

#chooseACTION on Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

CARING

COOPERATIVE

HONEST

INCLUSIVE

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

The Peel District School Board will recognize Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week during the week of Nov. 20 to 24, 2017.

This year, we ask our Peel community to ‘*#chooseACTION to be inclusive*’ in their classes, offices, schools, or communities, in order to make these spaces better places for everyone. The Peel Board would like to hear about the big and small actions, the pledges, the promises and the attitudes that our Peel community value, and ask that you take a moment to share your #chooseACTION moments on social media.

Across the Peel board, schools use many programs and initiatives to prevent bullying and to intervene when bullying happens. Though the programs vary, their messages are consistent. Students are taught to:

- define bullying
- identify forms of bullying
- identify the shifting roles in bullying relationships, for example the person who bullies, the target, the bystander or the trusted advocate
- determine how to safely “choose action” to prevent and intervene in bullying and harassment
- understand that bullying is a relationship problem with relationship solutions
- determine positive ways to interact with others in an accepting, inclusive way
- demonstrate character attributes and be a leader to help maintain positive and safe school communities

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week is one of the key items contained in Bill 13: *The Accepting Schools Act*, that came into effect on Sept. 1, 2012. For more information, visit www.peelschools.org/aboutus/safeschools/bullying or www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/safeschools/prevention.html.

Bus cancellation and closing schools due to bad weather

During the winter months, we may need to cancel buses or close schools because of inclement weather.

Information regarding details of cancellations or closures will be announced on radio, television stations and will also be available on Twitter @Peelschools, Facebook at www.facebook.com/peelschools, www.peelschools.org and www.stopr.ca or by calling 905-890-1010 or 1-800-668-1146.

One of the following messages will be announced (highlighted text only):

Peel District School Board buses are cancelled

This means that schools remain open for students and staff, but buses are cancelled. Bus cancellations could occur in all or parts of municipalities. Buses will remain cancelled all day. All activities that require busing will also be cancelled. Permits, night school classes, child care and other activities in schools will operate as usual.

All Peel District School Board schools and board offices are closed

This means that all schools and Peel board offices are closed to students and staff. All activities in schools and board offices are also cancelled, including child care, night school and permits.

All evening programs and permits at the Peel District School Board are cancelled

This means that all activities in schools and Peel board offices are cancelled, including continuing education courses and events. The buildings will be closed.

All weekend programs and permits at the Peel District School Board are cancelled

This means that all activities in schools and Peel board offices are cancelled, including continuing education courses and events. The buildings will be closed.

Nov. 24 opportunity to say 'thanks' to Peel Custodial & Maintenance Workers' Day

In 2014, the board of trustees declared the last Friday in November as the Peel Custodial and Maintenance Workers' Day. This year, the recognition day falls on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017. Take this opportunity to thank the important work of custodial and maintenance workers and their hard work and commitment to well-being and safety.

Traffic safety in our community

Safety is a top priority at our school. Here is a list of traffic tips to keep students, staff and parents safe while commuting to and from school.

- Respect traffic signs and road markers around the school.
- Drive slowly and with caution on and near school property. Adhere to the posted speed limits on any surrounding streets used by students on their way to and from school.
- Always yield to pedestrian traffic. Wait for students, staff members and parents to cross before driving past them.
- When dropping your child off at the school, use the Kiss'n'Ride area. This is a supervised area that is designed to keep students safe.
- Do not double park or do anything else to block traffic or draw your child off the curb and into traffic. Do not take shortcuts over curbs.
- Have your child ready to exit the car when you reach the curb. Say goodbye to your child before you park at the curb to let your child out of your car.
- During regular drop-off times, students are to remain in the car until it is safe for them to exit the car onto the curb.
- Follow the directions of staff or volunteers on duty in the school parking lot and treat staff, students, volunteers, passengers and other drivers with respect.
- Consider parking off site and walking a short distance to school. This will give you time to talk to your children about their day, review new vocabulary words, math concepts, etc.
- Remind your child to only cross the street at an intersection or crosswalk. They should never “jaywalk” by crossing in the middle of the street.
- Students who bike to school should always wear a helmet, and follow all traffic laws. They should only cross the street at a crosswalk or intersection—never in the middle of the road.

Parent resources help you support your child’s learning

At the Peel board, our mission is to inspire success, confidence and hope in each child. There is no doubt that families play a vital role in helping us achieve this goal. As our partner in education, we hope you'll stay connected to your child's learning throughout his or her entire school experience.

Visit www.peelschools.org/parents/helpyourchild to explore all resources available to parents. There you will find easy-to-navigate buttons that connect families to tip sheets and web pages on a number of different topics, including math, homework, special education, EQAO and mental health.

