



# THE BULLDOG

A Newsletter for Our Bur Oak Secondary School Community

VOL. 1, ISSUE 13

DECEMBER 8, 2023

This newsletter will be sent out weekly/bi-weekly and will share important information to all of you, our valued members of our school community. We encourage you to also visit our [school website](#) regularly. Previously sent newsletters can be accessed from our website [here](#). And, feel free to use [Google Translate](#) to support with multi-language translation, as needed.

## Daily Schedule

**Period 1**(includes Homeroom) 8:15-9:35

**Period 2** 9:40-10:55

**Period 3** 11:00-12:15

**Period 4** 12:20- 1:35

**Period 5** 1:40-2:55

## Important Dates Ahead

### December 2023

20: Spirit Day

21: Winter Assembly

25 - Jan. 5 - Winter Break

### January 2024

11 -12: Credit Rescue Days

19, 22: Grade 9 Math EQAO

25 - 31: Exams

### February 2024

1: Exam review day (morning)

2: P.A. Day

## Morning Announcements

Did you know that our morning announcements are posted on our school website? Students and parents/guardians can see our morning announcements on our Google slides by going to the Bur Oak Secondary School website —> Students (tab) —> Announcements. For our MLLs, please consider copying and pasting these announcements into [Google Translate](#) to support with multi-language translation, as needed.

## Semester 1 Final Exam Information

### Exam Days – January 25 to January 31, 2024

This year, students will be completing a final assessment for each of their courses worth 30%. These final assessments can be made up of exams and/or culminating activities (i.e. projects, presentations, performances). Culminating activities may occur during class time or during Exam Days. During Exam Days, students are required to be at school only when scheduled to write an exam or to complete work for a culminating activity. More detailed information about exams will be shared shortly.

Semester 1 Exams will take place between **Thursday, January 25 to Wednesday, January 31, 2024**. Please review the dates for your student's exam schedule.

Exam Date	Exam
Thursday, January 25	Period 1 Exam/ Culminating Activity
Friday, January 26	Period 2 Exam/ Culminating Activity
Monday, January 29	Period 5 Exam/ Culminating Activity
Tuesday, January 30	Period 4 Exam/ Culminating Activity
Wednesday, January 31	Period 3 Exam/ Culminating Activity
Thursday, February 1	Mark Review Day Instructional Day (Modified Schedule)
Friday, February 2	PA Day
Monday, February 5	Semester 2 Begins

As stated in the *Guide to the School Year, 2023-2024*:

- All secondary students must participate in the final assessment(s). These assessments make up the final evaluation representing 30 percent of a student's report card grade.
- Students are expected to complete all final assessments at the place, date and time indicated by the teacher and the examination schedule provided by the school.
- Students cannot leave early for vacations, employment or other activities.

## Semester 1 Final Exam Information Continued...

- In case of extenuating circumstances (e.g. bereavement, court appearance or when a student is unable to write an exam because of illness explicitly stated on a medical certificate), the principal will decide, in consultation with the subject teacher, the most appropriate method to determine your final standing in the course.
- In case of an unexcused absence, a zero may be assigned for the missed portion of the final assessment.

## Information from our Guidance Department

### OUAC/OCAS student information

Graduating students are encouraged to login to their OCAS/OUAC accounts and verify their information, including course marks. It is the responsibility of the student to verify this information and if there is something inaccurate, to notify their guidance counsellor.

### Student Wellness

As we approach Semester one midterms academic pressure increases, please keep in mind your child's wellness.

#### **Some things to look for include:**

- Loss of interest in things they normally enjoy
- Notable changes in sleeping and eating habits
- Withdrawal from friends, family or activities

Changes in academic performance

#### **Wellness Tips:**

- Model healthy strategies
- Exercise and eat healthy
- Practice gratitude and mindfulness

Talk to your children about their day. Ask specific questions to gather information

#### **Resources:**

Visit the YRDSB mental health page [here](#), visit the ABCs of mental health [here](#) and consider resources provided [here](#)

As always, please reach out to your child's counsellor if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to help!

## NEW Dual Credit Registration Process for Semester 2 Grades 11-12

Dual credit registration is now open!

