



**SAFE SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT
2023-2024 SAFE SCHOOLS METRICS**

In 2023-2024, the Safe Schools Department collaborated with multiple TCDSB departments to implement key initiatives. The following summary provides a detailed review of these priorities. A total of 3664 staff, including Senior Staff, Administrators, Teaching, Non-Teaching Staff and Students participated in professional learning opportunities offered throughout the year.

Safe Schools Department
2023 – 2024 Action Items

Title	Description	Collaboration	Date
Promoting Student Safety and Violence Prevention	Reviewed strategies that promote student safety and violence prevention.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	April 8, 2024
Elementary and Secondary Students with Special Needs: Understanding and Responding to Behaviour	Provided elementary and secondary educators with a foundational understanding of the motivations underlying student behaviour and strategies to redirect student actions into more positive and prosocial behaviours.	Safe Schools Special Services	January 10, 2024
Posters to Promote Student Mental Health and Well-Being	Promote student mental health and well-being (elementary and secondary).	Safe Schools Special Services	Launched in Fall 2023
SafeTO	The Safe Schools Department is heavily invested in this multi-sectorial approach to promoting community safety.	Safe Schools Special Services Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	Ongoing



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Physical Activity to Promote Student Wellness	Focused on a holistic system based on the principles of kinesiology and learning theory to help students increase self-responsibility, self-empowerment, and positive student behaviour.	Safe Schools Physical/Health/Outdoor Education	March 6, 2024
Art as a Tool to Promote Focus and Calm	Used art as a reflective activity to turn stress into calm helping students develop skills to better self regulate, de-escalate and problem solve.	Safe Schools	February 20, 2024
The Power of Language in Building Safe School Climates	Increased awareness, knowledge, and skills around the power of language in building inclusivity in school communities.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	May 1, 2024
Supporting Students Outside of Your Lived Experience	Focused on examining one’s own identity and learning how to support diverse groups of students in our communities.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	May 15, 2024
Introduction to Emotion Focused Therapy for Social Work and Psychology	Addressed how to respond to student’s emotional needs collaboratively and empathically to enable students to better understand their lived experience through emotional learning.	Safe Schools	February 23, 2024
Resolution Conference and Mediation Circles	Promotes the use of restorative practices to effectively respond to and address incidents involving conflict among students.	Safe Schools	November 16, 2023 March 7, 2024
Building Relationship with Toronto Transit	Collaborates with the Toronto Transit Commission to effectively deliver school presentations focused on travelling safely and responsibly by TTC.	Safe Schools	Ongoing



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Commission (TTC)			
Understanding Relational Aggression: Just One You (J.O.Y.) Project	Addressed the topic of Relational Aggression, including its origin, as well as interventions and strategies to promote positive student behaviour.	Safe Schools Elementary Guidance Nurturing Our Catholic Community	December 6, 2023
Anti-Sex Trafficking of Youth: Trauma-informed Prevention and Intervention	Focused on understanding human trafficking, developing skills to identify students who may be at risk, and providing appropriate intervention and supports.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	May 9, 2024
Creating a Trauma-Informed Classroom: Strategies and Supports	Centred on creating a trauma-informed classroom including reviewing the guiding principles of a trauma-informed approach and how they can be used to create a culturally relevant, physically and emotionally safe, caring learning environment.	Safe Schools	April 6, 2024
Deconstructing Your Implicit Biases	Focused on reflective activities that lead to a better understanding of one’s own implicit biases. This new self-awareness helps to nurture safe, caring, inclusive and equitable school climates.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	April 3, 2024
Safe Schools W.R.A.P. UP (Wellness, Religion, All My Relations and Physical Education)	Monthly elementary student virtual learning experiences focused on Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ, Virtues of the Month, Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, Mental Health and Wellness, and Physical Education.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	Ongoing



