

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

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

Phone: 905-326-7994, 647-795-7672

555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, ON L4J 8X2

February 5, 2016

This is an information update from Stephen Lewis Secondary School.

Report Cards Sent Home Today

Report cards for semester 1 were given to students this morning, February 5, to take home. Please keep these documents in a secure location for future reference.

School Council Free Seminar

The School Council is hosting a free seminar on Bullying Signs and Prevention on Thursday February 11 at 7:00 p.m. Join the guest speakers Nancy Amirkhanian and Immaculate Antony from [IN Counselling and Psychotherapy Services](#). See attached flyer for details.

Free After-School Literacy Classes

We are offering a free, after-school literacy classes for all students. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30p.m. In this course teachers develop literacy skills that will be assessed on the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). Participation in the After School Literacy Course is one of the ways we are helping to prepare students for the OSSLT. Applications are available in the main office or from Ms. Santorelli in Room 114. Classes begin on Tuesday February 9.

Additional Elementary and Secondary P.A. Days

As a result of provincial labour negotiations, a **P.A. Day has been added for all York Region District School Board elementary schools on Friday, May 6, 2016 and secondary schools on Friday, June 3, 2016.** You can see the full updated school year calendars on YRDSB's [website](#).

These additional P.A. Days are mandated by the Ministry of Education. On these dates, teachers will be taking part in professional development on provincial education priorities identified by the Ministry of Education.

School Bus Cancellation Information

School bus services may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Check schoolbuscity.com for more information regarding Student Transportation Services of York Region's procedures, , call 1-877-330-3001, or by following YRDSB on [twitter](#)

Semester Two Night School

Students interested in semester 2 [Night School](#) or [Night School eLearning](#) should see the list of courses available on the Guidance Office [Registration is now open for Night School](#) Registration instructions are available in the Guidance Office

Course Selection for 2016-2017 is Here!

We suggest that students and their families look ahead at the course catalogue that is available on line. We encourage conversations with science, math and English teachers for the next level of those courses. Students must complete their course selection on career cruising by the dates specified in the presentations.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

Students are required to meet the Literacy Requirement in order to be granted an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. All eligible students will write the OSSLT on March 31. Parents, we welcome your partnership in getting your child ready for the test in a timely way. See related resources for parents and students @ <http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/OSSLT/parents/Pages/parents.aspx>

Immunization Information

The *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (the Act), requires Public Health to collect and review immunization records to ensure each student is up to date with their immunizations. The Act also gives the medical officer of health the authority to direct school principals to suspend students whose immunization records are not up to date. In the first half of 2016, York Region Public Health is focusing on students who are 17 years of age.

On January 15, 2016, York Region Public Health began sending letters home to students age 17 years, requesting that they update their immunization information. You can update immunization information online at immunization.york.ca or by calling York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456

Community Immunization Clinics are available weekday evenings and select Saturdays. Clinic schedules and appointments can be made by visiting

york.ca/immunizations, then selecting Community Immunization Clinics.

If you received this letter from York Region Public Health, please ensure your immunization information is updated by the date specified in the letter.

Black History Month

Every February, Canadians are invited to take part in the festivities, celebrations and events that honour the legacy of Canadians of African Heritage, past and present. We use this occasion as a springboard to find ways to acknowledge and affirm the contributions, achievements and experiences of African - Canadians during this month, and throughout the year. Thank you for doing your part to continually honour diversity and to promote inclusive learning opportunities for our students

An evening of mindfulness Workshop on March 1. The purpose of the workshop is to provide parents with relevant information and skills on mindfulness and how it can benefit students with LDs. In addition, we will examine how social and emotional competencies can be supported through mindfulness. More information is available on the [LDAYR website](#)

Summer 2016 Employment Opportunities with the Ontario Public Sector.

The [Summer Employment Opportunities \(SEO\)](#) program targets 5,000 summer student positions across the province to work within the Ontario Public Service. These positions provide students with supervised jobs across the province, and enables students to gain valuable work experience and develop skills that are transferable to the labour market. Positions for summer 2016 are now posted with six different closing dates between January 19 and March 29, 2016. For more information watch the [SEO YouTube video](#) and go to the [website, www.ontario.ca/summerstudents](http://www.ontario.ca/summerstudents)

Province Fostering Youth Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Ontario is now accepting applications for the Summer Company program, which helps youth start their own business and gain the skills they need to succeed. [Summer Company](#) offers mentorship, training and awards of up to \$3,000 to students aged 15 to 29. Students can apply [online](#) until May 6.

