



# Spartan Speaks Weekly

Friday December 22, 2017

## ATMOSPHERE

*S.D.S.S. is a model of learning excellence providing a rich diversity of academic and social opportunities. Its caring, dedicated staff and responsible, motivated students encourage the development of values and character to promote lifelong learning.*

<http://www.stouffvilledistrict.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/>  
for more information.

### Winter Break

We wish all our students, staff, and community members a wonderful holiday break. School reopens on Monday January 8, 2018. Happy New Year!

### JANUARY 2018 EXAMS

The exam schedule was released on December 11, each student has received a copy, which is also available on our website. Please ensure your son/daughter makes note of the date/time and room number for each of their exams. Please do not schedule holidays or appointments during exam time.

### Students with IEPs:

Grade 9 math students writing EQAO in January have selected their accommodations. A letter outlining these accommodations has been sent home.

**Exam accommodation** forms will be distributed to students with IEPs starting December 13th.

### Equity and Inclusivity Working Groups: Call for Community Members

The YRDSB's Equity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee (EIAC) created four sub-committees to engage family/parents and community voice and ideas with regard to ways to counter Anti-Black Racism, Islamophobia, Antisemitism, and Classism within the context of education. The EIAC subcommittees are launching multiple Community Consultations early in the new year. As such, the **Anti-Black Racism and Classism Sub-Committees** are slated to host community consultations in **January and February 2018**. These consultations will also provide a summary of the Ministry's recent review of YRDSB and in turn the Board's response to equity-based recommendations in the Ministry's report. The Antisemitism and Islamophobia community consultations will be conducted in April/May 2018. For more information, please see flyers on our school website under News and Events, Spartan Speaks tab.

### Tamil Women's Group Information Sessions – Family Services York Region

Family Services of York Region invite you every Tuesday evening starting January 23/18 at Stouffville District Secondary School for information on positive parenting skills, effective communication, managing stress and many more topics discussed weekly. For registration and more information please see flyer on our school website under News and Events, Spartan Speaks tab.

### **Free Seminar – Raising Awesome Kids**

SDSS invites you to attend Gary Dierenfeld's presentation "Raising Awesome Kids" on Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Learn how to create the conditions that will help you build a great relationship with your kids. Parenting can be a challenge, but also a reward! Please RSVP at [sdss.seminar@gmail.com](mailto:sdss.seminar@gmail.com) to confirm your seat. Please see flyer on our school website under News and Events, Spartan Speaks tab.

### **Dear Spartans, Parents and Community members,**

The Me to We chapter at SDSS would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting our clothing drive this past month. We have collected a variety of clothing and outer wear for children, youth and adults. All donations will be delivered to The Blue Door Shelter in East Gwillimbury. The Blue Door Shelter "provides safe, supportive shelter and services for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless for families, men and youth" (Blue Door Shelter, 2017, Who we Are).

For more information about The Blue Door Shelters please visit <http://bluedoorshelters.ca/>

Have a wonderful and restful holiday,

Me to We Club members, Martha Schissler, Nadia Perrella and Maeve O'Neill (Teacher Advisors)



### **Improv Team on the Move**

Fresh from entertaining people on Grade 8 Open House night, the Improv team travelled to Dunbarton High School in Pickering on Dec 13 for the Canadian Improv Games preliminary tournament. Eight schools from around the GTA participated in the performances, and each school received valuable adjudication. Our team includes students from all grades, including several players who are "rookies." The next performance will be on December 22 at the SDSS talent show/assembly. Then, on January 9, the team will have a special practice: it will be a workshop led by one of the CIG trainers.

### **News from the Technology Department**

The Stouffville Transportation Department would like to congratulate:

Peter H. and Thomas B. who have successfully qualified for the Toronto Automotive Technology Competition. This year's event will take place at the Toronto International Auto Show on Wednesday, February 14. The competition is against high schools from all over Ontario. The winners could go on to compete in a national competition in New York against high schools from all over the USA.

Peter and Thomas have prepared by taking time out from a busy schedule of grade twelve courses, Co-Op placements and exams! They will attend training sessions on Saturdays at Centennial College.

We know they will represent Stouffville very well, and bring home some prizes sponsored by Snap-On, Canadian Tire and General Motors. We wish them the best of luck!

### **News from the Guidance Department**

#### **Semester 2 Course Changes**

It is important to reserve a Guidance Appointment NOW if you would like to make any changes to your Semester 2

course selections. All appointments must be completed prior to Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### 2018-2019 Course Selections

If you would like to discuss course selections for the 2018-2019 school year please visit the Guidance Office now to reserve your appointment.

Community Involvement Activities (Volunteer Hours) - New volunteer opportunities have been posted on the bulletin board by the Guidance Office. Remember that 40 hours must be completed before you can graduate. OUAC PINS - Just a reminder that all Grade 12 students who are applying to University need to obtain their OUAC letters in the Guidance Office.

### SDSS Semi-Formal

Mark it in your calendars and 'Save the Date' for Semi-Formal @ Crystal Fountain Banquet Hall on Thursday, February 15th, 2018. **Ticket sales are now available online.**

### News from the Art Department

As part of the program, the Gr. 12 Visual Arts Class hosts an annual art exhibit at the Latcham Gallery. The title of our show this year is "17:Moments" and artwork from the Graduating Class of Stouffville District Secondary School will be on display at the Lacham Gallery from Dec 14th 2017 to Jan. 6th 2018. All are welcome to attend the opening night on Thursday, Dec. 14th at the Latcham Gallery from 7-9 pm to meet the artists and see the Art Show.

CURRENT/UPCOMING EVENTS				
Dec 2017 / Jan 2018				
MONDAY 25	TUESDAY 26	WEDNESDAY 27	THURSDAY 28	FRIDAY 29
Winter Break  ♦ Christmas Day	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break
MONDAY 1	TUESDAY 2	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5
Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break	Winter Break
MONDAY 8	TUESDAY 9	WEDNESDAY 10	THURSDAY 11	FRIDAY 12
			Mobyss Bus	

### No Parking / Designated Fire Routes

#### **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN DESIGNATED FIRE ROUTES**

Any designated Fire Route needs to be clear of vehicles and ready for use by emergency vehicles. In an emergency (fire, medical, lock down etc.) time is of the essence and emergency vehicles need access.

***Fire Routes are signed "No Parking." What does that mean?***

1. This means that you cannot stop your vehicle and get out of the vehicle even for a short period of time.

2. You must obey the signs at all times regardless of the time of day or night.

In 2017, the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will adopt a zero tolerance approach to vehicles parked in designated Fire Routes. By-law Officers, Parking Officers, and Fire Prevention Officers will be issuing tickets when infractions are witnessed, to ensure the safety of all those using our schools and other buildings within the Municipality.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact: Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire & Emergency Services at **905-640-9595** OR By-Law Department at **905-640-1900 Ext. 2258**

## **Important bussing information sent from our Student Transportation Services of York Region**

### **School Bus Cancellation Notice**

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- **School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

#### **RADIO**

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
1540 AM	1580 AM	88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM
94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	105.9	107.1 FM

#### **TELEVISION**

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS

A bus cancellation message will also be available at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on twitter.

**Please check out the following web sites for current Board and school information:**

- 1) York Region District School Board - [www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)
- 2) Stouffville District Secondary School - <http://www.stouffvilledistrict.ss.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/>

### **SDSS Contact Information**

905-640 1433:

Reid Wilshire, Principal

Ranjit Gill, Vice Principal

Karen Parris, Vice Principal

Loralea Carruthers, School Trustee – East Gwillimbury and Whitchurch-Stouffville 905-953-0562