



# Chris Bolton

Chair, Toronto District School Board  
Trustee, Ward 10 – Trinity-Spadina

October 2011 Newsletter

## Settling In

This is the time of year when everyone is settled into their classes with any reorganizations having already occurred. Also by now, most school councils will have met and elected their new council chairs, committee representatives and ward representative. You might well ask, why elect a ward rep.?

The Ward Council is the forum where representatives from the school councils have input to ward wide and board wide issues. Ward reps. meet and discuss current and relevant topics –topics that are pertinent to the school, to the ward and to the board as a whole. Information on running school councils, fundraising and other important materials are made available through the ward council. It is the place that concerns/problems can be aired and where suggestions are given and solutions are developed – the bussing brochure for parents that was adopted by the board grew out of a problem that one Ward 10 parent brought to the Ward 10 Council table. The Ward Council is the place to learn about new programs that the board is initiating, about how the schools are funded and where the money is spent. It is the place where school council reps and parents can inform the trustee to assist him/her when voting at the board. The ward reps then have the information and resources to take back to their school councils thus keeping their school councils current about some of the broader issues that can have a direct effect on their school. The Ward Council is the link between parents/school councils and the board. This is why electing a ward rep is so important. Although all parents are welcome at the Ward 10 Council meetings, it is the Ward Rep. who is the real conduit back to the school council.

### **Space Committee**

This year space will be a big topic in Ward 10. The Board will be looking at the available space in the ward schools as part of its ongoing review of all school spaces and how to best utilize them. In Ward 10, we will want to have to most input to that process as possible and this can best be done via the Space Committee. The Space Committee is not new to the Ward Council but in the past few years it has been dormant. Now is the time to revive it. The Space Committee's last report is posted on the Ward 10 website at <http://myward10.ca/files/w10-space-prog-rev-2007.pdf>

### **Something New for 2011-2012**

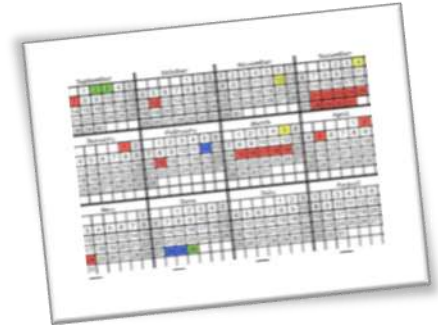
Something that I think will prove useful for school councils and parents in general are the decisions made at the Regular Board meetings. They are posted to the TDSB website within a day or two of the board meetings but I will include them in my monthly newsletter so that they are widely available and easily found. I would appreciate feedback on whether you find this to be useful.



## School Year Calendar

At the beginning of every school year I publish a school year calendar with all of the PD days and holidays and on the back, information about the Ward 10 Community Council as well as the local School Community Councils.

My staff and I will be handing them out at events, at the Ward 10 Council meeting, or you can request a copy on my website at [www.chrisbolton.ca](http://www.chrisbolton.ca).



## Important Dates

### Ward 10 Council Meeting

Next Meetings

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Tuesday, January 17, 2011

(locations not yet decided)

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Refreshments and childcare provided.

### Parent Involvement Advisory Committee

Parents Make a Difference Conference

Saturday, November 12, 2011

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Earl Haig Secondary School

Free; Lunch and childcare provided.

### TDSB Regular Board Meeting

5050 Yonge Street, Board Room

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

Start time: 7:00 pm