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 If a student has to leave during the day, he/she is required to sign out at the attendance office and then leave the premises.

Thank you and Welcome

We express a fond farewell, thanks and best wishes to these staff members who are leaving us: Ms. Khandaker, Mr. Moon, Ms. Venafrro and Ms. Zver. A warm welcome to Ms. Abbs, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Schlesinger and Ms. Derry who joined our staff on Tuesday.

Message from our Trustee, Linda Aversa

Although winter still feels far from over some days, we are now halfway through the school year. With report cards coming home, this is a good time to review progress and celebrate what your children have learned both inside and outside of the classroom. This is also a good time to set goals for the months ahead.

One of our goals set out in the Board of Trustees' [Multi-Year Plan](#) is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture of caring and learning." Developing this supportive culture includes engaging parents/guardians and other members of the school community in public education and working together to create safe and supportive school environments that enable students to thrive.

As parents/guardians, there are many ways you can get engaged in your child's education and support their learning, including talking with them about school, communicating with teachers, attending school events or school council meetings, and volunteering in the school. However you get involved, know that you are making a difference.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish you all the best an enjoyable and successful second term.

Math Contests

Any students interested in writing the University of Waterloo Math contests can sign up on at <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com>

Please see attached Ministry of Education student opportunities

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

The **School Council** at Stephen Lewis Secondary School Presents

A Free Parenting Seminar on

Bullying & Cyberbullying



Join us for a free, informative seminar to learn about the signs of bullying and techniques for preventing bullying and cyberbullying. Learn how to support your child, and some strategies for home and school. Register today!

Photo credit: Lee Morley, <https://flic.kr/p/dtpDzY>

Guest Speakers:

Nancy Amirkhanian, M.A, R.P., and Immaculate Antony, M. Ed, PhD.
IN Counselling and Psychotherapy Services

Date and Time:

Thursday, February 11, 2016

7:00PM -9:00PM

Light refreshments will be served

Location:

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, L4J 8X2

Please RSVP by February 9 to:

Stephen Lewis Secondary School Council

Email: stephen.lewis.ss@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca

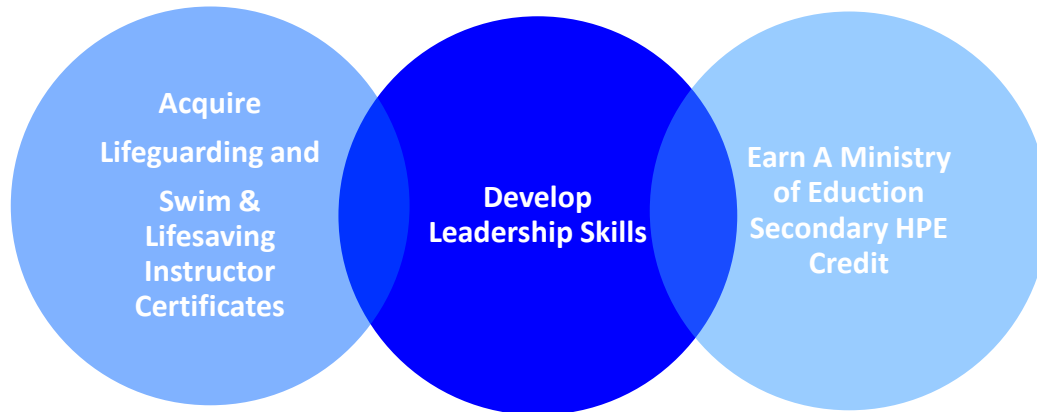
Online: <http://goo.gl/forms/JKJc7QRiEt>



<http://goo.gl/forms/JKJc7QRiEt>

Aquatic Leadership Program – Part 2

Be certified as a lifeguard ready for employment



Program Information:

The Aquatic Leadership Program – Part 2 is offered in partnership between the York Region District School Board, Continuing Education and the City of Markham. The program uses a blended learning format consisting of pool instruction, face-to-face instruction in class and on-line learning. Upon completion, successful students may earn the following courses and certifications:

- Secondary School Grade 11 Credit - Healthy Living and Aquatic Activities – PAQ301
- National Lifeguarding Certification (Lifesaving Society)
- Swim, Emergency First Aid and Lifesaving Instructor (Lifesaving Society)

An examiner from the Lifesaving Society will evaluate the final aquatic skills examinations for the lifeguarding and swim and lifesaving instructor certifications. Students must pass the final exam for each aquatic course including the in-water examinations in order to receive their lifeguarding and swim and lifesaving instructor qualifications. Credits and certifications may be granted independently.

