

June 17, 2019

**Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:**

The staff and administration welcome you to HURON HEIGHTS SECONDARY SCHOOL. Huron Heights has a long history of providing its students with a multitude of academic opportunities. We look forward to working with our Grade 9 students and their parents/guardians in the upcoming school year.

To prepare our students for the beginning of the school year, we ask that you review the registration information and school policies that are in place. We will continue to reaffirm these policies and procedures throughout the school year.

Education is a shared responsibility on the part of the student, the parents/guardians, and the school. If you have any concerns about your child's academic progress, please contact their subject teacher(s). Any inquiries about attendance should be directed to the Attendance Office or the respective Vice-Principal. **Our school number is 905-895-2384 and our FAX number is 905-895-8912.**

**First Day of School/Grade 9 Day:** On **Tuesday, September 3**, we look forward to meeting our Grade 9 students and their parents/guardians. On this day, Grade 9 students and their parents/guardians will be involved in a variety of orientation and instructional activities. A full list of the day's activities is included in this newsletter. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend an orientation session in the morning while students participate in team-building activities. In the afternoon, students will attend classes.

**Grade 9 Online Registration:** **There is no in-person registration day in August.** We use an online process for school registration and timetable distribution through School Cash Online. You will need your child's Student ID number to register (this is the same number they had in grade 8). Online registration will be open from **Tuesday, July 2, 2019 to Friday, August 30, 2019**. Please see "*School Cash Online – Registration for the 2019-2020 School Year*" at the end of this package for instructions. Timetables will be emailed to student "GAPPS" accounts on **Tuesday, August 27, 2019**. All students will receive a copy of their timetables in their Homeroom classes on the first day of school.

**School Fees and Enhancements:** We have a convenient online method of payment for school fees: see "*School Cash Online - Registration for the 2019-2020 School Year*" at the end of this package. Given the fee guidelines from the Ministry of Education, there are no fees related to supplies for coursework required for graduation, with the exception of regional programs; however, the guidelines do allow fees for enhanced materials that are voluntary enrichments beyond what is necessary to meet the curriculum expectations. In addition, participation in athletic programs will require students to pay a fee for participation on teams. A breakdown of the costs for each team will be provided to students during tryouts. Families are encouraged to contribute towards the student engagement fee, which will support the various activities that build and strengthen the sense of community in our schools.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have any other inquiries. We hope you have an enjoyable summer, and we look forward to supporting the future success of our Grade 9 students.

Sincerely,

Aldrin Fernando  
Principal

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### ONLINE PAYMENT METHOD

- ◆ Click on the "School Cash Online" button on our school's website at <http://HuronHeights.ss.yrdsb.ca/>, and follow the steps outlined. You can also reference "School Cash Online – Registration for the 2019-2020 School Year" at the end of this package for instructions.
- ◆ School Cash Online provides the following benefits:
  - a convenient fee payment option that saves time and reduces paper
  - no more need to send cash or cheques to school
  - a quick way to register (less than 5 minutes)

### REGISTRATION FEES

Student Engagement Fee ( <i>please see below</i> )	\$30.00
Physical Education (Gym) Package ( <i>please see below</i> )	\$40.00
Yearbook ( <i>please see below</i> )	\$40.00

### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT FEE

- ◆ The Student Engagement Fee serves to engage students in the broader school community by providing a wide range of opportunities that occur before school, at lunch, and after school. Monies collected cover or subsidize costs of events and activities that build school spirit and enrich the learning experience beyond the classroom and the designated subject curriculum. This subsidy allows for a reduction of costs, which in many instances contributes to the overall viability of the event or activity.
- ◆ Your support of the Student Engagement Fee is needed in order for us to continue to be able to provide a vast array of opportunities that respond to the diverse interests of our school community. At Huron Heights Secondary School, the Student Engagement Fee will fund or subsidize the following:
  - Student cards
  - Lockers
  - Student Council activities/events/theme days
  - Co-curricular clubs and activities
  - Conferences/Guest Speakers
  - Transportation
  - Technology
  - Wellness activities
- ◆ The number of activities/events that can be funded and the extent of the financial support will be determined by the total revenue that is generated through the Student Engagement Fee. We hope to continue our commitment to many varied opportunities for our students. We appreciate the value of co-curricular activities in building school spirit, promoting a sense of community, and fostering a sense of fulfillment and well-being.

