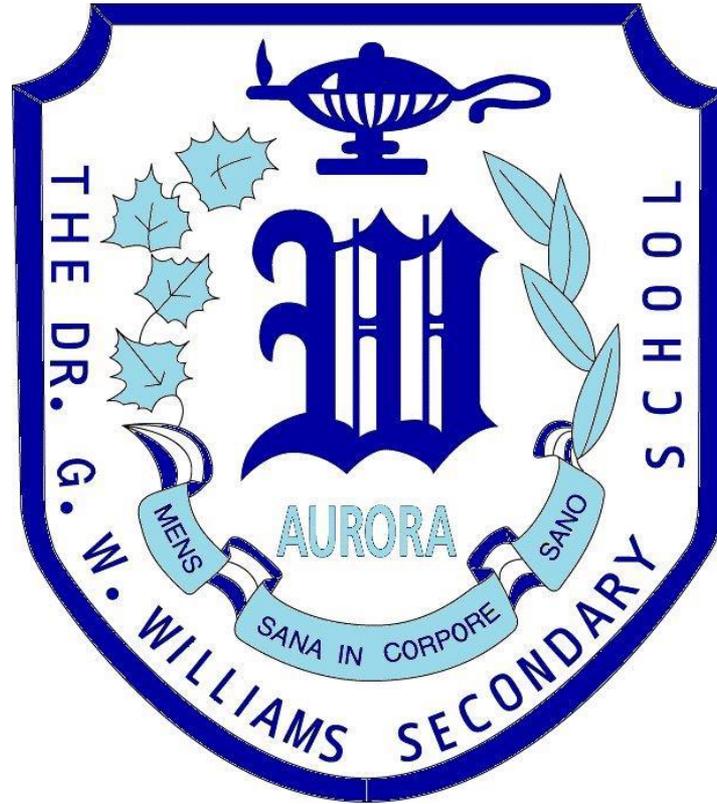


# Welcome Students and Families



**The Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School**

# Welcome Class of 2028



# HOME OF THE WILDCATS!

# Land Acknowledgement

We would like to start by acknowledging that we are on the traditional territories of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe peoples, whose presence here continues to this day. We also would like to acknowledge this is the treaty lands of the First Nations of the Williams Treaty and thank them and other Indigenous peoples for sharing this land with us. We would also like to acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community and our partners in education.

# Agenda

Introductions

Information About Williams

Ontario Secondary School Diploma Requirements

Available Supports

Extra-Curriculars

Speciality Programs

Post-Secondary Pathways Programming

September 2024 - Grade 9 Day

# Williams' Admin Team



Mr. Gazaneo  
Vice Principal



Mrs. Schmidt  
Principal



Ms. Mitchell  
Vice Principal

# Mrs. Schmidt - Principal



# Guidance



Mr. Fuller  
Guidance Counsellor  
Last Names A-H



Ms. Morelli  
Guidance Counsellor  
SHSM & CAS



Ms. Chow  
Guidance Counsellor  
Last Names I-Q



Mrs. Durbacz  
Guidance Counsellor  
Last Names Q-Z

# History of Williams

- The Dr. G.W. Williams S.S. is named after Dr. David Garnet Wolseley Williams, a local medical doctor and former trustee of the school board for forty-eight years, thirty-five of them as chairman.
- Our school motto is "A sound mind in a sound body" (Mens sana in corpore sano).



# Our School

- Population: 1450
- Grades 9 - 12
- School Times: 8:20 - 3:00
- Five period day
- Semester program for all grades
- Exam/Culminating weeks January and June



# Take a Tour of the School



School Website

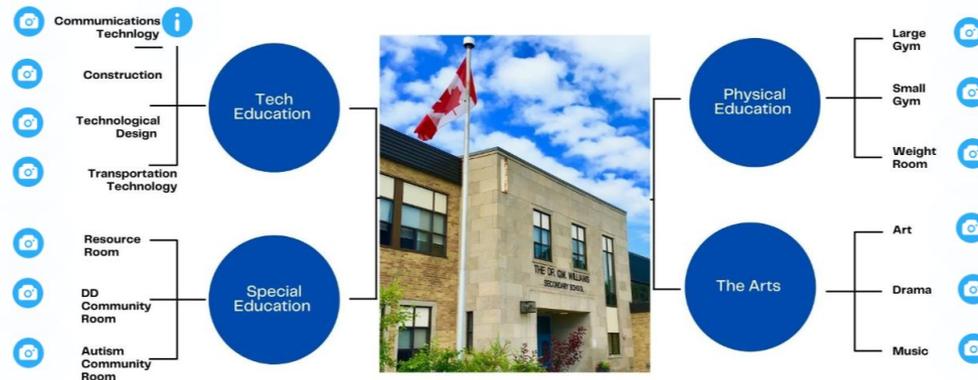


School Info



Virtual  
Tour

## The Dr. G.W. Williams S.S. Virtual Tour



ENTRYWAY

CAFETERIUM

LIBRARY

FOOD LAB

SCIENCE LAB

CLASSROOM



thinglink

# Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

A teaching and learning environment in which each participating student and teacher has access to a primary device on a direct and continuous basis for educational purposes.

