

JANUARY 28. 2022



# THE BULLDOG

*The Official Newsletter of Bur Oak Secondary*



## CULMINATING WEEK

### A Message from Administration

Hello Bulldog Community.

Here we are into the last week of Semester 1. We made it! This week's Bulldog has a lot of information regarding end of semester information, updates from the Main Office and Guidance, as well as information about Mental Health seminars, Black History Month and a letter from our Trustee, Mr. Allan Tam.

Thank you again Bulldogs!!!

### MORE IN THIS EDITION:

Land Acknowledgement

End of Semester Schedule

Main Office Updates

Guidance Updates

Student Work

Black History Month

Trustee Letter





*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.





Expressive Text Design by Esther Au  
BOSS Grade 12

# Culminating Activity Days

With the recent Ministry of Education and Public Health announcements, adjustments to the end of the semester are required to better support student achievement. As communicated earlier, final exams have been cancelled.

Courses may still require the completion of culminating activities. The days that would traditionally have been used for exams, will be used for culminating activities (e.g., presentations, performances, demonstrations, portfolios, conversations, credit salvaging and conferencing). The new key dates for the end of the semester area as follows:

Date	Activity	Attendance
Monday, January 24	Regular Classes	As per learning model
Tuesday, January 25	Regular Classes	As per learning model
Wednesday, January 26	Period 1 (Block 1) Culminating Activities	Attendance dependent on class (Face-to-face and virtual available)
Thursday, January 27	Period 2 (Block 3) Culminating Activities	Attendance dependent on class (Face-to-face and virtual available)
Friday, January 28	Period 3 (Block 2) Culminating Activities	Attendance dependent on class (Face-to-face and virtual available)
Monday, January 31	Period 4 (Block 4) Culminating Activities	Attendance dependent on class (Face-to-face and virtual available)
Tuesday, February 1	Regular Instructional Day	All Students as per learning model
Wednesday, February 2	Culminating Support Day	By appointment only; scheduled by teacher (Face-to-face and virtual available)
Thursday, February 3	Morning: Virtual Feedback * Inclement Weather Day (if needed)	All Students attend virtually



# Notes from The Main Office

## REQUEST FOR LEARNING MODEL CHANGE

The Ministry of Education has announced that students will be returning to face-to-face learning on Monday, January 17, 2022. As mentioned in our last communication, we are providing families with an opportunity to change learning models that will take effect January 17, 2022. This model change will be in effect to the end of June 2022. Families and students who are over the age of 18, wishing to make a learning model change, need to complete the Bur Oak SS - [Request for Learning Model Change Form](#).

Those families who wish to switch their learning model for Semester 2, which begins Monday, February 7, 2022, will need to complete the Bur Oak SS - [Request for Learning Model Change Form](#) again. The form will close on Monday, February 14, 2022. Those wishing to make a change after February 14th will need to contact the school directly.

Please note that remote learning will not be approved to support vacation requests. If your request is NOT approved, you will be contacted. Requests can take up to 24 hours to process.





# Notes from The Main Office

## ATTENDANCE

Temporary Remote Learning CAN be requested for students who are absent from face to face learning with short term illness related to COVID 19.

Temporary Remote Learning CANNOT be requested for students who are absent with short term illness unrelated to COVID 19.

When reporting your child's absence, please include the following information in your message:

1. Child's name
2. Student number
3. Absence due to COVID 19:

If YES, may request remote learning for 5 or 10 days based on vaccination status. Please note that this is an option for your child if they are able to access learning remotely.

If NO, may NOT request remote learning and child will be marked absent.

Please read and review the letter in the BARK that provides York Region Public Health guidance and information.



