



**Welcome
Parents and
Guardians!**

Create Your Own Road Map

~ Navigating Post-Secondary Pathways

**Guidance Department
Bur Oak Secondary
School**

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.

Presentation Agenda

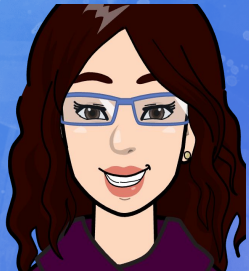
- ✓ Introducing the Guidance Department & how to book appointments
- ✓ Identifying factors that may affect graduation
- ✓ Explore options after high school
- ✓ Understanding the application process
- ✓ Establishing important dates and timelines
- ✓ Post secondary research tips

Guidance Counsellors



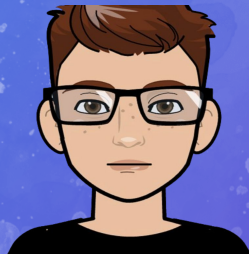
Ms. Andersen

A-Chen and
Gr 10 & 12 Special Ed



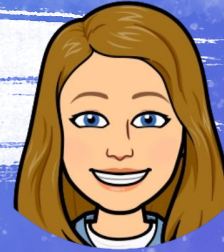
Ms. Wong

Mal-Sun and
New VISA
Students



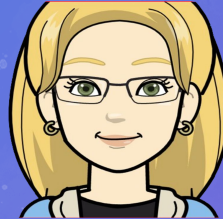
Mr. Vittore

Cheng-Ki
Returning VISA students
Gr 10 & 12
SHSM



Ms. Doganoglu
Sun-Z

DSOL, Dual Credit
- Out of Province



Ms. MacSween

Ko-Mak, Gr 9 & 11 Special Ed
and Returning VISA students
Gr 9 & 11



Ms. Pileggi
Guidance Secretar

Booking with your guidance counsellor

BOSS Guidance:

**Grade 11/12 Google
Classroom**

Gr. 11 Code: j2usqns

Gr. 12 Code: p3yews7

- Visit the guidance page on the BOSS school website OR the Google Classroom:

- Booking calendars for each counsellor can be found there
- **Remember:**
 - Come to guidance for your scheduled time

Issues Affecting Graduation

- Realistic choices
- Don't just think about marks
- Make several plans
- Manage family pressure
- Don't always take the easy way
- Find a school-life balance
- Focus on personal wellness

Student Wellness is the Priority

“Mental Health is a state of well-being in which everyone realizes their own potential, can cope with normal stresses of life, can work productively, and is able to make contributions to their communities.”

~ World Health Organization

WHERE ARE YOU ON THE MENTAL HEALTH CONTINUUM?

HEALTHY

- Normal mood fluctuations
- Calm & takes things in stride
- Good sense of humour
- Performing well
- In control mentally
- Normal sleep patterns
- Few sleep difficulties
- Physically well
- Good energy level
- Physically and socially active
- Not using substances to cope
- None or limited gambling

RESPONDING/ REACTING

- Irritable/impatient
- Nervous
- Sadness/overwhelmed
- Procrastination
- Forgetfulness
- Trouble sleeping
- Intrusive thoughts
- Nightmares
- Muscle tension/headaches
- Low energy
- Decreased activity/socializing
- Regular but controlled substance use/gambling

INJURED

- Anger
- Anxiety
- Pervasively sad/hopeless
- Negative attitude
- Poor performance/workaholic
- Poor concentration/decisions
- Restless disturbed sleep
- Recurrent images/nightmares
- Increased aches and pains
- Increased fatigue
- Avoidance
- Withdrawal
- Increased substance use/
gambling is hard to control

ILL

- Angry outbursts/aggression
- Excessive anxiety/panic attacks
- Thoughts of suicide
- Can't perform duties, control behaviour or concentrate
- Can't fall asleep or stay asleep
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Physical illness
- Constant fatigue
- Not going out/answering phone
- Substance or gambling addiction
- Other addictions

Parents & Guardians can Support Wellness by....

- ✓ Observing behaviours
- ✓ Being active in your child's life.
 - Ask questions about school, friends etc...
- ✓ Model wellness techniques that you use to reduce stress
- ✓ Celebrate all successes and all aspects of your child
- ✓ Get help if stress is negatively impacting their ability to be successful

Issues Affecting Graduation

Dropping Classes – For Grade 12 Students

- Full time status = 3 courses/semester
- Remember full disclosure – November 27, 2024
- VP decides part-time status
- Will not drop courses for night school, e-learning or private school

Issues Affecting Graduation

Private School

- Students meet with your guidance counsellor to discuss and complete necessary forms.
- Students must make sure the private school sends us marks BEFORE graduation
- We CANNOT submit midterm and final marks for private school to OUAC and OCAS
- Students are encouraged to check policies at each university/college they are applying to about if/how taking private school courses (or any courses outside of day school) will impact admissions decisions

Issues Affecting Graduation

Additional YRDSB Credits

- Meet with counsellor if considering night school or day school online learning
- Cannot sign up for a course you already have scheduled at BOSS

Issues Affecting Graduation

Finding the Funds

- Start the conversation at home (savings, OSAP.....)
- Part-time/Summer jobs
- Entrance scholarships – grades count
 - As information comes in about scholarships Guidance will let students know via the grade 12 Guidance Google Classroom

Issues Affecting Graduation

Volunteer Hours, OSSLT and Online Learning Graduation Requirement

All students are required to complete:

- 40 hours of Community Involvement
- Literacy Requirement – pass the OSSLT or the OLC
- 2 Online Learning credits OR complete Opt-out – forms available in the Guidance Office

Issues Affecting Graduation

SHSM

- Students should check with their counsellor about their progress by booking an appointment. Remember to check GAPPS email regularly for upcoming events/certifications...