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		Nurturing our Catholic Community Physical/Health/Outdoor Education Art Department - Music	
Risk Review Training (START-AV and EARL-V3)	Risk Review training, leadership and support for all Psychology and Social Work staff continued throughout the 2023-2024 school year. These risk assessment tools assist our Mental Health professionals in supporting youth engaging in risky and worrisome behaviours.	Safe Schools Special Services	October 19, 2023
C-L.E.A.P. Initiative (Catholic Leaders Engaging in Active Play)	Continued implementation of Catholic Leaders Engaging in Active Play (C-L.E.A.P.), a program designed to promote positive school climate, reduce conflict at recess and develop leadership skills among junior and intermediate students.	The Safe Schools Physical/Health/Outdoor Education Nurturing our Catholic Community	November 2, 2023
Effective Classroom Management: Hacking School Discipline	Addressed strategies on how to build a culture of responsible students and independent learners.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	October 24, 2023
How to Create an Anti-Racist and Anti-Oppressive Classroom	Centred on self-reflection and implicit bias, culturally responsive pedagogy, understanding children and trauma, and practical strategies to create anti-racist and anti-oppressive classrooms in keeping with our Catholic teachings.	Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations	November 29, 2023



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<p>Bullying Awareness, Prevention, Intervention & Supports</p>	<p>Rooted in our Catholic faith, emphasized the dignity of all persons, the importance of addressing bullying behaviours, promoting healthy relationships, and nurturing inclusion of all students in our school communities.</p>	<p>Safe Schools Elementary Guidance Nurturing our Catholic Community</p>	<p>November 8, 2023</p>
<p>Threat Assessment Training & Threatening, Worrisome Behaviours and Interventions</p>	<p>Aimed to increase participants' understanding of the threat assessment process that is designed to support students in crisis and to develop appropriate interventions and scaffolding that are culturally relevant and trauma informed.</p>	<p>Safe Schools</p>	<p>October 17, 2023 February 6, 2024</p>
<p>Addressing Challenging Behaviour in Adolescents</p>	<p>Assisted participants in developing an understanding of challenging youth behaviour and practical intervention strategies including anger management, relationship building and creating a positive, culturally relevant, physically and emotionally safe learning environment.</p>	<p>Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations</p>	<p>October 18, 2023</p>
<p>Empathy – The Social Emotion</p>	<p>Addressed key concepts and strategies that reinforce empathic behaviour in students.</p>	<p>Safe Schools Elementary Guidance Nurturing our Catholic Community</p>	<p>December 13, 2023</p>
<p>Class Meetings: A Restorative Approach</p>	<p>Focused on better understanding how class meetings can serve as a valuable component of a school-wide bullying awareness, prevention, and intervention plan.</p>	<p>Safe Schools Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations</p>	<p>January 24, 2024</p>



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		Nurturing our Catholic Community	
Tools to Support Self Regulation	Explored the relationship between self-regulation and the brain to support students in developing positive and pro social behaviours.	Safe Schools	January 25, 2024
Trauma: Impact and Interventions	Provided an understanding of the impact of trauma on children, how to develop a trauma-informed lens with which to view emotionally dysregulated students, and practical classroom interventions and strategies.	Safe Schools	February 29, 2024
Safe Schools Student Ambassador Symposiums	Student Ambassador Symposiums were held in the fall of 2023 (during Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week) and spring of 2024. Highlights included emphasis on Gospel values, inclusion and presentations related to healthy relationships, positive school climate, and empathy.	Safe Schools Nurturing our Catholic Community Special Services Indigenous Education, Equity, and Community Relations 21 st Century Learning	November 22, 2023 November 23, 2023 April 23, 2024 April 24, 2024

In addition, TCDSB staff can access various Safe Schools professional learning videos throughout the school year on our Safe Schools Employee Portal Page.



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Safe Schools Department
2023 – 2024 Additional Initiatives

In addition to the Action Items identified in the previous chart, the Safe Schools Department engaged in various initiatives throughout the 2023 – 2024 school year. The following summary provides a detailed review of these initiatives.

