

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

Email: stephen.lewis.ss@yrdsb.ca Website: stephenlewis.ss.yrdsb.ca

Phone: 905-326-7994, 647-123-4567

555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, ON L4J 8X2

October 30, 2017

This is an information update from Stephen Lewis Secondary School.

Hallowe'en – October 31

We have many activities taking place for the fall Hallowe'en season. On Friday, we had a de-stress session organized by our jack.org club. On Tuesday, October 31, students are permitted to wear costumes to school. Students are encouraged to participate in the Haunted House during their lunch period. We do have some words of caution. All costumes must conform to the dress code and safe school policy, including:

- no masks
- no weapons or replica weapons
- clothing must not contain unexpected or offensive messaging.

Finally, many costumes are being sold in stores that do not fit with our Equity and Inclusivity policy. Cultural regalia or any outfit that perpetuates harmful stereotypes and stigmas should not be worn as a costume. If students are unsure about their costume idea, they should speak with one of the administrators. We are looking forward to fun and respectful activities for all.

“Take Our Kids to Work” Day (TOKW) - November 1

On November 1, students will spend the day at the workplace of a parent, relative or family friend learning basic workplace skills. There will be no classes for Grade 9 students.

For more information please visit the [TOKW website](#)

Post-Secondary Information Fair – November 1

A [post-secondary information fair](#) is being held on November 1 from 7:00-9:00 pm at Alexander Mackenzie High School. Everyone is welcome to learn about post-secondary programs at colleges, universities and apprenticeships.

After School Literacy Course

Starting this November your child will have the opportunity to receive extra help with developing their literacy skills in preparation for the literacy test, as part of the After School Literacy program. The class will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 14 to December 14, 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Applications are available from Ms. Santorelli in Room 114

School Council

Next Meeting: November 20 7:15 p.m. in the Library. All parents are welcome to attend.

On December 7, join us for a [free, informative seminar](#) to learn: some of the signs of stress; and how to approach your child about stress and anxiety. We will also examine some of the effects of stress at home and at school and learn strategies for how to best to manage it. Please RSVP by December 1:

<http://bit.ly/2wfyCW6>

SAVE THE DATE for the **2017 AEBS Family Conference**, a Conference for Students (Grades K-12) and Their Families/Supporters. “It Takes a Village: Mapping My Journey to Success” will take place on Saturday, November 25, 2017, 9:00am - 2:00pm at Redstone Public School, 235 Redstone Road, Richmond Hill, L4S 2E2 (Leslie & Elgin Mills). See the [flyer](#)

Guidance Message

Ontario University Programs: Want to learn more about programs offered at Ontario universities? Please visit the eInfo website: <http://www.electronicinfo.ca/>

Ontario College Programs: Want to learn more about programs offered at Ontario universities? Please visit the Ontario Colleges website: <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/home>

A [list](#) of all of the college and university visits to Stephen Lewis this fall has been posted on our [website](#)

A list of all [university campus open-houses](#) is posted on our website

Immunization Information

If you recently received a letter from York Region Public Health requesting immunization information, community clinics are a great way for your child to get immunized. Clinics are offered in Keswick, Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Vaughan. To book an appointment, visit www.york.ca/immunizations and click on Community Immunization Clinics or call 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73044.

If your child has received their vaccines, please update your child's immunization records in one of the following ways:

- Online at <https://eimmunization.york.ca>
- Call York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

York Region Paramedics Video Contest

[York Region Paramedic Services](#) invites students to submit a self-produced 30-second video showing why performing CPR is important. Full details are on the paramedic [website, York.ca/CPR](#)

Student Driver Information Required

All students who are driving to school must provide their vehicle make, model, colour, license plate number, etc. on the form available in the Main Office.

YRDSB Overdrive

E-books are here! Students can now access the YRDSB e-book collection at <http://yrdsb.lib.overdrive.com> Student Access: 0(student number). Visit the library for more information.

Free for students

Students continue to have free access to download Microsoft Office on their devices. Be sure to log in with your YRDSB Gapps Account at the [Microsoft website](#)

Many other tools are available to students on the [YRDSB student tools website](#).
<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Students/Pages/Online-Tools.aspx>

The IGNITE TECHNOLOGY GRANT for students with SEA Technology is designed to create leadership opportunities, hone communication skills, and increase self-esteem for students with SEA equipment within their school community. The goal is to bring awareness to the effective and successful use of technology for modern learning. IGNITE your school and community now! Go to <http://www.yrdsb.ca/ignite> to learn more.

York Region Science Fair

The York Region Science and Technology Fair showcases student research in Grades 7-12 and will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at York University. Participation in the fair is open to students currently attending a York Region public, catholic, or private school, are home schooled, or who reside in York Region. Selected top projects from the York Region Science and Technology Fair are invited to represent York Region and compete at the Canada Wide Science Fair. For consideration, projects fall into one of the following six categories: Biotechnology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Health Sciences,

Life Sciences, and Physical and Mathematical Science. In each category, students may choose to prepare a science project that is either an experiment, innovation, or study. Students may choose to enter and present their project in either French or English. For any students preparing to enter a science project it is very important that they read through one of the following student manuals carefully.

