



BACK IN THE GROOVE

GET INVOLVED

TD *christian*
HIGH SCHOOL

Mentorship - Grade 11



Sean VanEerden

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When? Students in first semester English and Perspectives courses have their three days-two nights Learning and Service Trip from Wed., Oct. 14 to Fri., Oct. 16. Other Grade 11 students do their Mentorship placement.

Students in second semester English and Perspectives or Internship Block 11 have their Learning and Service Trip from Wed., Mar. 31 to Fri., Apr. 2. Other Grade 11 students do their Mentorship placement.

Why? Mentorship offers students a chance to reflect on the role of work in their lives and in society by learning about a job or career in an intimate and experiential manner. It provides opportunities to make significant connections in the work world. Generally, students have found their mentors to be positive and helpful.

What to look for in a mentor?

- Someone in a career, volunteer, hobby, or area of interest that the student would like to learn more about. It can be very broad, or very specific, depending on how confident students are about their interests or future plans.
- Someone who will, at minimum, commit to being interviewed by the student and then be willing and able to interact with the student for three to five days/times (usually 15-18 hours minimum) in a Mentorship Placement (i.e., a job-shadowing or work experience) during the designated times, if possible.
- Ideally someone who is a Christian or shares Christian values.
- Many students find mentorship opportunities through family friends, teachers, employers, and youth pastors. Parents and guardians are encouraged to help connect students with people.

What needs to be done by students in preparation for their mentorship placement:

- Discuss the assignment with family, homestay guardians, teachers, pastors, and/or leaders
- Work to connect with a mentor
- Secure transportation, insurance, and police checks, if needed

Grades for mentorship will be applied to courses in the semester of the placement: 3% per course. Grades include a presentation of the Mentorship experience. Presentations usually last approximately five to seven minutes and are done for a class.

Drama Program



Richard Peters

Email: peters@tdchristian.ca

Annual Production: Mr. Peters, along with a team of supporters, will mount "Arsenic and Old Lace" from December 9 to 12, 2026.

Students who wish to know more or get involved in any aspect of the show (including tech, backstage, or costumes), should make sure they check the announcements and Edsby in September. Questions? Ask Mr. Peters or send him an Edsby message.

The Black Box: Make sure to visit one of the best classrooms in the school. This room is equipped with lighting, sound, and a growing costume and properties room for tech and design students to learn their trades. It is also where our Grade 9 students take Drama, which is a component of the Integrated Arts credit taken by all students. This part of the course focuses on improvisation. While few graduates pursue careers as professional improvisers, the skills learned, the confidence built, and the composure under pressure experienced serve students throughout their lives.

Improv: On many Wednesdays and Fridays our Improv teams perform improvised comedy in the Black Box for other students in the school! Our school improv teams have participated in the Canadian Improv Games since 2013. Through the years our participation has resulted in tremendous learning and excellent placements in the Toronto Regionals, including two 1st place, two 2nd place, and three 3rd place finishes, as well as a 6th place finish in the Nationals held in Ottawa. In 2023-24, TDChristian teams placed 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in the Toronto Regionals. Email peters@tdchristian.ca to find out more about our Improv program.

Volunteering for the Drama Department: Know about putting on a show, interested in painting, building sets, sewing costumes, finding props, or helping in some other way? Email Mr. Peters at peters@tdchristian.ca



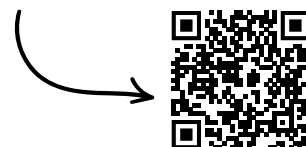
Video Program



Tim Buwalda

Email: buwalda@tdchristian.ca

WATCH THE PULSE



Learning to tell compelling stories through video is a valuable skill in today's world. At TDChristian, students have the opportunity to take video production classes in all four years.

Our students have won the Vaughan Film Festival (Student Block), with "Memories" (2016) and "The Other Side" (2017). "Memories" also won the MADD2016 Canada Multi Media Contest. Using an iPhone as their camera, a group of 2018 students were shortlisted for their submission, *Disconnected*, while in 2019, *Make Ideas Actions*, made many heads turn! In 2020, two more videos were nominated for the Vaughan Film Festival in the Best Student Film category. Due to the pandemic, the VFF was canceled in 2020 and 2021 but in 2024, *Isolation*, was nominated.

The Pulse, a television show by, for and about TDChristian students, aired its fifteenth season last year. *The Pulse* covers stories in and outside of the school while providing students unique opportunities to learn about broadcasting, video production, entertainment, journalism, and screen writing. Students use state-of-the-art equipment in our studio, editing lab, and television control room.

Some time during the first week of school, Grade 9 students will be told more about the possibilities for Video @ TDChristian. Interested students will be given application forms to apply for *The Pulse*. We are looking for enthusiastic, curious, creative, and risk-taking students to join our team. Experience in video is NOT required.



