

# Northern School Council Meeting - Principal's Update

## October 27, 2020, 6:30 - 7:30 pm (Via Zoom)

### OSSLT

- Grade 10 provincial literacy test -passing this is a graduation requirement
- Usually held in March or April. This year it will possibly be held online. We won't know until the spring.
- Students failing the OSSLT can retake the test - if they fail a second time they are required to take a course which may be offered during off hours (i.e. a night course)
- Students graduating this January will be allowed to take the test online this fall

### EQAO

- Grade 9 provincial math test - not a requirement for graduation
- Province is looking at running an online version of this in November to test the tech issues
- Normally EQAO would be 10% of a student's culminating mark but this probably will not be the case for this year

### Community Hours

- Grade 12 students will only be required to acquire 20 hours in order to meet this grad requirement (down from 40 hours)
- School admin has the leeway this year to approve hours that may not normally qualify (providing family support, paid work up to 10 hours, etc)
- Even non-graduating students can take advantage of the relaxed rules and add up to 20 hours this year on activities that would not normally be approved

### Take Your Kid to Work Day - Nov 4

- NSS will not formally participate in this event this year
- Kids planning on missing the morning or afternoon class for TYKTW can let their teachers know what they are doing and they be marked absent with a special code

### Virtual school

- Given that they are still dealing with issues from the virtual school set up in September, TDSB realized they could not handle the influx of new students wanting to switch from in-person to virtual for Q2
- They have passed the responsibility to provide virtual learning to those wanting to switch over to the the schools themselves, i.e. the original virtual school is now closed to new students
- For NSS, there were 121 students as of Oct 27 who wanted to make the switch
- Admin is currently looking at options for how best to accommodate everyone
- Some options: pairing with other schools, going fully remote for some courses

- NSS still has good numbers for their in-person learning, which makes it easier to offer a lot of different courses. Some schools do not have this option.
- Compulsory courses will take precedence, there could be limited menu of choices for other courses; enriched and gifted levels of courses may not be offered virtually
- On Oct 28 the deadline to switch will be over and the school will run timetables for those who want to switch
- That will drive the final decision on how these students will be accommodated
- Many different scenarios must be worked through
- This means that Q2 timetables for ALL students could be impacted
- Q2 timetables won't be finalized until right before the end of Q1
- Admin is trying to accommodate students but also trying to put teaching staff in a position to transition smoothly between in-person and virtual