



Spartan Speaks - Stouffville District Secondary School

Sep 14, 2018

Co-creating a caring, safe and supportive school environment

Last week, 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:

- 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 and our school's Start-Up Package given to our students in homerooms (along with a sign-off sheet that must be returned by Monday September 17)

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.

Camp Robin Hood Day

Way to go to our grade 9's who helped kick off this school year by representing SDSS with enthusiasm, team spirit and exemplary behaviour at Camp Robin Hood this week. Students had a blast participating in a variety of activities, ranging from high ropes, low ropes, giant Jenga, drums, and more! A special thank you to Ms Taccone and to our Student Mentors for leading the way.

Walking or Cycling to School

As we start the 2018-2019 school year, we would like to remind and encourage families to consider **walking or cycling with children to and from school**. There are many benefits to walking and cycling to school. It:

- Improves student academic performance by making children more alert and better prepared to learn.
- Contributes to the daily goal of 60 minutes of moderate or vigorous activity for children, improving their health and overall fitness.
- Reduces traffic congestion and improves safety for everyone in school zones.
- Promotes life-long habits that foster independence and active lifestyles, preparing children for their future.

For those who can't walk or cycle to school every day, choosing active travel once, twice or a few days a week can still provide benefits. You can also consider parking a block away from the school and walking the rest of the way. Include active travel as part of your daily routine!

Annual Terry Fox School Run

On Thursday September 27, 2018 students in grades 9-12 at our school will be taking part in the annual Terry Fox School Run on a special course set up on school property.

Students will have the opportunity to discuss the heroic efforts of Terry over the next few weeks and raise much needed funds for cancer research. Through their participation in the annual School Run, we hope that our students will view themselves as positive agents of change giving the best of themselves to Canada, just like Terry did.

Our goal this year and that every student will give a **toonie for Terry**. However, any amount of donation is greatly appreciated and donations of \$20.00 or more that are listed on a Terry Fox pledge sheet (with a full name and address) will automatically receive receipts for tax purposes. Cheques and cash will both be accepted. Please make any cheques payable to The Terry Fox Foundation. All monies raised will be forwarded to The Terry Fox Foundation. Those students unable to bring in donations are welcome to participate in the event as well.

Please return any pledge forms and all monies by **Friday September 21st** to your child's 5th period teacher.

Donating online is fast and easy. Simply, go to www.terryfox.org , click "Terry Fox School Run" and "Give to a Student", or click <http://www.terryfox.ca/StouffvilleDistrictHigh> which will take you to our school page on the Terry Fox Foundation website. Your child may also choose to set up their own fundraising page in the "Give to a Student" section. By doing this, they will be able to email friends and family a direct fundraising link.

We are very pleased to be a part of this year's Terry Fox Event as we encourage our students to develop a sense of volunteerism and goodwill, while celebrating school spirit. Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,
Christina Giles

Best of Luck to Ryan B. in His Quest for Hockey Titles

SDSS staff and students are cheering on classmate Ryan B. who will be competing for *Team Canada* at the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation in Italy in September. Ryan also competed in July with his team *Toronto Rock* in Michigan for the North America PowerHockey Cup where the team won Bronze! Congratulations! The Stouffville teen says hockey has always been his favourite sport. We wish him the best of luck for his upcoming game in Italy! Bring home the Gold Ryan!

Improv Team

The school's Canada Improv Games "Improv Team" is starting up again! Open sessions introducing the art of Improv will be held after school in the Drama Room (3:50 to 5:30) on Tues, Sep 18 and Tues, Sep 25. Tryouts are open to any grade or experience level. Participation in these sessions will help Mr. Butters choose students for the school team. If you have questions, please email robert.butters@yrdsb.ca (or students come see Mr. Butters in Room 2016).

Vocal Class

Vocal class begins next Wednesday, September 19th, at 7:45 a.m. in room 1051. Vocal class is every Wednesday and Friday morning, 7:45 - 9:00 a.m. Since this is a course, and not a club, regular attendance is required. Looking forward to welcoming new students and seeing former vocal students. See you next Wednesday!

Mrs. Sellick-Smith

Grade 9 Music Students

A reminder to all Grade 9 Music students of the Welcome Lunch that will take place period 3 on Tuesday September 18th. Come down to the music room and meet the music council, the rest of the grade 9 band, the grade 9 vocal students, and have some pizza with us.

Also to ALL music students, please see the music cabinet in the atrium or see a music teacher to check out the dates for your repertoire class.

Fire Safety

This week Mrs. Hatanaka's grade 12 Nutrition and Health class learned kitchen and household safety skills from Brianna Baker, the Fire Prevention/Public Education Officer from Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire & Emergency Services. We learned that you should never put water on a grease fire and that sleeping with your door shut could increase your chances of escaping a house fire.

News from the Guidance office

Scholarship Applications for Nominated Scholarships are Due in the Guidance Office on September 27th, 2018. To be eligible for this scholarship you must be in Graduating this year. Please ensure that you resume includes the following information:

- Full Legal Name
- Academic Averages: Grade 9, 10 and 11
- Universities and Program Choices

- Leadership/Volunteer Activities within the school and the community
- Part time employment

The Ontario University Fair in Toronto will be held on September 28th – 30th. Visit www.ouf.ca for more information.

The University/College Fair at SDSS will be held on Wednesday October 10th @ 6:30 P.M. This is an opportunity to see presentations, meet representatives and obtain information.

The Ontario College Fair in Toronto will be held on October 23rd – 24th. Visit www.ocif.ca for more information.

Report Card & Diploma Pickup

Grads may pick up their report cards and/or diplomas in the main office. The main office is open Monday – Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. Students over the age of 18 must give written consent if they wish to have their report card/diploma picked up by a parent. Students can send written consent directly to our school email address Stouffville.dss@yrdsb.ca or on a hand written note.

International Languages

Have you ever considered learning another language? one that your high school doesn't offer? And the great thing is you do not need to know how to speak the language to take the course.

Did you know that YRDSB offers 15 International Languages CREDIT courses at 4 different high schools? Did you know that learning another language can...

- strengthen your first language and second language skills,
- create pride in your own culture and a better understanding of other cultures, and also
- can potentially enhance your career options?!

So what are you waiting for?! Now is the time to take advantage of this opportunity. Visit your Guidance office today to get a registration form for September 2018 classes.

Student Drop off Zone

Parents are reminded that the front of the school is reserved for bus drop offs. If you are driving your child to school, please use the designated drop off area at the east side of the school. Thank you.

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 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
- 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