

## Sutton District High School

20798 Dalton Road, Sutton West, Ontario, L0E 1R0

905-722-3281

Principal *Dawn Laliberte*

Vice Principals *Candice Mott, Anton Skerritt*

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/suttondistrict.hs/Pages/default.aspx>



To the Parents/Guardians of «First\_Name» «Last\_Name»

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

This e-bulletin contains important school information and a summary of your student's attendance. If you have any comments or feedback, please email Anton Skerritt, at [anton.skerritt@yrdsb.ca](mailto:anton.skerritt@yrdsb.ca)

### **Student of the Week:**

Congratulations to Julia Reeve for being chosen as this week's "Student of the Week". Well done!

### **Celebrating Student Success – 2017 – Matthew Burrows-Balka**

Celebrating Student Success highlights 24 exemplary York Region District School Board students who represent over 123,000 students who achieve success each day. These students personify excellence through a combination of character, leadership, academic achievement and service to the school and/or community.

Congratulations to Matthew Burrows-Balka on this incredible achievement, and for the amazing leadership role you provide to our school.

### **Relay for Life**

Our school has decided to help in the battle against cancer by hosting a Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life event at our school.

Our event will take place on **Friday, June 2, 2017 from noon until midnight at Sutton DHS.**

Chaperones will be present at all times and students will not be able to leave without parental permission in advance.

**Registration will open on May 8<sup>th</sup> after the Relay Rally.**

Relay for Life is a non-competitive 12-hour Relay in which teams of 10 participants walk, run or stroll around a track to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society to support research and support programs for people living with cancer. Relay for Life brings together students, teachers, family members and friends to celebrate cancer survivors with a Survivors' Victory Lap and to honour the memory of loved ones with a special Luminary Ceremony.

All participants will be required to have their parent/guardian sign their Registration (Permission) Form and pay their **\$15 registration fee** before they will be given a pledge envelope and allowed to participate. We hope that you will allow your child to participate in what is being called "the best event our school will ever hold". We will also help students create an on-line profile so that they may fundraise on-line as well, if they wish.

In fact we are hoping that you may want to get involved as well, as you are an important part of our school community.

Here are just some of the ways you can get involved:

- pledge a student
- join a student team
- register as a survivor and participate in our survivor reception and survivor lap
- sign up as a volunteer and help out the night of the event as a chaperone or help with entertainment!

Thank you for your time and please contact us if you would like to get involved or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The Relay for Life Committee

### Art-a-Thon

Sutton District High School Art Department is hosting its annual 18 hour Art-a-Thon on Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>. Our students and staff are busy prepping for this all night Art event. This event should not be missed and we would like to invite our school community to come and see our Artists at work. Visitors are welcome to visit on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. This year we will be focusing on creating murals that will hang in our school hallways.

### School and Board Communications regarding "13 Reasons Why"

As you may be aware, the recently released Netflix series *Thirteen Reasons Why* has been a topic of debate in the school community and the media. The Netflix fictional drama includes many unrealistic elements and raises serious concerns: it is loosely based on the novel and presents the story of suicide in a glamorous manner. The SDHS mandate is to provide a safe climate to engage students in meaningful learning.

The grade ten applied English program is centered on teaching students how to navigate challenge and change in a variety of situations with a focus on mental well-being. Every person is bound to experience difficult events in life. The novel has been one of many texts used in the course to facilitate this dialogue. Books can help students feel less alone and more at ease with feelings like anger, frustration, or sadness. The English department realizes that the course offerings are weighty with emotion, but the content is carefully framed to give students safe strategies to problem-solve challenging situations.

The course begins with a study of the non-fiction text, *The Tools: Transform Your Problems into Courage, Confidence, and Creativity* by Phil Stutz and Barry Michels. This first unit introduces students to problem-solving: realistic situations are presented and managed through a focused step by step process to show the importance of having coping methods. The strategies outlined in this first text are included in all other units of study to give students clear ideas about how to approach problems in a positive way. Essentially, students are encouraged to have a personal toolkit with strategies to manage life challenges. A great deal of time is devoted to discussing the strategies and supports that are available to help students so that they can respond to social challenges with a consideration of other people.

At no point in the course is the English department encouraging or suggesting students view the Netflix series. We are aware of its popularity and the inherent implications of unguarded viewing. The English department feels strongly that should students watch the Netflix series, they should do so alongside parents because the series approaches the story of the novel with significant difference. Please know that some students are approaching staff with questions and concerns. We are continuing to encourage safe conversations to promote growth and positive well-being. In this regard, parents, guardians, and educators work together in the care of youth, offering opportunities for:

- Critical thinking
- Safe conversations
- Clarity of information
- Problem-solving methods
- Community links for assistance

The English teachers want to assure parents and guardians that ongoing and extensive work is being conducted in all of our courses. We are dedicated to providing positive frameworks that allow students to safely engage in important societal conversations. We encourage parents and guardians to discuss course offerings and reading material with students.

Moving ahead in 2017-2018, parent/guardian input will be explicitly sought. Due to the sensitive content a text may present, the SDHS English department will be asking for a parent/guardian consent form for the selection of both the literature circle and independent novel options students make.

For more information, please see the board's statement regarding the series [here](#). For more background on *The Tools*, please check out: <http://www.thetoolsbook.com/>. Should questions and/or concerns still remain, please contact the school at 905-722-3281 to speak with a member of the English department.

