

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

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January 22, 2018

This is an information update from Stephen Lewis Secondary School.

School Council

Our next meeting will be held on January 22 at 7:15 pm in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our guest speaker is Deanna Smith from Addiction Services of York Region who will present information about misuse of drugs and/or alcohol.

Semester 1 Exams

Please note the following dates for the [exam schedule](#). Most exams are written in the morning but a very few exams have a different start time. Students are required to return home after their exam. The cafeteria will be available for study, but no food will be served. The library will be used for exams and not available.

Jan. 25 – Period 1 exams

Jan. 26 – Period 2 exams

Jan. 29 – Period 5 exams

Jan. 30 – Period 4 exams

Jan. 31 – Period 3 exams

Feb. 1 – Exam Feedback day, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Feb. 2 – PA Day, no classes

Guidance Message

Night School Course registration starts Jan. 10, 2018.

You register through Career Cruising

www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Night-School-Credit-Courses.aspx Night School E-Learning Course registration starts Jan. 8 (Only if you have 3 or fewer courses on your timetable) www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Winter-Catalogue.aspx

The deadline to apply to college is February 1, 2018.

Course Requests for 2018-2019

Students can start working on their Course Requests for the 2018-2019 year and can begin submitting their course requests starting February 7

Grade 10 students are encouraged to consider registering for the Specialist High Skills Major SHSM program.

SHSM is a Ministry-approved program that allows students to focus their learning on a specific economic sector while meeting the requirements for their high school diploma and assists in their transition from

secondary school to apprenticeship training, college, university or the workplace. Students work towards completing the program requirements during their Grade 11 and Grade 12 years. Grade 10 students may register for SHSM any time during their Grade 10 year. For more information, please visit the guidance office. Students can apply for SHSM at bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp.

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

The OSSLT is a requirement for students who wish to graduate with a secondary school diploma. This year the OSSLT will be written by all eligible students across the province on Tuesday, April 10, 2018. As a school, we have taken many steps to assist our students in completing the test successfully. One way that we have chosen to help of our students is by offering an After School Literacy Program to intensively target and reinforce the reading and writing skills specific to the OSSLT.

The After School Literacy Program will begin February 20, 2018 and will consist of 10 ninety-minute sessions. Sessions will run every Tuesday and Thursday for five weeks. Students will receive intensive practice with reading and writing skills and strategies. Student Registration Forms are available from the main office, guidance or Student Success Room 114.

Arts Camp

The YRDSB is now accepting applications for Arts Camp 2018. Arts Camp 2018 will take place May 26 to June 2. Interested students in grades 7 to 12 are welcome to apply. For more information and the application forms, see the Arts Camp page on the [YRDSB website](#).

Community Involvement Hours

It is important for students to get pre-approval of the community involvement from the Guidance office. Once the community involvement experience is complete, students must submit the form to guidance.

The YRDSB's Equity and Inclusivity Advisory

Committee (EIAC) created four sub-committees to engage family/parents and community voices in ways to counter Anti-Black Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, and Classism. The EIAC subcommittees have committed to launching a variety of community consultations early in the new year. The first of these consultations – [Anti-Black Racism and Classism](#) – are being held in January and February. The [Islamophobia and Antisemitism](#) sub consultations will be conducted in April and May 2018. These consultations will take place on various dates at various locations. Please see the flyers posted on the [website](#) for more information.

Important Information For Students Turning 18

Under the Education Act, parents/guardians have a right to access their child's Ontario Student Record if the child is under 18.

If the student is 18 or over, the Board/school must follow the privacy provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act regarding the disclosure of personal information about the student to their parents/guardians. Students 18 or over must provide written permission by signing [the Consent for Information Sharing form](#) to allow parents/guardians to continue to access school-related information about the student. This includes academic progress, attendance and behaviour. Students can also obtain the form from the school office.

Library Learning Commons – Outstanding Materials

Please be sure to return all books and resolve your account with the library prior to the beginning of Semester 2. Thank you.

Student Film Festival

EdTechTeam, in partnership with ISTE and WeVideo, is hosting a "Global Student Voice" Student Film Festival. Students are invited to submit 2-minute videos responding to this year's theme: "In Another's Shoes." Finalists will be invited to the ISTE Conference video screening in Chicago, in late June 2018.

If students would like feedback on their video submissions, they are invited to submit their videos by the Optional Submission Deadline of February 28. Final submissions are due by Monday April 9 2018.

Think beyond your first impressions of the theme and see if you can create a focus for a truly original film! Feel free to experiment with different mediums such as animation, puppetry, silent films, stop motion, etc!)