# Notes from Guidance



## Semester Two Course Changes

Course Change Requests Starting January 31st

From Monday January 31st until further notice, the Guidance Department will be closing appointment calendars. Should students wish to request a course change for Semester Two, please note the following:

Starting 8:15 am on January 31st students will be able to access a Change Request Form at [bit.ly/BOSScourses](https://bit.ly/BOSScourses)

- Students must log in using their own GAPPS Account to make this request.
- Students should review course offerings by period located on the [Bur Oak Website](#)
- Once completed, parent/guardian will receive an email with instructions to confirm approval of request. Without receiving this, we cannot proceed with reviewing the file
- Parent/guardians are asked to check Junk/Spam folders in case the notification is filtered by your email provider
- Currently many classes are full and there are cases with Wait Lists already with students in line. Many changes will not be able to be made due to limitations of available space.
- Counsellors will inform students the status of their request via email once the request has been processed. Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes as listed until a verification of new schedule is provided to them by email

Due to the overwhelming number of requests, we kindly request that families refrain from requesting updates through email, phone or in person updates during this period. We will only be meeting with students to tend to urgent matters unrelated to the status of their courses for Semester Two.

We will open our calendars as quickly as possible to meet students. Please be patient and thank you for your understanding.





# Culminating Activity Days

## **FEBRUARY 3RD VIRTUAL FEEDBACK DAY**

### **Thursday, February 3 - Virtual Feedback Day Schedule\***

<b>Period (Block)</b>	<b>Time</b>
Period 1 (Block 1)	8:15-8:52
Break	8:52-8:57
Period 2 (Block 3)	8:57-9:34
Break	9:34-9:39
Period 3 (Block 2)	9:39-10:16
Break	10:16-10:21
Period 4 (Block 4)	10:21-10:58

### **Community Classes**

Community Classes will run on their regular schedule, January 26 to February 3.

The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association presents

**GET UP! STAND UP!**  
**THERE IS POWER IN UNITY**

**Black History Month 2022**



# **Black History Month**

Free Virtual Activities from NACCA

[Click here for More Information](#)



**STUDENT AND FAMILY ADVOCATE PROGRAM PRESENTS  
2022 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION: BUILDING FAMILY & MICRO-ENTERPRISES**



**FEBRUARY VIRTUAL EVENT  
SCHEDULE**



**Tuesday February 1 @ 6:30pm**

Candle Making Workshop

- Catherine Chambers- Let'sMakeIT



**Thursday February 3 @ 7pm**

Parents & Guardians Wellness Workshop - Kamilah Clayton



**Saturday February 5 @ 6:30pm**

An evening of Musical Giants - DJ Benjamin



**Tuesday February 8 @ 6:30pm**

Caribbean/African Folklore- Sandra Whiting



**Thursday February 10 @ 6:30pm**

Tie & Dye Workshop - Catherine Chambers- LetsMakeIT



**Tuesday February 15 @ 6:30pm**

Mental & Emotional Health



**Thursday February 17 @ 6:30pm**

Keeping the Family Safe- Chief Adam Grant -  
Markham Fire Emergency Services

**EACH EVENT IS AN INFORMATIVE INTERACTIVE HOUR FILLED WITH PRIZES AND SURPRISES  
VISIT [MACCA1987.COM](https://MACCA1987.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION**

*Presented by public libraries from Durham and York Region —*

# Black Excellence in STEM Careers and Research

Featuring Black Excellence in the field of STEM. Margaret Ikape, PhD candidate at University of Toronto, shares her passion for science, her journey, and research interests in the fields of Astronomy and Astrophysics. Session is hosted live on Zoom.

**Monday, Feb 7 | 7 pm**

Join us for this free  
online program.

Register at  
<https://bit.ly/nplblackSTEM>





Newmarket Public Library  
and NACCA present:

# Harnessing Allyship and Leadership

Tuesday, February 15, 2022  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

In recognition of Black History Month, the Library and the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association are hosting a moderated panel discussion. Moderated by Kim Wheatley, the panel will explore allyship and leadership with three professionals who are actively doing the work to disrupt injustice and inequities.

## Kim Wheatley

Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley who carries the Spirit Name Shkoden Neegaan Waawaaskonen (Head or Leader of the Fireflower). She is Turtle Clan from Shawanaga First Nations and is a multi-award winning speaker who has appeared on television, radio and numerous written articles locally, nationally and internationally.

## Melissa McLetchie

A doctoral candidate in Sociology at York University, Melissa is examining the collateral consequences of imprisonment, particularly the impact of incarceration on the families of Black Canadian prisoners.

## Mollie Coles Tonn

Is the co-creator of The SoCo Collective, a local grassroots organization that seeks to facilitate community learning and inspire active connection with important social movements.

