



## Sutton District High School

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

905-722-3281

Principal *Dan Gillis*

Vice Principals *Karen Fogleman and Jean Janzen*

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 Jean Janzen at [jean.janzen@yrdsb.ca](mailto:jean.janzen@yrdsb.ca)

Congratulations to our two students of the week, Skye Wyld and Mitchell Bickmore. These SDHS senior students have signed apprenticeship agreements this week so they are working towards their trades qualifications while still attending high school. Skye is signed as a Child Development Practitioner and Mitch is signed as a Sheet Metal Worker. Please join us in congratulating both students on this tremendous achievement.

### **Message from Our Trustee**

One of the top priorities set out by our school board is creating an environment that enables our students to focus on learning and being successful. That means creating environments where students are safe and feel safe, where all of our students know that they are welcome and supported, and where they see their identities reflected, valued and celebrated.

### **Championing Equity and Inclusivity**

Championing Equity and Inclusivity is one of the priorities outlined in the [Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). We are fortunate to live in one of the most diverse regions of Canada, and welcome students, staff and families with a broad range of identities and experiences. There has been much work underway at the Board in the past few months to ensure we are providing all of our students with a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment, including:

- Providing [Board-wide training](#) for over 12,000 school staff on anti-Black racism.
- Bringing together over 250 students and staff at our annual [SpeakOut conference](#) for the 2SLGBTQ+ community.
- Acknowledging [Treaties Recognition Week](#), and learning about the importance of treaties and treaty relationships in Canada from First Nations community members.
- Hosting a labour market information night for parents to learn about current and future career opportunities and employment trends.
- Bringing together hundreds of members of the education community for three days of learning focused on Indigenous Education and Equity at our world-renowned [Quest conference](#).

This is in addition to the ongoing work taking place in our schools. It is also important that our families know and feel that they are a valued, respected and important part of our school community. We recently held regional school council forums that brought together school council members from across the region to learn and share together on important topics such as engaging families, vaping and more. It was wonderful to see so many family members there.

The Board of Trustees was also pleased to receive and commit to taking action on the recommendations in response to the Anti-Black Racism, Antisemitism, Classism and Islamophobia community consultations.


### **Winter Months**

With the winter weather already upon us, I also want to remind families that school transportation may be cancelled on [extreme cold or inclement weather days](#), and there may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions result in school closures. To ensure families are aware, last month, we tested a new system to send text messages to families in emergency situations only. Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will also be available on Board and school websites, Board social media channels and local media.

Many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays in the coming weeks and months, and I wish you all the very best for the season. I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back in January.

Cynthia Cordova  
Trustee, Georgina

## Community Events

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Georgina Christmas Concert – Sunday, December 8, 2 p.m. – Stephen Leacock Centre – please see flyer for details.  [AllStarChristmasConcert.pdf](#)

Parent' for Children's Mental Health - Monday December 16th - all are welcome please see flyer for details.  [PCMH Support Group Poster Dec 2019.pdf](#)

## Guidance News

### Class of 2020

Have you signed up for Remind yet? Parents/guardians and students who are planning on graduating June 2020 are encouraged to sign up for Remind to get important information sent to your phones or email.

Sign up for the SDHS Class of 2020 group and get notifications or messages through your phone or email.

If you have a smartphone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/fbbd99](https://remind.at/fbbd99) and follow the instructions to sign up for Remind (this will also work for email notifications).

No smartphone? No problem!

Text @fbbd99 to the number (587) 316-6156

\*standard text message rates apply

## School Council

The SDHS School Council will meet at 7 p.m. in the school library on the following dates:

**Feb. 18, 2020; and Apr 21, 2020.**

(all dates are subject to change)

## 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 his or her teacher, as well as the appropriate Vice Principal if necessary.

## 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](mailto:sutton.dhs@yrdsb.ca) (accessible 24 hours daily) on the morning of each day their child will be absent or write a note verifying the absence.** 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. If no phone call or note is received, students must obtain an admit slip from the office. In certain instances, medical documentation may be required. Students who are 18 years of age or older are to sign in and out at the Attendance Office when leaving or entering the school for any reason. **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.**

## Upcoming Events

<b>December 4</b>	<b>Potential school closure due to OSSTF Strike Action</b>
<b>December 5</b>	<b>Robotics Tournament</b>
<b>December 5-12</b>	<b>Community Class Craft Sale</b>
<b>December 6</b>	<b>Coffee House Arts Performances – 6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>December 19</b>	<b>Community Dinner – 5:00 p.m.</b>

## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER HOURS

Students are 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.

