



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Dec 7, 2018

Character of the Month

As members of our school community it is important that we embrace opportunities to model, promote and celebrate good character. We want to build and strengthen learning communities that are caring, safe, respectful and inclusive. For the month of November SDSS staff were asked to nominate students who they felt exhibited the Character trait of Fairness. Congratulations to the recipients of November's Students of the Month award: Aisha, Dimitri, Emily, Kevin, Frankie.

For the month of December, we will recognize perseverance - the ability to work hard and stick to goals in the face of challenge and adversity. Remember, Character Matters!

Lates and Truancies

A concerted effort is being made by SDSS staff to support students that are struggling with attendance and punctuality. Currently, our practice requires **all students arriving more than 15 minutes late to class to sign in at the main office prior to attending their class**. If your child is returning to school from an appointment, please continue to send a note or contact the office to authorize the late arrival.

As well, we are encouraging our students to use washroom facilities between classes or at lunch to avoid missing instructional time.

Each day, parents/guardians will receive their child's lates and absences. Please respond to these communications to acknowledge your awareness and indicate whether the absence or late is authorized. This will ensure that your child's records accurately reflect parent authorization for legitimate lates and absences.

We strongly believe that every student is deserving of opportunity to be successful and we know that punctuality, attendance and time in class is directly related to their academic achievement.

Thank you for your support.

News from the Music Department

This past weekend the music department participated in the Stouffville Santa Claus Parade. It was a rainy night but we had fun and the crowd was singing to the music we were playing. Thanks to all who attended the parade a gave us their support.

This past Thursday the music department had their annual Sounds of the Season concert. All ensembles performed for a packed house and made the season feel a little more festive for everyone. Thanks go out to the tech crew for all their help and the music council for all their preparations to make the evening run smoothly. Wishing everyone a happy holiday on behalf of the music department.

Improv Team in Scarborough Tournament

On Thursday, December 6, your Stouffville High Improv Team travelled into the heart of Scarborough, to R.H. King Academy for our night of performance in the Canadian Improv Games' "Exhibition Tournament." Our team, comprised of students from all grades, was also an almost even mixture of rookie and returning players. They received very favourable adjudication, and held their own against former national CIG champion school Milton, a very entertaining team from Pickering's J. Clarke Richardson, our friends from Mississauga's Iona C.S.S. and the former national finalist host school. We also had the biggest parent turnout, so thanks again to our volunteer parent drivers - great to see you there cheering on your kids!

From the Guidance Office...

SHSM Open House /Q & A

Date: Tuesday December 18th, 2018
Time: PERIODS 2, 3, & 4
Location: Room 1003 (beside guidance)
Grade: 10, 11, 12 (future or current SHSM students)

Grade 12 Students

- Please remember to pick up your personal OUAC Letter in the Guidance Office. The PIN provided in this letter is a requirement if you want to apply to an Ontario University
- All Ontario University applications must be completed before January 16th, 2019
- All Ontario College applications must be completed before February 1st, 2019
- It is a graduation requirement that 40 approved Community Involvement/Volunteer Hours are completed and submitted to the Guidance Office.
New Opportunities are posted on the bulletin board that is located outside of our Office.

Mobyss – Youth Walk-in clinic

Confidential medical, sexual and mental health services are free for youth between the ages of 12-25, including health care from a Nurse Practitioner, specialized youth mental health worker, and peer support specialist. Mobyss is available at Stouffville District Secondary School on Thursday November 29, and December 13 from 9:00am-12:00pm in the school parking lot.

Clubs & Councils and Athletic Teams at SDSS

Please click here to see a comprehensive list of our Clubs, Councils, and Athletic Teams!

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/stouffvilledistrict.ss/NewsEvents/Pages/Spartan-Speaks.aspx>



Parents for Children's
Mental Health

SUPPORT. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.

Monday, Dec. 17, 2018

Topic: Anxiety - how to help

Expert Speaker: Shannon Bowler, Kinark

PARENTS' Support Group

Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult?

Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
 - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
 - learn how to access resources in the community

Future Meetings	3rd Monday of each month Next meeting is Monday, January 21 st
	<u>6:30-8:00 pm No pre-registration is needed</u> Sorry no child minding available. Young children cannot safely be left unattended. .
Where	*NEW* Aurora Kinark Office 218 Earl Stewart Drive, Unit 7, Aurora, ON L4G 6V7. One block south of St. John's Sideroad. One block west of Bayview Ave.

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit www.pcmh.ca.

Current/Upcoming Events – Dec 2018

MONDAY 10	TUESDAY 11	WEDNESDAY 12	THURSDAY 13	FRIDAY 14
MONDAY 17	TUESDAY 18	WEDNESDAY 19	THURSDAY 20	FRIDAY 21
			Spirit Day Ugly Sweater Day	Student Council Talent Show
MONDAY 24	TUESDAY 25	WEDNESDAY 26	THURSDAY 27	FRIDAY 28
No school	♦ Christmas Day (Western) No school	No school	No school	No school

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. Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries which prevents 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.**

A bus cancellation message will be available at www.schoolbuscity.com, by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB and @YCDSB on Twitter.

Parents, students and school staff may also 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

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**

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

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

SDSS Contact Information:

Rose Walker, Principal, 905-640-1433

Jeff Foran, Vice Principal, 905-640-1433

Karen Parris, Vice Principal, 905-640-1433

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