Students do not share their technology with other students but take ownership over their own device.



## Laptop

This does NOT have to be a fancy or powerful laptop



## Chromebook

Access to google apps only → which is all they need



## Tablet

A keyboard attachment is required

**Cellphones are NOT a primary device!**

# **Our School's Specialty Programs**

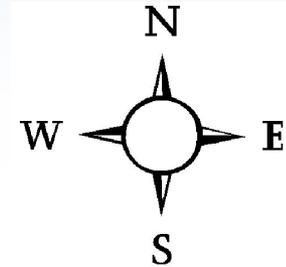
**High Performance Athlete Program**

**International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme**

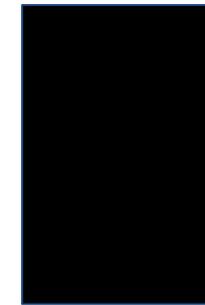
**Specialist High Skills Major**

# The Future of Williams

The anticipated opening of our new building is September 2025.



BAYVIEW AVENUE



BOREALIS AVENUE

WELLINGTON STREET EAST



# Will the Boundaries be Changing?

- Planning Staff will be commencing a boundary review process in winter 2024 for Dr. G.W. Williams SS and Aurora HS prior to the opening of Dr. G.W. Williams SS replacement school in northeast Aurora.
- The **proposed boundary** would include:
  - Adding the Highview PS and Regency Acres PS feeder schools (south of Kennedy Road to Bloomington Road between Bathurst Street to Yonge Street) to Aurora High School.
  - Section B choice area (Batson Drive to Industrial Parkway South between Yonge Street and Industrial Parkway) is designated to attend one high school, Aurora High School, which removes this area from the Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School attendance area.
  - **If approved, the boundary change would take effect September 2025 for incoming grade 9's.**
- <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/board-plans/new-and-replacement-schools>