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.



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

### **BUS SAFETY**

Students riding school buses must observe the following procedures:

- Be at the bus stop five minutes before scheduled pick up.
- Keep well away from the road until the bus has stopped. Do not move toward the bus until it has stopped.
- Watch for the bus driver's signal before crossing the road. Look both ways and then cross the road.
- Board the bus quickly using the handrail and go directly to your seat.
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus as these are prohibited.
- Keep the aisle clear of books, knapsacks, lunch bags and other items.
- Keep windows closed unless the driver permits you to open them and never put hands, arms, head or legs out of the window.
- Never throw anything inside the bus or out of the window.
- Talk quietly, so as not to distract the driver.
- Shouting, horseplay and fighting are strictly prohibited; students engaging in these activities will have their bus privileges suspended.

### **Transportation Information for Bus Route 4024/4025**

In some circumstances temporary transportation is provided until safe routes to schools are in place. Temporary transportation is currently provided for your child(ren) to Sutton District High School as access along Baseline Road did not have a sidewalk or crosswalk. As both a sidewalk and crosswalk are now in place, transportation will no longer be provided by the board after the conclusion of the school year in June 2020.

### **HOLIDAYS, CELEBRATIONS AND OBSERVANCES IN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY**

#### **CHRISTIANITY**

December 1 First Sunday of Advent begins the period of preparation for Christmas. In homes and churches, Christians set out special candle holders or Advent wreaths (Western).

December 25 ♦ Christmas (Western calendar) celebrates the birth of Jesus about 2000 years ago in Bethlehem. Christians believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the son of God, and accept him as their Saviour and Lord. In many families, Christmas Eve is celebrated with big dinners, visiting and carol-singing, often followed by midnight church services.

#### **ISLAM**

December 13 Birthday of Aga Khan (Ismaili) December 13 marks the birthday of His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan, the 49th hereditary Imam of the Time descended from the progeny of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). It is referred to as Salgirah Khushiali and is a celebratory occasion for Ismaili Muslims to express love, loyalty and devotion to their Imam.

#### **JAINISM**

December 8 Maun Agiyaras is a day of fasting, silence and meditation. JUDAISM Dec. 23 - 30 Chanukah (Festival of Lights) celebrates religious freedom by commemorating the victory of the Jews over Antiochus who tried to outlaw the practice of Judaism. Starting on the evening of December 12, candles are lit in increasing numbers for eight nights in a "Chanukiah" which is a special candelabrum containing nine candles.

#### **KWANZAA**

Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 Kwanzaa named after the Swahili word for "first fruits" is a seven day cultural celebration initiated by African Americans starting on December 26th. Each day a candle is lit and placed in a seven-cup candelabrum called a kinara that sits on a straw mat adorned with fruit and vegetables. The participants discuss the principles or Nguzo Saba of Kwanzaa: unity, self-determination, collective responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. On the final night of the celebration, friends and relatives gather for a feast known as Karamu.

#### **WICCA**

December 22 Yule In most traditions, Yule is the Sabbat that begins the Wiccan Year. This is the Winter Solstice—the shortest day and longest night we will experience in the Northern Hemisphere

## ZOROASTRIANISM

December 26 Death of Prophet Zarathushtra who was the founder of the Zoroastrian faith. His dates are uncertain but Westerners believe he lived in the first or the second millennium B.C.E.

### **Attendance Report**

Please review the following attendance report. The report includes all lates and absences for your son/daughter for the week of November 22-28, 2019 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_E»
«Course_D»	«Period_D»	«Teacher_Last_D»	«Absence_D»	«Lates_F»
Totals			«Total_Abs»	«Total_Lates»

### **SUTTON DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL LINKS**

Sutton District High School Website

<http://www.suttondistrict.hs.ca>

York Region District School Board

<http://www.yrdsb.ca>