### STUDENT RECORDS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION

- ◆ It is extremely important that we have up-to-date accurate records. Your child will be provided with a student "Index Card" during the first week of school. Please ensure that your child's address, including post office box numbers, phone numbers (home and work), emergency contact and medical information, are current. Make any corrections on the Index Card and return it to the Main Office within the second week of school. We are also encouraging parents to provide us with their email address in order to receive our electronic newsletters and bulletins.
- ◆ If your child has a serious medical condition, we require up-to-date information to be completed by the parent annually. Please see the Main Office for an Emergency Health Care Plan and/or any other required medical forms.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT

- ◆ All Physical Education students are required to wear uniforms. A Huron Heights Secondary School Physical Education uniform consists of one performance t-shirt, a pair of shorts, and a cinch bag for \$40.00. All items will be available to students during the first week of Physical Education classes, each semester. If students require additional items, they are available for purchase individually on School Cash Online. Students are to show their receipt to their Physical Education teacher to receive the item(s). In addition, any "in-stock" Huron Heights items (i.e., sweatshirts, sweatpants) will be available for purchase on Grade 9 Day for a one-time sale price.

## **YEARBOOK**

- ◆ Yearbooks are a great way for students to remember their high school experiences. Students may purchase a yearbook for \$40.00 through School Cash Online. The cost of the yearbook will increase as of January 1, 2020. Students are encouraged to purchase a yearbook as soon as possible. Yearbooks will be distributed in June.

## **POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL FEES**

### **TEAM PARTICIPATION**

- ◆ All student athletes are required to pay a team fee if selected to participate on a team. This fee will cover costs for such things as equipment, referees, transportation, team uniform and tournaments. Team coaches will provide a description of the fees required at the beginning of a season. Teams that use external facilities and/or participate in events outside YRAA leagues and playoffs will have additional team fees. These fees are to be paid using School Cash Online at the beginning of the season, or the student will not be eligible to play.

### **ARTS HURON FEES**

- ◆ The \$100.00 course fee for all students entering the Arts Huron Regional Arts Program should have been paid at the time of admission to the program. If you have not yet paid your Arts Huron fee, this fee must be paid by the first day of school (Grade 9 Day). This cost offsets enhanced programming and equipment for Arts Huron students (e.g., workshops, guest speakers, shows).

## **OTHER PROCEDURES AND PROGRAMS**

### **STUDENT GAPPS ACCOUNTS**

- ◆ Students are encouraged to check their GAPPs email accounts regularly for important school information.

### **LOCKERS**

- ◆ Students will receive a form in their Period 1 Homeroom classes to select the location of their locker. Locker assignments and lock combinations will be provided during the second week of school. Students may NOT bring their own locks to school. Responsibility for the safety of the contents of the locker lies with the student. The school does not assume any responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen items.

### **BUSSING**

- ◆ Bussing is provided for students in grades 9-12 attending their home school and living more than 4.8 km away. Roll-Over Bus Routing is a method of planning which works to ensure that in September, students are serviced at the same bus stop locations with the same service times as they were in June. Students who have changed their address or school enrolment location, or have advanced to grade nine, should access [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) during the third week of August.
- ◆ Student Bussing Eligibility: Did you know that students' bussing eligibility changes throughout their school career? Your child's eligibility to ride the school bus may change according to their grade and distance from home to school. Below are the provisions for eligibility identified in the Board's Transportation Policy #680:
  - All YRDSB students in Grades JK-3 who live within 1.2 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
  - All YRDSB students in Grades 4-8 who live within 1.6 km of their school are not eligible for transportation
  - All YRDSB students in Grades 9-12 who live within a transit served area are not eligible for transportation

To view Board Policy #680 Student Transportation, please visit [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). For more information about bus transportation and to determine your child's eligibility, please visit [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

- ◆ Arts Huron Bussing: Huron Heights SS Arts Program is a Regional program where students do not qualify for transportation under the standard transportation policies of the YRDSB. Currently, the school board has put in place skeletal routing for students by using depot stop locations in areas where YRT may not be available or at times that would not allow students to arrive to school on time. Depot stops differ from the traditional stops as they are designed to be at safe & centralized locations rather than being within a certain walking distance for eligible students. Students are required to make their own way to these depot stops without the expectation of a walk distance to a stop. Going forward, any non-centralized stop location will be replaced with a depot stop once the existing student(s) graduate or move.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

- ♦ Your child's personal information is protected under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection Act (MFIPPA). Whenever personal information is collected, its use will be explained to you. Please see the chart list for examples of when your permission will be sought:

Typical Uses (No Permission Needed)	Typical Disclosures (Permission Needed)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In-school displays</li><li>• Yearbooks</li><li>• Teaching videos</li><li>• Assemblies</li><li>• Graduation</li><li>• Honour Roll</li><li>• Transition between elementary and secondary school</li><li>• Video surveillance for safe schools purposes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public displays</li><li>• Media interviews</li><li>• School website</li><li>• Digital yearbooks</li><li>• Pre-transfer approval</li><li>• Ministry reporting requirements</li><li>• Webcasts; video conferences</li><li>• External third parties (e.g. lawyers, agencies)</li></ul>

*Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.*

## VISITORS

- ♦ All visitors, including parents/guardians, must:
  - Use the main entrance of the school and check in at the school's Main Office upon arrival. The office staff can get important messages and materials to your child.
  - Sign in and obtain a visitor or volunteer pass to wear while in the school.

## STUDENTS WHO USE BICYCLES, ROLLERBLADES, SKATEBOARDS OR SCOOTERS TO TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

- Must wear a helmet
- Must walk while on school property
- Should lock bicycles on the bike rack
- Must store rollerblades, skateboards or scooters in their locker or backpack

**The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged personal items.**

## SCHOOL PHOTOS AND EDGE IMAGING PICTURE PACKAGES

- ♦ Student photographs will be taken on **Thursday, September 12, 2019**. There is no charge to have a photo taken for school purposes. Students will be provided with a Photo ID student card which will also serve as their school Library card. Your child will be photographed at the school by Edge Imaging using a proof program. Below are some key points to the proof program:
  - All students will be photographed. No sitting fee is required on photo day.
  - A proof order form will arrive approximately 10 days after photo day.
  - Upon receipt of your proof, if a retake is required, the proof must be returned to the photographer on photo retake day (October 15, 2019).

## TIMETABLE CHANGES/GUIDANCE INFORMATION

- ♦ Students who successfully complete summer school courses are encouraged to go to the Guidance Office on the first day of school to complete the paperwork requesting a timetable change, if required. Requests for timetable changes for any other reason will be reviewed on an individual basis. Timetable change forms are available in the Guidance Office for pick-up, and must be completed and signed before being returned to Guidance. Due to the very limited space available in most courses, requests for changes will only be considered for exceptional cases.
- ♦ For general information on how to read a timetable/course code, graduation requirements etc., refer to [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca) (select the "Students" tab at the top), or contact a Guidance Counsellor.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

- ♦ Student Council is a way for all students to become involved in school events. Student Council also helps share students' concerns and interests with teachers and the school's administration for the benefit of all the students. The Council organizes school-wide social activities, spirit days, semi-formal and prom, and helps with fundraising events and community projects.

## SCHOOL CLUBS/TEAMS

- ♦ Huron Heights provides a wide variety of clubs, teams and school activities for students to become involved in throughout the year. Daily morning announcements provide information on these activities throughout each semester. Listed below are the school teams and clubs/councils students may consider joining:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Participants</b>
Basketball	First week of school	females
Cheerleading	First week of school	co-ed
Cricket	First week of school	co-ed
Cross-Country	First week of school	co-ed
Football	First week of school	males
Golf	First week of school	co-ed
Soccer	First week of school	males
Swimming	First week of school	co-ed
Tennis	First week of school	co-ed
Volleyball	First week of school	males
Basketball	Mid-October	males
Hockey	Mid-October	males
Hockey	Mid-October	females
Rock Climbing	Mid-October	co-ed
Volleyball	Mid-October	females
Alpine Skiing	Early November	co-ed
Curling	Early November	co-ed
Snowboarding	Early November	co-ed
Badminton	Beginning of February	co-ed
Lacrosse - Varsity	Mid-February	males
Rugby	Mid-February	males
Soccer	Mid-February	females
Baseball - Varsity	Mid-March	males
Mountain Biking	Mid-March	co-ed
Track and Field	Mid-March	co-ed
Ultimate Frisbee	Mid-March	co-ed
Rugby - Varsity	End of March	females
Slo-Pitch - Varsity	End of March	females

<b>Clubs/Councils</b>
Archery Club
Art Council
Athletic Council
Eco-Team
Flying Club
Pride (GSA)
Music Council
Peace Club
Peer Ambassadors
Physics Club
Student Council
Youth Alive

