourhood day yard sale.pdf](#)

(see details in the flyer included with this newsletter that was emailed out to CWSA families)

CWSA School Council is hosting a community engagement event on Saturday May 25, 8am to 12 noon, in front of the school. This event -- to be attended by Councillor Fillion, Trustee Brown and Superintendent Curtis -- will primarily be to celebrate the school in the community by showcasing student performances for our neighbours. We have invited our CWSA alumni to join us. Also, our September 2019 incoming Grade 4 students have been invited!

Ms. Song will be the head coordinator for all student performances. The Student Council, led by Ms. Gage, will provide additional support and also student leadership on the day of the event.

Secondarily, this event is expected to attract a high turnout of neighbour residents, so the Council is taking advantage of this opportunity to fundraise via:

- 1) yard sale vendors;
- 2) food sales;
- 3) clothes/textile donation drive -- donating unwanted items will help with your spring cleaning!

We earnestly seek parent volunteers by signing up via: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4faba62da7f94-claude>

For any queries, please email cwsaevent@gmail.com

“Love, Limits, Live it” CWSA Parent Workshop Series

Date: Thursday, May 23rd

Time: 6:45 – 8:45 pm

Topic: Helping Your Child Do Well in Life: Understanding Resilience

Location: Gym or Multi-purpose Rm.

- Increased knowledge and understanding of resilience and why it is so important
- Tips on how to promote resilience

Helping Your Child Do Well in Life: Understanding Resilience (ages 10-14) [Understanding Resilience Flyer 2019.pdf](#)

“Love, Limits, Live it” CWSA Parent Workshop Series

Date: Thursday, May 30th

Time: 6:45 – 8:45 pm

Topic: Stress & Worry – Helping Youth Cope (10- 14) [Stress Worry Flyer 2019.pdf](#)

Location: Gym or Multi-purpose Rm.

- Increased knowledge and understanding of stress and worry in youth
- How the brain works when under stress and the mind & body connections
- Ways to help youth cope with stress and worry

“Love, Limits, Live it” CWSA Parent Workshop Series

Date: Rescheduled to date to be determined

Time: 6:45 – 8:45 pm

Topic: Connecting with Your Preteen/Teen (13 - 14)

Location: Gym or Multi-purpose Rm.

- Normal growth & development in the teenage years
- Adolescent brain development
- Reasons why some youth use alcohol, cannabis and other drugs
- Most common drugs used by youth
- Ways to improve communication between parents/caregivers and preteens

Dance Night at Earl Haig (rescheduled)

CWSA Dance Night! Please join us at our annual Dance Night held **Thursday, June 6th, 2019** at Earl Haig Secondary School.

Track & Field Dates

CWSA Track & Field dates: **Friday, May 31st** and **Tuesday, June 11th 2019**.

(Please note dates vary for different schools.)

Safety – In the Loop

Traffic Alert: ALWAYS CHOOSE SAFETY OVER CONVENIENCE!

- 1) Do NOT aim to drop off your child as close as possible to the school front gates. Always decide to drop off directly beside the sidewalk to the right, regardless of the distance needed to walk. Reduce all risk for your child.
- 2) Do NOT enter from Hollywood Ave. It is a one-way lane (except for service vehicles). Reduce all risk for neighbours and students walking by that entrance.
- 3) Do NOT park (even if very briefly) by the garbage containers. The condo management has strongly raised an issue about the ongoing disregard by parents with this illegal parking.



A VERY WARM INVITATION
TO ALL CWSA STAFF MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS!

Staff Appreciation & Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

- **DATE: Tuesday, May 14nd, 2019**
- **TIME: 11:30 am to 1:15 p.m.**
- **PLACE: CWSA Staff Room**

The wonderful work of our Staff & Volunteers is essential to the learning and development of our students. We celebrate your efforts and contributions at this event. Please come!

All CWSA staff and families are invited to contribute any **nut-free**: main dishes, appetizers, finger foods, snacks, desserts or beverages. Ethnic foods to show our multi-cultural heritage are most welcome. If you are unable to contribute a food item, you may participate through a financial donation.

Important considerations:

1. Please bring ready-to-serve food items including serving utensils.
2. For your convenience, please label your dishware and utensils for easy identification during pick-up at the end of the day in front of the school office.
3. Please drop your food contribution in the staff room any time before 11:00 a.m.

We need help with set-up and clean up.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Pavel Gouchtchine: gpawel@gmail.com, 647-272-5690. *With thanks from your School Council!*