



SPECIAL SERVICES

# Special Education Superintendent Update

November 2021

## Special Services Parent Engagement Series



### Preparing for Life After High School: Transition Workshop for Parents of Adolescents in Multiple Exceptionalities/Developmental Disability (ME/DD) Programs

*Supporting Students to Grow and Learn in New Environments*



**Webinar and Q & A Tuesday November 30, 2021**

**7:00pm– 8:30pm**

**ZOOM Link: <https://tcdsb.zoom.us/j/96645042267>**

*Presented by:*

**Special Services – Transition Team  
School Support Program, Surrey Place Centre  
Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)  
Passport Funding**

**Documents mentioned during the presentation are accessible at:**

**<https://sites.google.com/tcdsb.ca/post21parents/home>**

**Please RSVP**

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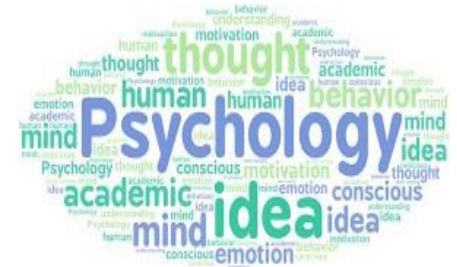
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The Mental Health Team promoted mental health activities and resources throughout the system with the following activities:

- The Mental Health Professionals provided mental health resources to support the well-being of Newcomer students,
- Developed a presentation on Hope for Safe Schools Student Symposium. The presentation will be asynchronous for secondary students but delivered synchronously for elementary students.
- Distributed a message of Staff Well-Being with a focus on Self-Compassion for the month of November with mental health resources for both staff as well as classroom educators.
- Provided Staff Well-Being Professional Development for 70 Assessment and Programming Teachers as well as the Autism Staff members on **Fostering our Own Resiliency During Uncertain Times.**
- Provided Staff Well-Being Professional Development for 80 New Teachers.
- In collaboration with School Mental Health Ontario and York Region District School Board, we will present at the Annual Ontario Psychological Association Conference on **Supporting Student Mental Health in Schools During Uncertain Times.**

Psychology staff participated in the Dorothy Hill Symposium presented by the Ontario Psychological Association. This year's presentation was on **Social Justice and Anti-Oppressive Work in School Focused Psychological Services** by Dr. A. Jordan Wright from New York University. The presentation identified the academic and social emotional impacts of inequities in education, and some initial steps needed to address these concerns within school psychology practice, and within school systems.



Psychology staff taking part in a Literacy Research Working Group resumed regular meetings this month. The goal of this working group is to review and summarize relevant research on the development of reading ability, and on reading assessment and intervention. The working group will be in-servicing psychology staff, and offering support for classroom literacy interventions this school year.

The Psychology Department continues to serve students, families and the school community. This includes in-person psychoeducational assessments, counselling and mental health supports, school team consultation, and psychology education for school staff and community.