## Beatrice Anane-Bediakoh

A doctoral candidate in Sociology at York University, Beatrice examines how Black people respond to the racialization of space in racialized neighborhoods and its impact on Black personhood. She also offers affordable tutoring services to low-income families in the GTA.



Kim Wheatley  
Moderator



Melissa McLetchie  
Panelist



Mollie Coles Tonn  
Panelist



Beatrice Anane-Bediakoh  
Panelist

**Admission: FREE**

Register for this online program at <https://bit.ly/naccanpl>

In person at the Lower Level Information Desk

Or call 905-953-5110 Ext. 4770

**NACCA**

est.2018





## Triple P Parenting Seminar

### Helping Families Manage Stress

This Triple P informed discussion will provide information and practical strategies to help families share and learn about:

- Common causes of stress
- How stress affects parenting
- How to recognize signs of stress
- Healthy ways to reduce and manage everyday stress

**[Register](#) Now!**

## Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers!

Join us to share, learn and build a school culture where mental health and well-being is valued and promoted.

**Date:** Wednesday, February 2, 2022

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Zoom Link will be provided

**Facilitator:** Uma Bhatt, R.S.W.  
York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

### More Information:

Oksana Majaski  
Community & Partnership Developer  
[Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca)

This free Parent Presentation is brought to you in partnership with York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families and York Region District School Board







# MEET & GREET

## With the Chinese School Social Worker

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Let's celebrate Chinese New Year together!

LOOK FORWARDING TO HEAR YOUR  
THOUGHTS ABOUT UPCOMING WORKSHOPS  
AND THINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU

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DROP IN SESSION - YRDSB SECONDARY STUDENTS  
RSVP BY EMAILING THE SOCIAL WORKER AT  
CHARMAINE.TONG@YRDSB.CA or by entering  
the Zoom info below when meeting starts.

Date: Feb 2nd, 2022

Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Meeting ID: 992 4650 6194

Passcode: 2Ln701



# MENTAL HEALTH 101 WORKSHOP : CHINESE FAMILIES & STUDENTS

101心理健康學習講座： 如何了解子女內心世界多一點

講員: Guest Speakers:

誠意邀請家長和子女一起參與

日期： 二零二二年二月九日

時間： 7:00pm-8:00pm

**Feb 9th, 2022**

**Chinese Students and  
parents are invited**

唐詩穎 Charmaine Tong  
MSW, RSW, School Social Worker  
(Community Care Team), YRDSB  
約克區教育局學校社工， 社工系  
碩士，註冊社工

張諾懷 Cherry Cheung  
BSW, Youth Program Worker  
Hong Fook Mental Health Association  
康福心理健康協會青少年活動工作人員  
， 社工系

楊博源 Bernie Yeung  
BA, SSW, Placement Student,  
(completion in April, 2022)  
Hong Fook Mental Health Association  
康福心理健康協會實習學生， 文學，  
社會服務系， 四月待畢業

RSVP BY EMAILING THE SOCIAL WORKER AT  
CHARMAINE.TONG@YRDSB.CA or  
drop- in by entering the zoom info when meeting starts  
可電郵charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca 登記報名  
或按以下zoom會議資料



Meeting ID: 923 1395 7122  
Passcode: hyK7N7





# Message from Our Trustee Allan Tam

Dear families,

Thank you for your patience and support as schools closed to students and we moved to remote learning in January for two weeks after the winter break, following direction from the Government of Ontario.


It has been almost two years since the pandemic was declared and schools closed to students for the first time. Since then, we have all experienced significant changes and challenges in the way we live, work and learn. As a school board, we continue to be guided by public health advice and guidelines, our [values](#) as an organization and the goals set out in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#), all of which centre the well-being, learning and achievement of our students. We remain committed to sharing information with you as it becomes available. We also continue to update the Board website with resources and information, at [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

On the website, you can also find information about the [Board of Trustees](#), including more about my role as your trustee, committee meeting dates, and information about public participation and how you can attend public board meetings. Following [a review](#) completed earlier this year, trustees approved some changes to [committee structures](#) and [delegation process](#) to create a stronger governance model. As a Board, we are committed to good governance, serving the needs of our community and upholding the values of York Region District School Board.

