



STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

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GRADE 9 INFORMATION FOR ORIENTATION DAY at STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT S. S. September 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year at Stouffville District Secondary School. You will be joining approximately 1250 students and 84 teaching staff next year. Success in high school is a combination of academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities. We are very proud of the achievements of our students and staff and look forward to your success at Stouffville D.S.S.

SCHOOL FEES

Payment Options

Parents can pay for materials online starting **July 10th**. Visit <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and click "Get Started Today". See attachments for information and instructions. Items can also be paid for on Orientation Days using School Cash Online in the library.

PAY FEES AND RECEIVE A COPY OF YOUR TIMETABLE EARLY AS WELL AS YOUR LOCKER ASSIGNMENT – PAY BY “SCHOOL CASH ONLINE” OVER THE SUMMER!

Students who have paid their student fees over the summer will receive a copy of their timetable and their locker assignment through email. For fees paid over the summer, timetables will be sent out on the following dates to the parent/guardian email on file with SDSS and to the student GAPPs email account:

- **Tuesday, August 15, 2017** **Students must print their own timetable**
- **Tuesday, August 29, 2017**

Students are welcome to come on Orientation Day to have their picture taken for the yearbook and their student card, and to find their classrooms and locker. If not able to attend Orientation, pictures can be taken on Photo Retake day that will be held on September 20.

COST OF REQUIRED MATERIALS

Student Activity Fee	\$25	
Lock	\$ 5	
Athletic attire: T-shirt	\$10	
Shorts	\$15	
Package Price		\$55

Optional

Student Price Card	\$10
Spartan Games at Camp Robin Hood	\$35
Yearbook	\$55

DETAILS FOR ORIENTATION

Orientation is an opportunity for students to:

- Learn more about the school and meet student leaders;
- Pay fees (if not done so already online); and
- Have their yearbook/student card photo taken.

All students require a Student Activity Card with their Photo on it. The purpose of this card is to enable students to use the school library and computer technology facilities and participate in school-related events.

Orientation Day
Thursday, August 31 - 8:30 to 3:00
Photo Day

The busiest time tends to be 8:30 to 10:30. Avoid this time if possible.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES FOR GRADE 9 STUDENTS – Bring a Copy of Your Timetable

Tuesday, September 5 is the first day of classes in semester one for grade 9 students only.

- The agenda for the day will be posted on the windows of the cafeteria.
- Students will follow their timetable from their GAPPS account via their phone or from the hard copy they have printed. Any student who cannot access their timetable by phone or hard copy may come to the office to obtain one. This may result in missing some of the fun morning activities.
- **Parents/Guardians are invited to meet Administration and their child's teachers in the morning from 9:00 to 11:10.**

Students are to come to school prepared with pens, pencils, binders, and paper, ready to begin their first four courses of the year. They may purchase their lunch in the cafeteria or bring their own.

OTHER INFORMATION

Additional Opportunity to Have Picture Taken for Student Card/Yearbook

Students who are not able to come on August 31st to have their picture taken for their Student Card and the Yearbook will have the opportunity to do so on Wednesday, September 20.

Timetable Changes

Changes to timetables will not be made over the summer. Students will have the opportunity to **complete the required form to request necessary changes** starting September 1, 2017. Forms will be available in the Guidance Office and on our website and require the signature of a parent/guardian. Changes are not guaranteed and requests must meet the requirements outlined on the form provided by the Guidance Office. The Guidance office will process these requests between September 6 and 26. Students are to attend all classes on their timetable, even if they have requested a change.

Student/School Activity Fees

Student/school activity fees are voluntary amounts that are used to supplement a student's school experience through materials and activities such as student recognition programs, yearbooks, extracurricular activities, or theme days.

Sports Teams

There will be no school provision of monies for sports teams. Sports teams will operate on a cost recovery per team, per season with the student team players paying the individual required fees to participate on a team. Coaches will provide more information at tryouts.

Co-curricular Activities

Students are encouraged to participate in co-curricular activities as part of their school experience. At SDSS, there are multiple opportunities for students to join student-lead clubs and organizations and sports teams. Students will be made aware of these activities through information fairs and morning announcements.

