



Tails from the Shark Tank



Stephen Lewis Community Newsletter

April 14, 2019

For the latest Lewis News follow us on Twitter @SlssYrdsb



I have been meeting with students, parents and staff over the last couple of months to learn how I can best serve the needs of the Stephen Lewis Community. The most consistent bit of feedback is the request for more communication and celebration of what is happening at SLSS. To that end we are now using our twitter feed to let the SLSS community know about school events, updates and to celebrate everything that is great at Lewis. Please follow us @SlssYrdsb for the latest updates.

I also want highlight just a few of the great things that SLSS students have been doing recently. This is only the smallest snapshot of the work that is going on in our school and the incredible students we have here at SLSS.

Quest Conference

In the fall Zane, Idil and Paige all gave talks at the Quest conference. They spoke in front of hundreds and now their talks are posted on YouTube for a global audience. Click on a link below and hear what the young people at SLSS have to say.



<https://youtu.be/wiL9T6bGDD8>



<https://youtu.be/fXl7o7KZP-k>



<https://youtu.be/aO5s1s9gwwl>

Leadership Conference

Last week four of our student leaders participated in the Muslim Student Leaders in the Making 2019 conference in Scarborough. The students heard from a range of guest speakers and learned about human rights advocacy and the importance of student voice. Thanks to Khadija, Asiya, Insiya and Zehra for being leaders and making us proud. And thank you to Ms. Boulton for taking the group.



March of the Living

On the last week of this month a group of our students are headed to Poland and Israel to participate in the March of the Living. The students will be visiting concentration camps and learning about the Holocaust. Students will be connecting with their roots and Jewish history. We know that this will be a powerful experience for the students and we commend them for their courage. We wish Lily, Jess, Sophie, Kayla, Zoe, Natalie, Cory, Cole and both Dylans, a safe journey.



Designing our Future: Black Youth Legacy Conference



A group of 15 young men from SLSS will be attending York University this week to network and develop their leadership skills. Great to see so many young leaders at SLSS. Thank you to Ms. Vassel for organizing and taking the team.

I am so proud of the students at SLSS and honoured to be working with them. Congratulations to all of our student leaders.

Paolo Burzese

Principal

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News

Semester 2 Mid Semester Report Cards

Semester 2 Mid-Semester Report Cards Issued during period one class on April 24, 2019. For students that do not have a Homeroom, Mid Semester Reports can be picked up from the Attendance Office.

Graduating Student Information

Links to resources and information to the following can be found at: [Goo.gl/xrB8b4](https://goo.gl/xrB8b4)

- Letter of Invitation for Graduates
- Graduation
- Prom
- Graduation Caps and Gowns
- Graduation Awards
- Valedictorian Nomination Applications

Summer School Registration

Registration is now open. Students can register by logging into their BluePrint account, and selecting the "Continuing Education" button on their dashboard. Information is also available in the Guidance Department. For more information you can also contact the Continuing Education office at 905.884.3434.

Crime Prevention Academy (CPA) for Parents and Community Members

Interested in learning about how to keep you and your family safe and secure? Community members are invited to register for a four-week program that offers presentations from the York Regional Police. Please see attached flyer for more information and registration.

International and Indigenous Languages (IIL) Program- Credit Courses

Students can earn credits while learning a language. International and Indigenous Languages offers over 15 languages for students in Grades 9 to 12. Level 3 language credit courses can even be counted towards college and university acceptance.

For the upcoming 2019/2020 school year, we are excited to announce that the Indigenous languages, Ojibwe and Cree, will be offered.

Please see our credit course offerings on our website: [IIL Credit Program](#)

Interested in getting volunteer hours? Students can earn up to 40 hours of community service in our program towards graduation requirements. Please send us an e-mail to request information about student volunteer opportunities: international.languages@yrdsb.ca

Registration for YRDSB Students

The course offerings and sites are available on [My Pathway Planner](#) login page. Students can register through My Pathway Planner from May 1st until September 11th. For assistance, view the [My Pathway Planner Tip Sheet](#). Print a copy of the sign-off sheet and obtain parent/guardian signature before submitting the registration form on the first day of classes at the selected language site.

If you do not have the opportunity to register through 'My Pathway Planner' before September 11th, 2019, please download a registration form from this website: (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Documents/FOR-nonYRRegistration.pdf>). Please complete the registration form and submit it to the selected language site on the day of registration. Dates are available in the Credit Program Flyer: [IIL Credit Program](#). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to e-mail us at: international.languages@yrdsb.ca.

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:

(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
- spell the last name and first name of the student
- the dates of the absence
- the reason for absence
- how to contact the parent/guardian if we have questions

Signing in/out

If a student must leave during the day for any reason, he/she must sign out at the attendance office with parent/guardian permission. Parents/Guardians are asked to call or visit the attendance office to sign-out a student during the school day. Please do not call/text your child during class time asking them to leave class. The teacher will only allow students to leave class if they receive a call from the attendance office. Without parental/guardian consent, the student will be required to remain in school. Upon return from their appointment, students must sign in 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

School Council

All parents/guardians are welcome to attend our next meeting on **Monday, June 10th** at 7:15 p.m. in the library. This will be the last meeting for the 2018/2019 School year.

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>

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 for approval BEFORE starting the activities and then submitted again when the community service hours are completed.

Information Flyers

Various Information flyers for community involvement, community events and workshops are posted on our website.

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.

Important Dates

April 24	Semester 2 Mid Semester Reports distributed during first period
May 2	Prom at Paradise Banquet Hall, Concord
May 3	PA Day
June 10	School Council Meeting @ 7:15 in the Library
June 25	Graduation at Hazelton Manor (Vaughan)

Contact Us		
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More information is available on our website. We update our school website frequently.
 You can e-mail us any time at stephen.lewis.ss@yrdsb.ca .