# Transportation

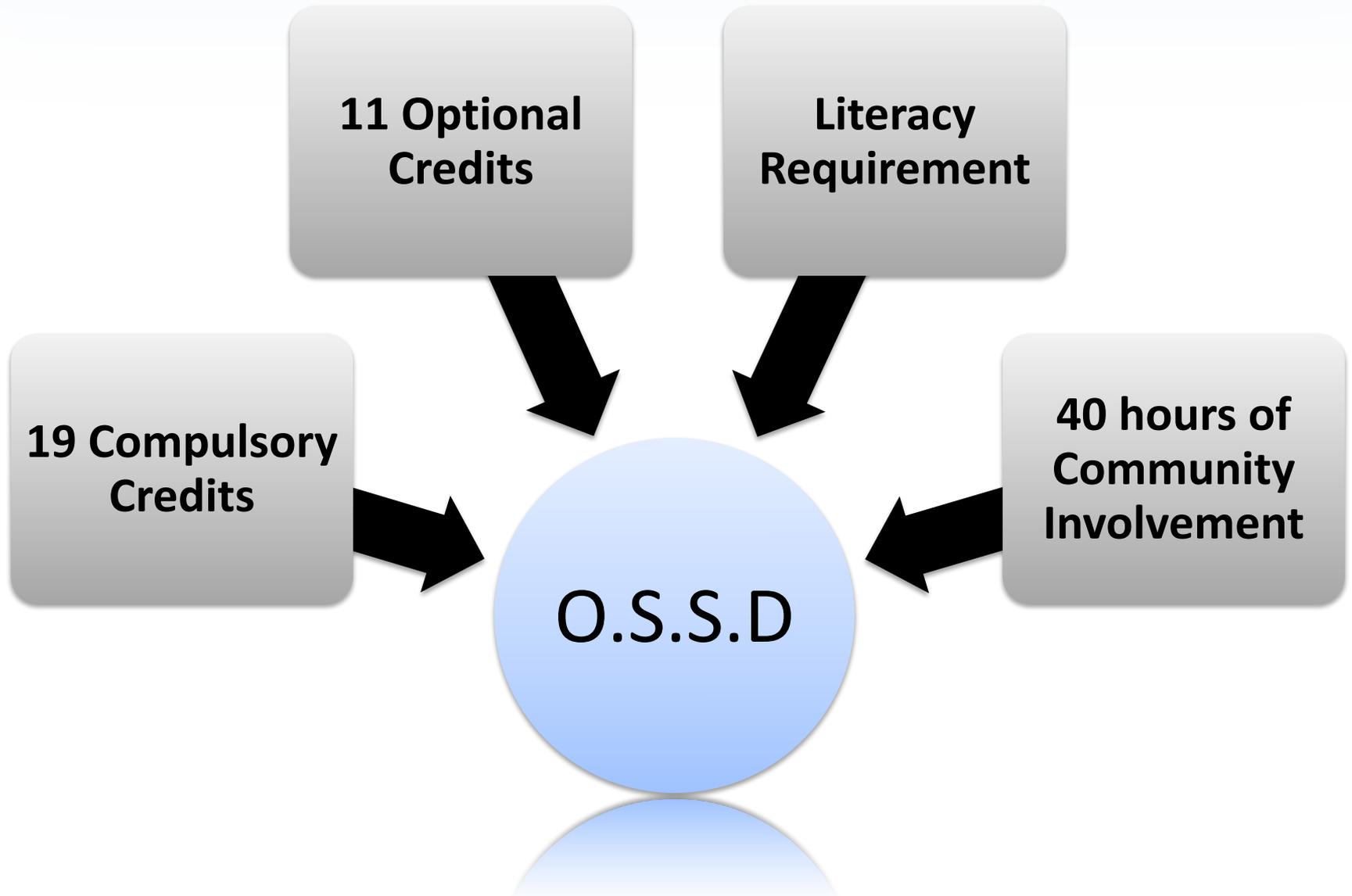


[Student Transportation  
Services of York  
Region](#)



[York Region Transit](#)

# Ontario Secondary School Diploma



# NEW - Graduation Requirements

Students must earn at least two online learning credits to get their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

## **Opting out**

Parents who wish to opt out or exempt their child from the online graduation requirement must complete the opt-out form or through their child's My Pathway Planner account.

# The Grade 10 Literacy Test

- A Diploma requirement. Administered during the grade 10 year
- A test based on language and communication (reading and writing) expectations of curricula up to and including grade 9
- Accommodations, deferrals and exemptions may be appropriate for some students
- If the standard is not met in the first attempt, schools will provide support; test is re-administered until student successfully completes the test or the Grade 12 Literacy Course



# Community Involvement

- It is required that all students complete 40 hours of community involvement.
- Can start in summer after grade 8.
- Recommended that student's obtain approval before starting involvement to ensure eligibility.
- Student responsibility to keep record of activities.
- Guidelines and forms will be provided to help track community involvement. They are available in the Guidance Office and on our website.

# Course Types & Details

<b>ACADEMIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● offered in the following compulsory courses: Science (Gr. 10), Math (gr.10), English (Gr. 10), French, Geography, History (Grade 10)</li><li>● maximum class size of 29</li></ul>
<b>LOCALLY DEVELOPED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● may be offered in the following compulsory courses: Science, Math, English, History (Grade 10)</li><li>● maximum class size of 16</li></ul>
<b>OPEN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● offered in the following compulsory courses: Physical Education, Arts, Civics/Careers and all remaining Grade 9&amp;10 electives</li><li>● maximum class size of 29 (exception Technology courses)</li></ul>
<b>DESTREAMED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● English, Math and Science Grade 9 will be offered for 2024-25:</li><li>● maximum class size of 25</li></ul>

# Course Selection

## DESTREAMED

English  
Math  
Science

## OPEN

Physical Education

## OPEN

Food & Nutrition  
Learning Strategies  
Arts  
Technology  
Business

## ACADEMIC

French  
Geography



# Open Electives

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Healthy Active Living - Girls
- Healthy Active Living - Boys
- Fitness - COED

## THE ARTS

- Visual Arts
- Dramatic Arts
- Instrumental Music
- Vocal Music

## STUDENT SERVICES

- Learning Strategies (for students with an Individualized Education Plan)

## TECH

- Communication Technology
- Exploring Technologies

## OTHER

- Introduction to Business
- Food & Nutrition

**Optional:** Repertoire - After school band that is a credit bearing music course.

# Sample Schedule

**SEMESTER 1 Sept. - Jan**

**SEMESTER 2 Feb. - June**

<b>PERIOD 1</b> <b>8:20 – 9:40</b>	<b>SNC 1W1</b> <b>Science</b>	<b>MTH 1W1</b> <b>Math</b>
<b>PERIOD 2</b> <b>9:45 – 11:00</b>	<b>HFN 1O1</b> <b>Family Studies</b>	<b>CGC 1D1</b> <b>Geography</b>
<b>PERIOD 3</b> <b>11:05 –</b> <b>12:20</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>PERIOD 4</b> <b>12:25 – 1:40</b>	<b>ENL 1W1</b> <b>English</b>	<b>AVI 1O1</b> <b>Visual Arts</b>
<b>PERIOD 5</b> <b>1:45 – 3:00</b>	<b>PPL 1O8</b> <b>Physical Education</b>	<b>FSF 1D1</b> <b>French</b>