For specific details about the Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Standard First Aid, Lifesaving Instructors, Swim Instructors and National Lifeguard Qualifications, visit the [City of Markham](#) or the [Lifesaving Society](#) website.

Dates: February 16, 2016 to June 14, 2016

- Pool instruction and face-to-face instruction will occur on specifically scheduled Tuesdays and Thursdays from **5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Milliken Mills Community Centre.**
- There will be three Saturday classes from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on March 5th, May 7th and June 4th
- The remaining curriculum expectations will be delivered through on-line learning when face-to-face instruction is not required.

Location: Milliken Mills Community Centre, 7600 Kennedy Road, Markham ON. L3R 9S5

Minimum Requirements: Participants must be 16 years or older by June 14, 2016, hold Bronze Cross or equivalent qualifications and Standard First Aid.

Cost: \$200 includes all course materials and training manuals.

All Aquatic Leadership Courses through the City of Markham recommend 100% attendance. Late admission cannot be granted. For this reason, cancellation requests must be submitted a minimum of five business days prior to the start of the first class in order to receive a refund. No refund will be issued for late requests.

Contact Number: (905) 884-3434 or 1-877-280-8180

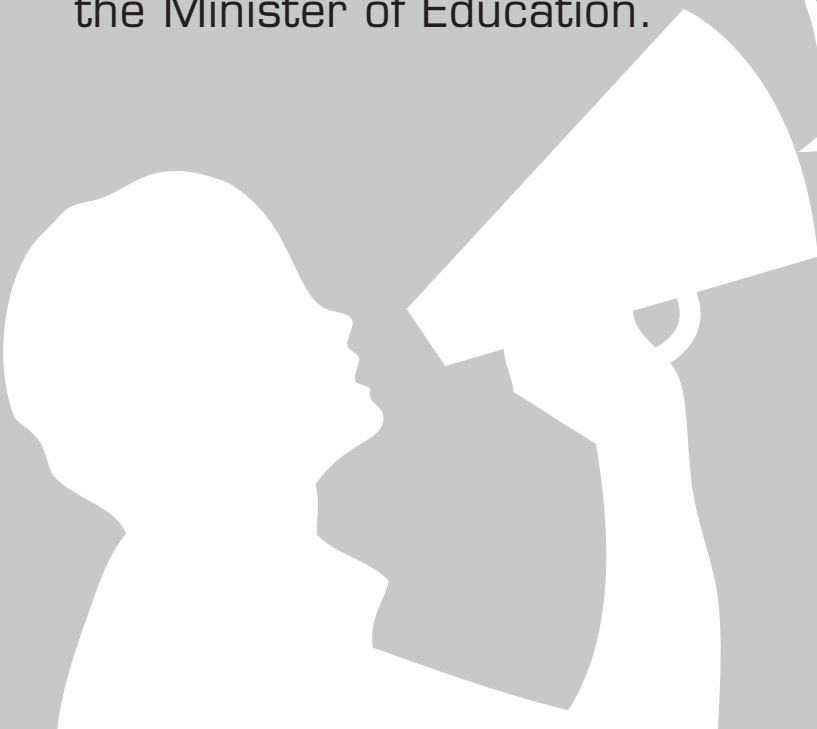
For more information visit <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/YALP-Overview.aspx>



Students in grades 7–12!

Have **your say** about **your education**. Apply now for the **2016–17 Minister's Student Advisory Council (MSAC)**

MSAC is a group of about 60 students from publicly funded schools all across the province. They share their ideas and advice with the Minister of Education.



Find out more at **Facebook/speakupontario** and **ontario.ca/speakup**

Deadline is **March 11, 2016**

