

Stephen Lewis Secondary School

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555 Autumn Hill Boulevard, Thornhill, ON L4J 8X2

September 14, 2018

Stephen Lewis Secondary School Community,

Thank you for the warm welcome I have experienced these last few weeks. Stephen Lewis is definitely a community of caring, supportive and engaged shareholders.

Our students are focused and many have set goals that will serve them well as they strive to reach the next stage of their lives. Thank you to our Guidance Department team that is working tirelessly to accommodate all our students needs in their selection process. Thank you to our staff for being flexible during these last week as all our students are getting settled. Thank you to our community for being patient as we work diligently to make this year a positive experience for all.

On that note I urge all parents or guardians to encourage their children to get involved in the heart beat that is Stephen Lewis. We offer clubs beyond sports that your children can get involved in that will enrich their educational careers, and in turn increase our school culture.

Stephen Lewis is a place where your students can *“turn their dreams into actions”*

Thank you,
John Glezakos
Principal

YRDSB Caring and Safe Schools

On September 13th and September 14th, our students and staff engaged in conversations around caring, safe and inclusive school environments. In a school assembly, we discussed the elements of a Caring and Safe School that would support the academic achievement and well-being of all students, including the following:

- Demonstrating positive character attributes (such as empathy, courage and respect for human rights and inclusivity)
- Items and behaviours that are not allowed on school property (such as e-cigarettes, cannabis and scented products)

- What happens in situations of discipline?
- Standing up for each other in bullying situations, including methods of reporting incidents of bullying:
 - Tell a caring adult
 - Use the YRDSB's "Report It Button" (located on our school website)
 - Kids Help Phone (1-800-668-6868)

For more details on each of these items, please read the YRDSB Start-Up Guide [or the Stephen Lewis Secondary School's Start-Up Package] given to our students during the first week of school (along with a sign-off sheet that must be returned by September 21st).

You can also visit the [YRDSB's Caring and Safe Schools](#) website for details and resources for families to continue the conversation.

We hope that you have a wonderful week and thank you for supporting our safe, positive and inclusive school community.

Attendance Reminder

Please call/e-mail 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 e-mail address and telephone number handy, stephen.lewis.ss@yrdsb.ca (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.

School Council

The first meeting of the School Council is **Monday, September 17, 7:15 p.m. in the Library**. All parents are welcome to attend. The meeting will include the annual election of a new executive for the Council.

SLSS Spirit Wear

The Spirit Wear clothing that was ordered last year will not be fulfilled. We will ensure that student's money will be refunded to a parent or guardian in the form of a cheque before December 21st, 2018. If there are any questions or concerns, please speak to Mr. Alijanpour or Ms. Ander.

Terry Fox

Our annual Terry Fox Event is coming up on Thursday September 27th!

Grade 9s and grade 10s will be completing a walk around the neighbourhood. This will take 30-35 minutes. Grade 10 will be walking during period one and grade 9 will be walking during period two.

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.schoolcashionline.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

Community Service Hours

To graduate, students are required to complete 40 hours of community service. It is recommended that students complete these hours early in their high school career. Information regarding community service opportunities can be found on the bulletin boards in the guidance office. Community Service Hour forms must be submitted BEFORE starting the activities for approval and then submitted when the community service hours are completed.

YRDSB Mobile App

The York Region District School Board has an app that enables staff, students, parents and community members to quickly access information from their mobile devices.

Get the latest up-to-date news, student resources, school maps and contact information for trustees and senior administration. Users will also be able to access the Report It tool, school year calendars, transportation information and much more. To download the app, visit www.yrdsb.ca or search "YRDSB" in your app store.