



# THE BULLDOG

A Newsletter for Our Bur Oak Secondary School Community

VOL. 1, ISSUE 7

OCTOBER 13, 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

### October 2023

- 16: Picture re-take day
- 20: PA day
- 24: Parent/guardian teacher interviews (6–8 p.m.)
- 26: Awards Breakfast - Cafeteria (Period 1)
- 31: School Spirit Day

### November 2023

- 1: Take Our Kids to Work Day (No Grade 9 Classes)
- 17: PA Day
- 20: Grade 8 Open House (evening)
- 21: Parent/Guardian College & University Visits
- 22/23: Equity Symposium
- 24: Best Buddies Krispy Kreme Fundraiser Day
- 28: SHSM CPR Training
- 30: School Spirit Day



## Grade 9 Day Fee

If you have not yet paid the \$21.00 for Grade 9 Day, please do so as soon as possible on [School Cash Online](#). Included in this fee were the t-shirt, lunch and Grade 9 Day activities. Thank you to all of our parents/guardians who have paid.

## Student Enhancement Fee

Thank you to all of our families who have paid their student enhancement fee. This fee helps to support all of the amazing activities and opportunities that are provided to our students throughout the school year. Students who have paid their student enhancement fee are eligible for discounts on school events (ex. Semi-Formal, Prom). If you have not yet paid your student enhancement fee, please do so as soon as possible on [School Cash Online](#).

## Parent/Guardian Information Session:

Are you a parent or guardian who is wondering about:

- high school terminology (ex: Teach Assist, OSSLT, EQAO) or
- high school calendars (ex. Timetables vs semesters vs terms) or
- how high schools work (ex: Student Success, York Region Athletics Association, contest)?

If so, feel free to register for an upcoming Parent/Guardian information session by completing this [Google Form](#).

**Virtual Session** is on Thursday October 19 from 12:30-1:30 pm. Participation is limited to ensure opportunities for questions and answers are available. You will receive an email confirming your registration and the Virtual Link once your registration is received.

**In Person Session at Bur Oak Secondary School** is on Wednesday November 15 from 1:30-2:30. Participation is limited to ensure opportunities for questions and answers are available. You will receive an email confirming your registration and the location once your registration is received.

This is a sample of [questions and answers](#) from previous sessions.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| What information is in Teach Assist?                                   | Student Marks for tests and assignments are on Teach Assist. The student's list of courses for the   |
| Can parents access the Google Classroom?                               | Yes! Parents can email the teachers and ask to be invited to the Google Classroom.   |
| How can students get extra help, other than asking the teacher?        | There are many ways to get extra help. For immediate concerns, student can go to Guidance. They can also register for Peer Tutoring, they can meet with the Student Success Teacher or if they have an IEP they can speak with their Special Education Resource Teacher. |
| What does it mean that Bur Oak is a 1:1 school?                        | This means that the expectation is that every student will bring their own device to school to complete their class work. Bur Oak has loaner laptops that students can borrow for the year (like a text-   |
| What is EQAO for Math?   | The Ministry of Ontario requires that Grade 9 students complete a standardized math text. This test occurs at the end of the semester and makes up 5% of their overall mark. This test is in addition to   |
| Do they have to pass the EQAO Math test to graduate?                   | No, the EQAO Math test is not a graduation requirement.  |
| Does my child have to take Grade 12                                    | No, students only need 3 Math credits to graduate.   |
| How can my son register for Arabic if it's not offered at this school? | He can register through My Blueprint. Language courses are offered through the Indigenous Languages and International Languages program.   |
| How can my daughter try out for soccer?                                | She should listen for the announcements in the early spring. The coach will announce an information session for soccer try-outs. She can also check the bulletin board beside the Phys Ed office for information.  |

## Our servery is now open!

The servery in our school cafeteria is now open daily from 7:45 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

## PA Day – October 20

There will be a PA Day on Friday, October 20, and there will be no classes held that day.

Here is a general overview of the planned activities that staff will engage in that day.