York Region Police Summer Employment Option

York Regional Police is now accepting applications from students for the 2018 Youth in Policing Initiative. In collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, York Regional Police are engaging youth in an innovative employment experience within a safe and healthy work environment. The YIPI Program is suitable for youth with leadership potential who may experience barriers to success and would benefit from a positive mentorship experience.

The goal of the YIPI Program is to offer youth an opportunity to develop job skills, to inspire young people to consider a career in policing and to become ambassadors of York Regional Police by improving police and community relations. For more information, please see the details posted on our [website](#)

Free Computer and Upgrading Classes for Adults

Would you like to upgrade your skills in English, Math or Computers? Are you seeking employment? Applying for college, second career or an apprenticeship?

The YRDSB offers free classes to help you prepare for work or further your education in order to achieve your goals. Our program is offered at no cost to Ontario residents aged 19+ by the York Region District School Board with support from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development. More information is available on [the YRDSB website](#)

Vaughan Community Health Centre is offering a new free program for Adults 21+ "Conquering Anxiety". It will be held Wednesdays starting February 21. More information is posted on the [website](#)

Family Services York Region (FSYR)

A variety of [programs](#) are available to families in York Region including:

- An 8 week session for teens (14-17) to learn to conquer anxiety. "Working with Worry" will focus on understanding anxiety, stress, fear and worry through different methods. Participants will learn to identify and change unhelpful thinking and behavior patterns and develop skills to manage anxiety and build resilience in a supportive environment. Sessions begin Wednesday, January 24th, 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the FSYR Newmarket office @ 1091 Gorham Street, Suite 300. The session is free with the \$20 FSYR registration. A pre-group interview is mandatory. Contact FSYR at groupservices@fsyr.ca or 1-888-223-3999 for more information.

- South Asian Women at Tahir Hall in Maple. The program is run in Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu and English and includes topics such as parenting, health & nutrition, family stress, immigration and legal issues, yoga and exercise, and employment, among others. Free childcare and snacks available. The program takes place on Thursdays, from January to March, from 11:30 to 1:45, and is free

Attendance Reminder

Please call the school to let us know if your child is or will be absent, whether it is for the entire day or for part of the school day. Please continue to keep our telephone number handy, (905)326-7994 ext 101. You may call 24 hours/day or email us at stephen.lewis.ss@yrdsb.ca Please provide the following information:

- your child's name,
- the dates of the absence,
- the reason for absence,
- how to contact the parent/guardian if we have questions.

If a student has to leave during the day, he/she needs to have a written note AND is required to sign out at the attendance office.

Important Information for Parents/Guardians

Regarding Extraordinary Absences Exceeding 3 days:

Students are expected to be in full attendance every regular school day except in the case of illness or court order. Extraordinary absence may occur under certain circumstances. Parents should keep in mind that a very close relationship exists between regular daily attendance and success in school. Some families plan trips during the school year due to scheduling of vacations from work or to take advantage of low travel costs. When this occurs, students miss valuable learning which can impact on their success. Even brief absences can have a negative impact. Family trips can be a wonderful learning experience, but should be saved for school vacation time, such as March Break.

Before withdrawal for any vacation not in the school calendar:

- check with your child's teacher to find out what effect a long vacation may have on your child's progress.
- Complete the Extended Absence Form available in the main office.
- You will be responsible for the continuity of your child's learning when they are absent from school.

- Students must consult with their teacher before the planned absence in order to determine their standing in each of their courses and obtain any assignments that will come due during or immediately following the absence, if available from the teacher.

It must be noted that:

- It may not be possible for a student to learn all of the material or complete all of the work that was done in class during their absence.
- Assignments must be submitted on time to be eligible for grading. Tests missed MAY receive a mark of zero ("0")

Absences of 15 or more days require a meeting with an administrator

More information is available on our website

We update our school website frequently. Please visit it at stephenlewis.ss.yrdsb.ca

You can e-mail us any time at:

stephen.lewis.ss@yrdsb.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 24 – Last day of classes before exams
 Jan. 25 – Period 1 exams
 Jan. 26 – Period 2 exams
 Jan. 29 – Period 5 exams
 Jan. 30 – Period 4 exams
 Jan. 31 – Period 3 exams
 Feb. 1 – Exam Feedback day 8:30-11:30 am
 Feb. 1 – College application deadline
 Feb. 2 – PA Day (no classes)
 Feb. 5 – Semester 2 begins
 Feb. 9 – Semester 1 report cards issued
 Feb. 19 – Family Day Holiday (school closed)