



Sutton District High School
20798 Dalton Road, Sutton West, Ontario, LOE 1R0
905-722-3281
Principal *Dan Gillis*
Vice Principals *Karen Fogleman and Scot Angus*

To the parents/guardians of «[First_Name](#)» «[Last_Name](#)»

INFORMATION ITEMS

This e-bulletin contains important school information. If you have any comments or feedback, please email our school at sutton.dhs@yrdsb.ca

MESSAGE FROM ADMIN

Inclement Weather Procedures

For the 2021-2022 school year, in the event school bus transportation is cancelled, the following Inclement Weather Days Interim Procedures for Elementary and Secondary Schools will be in effect for the first Inclement Weather Day of the school year after which time these procedures will be reviewed.

- All elementary and secondary schools will be closed to students.
- All student learning (elementary and secondary) will be remote and asynchronous.

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

Next week is Week 1, periods 1 & 2

School photos

School photo retake day will be February 16, 2022 from 9:30 – 11:00am



Grad photo days will be February 14th & 15th all day and February 16th from 11:00-3:30 by apt only. More details to follow.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TRUSTEE

With case counts remaining relatively stable, I want to take this opportunity to thank our students, families and staff members for continuing to adhere to health and safety protocols. Your efforts are appreciated and important to protecting the health and safety of our school community members. As we have since the start of the pandemic, the school board continues to meet regularly with public health and follow their guidance. Families looking for more information or resources on COVID-19 and our schools, including health and safety guidelines, frequently asked questions and mental health resources, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening or York Region's www.york.ca/safeatschool.

In November, we held the **school council forums**. I appreciated the opportunity to participate in shared learning with school council representatives on priority topics including the ABCs of mental health and actioning anti-racism practices. Thank you to all of the participants and to all school council members for your partnership. There are so many valuable [ways families help to strengthen our schools and support student learning and achievement](#). We value the partnership that we have with families, and thank you for your ongoing support.

As partners, we want to support you in supporting your child's learning, achievement and well-being. The **Family Resources** page on the Board website provides quick access to online tools such as Google Classroom, School Cash Online, Edsby and more. It also provides links to information to support you in engaging in your child's learning - resources like translation tools, IT support for families and tips on protecting your child's privacy online. It also includes links to other information you may find helpful. Find it at www.yrdsb.ca/familyresources or from the link on the homepage.

Over the past few months, York Region District School Board has been conducting a review of its Trustee Areas. The boundaries of the areas that school board trustees represent change over time. The goal of the **Trustee Determination and Distribution Study** is to ensure fair and equitable representation of all public school supporters. Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultation on the proposed options. The final report will be presented at the Board of Trustees meeting on February 8. You can find more [information about the study and the recommendations on the Board website](#).

The upcoming winter season is a time of celebration for many, and I want to wish you and your families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. I hope that over the winter break, you find time to rest, relax and rejuvenate and we look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Cynthia Cordova
Trustee – Georgina

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Secondary School Return to Four Period Timetable

We are very pleased to share that we have received approval from York Region Public Health to return to a more traditional pre-pandemic secondary timetabling. This means students will return to participating in four 75 minute course periods each day compared to the current modified semester system with two 150 minute course periods per day alternating weekly.

We have heard from many students and staff members looking to return to 75 minute periods, and we are grateful to have received this approval from public health. This change is possible in part to the vaccine coverage among York Region's 12 to 17-year-old age group, which currently is at 87.1% with one dose and 83.5% with two doses. York Region Public Health will continue to closely monitor the rate and number of COVID-19 exposures/outbreaks in our schools and will continue to apply targeted interventions as the situation warrants.

Starting December 6, courses will return to being 75 minutes each. There will be no change to the start or end time of the school day, or to any student transportation services. Lunch periods will be shortened slightly to accommodate travel time between courses. Schools will be providing updated schedules to students in advance of December 6. Students will remain with the same classes and teachers for the remainder of the semester.

We know the pandemic has been particularly challenging for our students and feel tremendous optimism with the return of the pre-pandemic timetable and believe our students will benefit greatly. Should you have any questions about your child's timetable, please contact their school.

Screening

York Region Public Health has asked us to remind all staff and students that screening must be completed every day using the [Ontario School Screening Tool](#) for any signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The tool indicates when individuals should be isolating at home and when they should be getting tested.

Winter Break

The Ministry of Education has announced that, prior to the winter break, all students will receive a Rapid Antigen Test kit. These kits will include five tests with instructions for students to voluntarily complete the testing prior to returning to the school. We will provide more information on this initiative as it is received.

Families choosing to travel over the winter break are reminded to consult federal and provincial government requirements for testing, quarantine and other appropriate protocols required upon arrival and prior to returning to school. We gratefully appreciate everyone's cooperation with these regulations to ensure the safe return from the winter break on January 3.

COVID19 Vaccination Clinics

The Board continues to work in partnership with York Region Public Health to provide access to COVID19 vaccines for all those eligible. Pending approval for vaccines for 5-11 year olds, the Board is actively working with public health for in-school clinics. More information on school community-based clinics and other options will be provided to families as it becomes available.

