

October 29, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the entire team at Eastdale C.V.I., we hope you are having a great week so far. As we wrap up the second month of the school year, the DDSB is seeking your feedback on your child(ren)'s experience with in-person learning and we are sharing information with you on the following topics in this message.

1. Feedback Opportunity through Thoughtexchange
2. Parent Engagement Event on Wed, Nov 4 from 6:30-9pm
3. Durham Region Health Department Halloween Safety Tips
4. French as a Second Language (FSL) Programs Survey

We thank you in advance for your engagement and hope that you find this information useful as we navigate this new environment together.

Feedback Opportunity through Thoughtexchange

The DDSB would like to gather feedback from students and parents/guardians on your in-person learning experience. We want to know what is working well and where we can improve. We are all on this learning journey in the pandemic together. Your feedback is important to help us determine how we can support you and your child(ren) for the rest of the school year.

Please participate in this Thoughtexchange by visiting:

<https://my.thoughtexchange.com/729797915>

It will only take a few minutes to participate and you can go back to it to as frequently as you would like to review new thoughts that have been shared. The deadline to participate in the Thoughtexchange is 11:59pm on Tuesday November 3, 2020.

Parent Engagement Sessions – Wed, Nov 4 from 6:30-9pm

The DDSB's Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is presenting a Parent Engagement Series webinar on Wednesday, November 4 from 6:30 to 9:00pm. Session topics include *Welcome to School Community Councils*, *Communicating and Collaborating Effectively*, and *Overload: Strategies to Stay Healthy in a Stressful World*. You have the option to attend the sessions that interest you. For information about the sessions and speakers, please view the flyer on our website: <https://bit.ly/2Ttl7gn>.

We ask that you please register in advance by visiting:

https://ddsb.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n_fSUq4tTWSKCN6amN1Olg. Should you require accessibility accommodations for participation, please contact Manon Laplante at manon.laplante@ddsb.ca or 905-666-6383.

Durham Region Health Department Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween is going to be different this year for all the superheroes, ghosts and scary creatures who are planning to celebrate. But it can still be fun, if everyone practices health and safety rules. The Durham Region Health Department has [created a few tips \(PDF\)](#) to help families have a safe and spooktacular Halloween.

French as a Second Language (FSL) Programs Parent/Guardian Survey

The French Second Language (FSL) Programs Review Committee would like to invite parents/guardians to participate in the FSL Programs Review Parent/Guardian Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FSLReviewParCom>

The Survey will be open until 11:59 pm on Monday, November 9, 2020.

The purpose of the survey is to gather information in order to prepare a comprehensive report on French language programs the DDSB offers as well as to review the impact of FSL programs on English Language programming. For more information about the FSL Programs Review please visit: <https://www.ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/fsl-programs-review.aspx>.

Eastdale Updates:

Drop-off/Pick-up/Parking:

On Friday, November 6th we will be holding our 'drive-thru' commencement at the back of our school. Our graduates will be coming at the Harmony Road entrance beginning at 11:00 am. We ask that all other vehicles use the Adelaide Entrance and exit to pick up or drop off after this time. In addition, if you will be parking your vehicle for a period of time, please use the north-east portion of our parking lot.

Commencement 2020:

Reminder that our commencement for our 2020 Graduates is taking place on Friday, November 6th. If you are the parent of a graduate, don't forget to book your time to come and receive your diploma, awards, and certificates and also your graduation gift. If you cannot attend, these items will be available to pick up following this date at a scheduled time by calling or emailing in advance to book an appointment. Professional photographs will be taken at our commencement. These photographs will be unique and a fun memory for our graduates. There will be an option to include your whole vehicle with graduates and family members cheering, smiling, waving or sticking their heads out the sun roof or a more simple picture with your graduate on their own. All graduates will receive one free photo as well photos will be included into our grad video which will be available on December 1st on our website. Please email the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Commencement 2021:

All future graduates and families will be invited to complete a survey in November. Please stay tuned. This information will be shared in future correspondence and will be found on our website. We will be completing the survey to consider 2 items. The first being the date of our commencement. We would like to see if the community would like to continue the commencement in the fall or move it to a June date. Second, we would like to see what formats of commencement are preferred. With the current situation, many schools have been very creative in changing the traditional structure of commencement and many students would very much like to change the format permanently. Again, please stay tuned as your voice is important to us.

Current Grade 12 – Grad Photos:

We remain unable to host photo day or grad photo's in the school due to current COVID restrictions. We hope that we will be able to book a date some time in the new year. As this is unpredictable, Edge Imaging has established a pop-up studio for Durham in south Whitby. If you would like to get your grad photo done, please go to www.edgeimaging.ca/popup . The sitting fee must be paid before photos are taken. All Grade 12 students must have photo taken to be included in the graduation composite photograph that will proudly hang in our school.

Final Grades and Quadmester 2:

Quadmester 1 will end on Thursday, November 12th. Final grades and report cards will be made available on Thursday, November 26th through Secure Document Delivery (SDD) as they were in June 2020. Quadmester 2 will begin on Monday, November 16th. Please be aware that there will be a redistribution of the students and therefore, some students may be assigned to a new cohort. This information will be sent out electronically prior to November 16th.

We wish all families a safe and happy Halloween this year and thank you for your efforts to help keep our school community safe!

Sincerely,

Michelle Monk
Principal
Eastdale C.V.I.