



THE BULLDOG

The Official Newsletter of Bur Oak Secondary



MIDTERMS APPROACHING

A Message from Administration

Hello Bulldog Community. We have a busy week coming up. Our second School Council meeting is taking place on Monday, please see the info below. Check out the OSSLT info below, weekly notes from Guidance and a message to the school community.

Our Bulldogs continue their exemplary following of Covid protocols. We are so proud of all of you.

MORE IN THIS EDITION:

Land
Acknowledgement

School Council

Guidance Updates

Student Work



*Paintings by Lauri
Hoeg Anishinaabe
kwe Georgina
Island First Nation*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

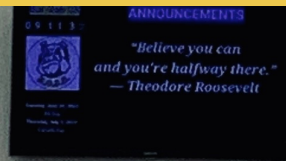
We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island who is our closest neighbour and partner in education.

To honour this agreement we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

MEREWEATHER BLVD



DATE/TIME

*Monday November
15th @ 6:30pm*

**A LINK WILL BE EMAILED TO OUR
FAMILIES. ALL ARE WELCOME.**



Clip Art by Hyunwoo Jung
BOSS Grade 12



Clip Art by Crystal Li
BOSS Grade 12



Clip Art by Esther Au
BOSS Grade 12



Notice about Non-School Sanctioned Event on December 17th

Dear BOSS Families,

It has come to our attention that a semi-formal dance is being organized in the community on Friday, December 17, at the Markham Convention Centre in Toronto. THIS EVENT IS NOT A BOSS or YRDSB EVENT. The administration and staff of BOSS have not organized a semi-formal event this school year due to COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

For events organized in the community such as this dance, school staff have not been involved in the planning and will not supervise or participate. Therefore, we strongly recommend that parents and guardians review all aspects of these events when deciding on attendance with their child. This review should include COVID-19 health and safety protocols, pre-dance and post-dance activities, possession or use of alcohol and or illegal drugs, transportation to and from the event and appropriate behaviour.

Thank you,

Bur Oak SS Administration Team



Secondary PA Day - November 15, 2021 and Community Routine Immunization Clinics

Dear Families,

This is a reminder that the Secondary School Professional Activity (PA) Day originally scheduled for November 19, 2021 is changing and will now occur on November 15, 2021.

Secondary schools will be closed to students on November 15, 2021 and reopen on November 16, 2021.

A regular school day is scheduled for November 19, 2021, and students are expected to attend.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

Community Immunizations

Please see this letter from [York Region Public Health regarding community routine immunizations for students in Grades 7-12.](#)

Notes from Guidance



OUAC PIN INFORMATION

Graduating students have received their **OUAC PIN** information via GAPPS email. Should they have any questions, we encourage them to use our resources to collect information and make an appointment with their assigned Guidance Counsellor.

FULL DISCLOSURE AND OUAC/OCAS IMPLICATIONS CLARIFICATION

Full Disclosure is the term to identify when courses will remain as “Withdrawn” on a student’s transcript. This year, Full Disclosure will take place **by December 6th**, rather than 5 days after reporting. This only impacts Grade 11 and 12 courses.

Grade 11 students must continue to maintain four full credits this semester. Removing courses this year must meet specific criteria and typically only approved by administration in unusual circumstances.

Grade 12 students will have their mid-semester marks submitted to OUAC and OCAS on **November 19th**. All marks for courses that are active will be uploaded at that time.

Between November 19 and December 6, any approved dropped courses will be removed from their timetable, transcript **AND** OUAC and OCAS by the Guidance Department. This encourages students to get a fuller sense of their grasp of content and hopefully achieve success in their courses this semester. While December 6th is the entry deadline, it is critical that any drop requests take place the week prior to ensure appointments can be taken and all sign-offs are completed properly.

Please note, Grade 11 students and Grade 12 students who are not graduating do not have any data shared to outside application centres.

