



# THE BULLDOG

A Newsletter for Our Bur Oak Secondary School Community

VOL. 1, ISSUE 9

OCTOBER 27, 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

**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

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

## School Council Update

At the Monday, October 2nd School Council meeting, parents/guardians requested to know which compulsory courses have a text-books. Textbooks are used as a resource to supplement the teacher's planning and instruction. As Bur Oak S.S. is a 1-1 technology school, teachers are using Google Classroom and creating their own notes to promote higher order critical thinking.

- Mathematics: Grade 9 destreamed – no textbook (as does not exist); Grades 10 to 12 students issued paper textbook
- Science: Grade 9 destreamed – no textbook (as does not exist); Grades 10 to 12 students issued paper (or electronic) textbook
- Geography: Grade 9 – textbook used as resource and stored in classroom; Grade 12 – no textbook
- French: No textbook
- History: Grade 10 – textbook (paper or electronic) available to students

## 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](#).

**In Person Session at Bur Oak Secondary School** is on Wednesday November 15 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. 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 semester are also listed on Teach Assist.
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 textbook) and return it at the end of the year.
What is EQAO for Math?	The Ministry of Ontario requires that Grade 9 students complete a standardized math test. This test occurs at the end of the semester and makes up 5% of their overall mark. This test is in addition to the final examination for their Math Course.
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 math to graduate?	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.

## Information from the Guidance Department

### Take Your Kids To Work - Grade 9 Family Reminder

Just a reminder to all grade 9 parents to please fill out the Take Your Kids to Work Day form (<https://forms.gle/ytRTAVb3HL34JbAr8>) sent via email. Please complete this form as soon as possible. Thank you to those of you who have already completed the form.

### 3 R's at Bur Oak Secondary School

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.



Have a wonderful weekend!