- English - [YRSTF Student Manual](#)
- French - [YRSTF Student Manual](#)

Registration opens on January 8, 2018

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.

Online Payments are being accepted

We accept online payments for field trips, fundraisers, sports teams, yearbook, graduation, prom, Student Activity Fee, etc. Please use the following link to register. <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

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

- Nov. 1 Grade 9 Take Our Kid to Work Day
Grade 8 visit to SLSS
College, University Information Fair at
Alexander Mackenzie High School, 7-9pm
- Nov. 2 Canadian Open Math contest
Grade 8 information night, 7-9pm
- Nov. 7 Grade 12 University Application Assembly
- Nov. 8 Grade 10 Holocaust Education Assembly
- Nov. 9 Grade 12 College Application Assembly
- Nov. 10 Remembrance Day Assembly

Nov. 15 Mid-semester report cards distributed in period 1
Nov. 20 School Council meeting, 7:15 pm
Nov. 22 Canadian Math Competition
Nov. 23 Semi-Formal
Nov. 24 PA Day, no classes

YRDSB Policy Changes for review

Operational By-Law Changes

Revisions to the [York Region District School Board Operational By-Law](#) have been approved. Changes include an Accountability Framework, updated [Trustee Code of Conduct](#) (Appendix E) and a protocol for Trustee Code of Conduct (Appendix F) to be used by trustees, staff and community members to address concerns regarding trustee conduct.

Interim Integrity Commissioner [John Mascarin](#), Aird & Berlis LLP, has been appointed to support the Trustee Code of Conduct. The Interim Integrity Commissioner can be reached at 416-865-7721 or jmascarin@airdberlis.com

The Board is currently seeking [applications](#) for a permanent Integrity Commissioner.

Working Document Policies and Procedures

The Board is seeking your feedback on the following policies and procedures, where applicable. ***All working documents, and timelines for providing feedback, are posted on the [Policies and Procedures for Comment](#) page of the Board's public website.***

[Director of Education Performance Review](#)

The Director of Education Performance Review policy and procedure was developed in response to [Ministry requirements](#) and organizational need. It addresses the York Region District School Board's commitment to providing an environment where the Director is supported in achieving the performance expectations of their position to support student achievement and well-being.

[Director of Education Selection](#)

The Director of Education Selection policy and procedure outline the process used to ensure a comprehensive and transparent process for selecting a Director of Education.

[Parent, Family and Community Engagement](#)

The Parent, Family and Community Engagement policy and procedure and Community Advisory Committees and Supporting Community and Fundraising Events procedures support the development of positive,

inclusive and respectful relationships among students, staff, parents/guardians and community members by promoting engagement in public education. The policy and procedures were updated in response to [Ministry requirements](#) and organizational need.

[School Fundraising and Administration of School Generated Funds](#)

The School Fundraising and Administration of School Generated Funds policy and procedure outline the appropriate use and administration of funds raised by school fundraising activities. The policy and procedure align with the [Ministry of Education Fundraising Guideline](#).

[Standards of Conduct](#)

Employees, parents and members of the community are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. This is a new policy that replaces portions of the [Respectful Workplaces and Learning Environments](#) and [Professional Misconduct and Progressive Discipline](#) policies and procedures, and aligns with the new [Human Rights: Code-Related Harassment and Discrimination](#) policy and procedure.

[Student Health Supports](#)

The Student Health Supports policy and related procedures address the provision of student health supports in schools. The following policies and procedures have been incorporated into the Student Health Supports policy; Anaphylactic Reactions, Communicable Diseases and Concussion Management. In addition, changes were made to the related procedures with regard to the administration of medication, and a new Asthma Management procedure has been developed.

[Supporting Community Concerns](#)

The Supporting Community Concerns policy and procedure reinforce the importance of high standards of practice with regard to services provisioned by the Board. The policy outlines the processes available for any individual to address concerns related to a trustee, staff member or member of the public and includes information about the role of the [Ontario Ombudsman](#).

[Violence Prevention and Intervention and Non-Code Related Workplace Harassment - Employees](#)

The Violence Prevention and Intervention and Non-Code Workplace Related Workplace Harassment - Employees policy and related procedures support the Board's commitment to addressing incidents of harassment and workplace violence. These documents

reflect Board priorities and the focus on mental health and well-being. Revisions ensure alignment and minimize duplication with the new [Human Rights: Code-Related Harassment and Discrimination](#) policy and procedure. Non-code workplace harassment (against staff) formerly included in the [Respectful Workplaces and Learning Environments](#) policy and procedure has been subsumed by this policy.

Providing Feedback

Questions about any Board policy and/or procedure should be raised with your principal or superintendent, as appropriate.

Input is an important part of the review process. Comments and suggestions from members of the school community are welcome.

If your school council or advisory committee feels a policy and/or procedure should be revised, please;

- include the specific section of the policy and/or procedure you would like to see addressed,
- suggest specific, alternate wording, and
- outline the reason for your suggestion.

Recommendations should be forwarded by sent to policy.committee@yrdsb.ca or in writing to Corporate Secretariat and Trustee Services.

Questions about the policy and procedure review process can be directed to Corporate Secretariat and Trustee Services at policy.committee@yrdsb.ca or at the Education Centre Aurora at extension 2217.