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

- ◆ Students may earn community involvement hours towards their diploma in the summer before they enter Grade 9. This is very good news for grade 8 students who would like to begin completing their required 40 hours of community involvement hours before they enter secondary school in September.
- ◆ Please note that there are parameters around the types of activities that are eligible for Community Involvement Hours. A Community Involvement form that outlines eligible and ineligible activities is available in the Guidance Office, or on the YRDSB website. Students considering community activities for the summer should have the notification portion of their form signed in advance by a Guidance Counsellor.
- ◆ Students who complete hours in the summer will need to fill out the remainder of the form and have it signed by their supervisor. Completed Community Involvement forms should be submitted to the Guidance Office in September.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

- ◆ School Council is run by parents, for parents. Council meetings are an excellent way to become informed about and involved with your child's school community. Items such as programming, EQAO results and school events are regularly presented and discussed. Meetings are open, informal discussions on school matters with a focus on student success.
- ◆ We encourage our students' parents/guardians to participate in our School Council. Information about our School Council and their meetings will be provided in our biweekly electronic newsletter, and on our school website at <http://www.huronheights.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>.
- ◆ Our first School Council meeting will be held on **Monday, September 16, 2019** at 7:00 p.m. in the school Library. School Council Elections will take place at this first meeting. If you are interested in one of the following positions, please complete and submit the "*School Council Candidate Nomination Form*" found in the "*HHSS School Start-Up Package 2019-2020*" that will be sent home with your child during the first week of school: Chair/Co-Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary.
- ◆ 2019-2020 School Council Meeting Dates: (Library @ 7:00 p.m.)
  - September 16, 2019
  - October 22, 2019
  - November 18, 2019
  - February 18, 2020
  - March 23, 2020
  - May 19, 2020

## Grade 9 Orientation Day Schedule Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Time	Activity	Location	Participants
9:10 – 10:10	Parent Information Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicating with the School</li> <li>• Student Council</li> <li>• Guidance</li> <li>• Social Justice</li> <li>• Athletics</li> <li>• School Council Chair</li> <li>• Arts Huron</li> <li>• Special Education</li> <li>• SHSM</li> <li>• Math</li> <li>• Library Services</li> </ul>	Library	Parents/School Staff
9:10 – 9:40	Period 1/Homeroom	Classrooms	Gr. 9 Students
9:45 – 10:10	Welcome Assembly	Cafeteria	Gr. 9 Students/ Student Volunteers
10:10 – 11:10	Guest Speaker – Andy Thibodeau	Cafeteria	Gr. 9 Students
11:10 – 11:30	School Tour	Halls	Gr. 9 Students/ Student Volunteers
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch – Pizza Provided Clubs/Councils/Sports Teams Information Fair	Cafeteria Lower Gym	Gr. 9 Students/ Student Volunteers
12:35 – 1:55	"Houses" Launch Activities	Classrooms/ Halls	Gr. 9 Students/ Student Volunteers
2:00 – 2:30	Period 2	Classrooms	Gr. 9 Students
2:35 – 3:05	Period 4	Classrooms	Gr. 9 Students
3:10 – 3:40	Period 5	Classrooms	Gr. 9 Students
3:41	End of School Day		

**On Wednesday, September 4, all students (grades 9-12) will be following the regular school day schedule.**

## School Cash Online - Registration for the 2019-2020 School Year

We use the ***School Cash Online*** payment process for school registration.

### What Is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an easy-to-use, safe method of paying for your children's school fees. With a few clicks, you can pay for your child's yearbook, class trips and so much more from your own home, using a variety of payment forms. All you have to do is register an account, attach your children to the account, and you will be able to make payments online.

We would like everyone to take advantage of the ***School Cash Online*** system to facilitate this year's school registration process.

1. Visit <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> to create an account.
2. Select the "Get Started Today" button.
3. Complete each of the three Registration steps. Passwords must be 8 characters, including one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.
4. Confirmation email – to verify that you opened an account, click on the link provided in the registration confirmation email sent to you.
5. To connect your children to the account:
  - a. Enter the School Board Name: ***York Region District School Board***
  - b. Enter the School Name: ***Huron Heights S.S.***
  - c. Enter your child's Student # and Last Name (NOT the OEN number).
  - d. Select "Continue".
  - e. On the next page confirm that you are related to the child - check the "Agree" box and select "Continue".
  - f. Your child has been added to your account.
  - g. You can add up to 5 children to your account by selecting "Add Another Student", and repeating the steps above

If you require any assistance, select the ***GET HELP*** option in the top right-hand corner of the screen, or contact School Cash Online – Parent Help Desk at 1-866-961-1803 or [parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com](mailto:parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com)