Yours in partnership,  
The SDHS English department

### **YRDSB School Climate Survey**

Our parents and guardians are our strongest partners in education and we want to hear from you. The York Region District School Board is inviting all parents and guardians to complete a survey between May 1 and May 19, 2017. This survey provides an important opportunity for parent/guardian voice and the results will be used to guide planning to support student achievement and well-being.

The survey is aligned with the priorities of the Board Improvement Plan and includes questions about school learning environments, mathematics, student mental health and well-being, equity and inclusivity, and caring and safe schools. The survey is in compliance with the Ontario Education Act and fulfills the Ministry of Education's mandate to conduct surveys related to school climate.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. The English version of the survey is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/yrdsb2017ParentSurvey>. Paper surveys are available in English, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Sri Lankan Tamil, Urdu and Vietnamese. Please contact the school to request a paper copy. If you choose to complete the survey on paper, please return it to the school in the envelope provided.

We value parent/guardian input and encourage you to complete the survey before May 19th. The information you provide will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. You may choose to complete one survey for each child.

Survey results will be available in the late Fall through your school principal. Please contact the school if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

### **SDHS Café Card**

Reminder: For your convenience, we are now offering "CAFÉ CASH CARDS"! No need to worry about sending money for lunch any longer! Simply go on <https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/> and you can purchase a \$25.00 card with a credit or debit card. Once purchased, cards can be picked up in the main office. If you prefer to pay by cash, have your son or daughter come to the main office to purchase and receive the card.

Our cafeteria prepares a variety of healthy choices daily including our sub shop, salad bar, a Café special and homemade soup. Please note that lost/stolen cards are non refundable.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the main office.

### **Bursary and Award Opportunity**

#### **Geogina Historical Society Bursary**

Win a \$500.00 bursary towards your Post Secondary Education. Enter the Geogina Historical Society's contest today. See Guidance for further details. Deadline is June 1, 2017.

## Upcoming Events:

May 10	Bursary Applications due
May 11	Art-a-Thon
May 19	Best Buddies Prom
May 22	Victoria Day
May 25	Prom

## Reporting a Student Absence

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are asked to call the Attendance Office at 722-3267, (accessible 24 hours daily) or write a note to verify their child's absence.

## Allergies/Medical Conditions

There are students and staff members in our school who have life-threatening allergies to nuts and other allergens. If they smell or come into contact with these foods, they may have an anaphylactic reaction.

**To help create an allergen-safe environment, do not bring nut or nut products (especially peanut products), or sprays with odour (such as perfume or colognes) to school.**

If your child has a serious or life-threatening allergy or medical condition, let the school know immediately and speak to the school office about completing the appropriate medical forms.

There are students in our school who have a life-threatening allergy to nuts and other allergens. If they smell or come into contact with these foods, they may have an anaphylactic reaction.

We request that staff and students refrain from bringing peanut products into the building. Peanut products are not sold in our school vending machines or cafeteria. Please inform the school, if your son or daughter has any allergies. Care and caution must be used when eating outside the cafeteria. Additional items may be restricted based on information that we receive throughout the year.

Many students and staff members are highly sensitive to perfumes, colognes, aftershaves and other scented products. By choosing to use unscented personal care products, we can make Sutton District High School a better place for all of us to learn and work.

## Community Volunteer Hours

Students are now required to submit the form for Community Volunteer Hours PRIOR to volunteering. The students will need to get pre-approval from a Guidance Counsellor and have the form returned to them BEFORE they volunteer. This will require a minimum one-week turnaround time. Please ensure that you follow these procedures so that you can get credit for all of your Community Volunteer Hours. **Holiday season is a great time to acquire some volunteer hours.**

Students are reminded that any hours obtained over the summer should be handed into the Guidance office.

As a graduation requirement, students are required to complete 40 hours of community volunteer hours. It is recommended that students complete these hours in grades 9, 10 and 11. «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 Events:

Would you like upgrade your skills in English, Math or Computers? Are you seeking for employment? Applying for College, second career or apprenticeships? Free courses are being offered at no cost. Please see link for further information.  [i-WinComputer-Skills-Training.pdf](#)

## Holiday and Observances

### Buddhism

May 10 - Wesak is celebrated on the full moon. It is considered the most auspicious day of the year, celebrating Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment, and Final Demise. In Canada, many Buddhist groups join together to celebrate the three festivals of Buddha's life as one event. They do this on the day of the fourth full moon after the lunar new year, or the Sunday closest to that day. This is usually around mid-May.

### Islam

May 12 - Nisfu-Shaban is known as the Night of Forgiveness or repentance. Many Muslims spend the preceding night in prayer seeking God's guidance.

## **Late Bus Pass Schedule Monday - Thursday - Pefferlaw Tuesday and Thursday - Keswick No late buses on Fridays**

### Attendance Report

Please review the following attendance report. The report includes all lates and absences for your son/daughter for the week of April 28- May 4, 2017 inclusive.

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

Please note: the midterm and final report card is the official document for reporting attendance. Students and/or their parents can pick up a detailed attendance report from the Attendance Office.

<b>Course</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Total Absences</b>	<b>Total Lates</b>
«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»

### SUTTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL LINKS

Sutton District High School Website  
<http://www.suttondistrict.hs.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>  
York Region District School Board  
<http://www.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>