



# Dr. Denison Secondary School

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September 21, 2018

## Guidance Appointments

Visit <https://guidancedenison.youcanbook.me/>



## Health Care Forms

Anaphylaxis is an extremely serious allergic reaction that is sudden in onset and can cause death. The York Region District School Board and Dr. Denison staff, students and community work to ensure that all of our students are safe at all times. We have a number of students at Denison with severe, life-threatening allergies to nut products. Please do not permit any nut products or foods containing them to come to school with your son or daughter. If your student has a serious medical condition such as Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy, Diabetes, Asthma or other, please pick a form up from the main office.

## Every Student Counts Survey



Your child will be bringing home a letter regarding the participation of a survey that will take place in November 2018. The purpose of the survey is to better understand YRDSB's diverse student population as well as students' experiences in the school and outside of school. The survey results will be used to help improve our schools.

## Important Dates to Remember:

### September

Sept 24: PA Day  
Sept 28-30: University Fair  
Sept 30: Orange Shirt Day

### October

Oct 8: Thanksgiving  
Oct 9: Interim Reports  
Oct 11: Gr.8 Family Night  
Oct 12: Photo Retake Day

## School Contact Information:

Principal  
Janet Atkinson

Vice-Principal  
Michelle Godfrey  
Candice Mott

<http://denison.ss.yrdsb.ca/>

135 Bristol Road,  
Newmarket, ON, L3Y 8J7  
(905)836-0021

Superintendent  
Erik Khilji

Trustee Name  
Loralea Carruthers  
Martin Van Beek



## Walking or Cycling to School

As we start the 2018-2019 school year, we would like to remind and encourage families to consider walking or cycling with children to and from school. There are many benefits to walking and cycling to school. It:

- Improves student academic performance by making children more alert and better prepared to learn.
- Contributes to the daily goal of 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous activity for children, improving their health and overall fitness.
- Reduces traffic congestion and improves safety for everyone in school zones.
- Promotes life-long habits that foster independence and active lifestyles, preparing children for their future.

For those who can't walk or cycle to school every day, choosing active travel once, twice or a few days a week can still provide benefits. You can also consider parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way. Include active travel as part of your daily routine!

## School Bus Safety

Reminder if you are dropping off or picking up your student, please don't park in the fire route or bus route located on the right side of the drive at the front of the school.



## Assembly

An important grade 12 **College/University and Scholarship** assembly will be on October 4, during period 4 in the Cafeteria.

## Homework

**Online homework help** is available@ visit [www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org](http://www.homeworkhelp.ilc.org) or [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

## Grade 9 Visits

Guidance will be visiting all grade 9 classes next week to provide information on our services, Community Involvement guidelines and opportunities, reading a credit counseling summery (academic school record), changing levels of courses and the IPP – Individual Pathway Plan, just to name a few things.



## House

The Denison Student Council is excited to share with you a new venture starting in our school. At Denison, we promote high academic achievements, the development of athletic skills and abilities, as well as a welcoming sense of inclusivity and community. This year, the Student Council would like to encourage you to become more involved and feel a greater sense of belonging while you pursue your goals at school. Therefore, we are starting a new venture called house teams.

This new initiative will involve the entire school: students, teachers, administration, support staff and caretaking staff. All members will be assigned into one of the 4 house teams: **Red**, **Yellow**, **Green**, and **Blue**. Throughout the year, teams will participate in various friendly competitive events to represent their house. There will be at least one event every month, and points will be allocated to each team based on placement in each of the events. This will all culminate on our big Denison Day event in June, when the final points will be tallied to determine which team will be declared the victor for the year!

## School Cash Online

School Cash Online provides the following benefits:

- A convenient fee payment option that saves time
- Reduces paper
- No more need to send cash or cheques to school
- A quick way to register. It takes less than 5 minutes to register.

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

## Parents Night

Parents' Night will be on the evening of Thursday, October 25th. Parents/Guardians will be using Edsby to schedule appointments with your child's teachers. If you have not yet signed up for Edsby, we will be sending information out soon.

## Volunteer Hours

**Volunteering** resource:  
[www.yorkinfo.ca](http://www.yorkinfo.ca)

This is online access to volunteer opportunities in York Region. Remember volunteering must be for a non profit organization to qualify for community hours.

Volunteer opportunities are posted on the wall outside of the Guidance office.

## Exams

Semester One Exam  
Period is January 24 to  
January 30, 2019.

Semester Two Exam  
Period is June 19 to June  
25, 2019

## Mental Health



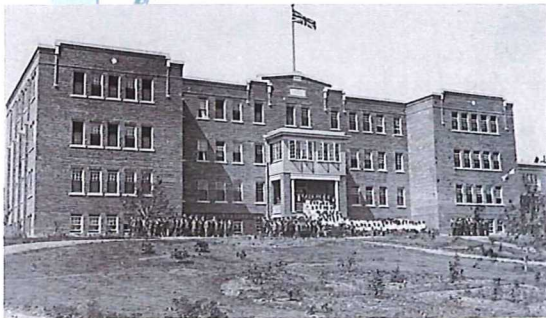
# Orange Shirt Day

September 30th



The orange shirt day movement started in 2013 to highlight the pain and suffering of thousands of Indigenous children who were sent to residential school throughout the last century. The colour of the shirt is connected to the experience of Phyllis Webstad who was sent to Cariboo Residential School near Williams Lake, BC, in 1973.

Six-years old at the time, Phyllis went to her first day of school wearing a new bright orange shirt. New clothes were a rare thing for the young girl, who was being raised by her grandmother. However, upon arriving at the school, the nuns stripped her of the shirt, forcing her to wear the school's institutional uniform.



Webstad has felt the impact of that event long after it occurred, "that feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years. Even now, when I know nothing could be further than the truth, I still sometimes feel that I don't matter."

The shirt has since gone on to become a symbol of a national movement that recognizes the suffering of Indigenous children at residential schools across the country and to show a renewed commitment to ensure that every child matters.

Recognize the resiliency and bravery of Residential School Survivors by wearing an orange shirt on September 30th.