

PA DAY AGENDA

Details

Session Overview

Topic	Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, Prayer Service
Participants	All Staff
Format	Slide Presentation
Host	CDSBEO Religious Education and Family Life Department
Presenters	Principal, Vice-Principal, Chaplaincy Leader/Faith Ambassador
Description	All staff will join in one location and begin their day by Acknowledging the Land and join as a community in prayer.
Topic	Teaching Writing Using Explicit Strategies
Participants	K-8 Teachers
Format	Live Teams Meeting
Host	CDSBEO Curriculum Department
Presenters	Jennifer Serravallo
Description	This workshop will center on Jennifer Serravallo's, <i>The Writing Strategies Book</i> , providing K–8 teachers across all subject areas with practical approaches for explicitly teaching writing skills. Participants will explore how to select and deliver clear, targeted strategies that support students in developing as writers, no matter the discipline. Jen's engaging presentation and straightforward explanations will help demystify writing instruction, breaking complex ideas into actionable steps that teachers can immediately apply in their classrooms. Whether you are new to teaching writing or looking to strengthen your current practice, this session will offer concrete tools to build students' confidence and independence as writers. Language teachers will be receiving a copy of this book.
Topic	Departmental Meetings
Participants	Grade 9-12 Teachers
Format	In person
Host	School Principal
Presenters	Departmental Leads
Description	Departments should gather to collaborate on the School Achievement and Action Plan to discuss next steps as a department to meet the goals outlined for the school and board. During these meetings, each department can review specific objectives, analyze current progress, and identify any challenges or areas needing improvement. Teachers and departmental leads are encouraged to share best practices, brainstorm innovative strategies, and allocate responsibilities to ensure that each goal is addressed effectively. By fostering open communication and teamwork, departments can create actionable steps, set measurable targets, and regularly monitor their progress towards achieving both school-wide and board-wide priorities. This collaborative approach not only supports professional growth among staff but also contributes to the overall success of students and the school community.

Topic	Integrated Subjects in FSL
Participants	K-12 FSL Teachers
Format	Live Teams Meeting
Host	CDSBEO FSL Department
Presenters	Leslie Doell
Description	In this workshop, teachers will explore how to balance the teaching of content and form through scaffolding strategies such as questioning, rephrasing, corrective feedback, and negotiation of form. Teachers will discover how these interventions, which are both proactive and reactive, help students automate their linguistic knowledge and speak with greater ease and precision. Finally, teachers will learn how to design engaging and accessible sequences that fully embody the integrated approach and allow students to make progress every day in their oral communication.
Topic	The Multi-Tiered System of Support for Early Literacy
Participants	K-3 Language Teachers
Format	Live Teams Meeting
Host	CDSBEO Special Education Department
Presenters	Andrea Blaine, Early Years Literacy Consultant
Description	All primary teachers will join the Early Literacy Consultant and the Reading Intervention Teachers as they introduce the Multi- Tiered System of Support for Early Literacy, review best practices using the UFLI program in the classroom and as an intervention, as well as answer Frequently Asked Questions regarding Structured Literacy.
Topic	Powerful Thinking
Participants	Grade 4-8 Teachers
Format	Live Teams Meeting
Host	CDSBEO Curriculum Meeting
Presenters	Adrienne Gear
Description	This workshop will center on Adrienne Gear's <i>Powerful Thinking</i> book, providing teachers across all subject areas with practical approaches on how to use read-alouds in content areas to support literacy skills and build knowledge or explicitly teaching writing skills. Adrienne will show teachers practical ways to create a "culture of thinking" that can be integrated into all areas of learning. Educators will receive a copy of this book.

Topic	Backpack of Literacy Strategies – Explicit Instruction
Participants	Grade 9-12 Teachers
Format	Live Teams Meeting
Host	CDSBEO Curriculum Department
Presenters	Rachel Cooke, TDSB
Description	Rachel Cooke is a Hybrid-Teacher/Coach and Assistant Curriculum Leader of English/Literacy with the Toronto District School Board. Over her 38-year teaching career, she has served as an Instructional Leader, taught AQ courses at OISE/UT, and authored educational resources including <i>iSkills</i> and <i>iLit Remix</i> for McGraw-Hill Ryerson. A frequent presenter at national and international conferences, Rachel is deeply committed to inclusive, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive pedagogy. Her presentation will focus on Summarizing and Inferencing in the context of cross-curricular literacy instruction.
Topic	Student Achievement and Action Plan (SAAP) Review
Participants	All Teachers
Format	In person
Host	CDSBEO Curriculum Department
Presenters	School Principal
Description	School Principals will review their school's Student Achievement and Action Plan and review our board goals by using a slide deck that has been prepared for them by the Curriculum Department. Staff will be asked to articulate one action item that they can commit to in the next couple of months that aligns with the SAAP.
Topic	Review of Digital Tools
Participants	K-12 Teachers
Format	Independent or Small Group Exploration
Host	CDSBEO Curriculum Department
Presenters	N/A
Description	During this session, educators will engage with the CDSBEO Digital Tools resource to conduct a comprehensive review of a variety of instructional technologies available to them. This includes an in-depth examination of Math Digital Tools, which supports curriculum delivery and student engagement in mathematics. Additionally, participants will explore the newly launched SMASH Education platform, specifically designed to enhance French as a Second Language (FSL) instruction. Furthermore, educators will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with other digital tools that are accessible for classroom use, enabling them to integrate innovative resources into their teaching practice to improve student learning outcomes.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 2025 AGENDA

Topic	BMS Training
Participants	Educational Assistants, SSWs, IAWS, ECEs
Format	Virtual
Host	CDSBEO Special Education Department
Presenters	Sandy O'Doherty, Registered Behaviour Analyst (RB)
Description	All education workers will have the opportunity to participate in virtual Behaviour Management System (BMS) Practitioner Training. New education workers will complete the full certification through the updated Vector BMS training platform, while those who were certified last year will take part in a live re-certification session via Microsoft Teams. To ensure smooth training experience, all participants are asked to have their BMS Practitioner Workbook available during the session. If needed, additional copies can be obtained from your school administrator. Please keep in mind that the BMS Practitioner Workbook serves as an important reference throughout the school year and will be required for future annual re-certification sessions. Thank you for your continued commitment to creating safe and supportive learning environments—we are excited to learn and grow together!
Topic	Safe Schools and Mental Health Training
Participants	Chaplains
Format	Virtual
Host	CDSBEO Safe Schools and Mental Health Departments
Presenters	Various Board Leads
Description	This session is designed to support staff in fostering safe, supportive, and resilient school communities. The morning will begin with a Kids in the Know refresher, focusing on empowering students with personal safety strategies. The Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Risk Review (SPIRR) information will provide staff with practical tools and resources to identify and support students at risk. Staff will The session continues with Violence, Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA), where staff will learn how to recognize, assess, and respond to potential threats within the school environment.