Title	Description
Principal/Vice Principal/Superintendent Professional Development	Professional Learning Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anti-Sex Trafficking ● Conducting Investigations ● Improving School Community Safety Summit ● Head Start: Newly Appointment Principals and Vice Principals ● Issues and Succession Series: Newly Appointment Principals and Vice Principals
Early Assessment Risk List-V3 Training	Targeted training provided to Social Work and Psychology Staff
K-12 Principal Meetings	Presentations on various Safe Schools topics delivered throughout the school year including, but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emergency Response Procedures ● Emergency Crisis Response Plan ● Search and Seizure ● Safe and Accepting School Teams ● Safe Schools Plan ● Safe Schools Policies
Vice Principal Meetings (Secondary)	Presentations on various Safe Schools topics delivered throughout the school year including, but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Progressive Discipline ● Progressive Discipline Application ● Mitigating and Other Factors ● Safe Schools Procedures ● Scenarios



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Special Education Advisory Committee Presentation	Presentation of the Safe Schools Annual Report delivered to SEAC
Leaders of Your Own Learning	Presentations on various Safe Schools topics delivered to secondary teachers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma • Hacking School Discipline • Worrisome Behaviours
New Teacher Induction Program	Presentations on various Safe Schools topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hacking School Discipline and Classroom Management • Threatening, Worrisome Behaviours • Progressive Discipline
J.O.Y. Project Celebration	Students who participated in the J.O.Y. Project in 2023-2024 attended a full day symposium which included various workshops and activities.
Committee of Youth Officers (COYO) Conference	Safe Schools staff continue to collaborate with various stakeholder groups to organize the yearly conference. In addition, in 2023-2024 Safe Schools staff delivered a presentation highlighting various TCDSB Safe Schools initiatives.
Presentation for Central Resource Staff	Safe Schools staff delivered a targeted professional learning session on the topic “Art as a Tool to Promote Focus and Calm”.
TCDSB Celebrating Women 365	Safe Schools staff delivered a workshop to students on the theme “Trailblazers: Black Women Who Have Shaped Canada”.
Catholic Education Week Celebration	Safe Schools staff delivered a workshop to students on the theme “We are Called to Love”.



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Safe Schools Department
2023 – 2024 Committee Involvement

Throughout the 2023-2024 school year, Safe Schools Department staff served as key members on various committees and contributed to meetings held throughout the school year. The following summary provides a review of these committees.

Title	Description
Safe Schools Advisory Committee	Regular meetings throughout the school year to discuss various Safe Schools topics including TCDSB policies, Policy/Program Memoranda, programs and practices
Joint Safe Schools/TECT Committee	Regular meetings throughout the school year to discuss various Safe Schools topics
Joint Safe Schools/TSU Committee	Regular meetings throughout the school year to discuss various Safe Schools topics
SafeTO	Regular meetings throughout the school year involving various committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Leadership Committee • Steering Committee • Integrated Safety Coordination Teams • SafeTO School Summit Organizing Committee
Caring and Safe School Network Committee	Regular meetings, with representatives from various school boards were held to discuss strategies and policies across the province and to share promising practices
Toronto Public Library	Meetings, as needed, throughout the school year to discuss the Transitional Intervention Program for Suspended Students (TIPSS)
Committee of Youth Officers (COYO)	Regular meetings held throughout the year to plan and organize the COYO Conference



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Safe Schools Department
2023 – 2024 Safe Schools Alternative Programs

St. Martin Catholic School

St. Martin Catholic School provides support programs for students who have been expelled from all schools of the TCDSB and students participating in the Voluntary Intervention Program. The school serves elementary students in grades 6- 8 and secondary school students in grades 9-12.

In 2023-2024, there were very few elementary students who were served at St. Martin Catholic School in the Board Expulsion and VIP programs.

In the secondary panel, 25 students were served at different points during the school year in the Board Expulsion and VIP programs. School staff nurtures positive relationships with community agencies across the GTA to support students and families with local resources.

The Voluntary Intervention Program has become an increasingly important option for secondary students who are struggling with academic engagement, regular school attendance, following school expectations, etc.

TIPSS (Transitional Intervention Program for Suspended Students)

The long-term suspension program served 121 students in 2023-2024 through TIPSS, providing academic programming at Toronto Public Library sites or virtually. For suspensions of 11-20 days, additional social work support was offered. In cases where students did not attend, work packages were provided to ensure learning continued.

Fresh Start Transitions

Although the Fresh Start process is not disciplinary, 16 students were transitioned at the elementary level and 106 students were transitioned at the secondary level for concerns related to safety.