With winter well underway, I want to remind families that this year [schools will close when an inclement weather day is declared](#). This is as a result of the pandemic and the importance of adhering to public health guidelines.

There is much to look forward to in the months ahead.

This month, students in Grades 5 to 11 will have an opportunity to vote for the students who will represent their voices next school year, during the student trustee elections. Student trustees play an important role in our system, including participating in board and committee meeting discussions. The election process also gives students an opportunity to learn more about and participate in the voting process. Learn more at [www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees](http://www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees).



Throughout February, we recognize Black History Month. In addition to recognizing the contributions of Black Canadians throughout history, we are continuing to Celebrate Black Excellence in our own community. I encourage you to [read or watch the stories of some of the many outstanding individuals in York Region, or nominate someone.](#) You may also be interested in some of the episodes available on our [TuneIn YRDSB podcast](#), exploring Black History Month and beyond.

Later in February, our schools will become a sea of pink as we acknowledge Pink Shirt Day and stand together against bullying. Learn more about our work to [prevent and address bullying](#) and create [equitable and inclusive learning environments](#).

Family Day and March Break are also approaching, and I wish you and your families a healthy, restful and enjoyable break.

As we move closer to the spring and summer months, many families who have children graduating this year are beginning to wonder what graduation ceremonies will look like in June. We all want to be able to celebrate this important milestone with our graduating students in person. It is a special occasion, recognizing their years of achievement and hard work. We recognize that it has been deeply disappointing to students, families and staff that we have not been able to hold in-person ceremonies as we have done in the past, as we adhere to health and safety guidelines. School board staff continue to meet regularly with public health and to review provincial guidelines, and as more information becomes available, we will continue to provide you with updates.

In closing, I want to acknowledge that as an education community, although we have faced many challenges and changes in the past few years, we have also seen our community come together in many ways to support our students and one another. I am proud to be part of this community and I want to thank our students, families and staff for the effort and care they have demonstrated.

Allan Tam

Trustee, Markham Wards 4 and 5

# 10 TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE ONLINE

1



**QUESTION EVERYTHING  
YOU READ ONLINE**

**DON'T REVEAL  
PERSONAL INFORMATION**



2

3



**KEEP YOUR PASSWORD PRIVATE**

**UPDATE YOUR SYSTEM  
AND HARDWARE REGULARLY**



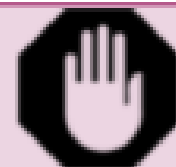
4

5



**NEVER DOWNLOAD SUSPICIOUS FILES**

**AVOID CLICKING ON UNKNOWN LINKS**



6

7



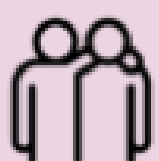
**THINK CRITICALLY BEFORE  
POSTING ANYTHING ONLINE**

**LOG OUT OF YOUR ACCOUNT WHEN  
STEPPING AWAY FROM YOUR DEVICE**



8

9



**BE KIND TO OTHERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

**ALWAYS CONSIDER YOUR  
DIGITAL FOOTPRINT**



10



# 4 Period Day Schedule

**8:15–8:20** Homeroom

**8:20–9:35** Block 1

**9:35–9:40** Break

**9:40–10:55** Block 3

**10:55–11:45** Lunch

**11:45–1:00** Block 2

**1:00–1:05** Break

**1:05–2:20** Block 4

# 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

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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](mailto:bur.oak.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca)



# BUR OAK

*Secondary School*

## TRUSTEE

Board Trustee, Allan Tam  
416-898-9607  
allan.tam@yrdsb.ca

## SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent of Schools, Kien  
Nam Luu  
905-940-7800  
kiennam.luu@yrdsb.ca

## CONTACT INFO

Bur Oak Secondary School  
905-202-1234  
bur.oak.ss@yrdsb.ca  
Attendance:  
bur.oak.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca

## YOUR ADMIN TEAM

Principal, Rose Li  
rose.li@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal, Vanessa Wonnacott (A-L)  
vanessa.wonnacott@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal, Mark Melnyk (M-Z)  
mark.melnyk@yrdsb.ca