Important Reminders from York Region Public Health

- For those with COVID19 symptoms identified through the screening tool, testing should not be delayed if symptoms persist or worsen. Delaying testing means children may be out of school longer as public health may need to use the date tested when confirming isolation periods if it is too far removed from the first symptom onset date.
- Individuals with symptoms should be tested right away with a PCR test through a COVID-19 Assessment Centre or take-home PCR tests once available from the province; if children are part of a dismissed cohort or otherwise a close contact of a confirmed case, communication from York Region Public Health will outline the specific testing information to follow; staff and students with mild symptoms (runny nose or sore throat) not on the screening tool must stay home until symptoms are improving for 24 hours (48 hours for gastrointestinal symptoms). Rapid antigen tests should not be used if individuals are experiencing any symptoms OR are part of a dismissed cohort/close contact of a confirmed case; antigen testing should only be used by unvaccinated asymptomatic persons who are not part of a dismissed cohort; positive antigen tests must also be confirmed via PCR testing at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre.
- Continue to adhere to public health measures when out in the community. While we have a large proportion of our age 12 and older population fully vaccinated, individuals under the age of 12 remain susceptible. We are seeing cases and outbreaks of COVID-19 in schools attributed to social gatherings, sports and other activities and exposures occurring outside of school. Continue to keep your loved ones safe by practicing physical distancing, wearing masks, performing hand hygiene and avoiding large gatherings, especially if the vaccination status of these individuals is unknown. Vaccination opportunities are around the corner for our five to 11-year-old children.
- School-wide assemblies and other large congregations of students across cohorts should continue to remain on hold until the number of cases in the community trend downward and this is sustained for a period of time.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Academic achievement awards

On Tuesday our administration will be visiting classrooms to present Academic achievement awards from the 2020-2021 school year. Congratulation to all the recipients!

Dual Credit courses

Registration for semester 2 dual credits is now open. Grade 11 and 12 students, if you are interested in taking a dual credit course next semester, please see the flyer below to choose a course and complete the application below. If you have any questions please contact your guidance department or feel free to contact me via email at steph.parent@yrdsb.ca or via text/phone at 416-909-1607.

Note:

1. Dual Credit courses count as one of your 4 credits in a semester (so 2 or 3 courses at your school, plus 1 dual credit course)
2. Most courses will be online next semester again, with some exceptions.
3. To attend an in-person dual credit course, you MUST be fully vaccinated to meet the College requirements.

Check out our on-line flyer for the most up-to-date information regarding current course offerings:

www.bit.ly/YRDSBdualcreditflyer



To register for a course, see your guidance counselor or contact your school's Regional Dual Credit Teacher. You can access the registration form at www.bit.ly/YRDSBdualcreditapp



Terry Fox Humanitarian Award

Terry Fox Humanitarian Awards are open to graduating secondary level students and those studying toward a first university degree or diploma in a Canadian post-secondary institution. Dead line is December 1st.

For award criteria please visit:

Terryfoxawards.ca

[Click here for full poster](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 30	Midterm marks available in Student gapps accounts
Dec 10	Full disclosure

SCHOOL COUNCIL

S.D.H.S. School Council is looking for candidate nominations. Below is the link for the form. Please complete and submit to the office.

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/suttondistrict.hs/SchoolCouncil/Documents/FOR-SchoolCouncilNomination.pdf>

School council will meet virtually this year at 7pm on February 27, 2022 and April 25, 2022.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

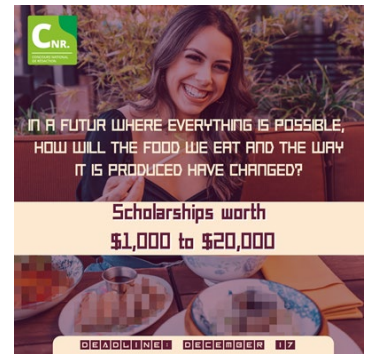
To see our School Calendar with important upcoming dates please [click here](#).

SCHOOL NEWS

French for the Future

Are you a grade 10, 11 or 12 student (in secondary IV, secondary V or CEGEP 1 in the province of Quebec)? Do you like to eat and want to learn more about how your food is produced? The National Essay Contest is for you! In addition to reflecting on a global issue, you could win a scholarship of between \$1,000 and \$20,000 to continue your studies at the French-language post-secondary institution of your dreams.

In 750 words, answer the following question: "In a future where everything is possible, how will the food we eat and the way it is produced have changed?" Make your submission before December 17th and may the odds be in your favor!



