



Claude Watson School for the Arts

Weekly Update - Friday January 11, 2019

Upcoming Events

January 7, 2019

- First day back after winter holiday

January 18

- PD Day

January 22

- Graduation Photos – Grade 8 Students

January 24

- Pizza Lunch

January 28

- Parent Council

February 12

- Term 1 Reports Go Home

February 14

- Evening Parent Teacher Interviews

February 15

- Parent Teacher Interviews/PD Day

February 18

- Family Day Holiday

Welcome Back

I'm so pleased to join Claude Watson School of the Arts (CWSA). I have a long connection with the arts in the City of Toronto. As I young adult I sang with the Toronto Mass Choir and had the privilege of participating in two recordings. In the 90s I co-founded Griot Productions, a non-profit organization, which created musical theatre productions in the City of Toronto in collaboration with Brainerd Blyden Taylor Director of the present day Nathaniel Dett Chorale and Patrick Parsons Founder of Ballet Creole. As Vice Principal with the TDSB, I had the privilege of producing two school wide musicals -The Wizard of Oz and Mary Poppins. I also organized a Choral Project involving the collaboration of several schools and culminating in a performance at York University. In addition, for several years I organized a Summer Arts program at York University that involved 125 students from 19 schools where students received an enriched arts program in Visual Arts, Music, Drama and Dance. Highlights of the program included performances at the ROM and at York University. In 2011, I was seconded to York University where I spent 4 years in Curriculum Instruction preparing Teacher Candidates to teach students in grades 4-8.

In my spare time I enjoy reading, listening to music and attending local theatre, comedy and musicals. I am also learning how to play the Bass Clarinet. I am the proud parent of three young adults - Desiree, Bryce and Mackenzie.

I have enjoyed a long career with the TDSB and look forward to continuing my journey as Principal of Claude Watson School of the Arts. I am thrilled to be working with such a strong staff. I look forward to supporting staff, students and families as we continue to strive for excellence in the arts and academics.



Celebration of Music 2018

The Celebration was a resounding success! It was wonderful to see all of our CWSA students in such fine form. Thank-you to all the staff who worked so very hard under the direction of our Artistic Director, Ian Handscomb to make the production possible.

Register to Audition for September 2019 has closed

A reminder to parents/guardians the online audition registration system is closed. We are unable to accept late applications. Thank-you for your understanding.

Traffic Safety – In the Loop

At the intersection there is a STOP sign. We kindly ask all members of our community to drive with extreme caution around our school. Please remember young students are coming to and from the school. The safety of all members of our community is the highest of priorities for all of us.

If you are dropping off or picking up your children please keep traffic moving. Do not keep your car idling for long periods of time outside the school as this has negative impact on our environment.

CWSA Hours

School Entry time is 8:30 am. Please **call** 416-395-3180 before 8:25 am to report a student absence. Please note entry doors open for extra-curricular at 7:15 – 7:45 am. Doors will remain locked until 8:20 for regular entry.

Pizza Lunch

A reminder that Pizza Lunch is Thursday, January 24th! Thank-you to our school council, parent organizers and volunteers for making this possible.

Cold Weather

As the temperature drops please remember that CWSA operates in all types of weather. Students should come prepared in appropriate clothing. Recess and lunch breaks will still occur when it gets cold. During extreme cold (when the temperature/windchill factor is between -20C and -28C recess might be shortened.