



It's your road, and yours alone, others
may walk it with you, but no one can
walk it for you."

Rumi

Create Your Own Road Map

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 your graduation
- ✓ Explore options after high school
- ✓ Understanding the application process & Important Dates
- ✓ Post secondary research tips

3Rs - Respect, Responsibility, Relationships

As Bulldogs we are:

- ✓ Respectful,
- ✓ Take responsibility,
- ✓ Leave things better than we found it
- ✓ Build positive and healthy relationships



Booking with your guidance counsellor

**BOSS Guidance:
Grade 12 Google
Classroom**

Code: **akh54mn**

- 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

Issues Affecting Graduation

**Full
Disclosure
Nov 29th**

Dropping Classes

- Full time status = 3 courses/semester
- Remember full disclosure dates* (~5 days after mid-term reports distributed)
- Will not drop courses for night school, e-learning or private school
- VP decides part-time status

*Full Disclosure: the last day to drop a grade 11 or 12 course without the mark appearing on your permanent transcript

* There is a full disclosure date each semester

Issues Affecting Graduation

Private School

- Must meet with your guidance counsellor to discuss and complete necessary forms
- YOU must make sure the private school sends us marks BEFORE graduation
- We CANNOT submit midterm and final marks for private school to OUAC

Issues Affecting Graduation

Additional YRDSB Credits

- Meet with counsellor if considering night school or DSOL (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 you know via our Google Classroom

Issues Affecting Graduation

Volunteer Hours & OSSLT

- Presently all graduation requirements have not been modified
 - 40 hours of Community Service
 - OSSLT is a graduation requirement for students graduating in 2024
- Community Hour submission procedures - see the Google Classroom
 - No home related activities accepted

Issues Affecting Graduation

SHSM

- Check with Counsellor about your progress by booking an appointment. Remember to check GAPPS email regularly for upcoming events/certifications...
- SHSM Student G-Site → <https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/shsm-student/home>

But Still Remember to...

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

What comes next?



- ✓ Workplace- permanent or gap year
- ✓ Apprenticeship
- ✓ Post Secondary Education
 - College (diplomas & degrees)
 - University
 - Joint Programs

Or any combination of the above!

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?

Diploma Programs (College)

Not sure Diploma Requirements? Book an appointment with your Counsellor!

- Admission Requirements:
 - Graduation and grade 12 English (which level with you be most successful?)
 - May consider other Grade 11 and 12 marks (including co-op)
 - 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 “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
 - ❑ Private school will be noted as such on your OUAC applications!
- ❑ Conditional offers will state averages that you must be maintained (if in doubt, ask the school)
- ❑ Early offers are conditional offers

Applying Outside of Ontario?

- ❑ If you are applying to post-secondary outside Ontario (other Canadian provinces, USA, UK, China, Hong Kong etc....) you **MUST** make an appointment with Ms. Andersen
- ❑ 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

Joint 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 each year in Ontario
- Current agreements can be searched using ontransfer.ca portal



Credit Transfer between Colleges
and Universities in Ontario

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

- Parents/Guardians should look for an email coming from BOSS regarding the sharing of information with OUAC/OCAS the week of September 25th.
- ONLY those who DO NOT want their information shared with the application centres need to fill out this form
 - FYI - we don't share = you will not be able to apply!

OCAS Application

- Ontario Colleges Application Centre (OCAS)
 - You make your own account and password as of September 30, 2023
- Apply by February 1, 2024 for equal consideration
 - Rolling acceptances afterwards if programs have not filled
 - Highly competitive applications start sooner

OCAS Application Fees

- \$125 for 5 program choices
 - No more than 5 program choices
 - No more than 3 programs at one school
- 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 2023
 - Online application opens
- Feb 1, 2024
 - Equal consideration date
 - Highly competitive program applications must be received
 - Earliest offers
- May 1, 2024
 - Deadline to confirm offers of admission
- June 2024
 - Tuition deposit due

OUAC Application

- Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC)
 - **Application 101** – this is for YOU! NOT 105!!!!
 - Many degree programs through college use this 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 = \$150 (last year's fee)
 - Maximum 3 program choices
- Additional Choice Fee = \$50
- Pay by credit card or online banking

**Applications NOT sent
until you pay**

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

OUAC PIN Numbers

- ✓ PIN #s will be distributed via GAPPS from YRDSB in mid-October
 - Exact date of PINs will be shared on Google Classroom once we have been told by YRDSB
 - It is similar to report card system, watch for link date expiry
 - Keep this number confidential and store
- ✓ Record your confirmation number (be SURE to get one!)

OUAC Important Dates

- ✓ January 15, 2024 - Deadline to Apply to OUAC
- ✓ May 29, 2024 - Latest date to receive decision
- ✓ June 3, 2024 - Latest date you can respond to an offer or make financial commitment

Submission of Grades

Mid-November 2023

Completed grade 11 and 12 marks and Semester one mid-terms

Early February 2024

Grade 12 semester one finals

April 2024

Grade 12 semester two mid-terms

Early July 2024

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 application centre
- Read everything carefully
- 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

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!!!!



University/College Visits

Ontario Universities Fair: October 20-21 , from 10:00 am to 5 pm
Metro Toronto Convention Centre www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca

Connect with Ontario Colleges

- *Virtual opportunities:*
<https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/colleges/college-recruitment>
- In person College Fair - October 18 -19, 2023 @ EnerCare Centre

University/College Visits

Thursday September 21 - GTA Fair @ BOSS:

9:30am-12:15 in the main atrium

Tuesday November 21 - College/University Fair @ BOSS:

6:00-8:00 in the main atrium

Tours - In person & Virtual

- ✓ Many schools are now offering face-to-face tours
- ✓ Visit the school website to book your tour
- ✓ You can visit many schools from the comfort of your own couch/sofa/bed/pogo stick
- ✓ Visit ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca
or ontariocolleges.ca
and click on the school for more information

Other Supports

- BOSS Guidance: Grade 12
 - Updates, reminders and links

Code: akh54mn

- Meet with your guidance counsellor for further support
- Worried about being on track to graduate?
 - DON'T WORRY!
 - CCS Check End of November

We need some information

Grade 12 Information Survey and Statements of Understanding
(Link on *Google Classroom*)



Final Reminders...

- Take responsibility for YOUR future
- 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
- Take care of yourself
 - find balance for your well being
- Parent/Guardian Opt-Out forms
 - next week via email