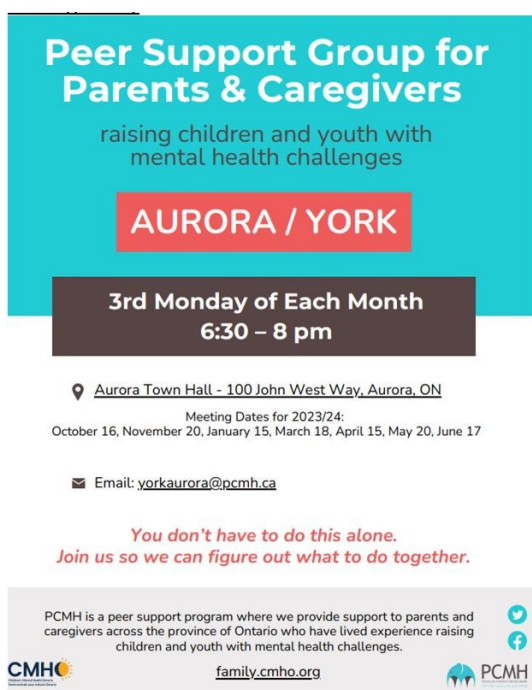
The following flyer has the detailed courses: [www.yrdsb.cc/dualcreditflyer](http://www.yrdsb.cc/dualcreditflyer)

Students who are interested in applying to Dual Credit courses are asked to connect with Ms. Andersen ([bit.ly/BOSSANDERSEN](http://bit.ly/BOSSANDERSEN)) to discuss options available.

## Semester 2 Course Change Requests

Students will have ONE LAST chance to request a course change for semester two. Drop-in (no appointment necessary) sessions will happen on Monday December 11 and Tuesday December 12 during period 3 and 4 in guidance. Course change requests are very unlikely at this time as our classes are full.

## Parent Support Group



**Peer Support Group for Parents & Caregivers**  
raising children and youth with mental health challenges

**AURORA / YORK**

**3rd Monday of Each Month**  
**6:30 – 8 pm**

📍 Aurora Town Hall - 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON  
Meeting Dates for 2023/24:  
October 16, November 20, January 15, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17

✉ Email: [yorkaurora@pcmh.ca](mailto:yorkaurora@pcmh.ca)

*You don't have to do this alone.  
Join us so we can figure out what to do together.*

PCMH is a peer support program where we provide support to parents and caregivers across the province of Ontario who have lived experience raising children and youth with mental health challenges.

**CMHO** family.cmho.org **PCMH**

## Foundations of Community Networks (Black Foundation of Community Networks) Scholarship Application Workshop



**BFCN**

**Scholarship Application Workshop**

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB), is providing a free online workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in high school or Grade 8, this workshop is especially for YOU!

**Wednesday, December 13, 2023**  
**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST | ONLINE (ZOOM)**

Learn more and register at:  
[bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopDecember132023](http://bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopDecember132023)

To participate, Black students and their families must be from YRDSB. For questions contact Cheryl Yarde at [info@bfcn.ca](mailto:info@bfcn.ca)

Learn more about our work and how to support at [bfcn.ca](http://bfcn.ca).

**York Region**  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
Inspire Learning!

Please review our [Student Handbook](#) to answer any questions you may have.

### 3 R's at Bur Oak Secondary School

At Bur Oak S.S., we have our **3 R's - Respect, Responsibility, Relationships** (see below) to maintain the positive, welcoming, respectful and inclusive learning environment at our school!



## 3Rs – Respect, Responsibility, Relationships

As Bulldogs, we:

- Are respectful, take responsibility and leave things better than we found it, and build positive and healthy relationships.
- Stand quietly during the playing of the National Anthem. If we arrive late to school, we stand quietly during the National Anthem and walk quietly to period 1 class during the morning announcements.
- Eat lunch in the cafeteria or in the first floor atrium during our lunch period 2, 3, or 4. We pick up after ourselves.
- Do not eat nor sit in the first floor hallways and we do not eat nor sit in the second floor hallways. We are not in the stairwells and we do not wander the hallways. We are respectful for classes in session.
- Do not congregate nor hang out in washrooms. We maintain a welcoming and safe school environment for students to use the washroom. We understand that nobody should feel intimidated in any parts of the school building.
- Use the first floor atrium tables for quiet study. We sit on chairs. We do not sit on top of the table and we do not lie down on tables or the floor.
- Wear earbuds for music in the hallways and atrium. We respect the environment of others by not using loud speakers.
- Dress appropriately for school.
- Ask our teacher for permission to leave the classroom to use the washroom or get a drink of water. We sign out to leave the classroom and sign in when we return to the classroom.



[Have a wonderful weekend!](#)