Grade 12 students should consider the following steps when considering a drop request:

- * Have student discuss with their teacher a plan to successfully meet their academic goals in the course
- * Get the facts from Post-Secondary Institutions to feel comfortable about the weight and significance of their mid-semester marks for this year’s admissions process.
- * Speak with their Guidance Counsellor to feel comfortable and build a plan about their goals for this year and get perspective on what may work best for them.



Re: Upcoming EQAO Assessment 2021-2022

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is administered by the Government of Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). This test is administered to determine whether students have acquired the minimum literacy skills expected in the Ontario Curriculum, up to the end of Grade 9.

Successful completion of this literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

EQAO is administering the OSSLT in the fall and spring in a fully online platform.

Eligible Grade 11 and non-graduating Grade 12s will write in the fall window in the latter part of November. The specific date for these students to write the test will be shared in a separate communication in the coming weeks.

Grade 10 students will write in the spring window. This will support grade 10 students with opportunities to develop literacy skills. For Grade 12 students graduating in the 2021-2022 school year, the Ministry of Education has waived the literacy requirement for graduation.

Grade 11 and non-graduating grade 12 students who write in the fall will receive their individual results by the end of January 2022. Students who are successful on the OSSLT will have satisfied the OSSD graduation requirement.

Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. You can also receive more information and support by contacting Ms. Angela Wan, our Literacy Teacher.

For more information about EQAO and to view the full practice test, you are encouraged to visit EQAO's website www.eqao.com.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test – Modified School Day

November 18, 2021

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has scheduled October 13 to December 1 as the *fall window* for students across the province to complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Grade 11 and some non-graduating grade 12 students in our school will be writing the test on **November 18**. Grade 10 students will be writing the test in the *spring window* with details to be provided at a later date.

As with past practice, and to assist in creating the best possible environment for students writing the test, and to comply with Public Health requirements, and changes to the format of the test, the Board will implement a modified school day. **On November 18, all secondary schools in the East and West regions will follow an exam-style day in which:**

- **only grade 11 students, and some non-graduating grade 12 (these students will be notified) who are writing the test are required to be at school** (no regular classes for students in grades 9, 10, and 12 will occur);
- students will be dismissed upon completion of the test;
- school bus and taxi service will run on their normal schedules; and
- self-contained special education classes [e.g., developmentally delayed, autism, complex needs, multiple exceptionalities, PEAK, York Academy programs, Intensive, Intensive Resource Support, and Acquired Brain Injury] will follow their regular schedule.

For Students Writing the OSSLT

Students writing the test will come to school on November 18 at their normal start time, 8:15 a.m., to write the OSSLT. Based on EQAO timelines for the test, we anticipate that many students will finish writing in about 3 hours. Students will be dismissed upon their completion of the test; however, space will be made available in the school for those who need to remain until regular dismissal time. Students requiring extra time will continue to write their test during an extended test-taking period. Modifying the school day in this way allows schools to maximize teacher supervision and support, availability of classroom space and access to technology.

