

NOVEMBER 2023

# IT'S TIME TO FALL BACK!

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## KARLA BAILEY

**PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE  
BRAMPTON WARDS 7 & 8**



### Falling Into Fall

Approaching my one-year anniversary as your School Board Trustee, I find it important to take a moment for reflection on my initial year in this role. I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to visit more than half of the schools I represent, and I am committed to visiting the remaining ones this year.

Collaborating with fellow trustees, our primary focus remains supporting student success and their overall well-being. During this year, the Board of Trustees has made significant strides by approving the [Affirming Muslim Identities and Dismantling Islamophobia Strategy](#) and the [Two Spirit & LGBTQIA+ Action Plan](#), underlining our dedication to creating an inclusive and secure environment where every student can feel a sense of belonging. I am committed to connecting with schools and families, actively uncovering diverse student achievements and successes. These interactions revealed inspiring educational initiatives, like the sci-tech program, the IB program and the arts programs. I urge everyone to explore these exceptional programs.

The Board of Trustee is in the process of crafting a multi-year strategic plan and your input is crucial to us. We highly value your perspective, aiming to incorporate the diverse voices and insights of our community into our strategic planning. The survey is accessible in 15 languages and can be filled out [here](#) or at [peelschools.org/MYSP](https://peelschools.org/MYSP).

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

- **November 5th**

#### REGIONAL LEARNING CHOICES PROGRAM - SECONDARY APPLICATION PERIOD

- **November 8th - 22nd**

#### PL DAY: K-12 STUDENTS

- **November 24th**

#### PDSB BOARD MEETING

- **November 29th @  
7pm**



## Explore High Skills (EHS) Program

[Explore High Skills \(EHS\)](#) is a specialized educational initiative within the Peel District School Board, tailored for grade 9 and 10 students. This program allows students to concentrate their studies on a specific area of interest, fostering self-confidence, imparting crucial skills, and cultivating a sense of belonging within the school and the wider community. Offered in secondary schools featuring Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs, Explore High Skills delivers immersive learning encounters to aid students in their transition to high school. These sector-specific programs are open to students of all skill levels and pathways. Explore High Skills students are provided:

- Community Involvement Opportunities
- Experiential Learning
- Certification and Training

## Muslim Youth Leadership Conference 2023

In January of this year, the PDSB achieved a historic milestone by introducing Canada's first-ever Affirming Muslim Identities and Dismantling Islamophobia Strategy. This initiative lays out the actions that educators, staff, students, and community members in Peel must take to support student identities and combat Islamophobia, anti-Muslim bias, prejudice, and hatred within the Board. The implementation and enforcement of this strategy emphasize the board's commitment to anti-racist and anti-oppressive principles, which are fundamental in creating inclusive, identity-affirming learning and working environments. At the Muslim Youth Leadership Conference, numerous Muslim youth from grades 6-12 participated, engaging in various workshops that allowed them to affirm their identities.

## PDSB October 25, 2023 Board Meeting

The October Board Meeting was a short one. Congratulations to all the retiring staff of the Peel District School Board. Thank you for investing in our children.

There was a reminder to everyone of the Legion's annual Poster & Literary Contest. The contest to honour Remembrance Day is currently underway. More information can be found on the [PDSB website](#).



## 2024-25 RLCP SECONDARY APPLICATION DATES

LEARN ABOUT THE PROGRAMS: INFORMATION SESSIONS CONTINUES...

APPLICATION PERIOD: NOV. 8 2023 FROM 8:30 A.M. TO NOV. 22, 2023, AT 3 P.M.

1ST ROUND ACCEPTANCE OFFERS ISSUED: JAN. 8, 2024, AFTER 3 P.M.