### Length: Half Day - AM

Topic: Curriculum Implementation Learning

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administration and Board based personnel  
Description: **Equitable Assessment Practices** Professional Learning Series #1

Details: School teams will engage in professional learning facilitated by school administrators focusing on:

- identifying the tenets of equitable assessment; and
- exploring concrete shifts and changes to classroom assessment, evaluation and communication practices.

### Topic: SIP/Department Meetings

Details: School teams will engage in School Improvement planning facilitated by school leaders. Topics will vary by subject and may include:

- embedding equitable assessment practices into subject evaluations;
- subject specific integration of high-impact instructional practices to support student improvement in alignment with the curriculum;
- developing resources and learning plans to consolidate foundational knowledge and skills in de-streamed grade 9 courses including English, Mathematics and Science and across the curriculum;
- data analysis for school improvement; and
- curriculum implementation of new curriculum

### Length: Half Day - PM

Topic: Literacy/Mathematics Instructional Strategies

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administration and Board based personnel  
Description: **Planning with Multilingual Language Learners at the Forefront**

Details: The purpose and goals of the STEP Framework are introduced, followed by time to explore both the structure and components within the Oral, Reading and Writing ESL Continua. This module focuses on:

- Foundational principles in teaching multilingual language learners
- Introduction to STEP framework

Topic: OCT **Professionalism** Module

Details: Staff will engage in learning regarding professionalism through the OCT Professionalism Module.

### Topic: SIP/Department Meetings

Details: School teams will engage in School Improvement planning facilitated by school leaders. Topics will vary by subject and may include

- embedding strategies to support teaching multilingual language learners into the curriculum.
- embedding subject specific high yield strategies into instruction and assessment
- data analysis for school improvement

Additional professional activities for EAs, office support staff, and Library Technicians will be available.

## Information from the Guidance Department

### **Take Your Kids To Work - November 1st**

Parents/guardians of students in grade nine are encouraged to start making plans to showcase your workplaces on November 1st. This is a wonderful day to expose our children to the wonderful realities of world of work. More information will be coming out over the next couple of weeks! Please note that there will be NO GRADE 9 C

### **Upcoming Technology, Skilled Trades, Apprenticeship Information Sessions**

[Accelerated OYAP & Apprenticeship Information Virtual Open House](#) will be taking place on **Thursday, October 26, 2023, 7:00PM-8:30PM**

#### [REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN](#)

A link to the virtual open house will be provided after registration.

This is a multi-board event where families can go to specific Training Delivery Agents (TDA) (i.e. Colleges or Unions) to hear about their programs. See event flyer [here](#).

#### ***This event will be of interest to:***

- Students in Grade 12 who are interested in applying for one of the Accelerated OYAP Level 1 Training programs;
- Students must have 4 credit Co-op/ALEP on their timetable in semester 2 and have completed 26+ credits towards their OSSD.
- Students in Grades 10-12 who are interested in learning more about apprenticeship and OYAP programming and;
- Parents/guardians/educators who want to learn more about OYAP and Accelerated OYAP opportunities.

Accelerated OYAP is for students in Grade 12 who are in full day Co-op/ALEP in Semester Two. Please visit [www.yrdsb.ca/ACCELOYAP](http://www.yrdsb.ca/ACCELOYAP) for more information. Information regarding OYAP for all other Grade 11 and 12 students can be found at [www.yrdsb.ca/OYAP](http://www.yrdsb.ca/OYAP).

#### **Level UP Showcase**

The Level UP Showcase will be taking place on November 15th to the International Centre. This is an amazing event to meet professionals in the Skills Trades. More information can be found [here](#).

#### **2022-23 Subject Awards Breakfast**

Subject award winners from last school year will be celebrated at our annual awards breakfast. This ceremony will be held on October 26th during period 1. Students received an invitation via gapps email on October 12. Due to space availability, parents/guardians cannot attend this ceremony however students will have the opportunity to get a picture taken with their certificate.

#### **Parent/Guardian Interview Evening**

Parent/Guardian Interviews - Guidance Counsellors will be available for appointments on Tuesday October 24 between 6:00-8:00pm. Students can book appointments for their parent/guardian via Teachassist.

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.

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

Have a wonderful weekend!