For Students Not Writing the OSSLT

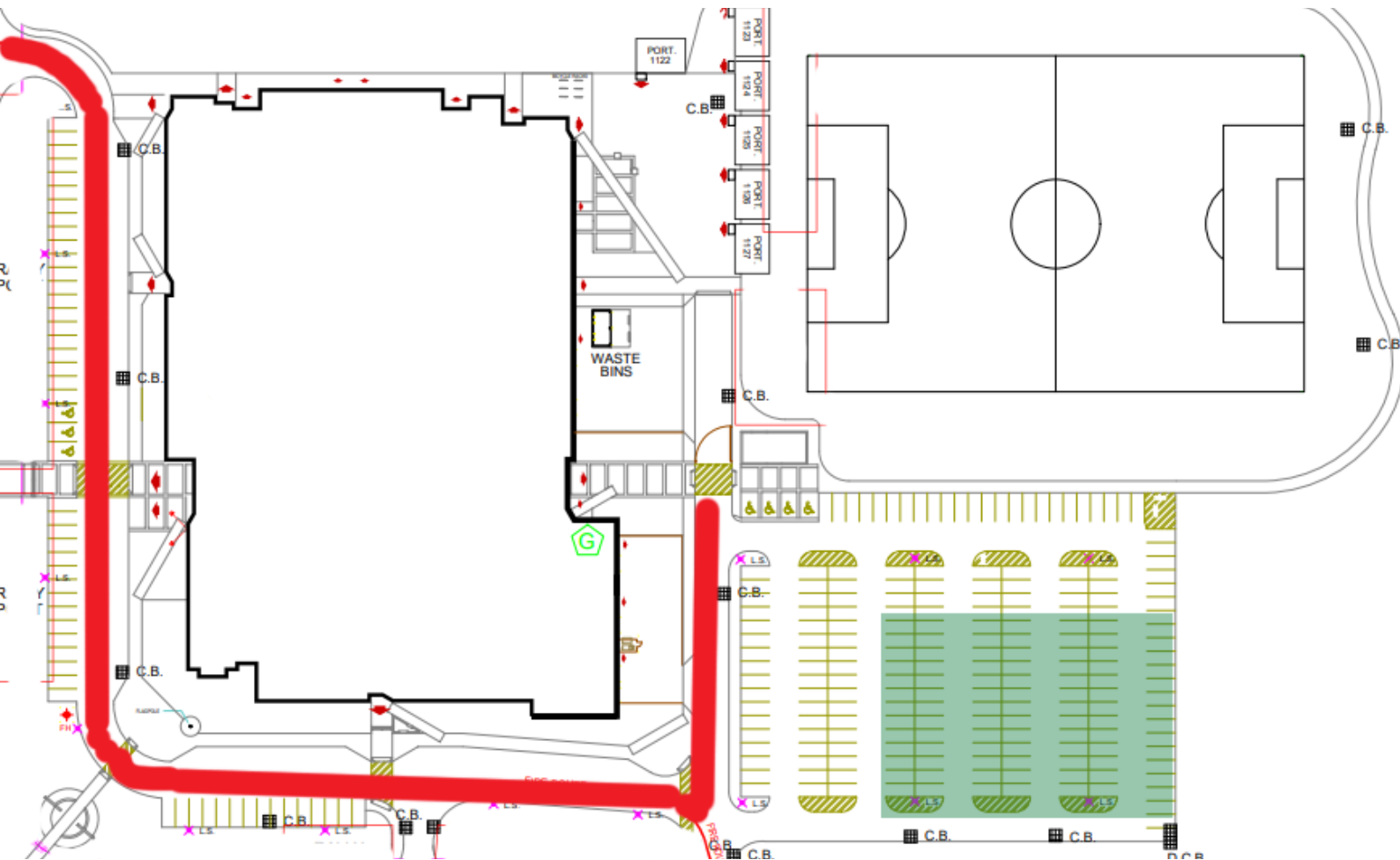
Although schools will be open, regular classes will not be running. Students not writing the test will be provided asynchronous learning activities for the day.

We wish every student success on the OSSLT and appreciate your ongoing support for student achievement and well-being.

If you have any questions, please contact the school's administrative team.

SAFETY

Pick up and Drop Off



- Please **DO NOT** park in the **Fire Route** on School Property.
- Please be sure your child is ready to get out of the car for **Drop Off** so that we have smooth traffic flow.
- For **Pick Up**, do not park in the lanes with arrows as it creates traffic jams.
- You can park in the back parking lot to wait for your child at the end of the day.

VISITORS



Parents are reminded that appointments are required to meet with a member of the school staff. If there is an emergency situation that requires you to come to the school, all visitors are required to check into the Main Office. This is a Public Health requirement to all for contact tracing in case of a COVID19 outbreak.



ATTENDANCE

Student Attendance is attached to **their learning model** (either Face to Face or Remote Learners).

If a face to face student is at home self isolating, please understand that even though they may be attending class virtually, they will still be marked absent

Attendance:

bur.oak.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca



BUR OAK

Secondary School

TRUSTEE

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YOUR ADMIN TEAM

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Vice-Principal, Mark Melnyk (M-Z)
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