Students should...

- Keep track of their certifications, reach-aheads etc...
- Take major courses in YRDSB
- Check to see that your SHSM courses are planned for this year

What
comes
next?



Post Secondary Planning

- ❑ Do your research and explore your options
- ❑ Look into all options:
 - ❑ Workplace
 - ❑ Apprenticeship
 - ❑ College
 - ❑ University
 - ❑ In province, out of province, out of country
- ❑ Then make informed decisions.

Ask yourself:

- Do you need a diploma, advanced diploma, work experience or a degree?
- Where is the best place to earn this?
- Can I start with a diploma and move towards a degree?
Or vice versa?

Apprenticeship (Skilled Trades)

- ❑ Earn While You Learn
- ❑ If this interests you – please book an appointment with your counsellor to explore this further
- ❑ Most learning is one on one with a *journeyperson* who is already certified in the trade
- ❑ Portion of learning takes place at College – Students can explore College programs in the skilled trades here:
[https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/skilled-trades.](https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply/skilled-trades)

Diploma Programs (College)

- 2-3 years in career related area (most programs include work experience); many have experiential learning component
- 2 year Diploma or 3 year Advanced Diploma - many transfer and/or articulation agreements to transfer into degree program at either college or university
- Affiliations and additional credential may be included
- Programs may start in September, January or May

Diploma Programs (College)

- Admission Requirements:
 - Graduation and grade 12 English (which level will you be most successful?)
 - May consider other Grade 11 and 12 marks
 - Averages 65% or above
 - Highly competitive programs – averages may be much higher
 - May require specific courses (ex. math, science...)
 - May include non-academic criteria (audition, interview...)

Degree Programs

Why?

- ❑ Some specific occupations require a degree
- ❑ Passion for academic learning in a specific area
- ❑ Future employment edge through specialized degree program

Degrees are offered at both College & University

Degree Programs

What do I need?

- ❑ Usually a minimum of 75% average in six grade 12 “U” or “M” courses
- ❑ Grades vs. Grades Plus (interview, supplementary, application, audition, portfolio...)
- ❑ Both College & University degrees require six grade 12 “U” or “M” courses

Degree - Admission Requirements

- ❑ Based on six Grade 12 “U” or “M” level courses
- ❑ Prerequisite courses are included (including English)
- ❑ May state minimum averages
 - ❑ E.g. minimum of 70% in MCV4U

**ENG4U does NOT have to be
scheduled in semester one for
admissions!!!**

Degree - Admission Requirements

- ❑ Every school calculates averages differently
- ❑ Repeated or non-day school courses *may* be treated differently
 - ❑ Check individual schools and programs for their policies
 - ❑ Private school courses will be noted as such on your OUAC applications!
- ❑ Conditional offers will state averages that you must maintain, and *may* state conditions for minimum marks for prerequisite courses. **If in doubt, ask the school!**
- ❑ ALL offers are conditional offers

Applying Outside of Ontario?

- ❑ If your child is applying to post-secondary schools outside Ontario (other Canadian provinces, USA, UK, China, Hong Kong etc...) they **MUST** make an appointment with Ms. Doganoglu
- ❑ This is to ensure that your application process is smooth and that any documents (ie. transcripts) that need to be sent are taken care of

Collaborative Programs

- Degree and diploma from the partner schools in four years (College and University)
- Prerequisite based on degree requirements (Six grade 12 U or M courses)
- Examples:
 - New Media, Journalism, Paramedicine

For a list of collaborative University and College Programs

Your Pathway is Flexible

- You can move between College & University
- Colleges & Universities have agreements for transferring credits between programs and institutions
 - Over 60,000 students a year take advantage of these in Ontario
- Current agreements can be searched using ontransfer.ca portal



Credit Transfer between Colleges
and Universities in Ontario

Know The Facts

There is no such thing
as an “easy” grade 12
course

“U” courses look better
than “M” courses

Having more grade 12
courses “looks” better

Know The Facts

You can pick which courses are sent to the application centre

Don't worry – BOSS teachers will “bump” your marks

Having a specific course in Sem 1 is better than Sem 2

Know The Facts



Let's talk about these
early offer myths
Bulldogs!!!!