Music Program



Kevin Hayward

Email: hayward@tdchristian.ca



Choir: Consists of students from all grades, provides music at various school events, and represents TDChristian at the annual Choral Festival and other events. The choir practices twice a week during lunch (Tuesday and Thursday). Students in choir can earn a half-credit per school year.

Concert Band: Is a multi-level and multi-grade ensemble which meets Wednesdays from 2:45 to 5:00 p.m. Students in band can earn a half-credit per school year.

Jazz Ensemble: Consists of about 10 to 15 members of the concert band, including saxophones, trumpets, trombones and a rhythm section (keyboard, guitars, bass and drums) and practices after school weekly. The ensemble performs jazz, rock and other commercial styles. Students from all grade levels are welcome.

Praise Band: Ascension, is an ensemble of student singers and musicians who lead our school community in praise. There may also be opportunities to lead in praise to God during school events or special ones away from the school. In 2024, Ascension recorded an album, Voice to Heaven. You can find it on streaming platforms, like Spotify. If you are interested in joining Ascension, email David Kim at kim@tdchristian.ca

Private Lessons: There may be an opportunity for Private Vocal Lessons for families to arrange for their TDChristian student(s) school hours. If there are, details will be shared at Back-in-Groove-Again and/or the first week of school. If you are interested, have questions or suggestions, please email or Edsby message Mr. Hayward (hayward@tdchristian.ca).

Falcons Athletics



Jonathan Fernhout

Email: jfernhout@tdchristian.ca



Team Calendar

TDChristian High School competes in a variety of sports in York Region (YRAA – yaa.com), Ontario Championships (OFSAA, when we qualify) and the Ontario Christian High Schools (OCSSAA). All teams are coached or run by staff members. Some teams also have a parent/guardian or community coach.



This is where you can find the Athletics Calendar. Check back soon for tryout information. <https://tdchristian.ca/splash/athletics/>

Student Eligibility

- Students, typically, participate in one sport per season. However, if coaches, parents/guardians and teachers agree, students may be on more than one team per season.
- Student may only participate in one age division per sport per year.

For team sports:

Junior (grades 9 & 10)

Senior (grade 11 & 12)

Varsity (all grades)

For individual sports:

Novice (born 2012 or later, start high school this year)

Junior (born 2010 or later)

Senior (born 2009 or later, start high school after Aug. 2021)

SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Co-Ed Cross Country									
	Boys Volleyball								
	Girls Basketball								
	Co-Ed Intramural Hockey (Fridays Only)								
			Boys Basketball						
			Girls Volleyball						
			Hockey						
						Co-Ed Badminton			
						Climbing			
						Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee			
						Girls Soccer			
						Boys Soccer			
						Co-Ed Baseball			
						Co-Ed Track & Field			

Intramural Hockey League (TDCHIHL)

TDChristian runs its own intramural hockey league, the TDCHIHL, on Fridays before school (and maybe after school depending on numbers). Sign up sheets will be given out at the Back in the Groove night.

- This co-ed, non-contact league includes players of ALL skill and grade levels.
- Each team will have a staff member as a player and/or supervisor.
- The season ends with a single day playoff tournament.

Open Gym Times and Fitness Room

- Students may play in the gym before school and at lunch. Open gym is available from 8:30 a.m. to the beginning of school and throughout the entire lunch time.
- Due to safety and insurance issues, students may only use the fitness room with approved supervision. All students looking to use the weight room must fill out the '[Fitness Room Consent Form](#)' that can also be found on the Athletics Button of the Splash! page under 'Helpful Links and Resources' OR the 'Forms and Info Sheets' Button on the Splash! page. The form also needs to be signed by a parent/guardian/or homestay. Completed forms are to be submitted to the office before use of the fitness room.

Athletic Council

As in year's past we will put together an Athletic Council to support implementation of intramurals, scorekeeping home games, and running of the tournaments hosted by TDChristian throughout the school year. If this is something you are interested in becoming a part of send an Edsby message to Ms. Petrusma and Mr. Fernhout. More information will come out at the beginning of school.

Tryouts

Full fall tryouts schedule will be posted on the Splash page.

Cross Country:
Start September 14

Senior Boys Volleyball:
Start the first week of school.

Girls Basketball:
Start September 15

Girls Volleyball and Boys Basketball – Junior and Senior team tryouts will take place in early November.

Junior Boys Volleyball:
Start September 14

VOLUNTEERING

Find regularly updated opportunities online:
tdchristian.ca/splash/volunteer/



At TDChristian, each family is asked to volunteer 25 hours of time in a host of areas: baking, driving, attending meetings, helping to serve, coaching, mentoring, supervising, participating on committees, speaking in classes, helping during events, providing building expertise, doing cleaning, helping with mailings, and much more.

If preferred, families can opt out by paying a \$1,200 fee or having it added to their tuition payments. At the end of the year, families will be charged at a rate of \$48/hour for any hours below 25. Our school volunteer year runs from June 1 to May 31. Hours after May 31 will move over into the following year.

Find an oppprtunity that excites you

