

March 10, 2015



Chair of the Board & Board Trustee,
 Anna DeBartolo
 416-898-9653
anna.debartolo@yrdsb.ca
 Superintendent of Schools, Becky Green
 905-764-6830
becky.green@yrdsb.ca

Principal, Paolo Burzese
paolo.burzese@yrdsb.ca
 Vice-Principal, Lisa Weekes
lisa.weekes@yrdsb.ca
 Vice-Principal, Michael Vlachopoulos
michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca
 School Phone: 905-850-5012



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Is your son or daughter writing The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on March 26, 2015? You can find tips to better prepare your child, as well as, examples of test questions on our school website. Please use the following link to access these resources:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/emilycarr.ss/info?Pages/OSSLT-Information-and-Resources.aspx>

IMPORTANT: Don't miss the OSSLT letter from Principal Burzese on page 5, regarding changes to the school day.

8:10-11:15 - ONLY students writing test to attend
12:20-1:20 - regular period 3 for all students
1:25-2:25- regular period 4 for all students

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Attention Students who have applied to post-secondary institutions:

As you know **full disclosure** applies to all grade 11 and 12 courses that a student is registered in for longer than "5 days following the first provincial report card". Our report card distribution date this year is April 23rd and, therefore, our **full disclosure date is April 30th**.

All courses continued past April 30th, and marks earned to date in these courses, must be shown (fully disclosed) on your official transcript. The reason that students usually ask to drop courses before the full disclosure date is to avoid having a very low or failing mark transferred to post-secondary institutions. Therefore, if you do not want the mark to transfer, you must drop the course **before** the transfer takes place.

This is the situation you need to be aware of IF you would like to avoid FULL DISCLOSURE:

This year report cards are being issued on the same day the OUAC and OCAS upload needs to be completed. **As a result, your task is to start the process to drop as soon as possible by making an appointment with your Guidance Counsellor.**

Summary of dates:

- April 16 - you will receive mid-term marks from your teachers
- April 21 - deadline to see counsellor to drop a course
- April 22 - drop form due to the Guidance and Career Education Office by 3:00 p.m.
- April 23 - transfer of mid-term marks to OUAC & OCAS
- April 30 - official full disclosure date

Please be aware that your teachers have been asked to give you your mid-term mark in all Grade 11 & 12 courses by April 16th to enable you to make any decisions relating to full disclosure.

Paolo Burzese
Principal



Dates at a Glance

| | |
|-------------|--|
| March 13 | PT Day |
| March 16-20 | March Break |
| March 26 | Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test |
| March 27 | Interim Report Cards |

GUIDANCE AND CAREER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The **Guidance and Career Education E-Bulletin** can now be found under the Guidance link of the ECSS website.

Math Tip. Talking About Math:

Talking about mathematics with your child – whatever his or her age – helps strengthen his or her mathematical reasoning and understanding. Some ways to keep the talk engaged and focused while you support your child include:

1. *Revoice* - Repeat what you heard your child say, then ask for clarification (e.g., “So you are saying it’s an odd number?”).
2. *Repeat/Restate* – Ask your child to restate your reasoning (e.g., “Can you repeat what I said in your own words?”).
3. *Reason* – Ask your child to apply his or her own reasoning to someone else’s reasoning (e.g., “Do you agree or disagree? Tell me why.”).
4. *Adding On* – Prompt your child to participate further (e.g., “What more would you add to that?”).
5. *Think Time* – Wait several seconds (try five) to give your child time to think (e.g., “Take some time to think.”). You may be surprised by how hard it is to stay silent in that time!

ECSS Extracurricular Activities

| Name of Activity | Teacher | Day | Time | Location |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---------------|-----------------|
| Art Council | Ms. B. Kim, Ms. Farrugia, Ms. Hess | Tuesday & Thursday | 2:30-4:00pm | 207 |
| Character Matters | Ms. Farrugia, Ms. Korn, Ms. Memme, Ms. Romano & Ms. Marinelli | Tuesday | 11:15-11:45am | 221 |
| Debate Team | Ms. Bhat & Ms. Odorico | Friday | 10:50-11:50 | 203 |
| ESP (Empowering Student Partnerships) | Ms. Grigoropoulos & Ms. Smith | Monday | 11:00-11:30am | 248 |
| Gaming Club | Ms. Ng | Friday | 2:30-4:00pm | 115 |
| Gr. 9 Repertoire (Band) | Mr. Eriksen | Tuesday | 2:35-4:30pm | 172 |
| Peer Tutoring | Ms. Ventrice & Ms. Patrick | Various days organized by peer Tutor and Tutee | 2:25-3:00pm | Library-130 |
| Co-Ed Pick-Up Volleyball | Mr. Ho | Friday | 2:30-4:00 | Gym |
| Sidewinder Jazz Band | Mr. Eriksen | Wednesday | 2:35-4:30pm | 170 |
| String Band | Mr. Eriksen | Friday | 2:35-3:20pm | 172 |
| Student Council | Mr. Patterson | Wednesday | 2:35-4:00pm | 106 |
| The Brew Jazz Combo | Mr. Eriksen | Monday | 2:35-4:30pm | 170 |
| The Christian Fellowship | Ms. Marsh | TBD | TBD | 118 |
| Weight Room | Mr. Rybak, Ms. Patrick, Ms. Valente, Ms. Tse, Mr. Paolino, Mr. Paiuk, Ms. Moledina, Mr. Punia & Mr. Oh | Monday-Friday | 2:45-4:15pm | Weight Room-121 |
| Eco-Action | Mr. Stam, Ms. Gord & Ms. Gault | Wednesday | 10:50-11:50 | Rm. 148 |
| Djembe Drumming Circle | Mr. Appiah | Wednesday | 2:35-3:15 | Drama Rm |

Monday March 2nd, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians:

RE: Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test – Modified School Day
Thursday, March 26, 2015

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has scheduled **Thursday, March 26, 2015** as the day for students across the province to complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). To assist in creating the best environment possible for the students writing the test, the Board has agreed to a modified school day structure for the day in which the OSSLT will be written. This practice is very similar to that followed by other GTA school boards.