Grade 9 Spirit Day – THE SPARTAN GAMES

We have scheduled a grade nine orientation day **The Spartan Games at Camp Robin Hood on Tuesday, September 12.** This exciting day will be an opportunity for you to meet and get to know all of the other grade nine students. Team building and co-operation activities are also planned for this day. There will be no regular classes on this day. Alternate arrangements will be made for any student who cannot attend the Spartan Games.

Health and Physical Education

All students participating in physical education classes and extra-curricular sports are required to wear appropriate SDSS athletic attire consisting of a T-shirt and shorts. Many students involve themselves in sports at SDSS. Plan to join them and get involved!

School Council

SDSS has an active School Council which meets four times per year on the dates listed below. All parents and guardians are encouraged to attend and become involved in issues which may affect their son or daughter. Please contact the school or see our website for further information.

September 18
November 20

April 16
June 4

Future Destinations – College and University Information Fairs at SDSS

On Wednesday, October 11 all grade 12 SDSS students will attend the College Fair from 9:10 to 11:00 a.m. in the gymnasium. In the evening SDSS will be hosting their University Information Night, open to **all** SDSS students and their parents 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.)

Attendance Policy

Students under the age of 18 require parental permission to be absent. Parents/guardians are asked to call the school at (905) 640-1433 and Press 1 to leave a message with the attendance office. Failing that, students must bring a note from the parent/guardian authorizing the absence. Absences not verified within three days will be deemed to be truancies.

Please see the *SDSS School Start-Up Package* and the *YRDSB Guide to the School Year* for more information regarding student attendance.

Spartan Speaks – School Weekly E-Mail Newsletter

To receive our weekly E-Mail newsletter on school events and information for the school year starting in September please e-mail stouffville.dss@yrdsb.ca with your e-mail address.

Dress Code

The York Region District School Board believes that school is a place of learning. To be successful, students must focus their attention and energy on school-related matters. For this reason, it is important that students dress appropriately.

Each school has its own dress code under the school's code of conduct. Students are expected to dress appropriately for learning in clothing that shows respect for self and others.

Clothing should meet the following guidelines:

- Clothing will not display inappropriate language or graphics.
- Shoulders, midriffs and undergarments must remain covered at all times.
- Shoes must be worn at all times.

Those who choose to wear clothing that does not conform to the code may be asked to:

- Turn the piece of clothing inside out;
- Wear something over the offending piece of clothing;
- Change into something else or remove the accessory;
- Give the offending item to the teacher, principal, or vice-principal; or
- Possibly go home to change.

Tobacco Smoke/Vape Free Environment

The York Region District School Board believes that all students and staff have the right to a safe and healthy learning and working environment. Through its mission, vision and values and in accordance with the *Smoke Free Ontario Act*, the Board provides a working and learning environment which is free from tobacco products. Smoking, Vaping and/or holding lit tobacco products, consuming or using any other tobacco product, is therefore prohibited on Board property or in personal vehicles parked on Board property.

Skateboards & Bicycles

Skateboards may not be used on school property. Students who use skateboards as transportation to and from school must, upon arrival on school property, pick them up and carry them to their locker where they must be stored during the school day. Bicycles are to be **locked** in the bicycle racks at the rear of the building and are not to be inside the school.

GRADE 9 STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS – FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

**Tuesday, September 5, 2017 is the first day of classes for Grade 9 only,
9:10 a.m. to 3:46 p.m.**

We are pleased to have the opportunity to offer the first day of school in September as a dedicated instructional day for grade 9 students and their parents only. Students in grades 10-12 will begin their school year on Wednesday, September 6. It is our belief that easing the transition for students moving from elementary to secondary better prepares them for academic success in life.

This is an opportunity for us to welcome our new grade 9's by:

- familiarizing students with the school building;
- ensuring students make a connection with a senior student and their teachers;
- providing an information session on safe behaviour;
- providing an opportunity to connect with Administration; and
- facilitating relationship building activities for students, their peers and teachers.

Students are welcome to bring their lunch or purchase food from the Cafeteria on September 6th.

This is a mandatory instructional day for grade 9 students. Attendance will be taken and course materials will be distributed. In addition, parents are welcome to accompany their son/daughter to meet teachers, and are invited to remain for an information session to be held in the Cafeteria from 9:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

Please join us on this exciting day dedicated to the success of grade 9 students!