For help with submissions or any questions, please see Mme Sagar in Room 321 or email anne.sagar@yrdsb.ca

Deadline is December 17th

[Website link](#)

2SLGBTQ+ Positive Space Sticker and Poster Contest

Positive Space Stickers and Posters are used in York Region District School Board schools to indicate that classrooms and schools are working to create inclusive and supportive learning environments for students and staff who are Two Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and related identities (2SLGBTQ+). YRDSB is hosting a competition for Gender and Sexuality Alliances (GSAs) and individual students to design new stickers and posters. Submissions are due by December 17, 2021. Winners will be notified by email in January 2022. Information can be found at the submission form: <https://tinyurl.com/positivestickers>

If you have any questions, please email missy.sturtevant@yrdsb.ca or hayden.bendavid@yrdsb.ca.

Sports

The school has been told by the York Region Athletics Association that we will be able to offer Hockey, Boys Basketball and Girls Volleyball for the winter season (along with Alpine/SB, Curling and Nordic skiing)The policy states that all players must provide proof of double vaccination to participate.

[Click here for letter](#)

Participating **students** will be required to attest that they have been fully-vaccinated utilizing the current YRDSB Attestation portal under the drop down heading of '**Secondary Students for Inter-school Sports**'.

(<https://visitorattestation.yrdsb.ca/>).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Salvation Army is looking for support of local businesses and organizations who could volunteer their time to staff a kettle in one of our partnering retail locations.

They are reaching out to ask if would your business or organization would be willing to 'adopt' a kettle during our 2021 campaign running November 22 through to December 24. All you would need to do is have someone from your group stand at a kettle at your chosen time (this can be divided up amongst your helpers depending on the length you choose to 'adopt'), thank people who donate, chat with people – it is a wonderful opportunity to get to know new people and reconnect with some you have not seen in a while, and wish passersby a Merry Christmas.

If you will assist with this year's Christmas Kettle Campaign, please call, or text Lauri Cunningham at 416-722-4563 or email her at laurel.cunningham@salvationarmy.ca to set up a time/location, or please reach out if you have any questions.

[See attached letter for full information](#)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

For a complete guide to community hours, please see the following [Student Guide to Community Hours](#)

- Students are required to get school approval and provide a copy of the form **prior** to completing their activities
- As a general rule students **can not** complete hours in a for-profit-business

Due to COVID restrictions, **For 2021 - 2022 school year only**, the Ministry of Education has allowed the following activities that are not normally acceptable:

Activities that include **up to 10 hours** of paid work, with the requirement to complete a reflection exercise indicating how their work contributed to service for others. Please use this link to record and write your reflection: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelp4mmgnu582RleGtueB2h37d8khyYKB_RNt6mhx36HKblEw/viewform?usp=sf_link

- Activities such as walking a younger neighbour or sibling to and from school or helping younger siblings with their homework
- Activities that consist of duties normally performed in the home (e.g. students could help an elderly relative with errands, provide after-school care for a sibling)
- Students who **graduate** within the 2021-2022 school year (prior to June 30, 2022) will need **20** community hours - the requirement for graduation after this date remains at 40 hours

«First_Name» «Last_Name» has completed «Community_Servi» hours of community volunteer hours. Community volunteer hour forms can be found in the Guidance Office. Please be advised the completed forms are processed periodically, the hours submitted to the office may not appear for up to four weeks. Please contact the Guidance Office to follow up should community service hours not appear after that time.

Community Involvement Hours opportunity

New opportunities become available throughout the year. Please check Community Involvement Hours board in Guidance

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is directly related to student success. It is very important that students are at school on time and in class daily.

At Sutton District High School, when a student misses a class without a valid reason, our automated attendance program will phone home and email in the evening stating what grade the student is in and what class(es) were missed that day. If parents have any questions regarding the reported absence, they should check with their child and their child's teacher.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Please review the following attendance report. The report includes all lates and absences for your son/daughter for the week of November 22-26, 2021 inclusive.

The attendance report below contains information for all courses attended. Classes with zero lates and zero absences may not appear on the report.

Course	Period	Teacher	Total Absences	Total Lates
«Course_A»	«Period_A»	«Teacher_Last_A»	«Absence_A»	«Lates_A»
«Course_B»	«Period_B»	«Teacher_Last_B»	«Absence_B»	«Lates_B»
«Course_C»	«Period_C»	«Teacher_Last_C»	«Absence_C»	«Lates_C»
«Course_D»	«Period_D»	«Teacher_Last_D»	«Absence_D»	«Lates_D»
Totals			«Total_Abs»	«Total_Lates»

VALID ABSENCES

Only absences due to illness, medical/dental/legal appointments, bereavement, and school-sponsored activities are valid. All other absences, including missed buses and oversleeping are invalid. When a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) confirm knowledge of the validity of the absence. **Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are asked to call or email the Attendance Office at 722-3267 or sutton.dhs@yrdsb.ca (accessible 24 hours daily) on the morning of each day their child will be absent.** Informing of the absence prior to the day or on the day of the absence will allow the information to be entered and will prevent the need for a phone call home or for the student to obtain an admit slip upon return. In certain instances, medical documentation may be required. Students are responsible for informing teachers in advance of an anticipated absence. **Students are responsible for all missed work (tests, assignments, class notes) when absent and are encouraged to obtain this work from their teacher beforehand when possible.**