**Supporting  
Multiple Pathways  
to Student Success**

# Williams Cares



**Ms. Peredo**  
Head of Student Services



**Ms. King**  
IB Coordinator



**Ms. Brennan**  
Student Success



**Mr. Smisko**  
A. Head of Student Services



**Ms. Dahl**  
Head of MLL



**Mr. Buono**  
Head of Library

# Student Services - Special Education Supports

## Who do we support?

- **Students already identified through formal IPRC**  
i.e. students with existing IEPs *(all students identified through the IPRC process are automatically assigned a SERT)*
- **Students in the process of being formally identified**  
(e.g., through psychoeducational assessment/testing)
- **Students placed in one of our 4 Partially Integrated Community Classes**

## How do we provide support?

- **Resource monitoring & support** is provided by our team of **Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs)**
  - Focus on building time management and self-advocacy skills
- **Access to the Resource Centre (Rm. 246):**  
An inclusive, student-centred space supported by Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs), Child & Youth Workers (CYWs), and other educators

# Special Education

## Levels of Service & Placement Options:

REGULAR CLASSROOM WITH...			COMMUNITY CLASS
Indirect Service	Resource Assistance	Withdrawal Assistance	Partially Integrated
SERT consults w/ regular classroom teacher and monitors student progress, offering support and resources as needed	SERT monitors student progress and provides in-class resourcing and/or support in the Resource Centre as needed	Through the IPRC process students are enrolled in a <b>GLE Learning Strategies class</b> taught by a SERT, and receive Resource Assistance monitoring during the non-GLE semester	Students receive more than 50% of their program in a non-credit bearing Community Class placement

# Student Services - Student Success

Other supports available through the **Student Success** branch of the **GWW Student Services Department** include:

- Peer Tutoring
- After-school study hall
- Academic intervention supports for struggling and/or at-risk students
- Social-emotional and mental health support

# School Life Outside of the Classroom

**GET**  
**INVOLVED!**



# Clubs and Councils

**Math Club DECA**

**Peer Mentors**

**Equity Council**

**Arts Council**

**Aviation Club**

**Chess and Games Club**

**Debate Club**

**International Trips**

**Mental Health and Well-Being**

**Creative Writing Club**

**Music Council**

**Eco Club Science Club**

**Student Council**

**Athletic Council**

**Band and Choir**

**Cinema Club**

**HOSA**

**Student Conferences**

**Baking Club**

**Yearbook**

These are sample activities that are commonly offered.

# Experience Athletics

**Badminton**

**Basketball**

**Cross Country Running**

**Field Hockey**

**Flag Football**

**Ice Hockey**

**Ski Club**

**Track & Field**

**Volleyball**

**Baseball**

**Cross Country Ski**

**Curling**

**Fitness Club**

**Golf**

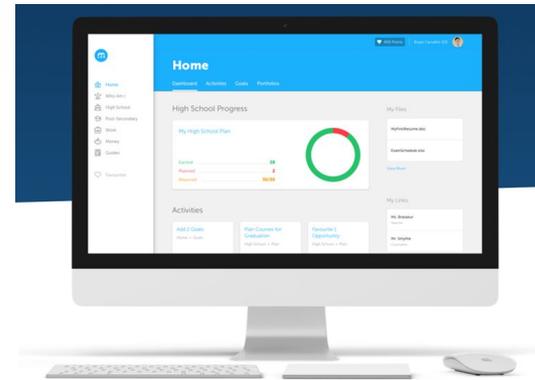
**Mountain Biking**

**Soccer**

**Ultimate Frisbee**

# Registration & Course Selection

## YRDSB STUDENTS



## NON-YRDSB STUDENTS



# Welcome to Grade 9

**Highlight transition activities, e.g.**

- **first day of school**
- **peer assisted leadership students (PALS)**
- **transitions activities**
- **school tours**



# Guidance

**Post-Secondary  
Pathways Planning**

**Resource  
Support**

**Scheduling**

**Individual  
Counselling**

**Grade 10  
Careers**



Technology  
Pathways  
Information  
Evening  
JANUARY 18, 2024  
7-9pm



# Connect with us



**Instagram @drgwwilliams**



**[School Website](#)**



**905-727-3131**



**Facebook**