The Application Process



Look for online tutorials to help you
with the application process

APPLY ONLINE AT:

ONTARIO
COLLEGES .CA

ONTARIO
UNIVERSITIES'
INFO

Ontario Universities'
Application Centre

Parent/Guardian Opt Out

- Last week, parents/guardians were emailed regarding mark reporting timelines and the sharing of information with OUAC/OCAS.
- For parents/guardians of grade 12 students: ONLY those who DO NOT want their child's information shared with the application centres need to fill out this form
 - FYI – we don't share = your child will not be able to apply!

OCAS Application

- Ontario Colleges Application Centre (OCAS)
 - Application for admission for fall 2025 is now open
 - Students make their own account and password – they will need their OEN which will be sent to student gapps emails between Oct 15 – 18, and can also be found on any report card
- Apply by February 1, 2025 for equal consideration
 - Rolling acceptances afterwards if programs have not filled
 - Highly competitive applications start sooner

OCAS Application Fees

- \$150 for 5 program choices
 - No more than 3 programs at one school
- For collaborative programs: check to see if you should apply through OUAC or OCAS
- Pay by credit card, online banking, phone, certified cheque

OCAS Important Dates

- Early October, 2024
 - Online application opens
- Nov 1, 2024
 - Earliest offers
- Feb 1, 2025
 - Equal consideration date
 - Highly competitive program applications must be received
- May 1, 2025
 - Deadline to confirm offers of admission
- June 2025
 - Tuition deposit due

OUAC Application

- Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC)
 - Applicant Type : Group A – this is for YOU! NOT Group B
 - Many collaborative degree programs use OUAC as well
 - OUAC collects and distributes marks, applications, offers of admissions and communicates with you about the process

OUAC Application Fees

- 101 Base Application Fee = \$156
 - Maximum 3 program choices
- Additional Choice Fee = \$50
- International Service Fee = \$10
 - If you are not a Canadian Citizen or P.R
- Pay by credit card or online banking



**Applications NOT
sent
until you pay**

**Additional charges
may be applied to
change choices**

Information Needed for OUAC Application

- ✓ Students just need their OENs to create their account. OENs will be sent to student gapps emails between Oct 15 - 18
- ✓ OENs can also be found on previous report cards

OUAC Important Dates

- ✓ Applications for admission for Fall 2025 are now open
- ✓ January 15, 2025 – Deadline to Apply to OUAC (Equal Consideration)
- ✓ May 29, 2025 – Latest date to receive decision
- ✓ June 2, 2025 – Latest date you can respond to an offer or make financial commitment

Submission of Grades

November 7, 2024	Any completed grade 11 and 12 marks
November 19, 2024	Grade 12 semester one mid-terms
Early February 2025	Grade 12 semester one finals
April 2025	Grade 12 semester two mid-terms
Early July 2025	Grade 12 semester two finals

★ ALL MARKS are submitted (day, night, virtual, private)

★ Full Disclosure Dates: ONE week after mid-term report card distribution each semester.

Supplementary Applications

- This is between you and the post-secondary school not the OUAC
- Read everything carefully and make sure to review and edit before submitting!!
- Deemed Optional? Submit it anyway!
- Deadlines are firm
- Reference – always ask your referee first and give them notice
- Make a professional email address
- Paper Transcript required?
 - Set appointment with counsellor to make sure.

Doing Your Research: Make Informed Decisions

Remember – BOSS Guidance Counsellors are
here to help you along the way

University/College Visits

Connect with Ontario Colleges

- Virtual opportunities:
<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/college-recruitment>
- In person College Fair – October 16 -17, 2024 @ EnerCare Centre

Connect with Ontario Universities

- Ontario Universities Fair has passed, but there is a virtual information session on November 21st from 5 to 7 pm. For more information, go to <https://www.oueevents.ca/virtual/>

Tours - In person & Virtual

- ✓ Most schools offer both face-to-face and virtual tours
 - Visit the school website to book your tour
- ✓ Many schools have Fall Open Houses or Preview Days
 - Check [OUInfo](#) to see upcoming events for Ontario universities, or check individual university websites
 - Visit the [College Recruitment](#) page on [Ontariocolleges.ca](#) and click on each college for information on upcoming events at Ontario colleges

Other Supports

- BOSS Guidance Grade 12 Google Classroom
 - Updates, reminders and links

Code: **p3yews7**

- Meet with your guidance counsellor for further support
- Worried about being on track to graduate?
 - DON'T WORRY!
 - Status sheet check at end of November

Final Reminders...

- Students: Look for correspondence via email next week with your OEN
- Create MULTIPLE, realistic plans
- Apply by the winter holidays in December
- Show up for auditions, interviews or portfolio presentations on time
- Get organized

Final Reminders...

- Do your research
- Visit, tour (virtually or in person) and ask questions
- Think about your finances
- Work hard
- Be observant – watch for your child's overall wellness. If you concerned, reach out to your child's counsellor
- Find balance for well being

The background is a vibrant watercolor wash in shades of blue and purple. A thick, white, hand-painted brushstroke runs horizontally across the middle of the image, creating a banner effect. The word "Questions?" is written in a bold, black, cursive-style font on this white banner.

Questions?