The screenshot shows the Peel District School Board website's parent resources page. The header features the Peel logo and the text "District School Board" in English and multiple languages (Punjabi, Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, Arabic, Gujarati). Navigation links include "About Us", "Calendar", "Schools", "Staff", "Continuing & Adult Education", "Jobs", "Media", "Contact Us", "Parents", "Students", "New to Peel", and "Trustees". A search bar and social media icons are also present.

The main content area is organized into a grid of resource tiles:

- Tip Sheets**: Includes an image of hands holding a pencil.
- Understanding the School System**: Includes an image of school supplies.
- Parents**: A vertical sidebar menu with links such as "Child Care", "Cold Weather Guidelines", "EQAO", "Get Involved", "Help Your Child", "Kindergarten Registration", "Making My Way", "Parent Numeracy Conference", "Parenting Centres", "ParentWeb Programs", "Register Your Child", "School Councils", "Special Education", "Student Insurance", "Subscribe", "Transportation", and "MyClass".
- Math Help**: Includes an image of a child reading.
- Homework Help**: Includes an image of a family at a computer.
- FACTS**: Includes an image of hands holding up letters.
- French Immersion**: Includes the "BONJOUR" logo.
- EQAO**: Includes the EQAO logo.
- Curriculum**: Includes an image of books.
- Special Education**: Includes a signpost for "SPECIAL EDUCATION".
- Science**: Includes an image of children looking at a globe.
- Mental Health**: Includes an image of a colorful brain.
- Programs**: Includes an image of a woman with question marks.
- BYOD**: Includes an image of a hand holding a smartphone.
- Back to School**: Includes an image of children.
- Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting**: Includes the word "SUCCESS" and a measuring tape.
- Graduation Requirements**: Includes an image of graduates.

On the right side, there are additional sections:

- Quick Links**: Lists "Contact Us", "Ministry of Education", "School Councils", "Children's Mental Health Ontario", "Board Policies", and "CanLearn".
- MyClass**: A blue button.
- Find Your School**: A green button with a magnifying glass icon.
- Subscribe**: An orange button with a mouse cursor icon.
- Student Transportation of Peel Region**: A blue button with a school bus icon.
- Parent Web**: A green button with a computer monitor icon.

Subscribe to receive news from the Peel board

Take advantage of our electronic subscription service to automatically receive updates from the Peel District School Board. Subscribing is easy — just visit our website at www.peelschools.org and click on the *subscription* link under "Quick Links."

During the winter months, we may need to cancel buses or close schools because of inclement weather. Information regarding details of cancellations or closures will be posted on our Twitter (@Peelschools) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/peelschools) accounts, as well as, on www.peelschools.org and www.stopr.ca.

You can also subscribe to receive:

News releases

Keep up with the news at the Peel board. Subscribe to receive Peel board news releases to learn more about board news and school events.

Board agendas

Learn more about Peel board meetings by subscribing to receive agendas. Meetings of the board are open to the public and are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.

Board highlights

Briefing is a newsletter with highlights of decisions made by trustees at board meetings. It is sent out on the second and fourth Thursday of every month and immediately following any special board meetings.

Job postings for non-teaching staff

Learn about each new non-teaching job that is posted on the Peel board's *Job Board*.

Give what you can on United Way Giving Day – Nov. 15, 2017

At the Peel District School Board, our mission is to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student – each and every day. Yet we know that there are many needs in our community that we can't address on our own, like providing food for families that may go without or supporting communities after a crisis. That's why we are holding a board-wide giving day in support of United Way of Peel Region, a key partner and supporter of Peel families.



This year, the Peel board has declared **Nov. 15** as United Way Giving Day to raise much needed funds for United Way of Peel Region and the network of social service agencies it supports. Whether it's providing shelter for a mother and her children in Brampton, matching a child who is at risk with a mentor in Caledon, or funding a breakfast program in Mississauga for youth that would otherwise go hungry, United Way of Peel Region offers hope and possibility to thousands in our community.

A donation of:

- \$2 may go towards a warm winter coat for a child.
- \$10 supports a child with interactive, recreational outings for one year, including healthy snacks and transportation, to help them build their social skills and self-esteem.
- \$25 matches a teen with a caring adult mentor who will meet with him or her several times each month for fun activities.

This is a completely voluntary campaign and any contributions are welcome. Whether you send a loonie, toonie, cheque **made out to your child's school**, or donate through School Cash Online, your contribution will make a difference. Pledges of \$25 or more will automatically receive a tax receipt from United Way of Peel Region. To receive a receipt, you must fill out the pledge form on the back and send it to school with your donation by Dec. 15, 2017.

Thank you for lending a helping hand to those who need it most. Together, we can ***Inspire Possibility!***



United Way
Peel Region