Emily Carr Secondary School has a regular start time of 8:10. This year, students writing the test will come to school as per their normal start time and complete the test. Students **not** writing the OSSLT would be asked to commence their school day at 11:50, to coincide with the conclusion of the OSSLT on Thursday, March 26, 2015. Students requiring accommodation will continue to write their test during an extended test-taking period. School will finish for all students at the normal time.

Please note students in Self-Contained Special Education Classes (Developmentally Delayed, Autistic, Orthopaedic, Section 23, Intensive Support, and Acquired Brain Injury) and Elementary Music will follow their normal schedule.

Student Transportation Services has been advised of these arrangements and will adjust bus schedules as follows:

- Students who are eligible for school bus transportation and are writing the OSSLT, will be picked up in the morning at their regular service time.
- Students who are eligible for transportation and are not writing the OSSLT test will be picked up 3 ½ hours later than their regular service time.
- All students will be transported home at regular service times.

We anticipate that student achievement will be enhanced by this modification since the entire school staff will be available to administer the test and supervise students; ample classroom space will be available, eliminating the need to write in specialty rooms; and sufficient technology will be available to support students receiving accommodation. In addition, a calmer student environment during the OSSLT designated writing time will result as only students writing the test will be in school.

We wish every student success on the OSSLT.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Becky Green, Superintendent of Schools.

Sincerely,

Paolo Burzese
Principal

SHSM BUSINESS

SHSM HEALTH AND WELLNESS

HOW TO APPLY

- Students must be in grade 10 to apply.
- Pick-up an application form from the Guidance Office.
- Complete the application including parent signature and teacher references.
- Interviews will begin in late Spring.

EXPERIENCES INCLUDE:

Post Secondary School Tours

Six Industry Recognized Certifications and/or Training

Industry Specific Co-op Experience

Authentic Learning Experiences in a Workplace Setting

Variety of Industry Expert Speakers

Career Exploration Activities

What is Specialist High Skills Major?

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a Ministry approved program that encourages students to focus their education on a specific employment sector, in grade 11 & 12, to help students make a successful transition to a variety of post-secondary destinations. Students who successfully complete all components of the program earn a Specialist High Skills Major (Red Seal) designation on their diploma.



Components include:

1. A bundle of courses related to a major (refer to ECSS Course Calendar)
2. Co-op experience in an area of interest
3. Industry recognized certifications related to the employment sector (Eg. First Aid, CPR, AED, WHMIS, Customer Service, Infection Control, Leadership and many more!)

Students who successfully complete all components of the program earn a Specialist High Skills Major (Red Seal) designation on their diploma.

Benefits of SHSM

Students will have a better idea of their direction and future career choice when graduating with a SHSM designation:

Students will hear and see firsthand what a career in Business or Health

and Wellness feels and looks like;

Students will be able to network with post-secondary institutions, local industries, and businesses;

Students will gain con-

fidence in their ability to succeed;

Students will complete industry recognized certifications and training;

Could open doors for summer jobs and future employment.

FREE!

**Youth Training Program
(ages 16-24)**

GET THE SKILLS EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR



Cover letter, Resume & Interviews

Tuesday, February 24th & March 3rd, 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm
Get the skills to create a cover letter, resume, answer interview questions and more!

WHIMS Training

Tuesday, March 10th 2015 4:00pm-7:00pm
Be ready for your next job with your Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Certificate that employers are looking for!

First Aid/CPR Training

Friday March 13th & Saturday March 14th, 2015 : 8:30am-4:30pm both days
Receive your First Aid/CPR Certificate by attending these 2 day workshops!

Proton Food Handler's Training

Monday, March 16th, 2015 : 9:00am-4:00pm
Learn how to safely prepare, store and serve food and receive your Food Handlers Certification!

AODA Training

Tuesday, March 24th, 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm
Receive the Accessibility Customer Service Training in accordance with Ontarians Disabilities Act (AODA). This training is a requirement if you provide services to the public.

Cash Register Training

Tuesday, March 31st 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm
Learn how to operate a cash register and gain new skills and customer service abilities.

Smart Serve Ontario Training

Tuesday, April 7, 2015 : 4:00pm-7:00pm. Participants must be 19 to 24 years of age
Learn how to balance responsible service of alcohol with customers, understand and obey the laws of public safety when ever you serve alcohol and obtain your Smart Serve Certificate!

Free YRT bus tickets are provided to participants

Registration:
To register, call Stacey at 905-303-8490
Ext. 151
Location:
9401 Jane Street, Suite 106, Vaughan
ON L6A 4H7

Eligibility to Participate in Training/Workshops:

Participants must have a low-moderate household income

Please let us know if you require any specific accommodations



Funded through
The Regional Municipality of York



MAPLE HIGH SCHOOL

presents

Parents as Partners

An information sharing evening about our youth today

Thursday March 26, 2015

4:30 – 6:30 p.m. @ Maple HS

Light Dinner: 4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Seminar: 5:00 – 6:30 p.m

Topic: Mental Health and Wellness

Parents will learn about stress and anxiety in teens and how to help your child manage their stress and develop resiliency.

All parents are welcome!

RSVP by March 12th to: maple.hs@yrdsb.ca (please indicate if you will be joining us for dinner)

This event is for parents only; arrangements for the care of accompanying children are available



This school community event is made possible through the collaborative partnership with Maple High School, Maple HS School Council and York Region District School Board.