

1000 New Westminister Dr, Thornhill, ON, L4J 8G3
Attendance: 905.882.0277 x 238

Westmount CII



Principal: Sheri Epstein

Vice-Principal: Barb Caravella

Vice-Principal: Todd Taylor

Please check our [website](#) regularly for updates.

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March Break

Westmount CI

Dear Families and Community Members,

Wow! We are in some crazy times right now! I usually know exactly what I would say at this time of the year but we have so many things up in the air right now.

Our first priority is to keep our students and ourselves safe. We are going to remain calm, take direction from the experts and demonstrate resiliency for everyone.

The second semester Interim Report Card was distributed during homeroom classes this past week. This report will give you an indication of your son/daughter's initial achievement with their current courses. Should you have any other inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact your son or daughter's teachers directly. Any Interim Report Cards that have not yet been picked up will be mailed home next week.

We handed out Course Verification forms and all students must hand these back in to the school. We build the timetable for the next year solely based on the students' course selections so it is very important that have these forms returned to the school. If your son or daughter has not yet returned this form, can you please email it back to school at Westmount.ci@yrdsb.ca. It is very important that the students choose the courses, and alternate courses, that they would like to see on their timetables for next year.

Our Semester 1 Awards Ceremony took place on March 5th. It was a wonderful event and students and parents enjoyed the ceremony and the cookies! Thank you to all the parents who attended our celebration. It is wonderful to have so much support for our students and our school.

Our second semester Parents' Night is on hold at that time. We will let you know when we have a new date.

Thank you to all your families for your support of our students and our school. We are truly a caring community and that is something of which I am most proud!

With warmest regards,
Sheri Epstein
Principal

Parents' Night- Semester 2

As a result of the order by the Ministry of Education to close schools from March 23rd until April 3rd, our previously schedule Parents Night will be postponed. At this point, as we continue to await further direction from both the Board and the Ministry, the Edsby platform (used for booking appointments) will not be opened as previously scheduled.

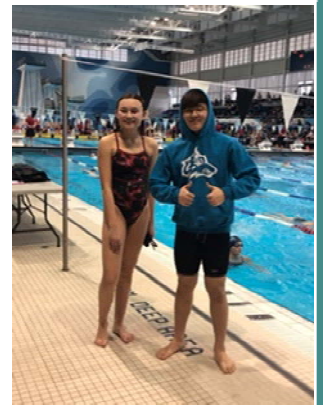
When normal school operations resume on April 6th, we will provide additional information as it becomes available.

As always however, teachers are available via email and phone. Our [Staff Directory](#) lists all the contact information for various staff members.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. Should you have any questions, please connect with your child's administrator.

Swim Team

On March 4th, David Sung and Olivia Ko represented Westmount at the OFSAA swim championships at the Toronto Pan Am Centre. They both qualified out of the York Region Athletic Association Championships to make it to this stage. Both of them had great races, and represented the school extremely well!



Hockey Team

Congratulations to the Varsity Boys Hockey team on winning their final tournament of the season.



Real World Learning at WCI

At Wednesday's Parents Council meeting, we learned about the Real World Learning offered at WCI, including Co-Op opportunities, the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, Dual Credits and the Specialized High Skills Major program (which was highlighted in the last parent newsletter). The slide deck is provided for your reference later in this newsletter.

Ski-Snowboard team

The 2019-2020 Westmount Wolves Ski-Snowboard team had a successful season. Last week the team competed at the YRAA finals at Devil's Glen ski club.

In the high school girls ski division:

- Sydney Jacobs- placed 7th at the YRAA's and finished 9th overall in the point standings.
- Kyla Wisener - placed 7th at the YRAA's and finished 29th overall in the point standings.
- Isabelle Bakhshaei - placed 32nd at the YRAA's and 33rd overall in the point standings.
- The girl's team finished fourth overall in the point standings - Congratulations to Sydney Jacobs, Kyla Wisener, Isabelle Bakhshaei, Rebeca Barkin, Christiana Domosaru and Aileen Moslemian.

In the open boys ski division:

- Ethan Ben-avida placed 6th at the YRAA's and finished 9th overall in the point standings.
- Jacob Lopez placed 13th at the YRAA's and finished 18th overall in the point standings.
- Thanks goes to Aaron Pogrin for his participation in the boy's high school division races.

In the high school girls snowboard division:

- Sara Poliwoda placed 18th at the YRAA's and finished 15th overall in the point standings.
- Marlee Feldstein was absent for the finals and finished 34th overall in the point standings.

In the high school boys snowboard division:

- Jacob Gottschaik placed 19th at the YRAA's and finished 27th overall in the point standings
- Thanks goes to Ariel Tzadok for placing 37th and Amit Tzadok for placing 43rd and for their participation in the boy's high school division races.

Thanks for a great season to the entire team,
Ms. Popiel and Ms. Jackson



Dear families,

Yesterday, we communicated to you regarding the [Ontario Ministry of Education's order](#) to close schools from March 14 until April 5, 2020. Schools are expected to reopen on April 6, 2020.

We know that you have questions regarding this three-week closure and are including some frequently asked questions here for your information. We also encourage you to visit the [Board's website](#) to receive up-to-date information on an ongoing basis.

Why are schools being closed for an additional two weeks after the March break?

The Minister of Education issued an order to all publicly funded school boards to close schools from March 14 until April 5. This three-week closure is an attempt to disrupt the spread of COVID-19, particularly in relation to international travel over the original March break week. We encourage all students, their families and staff members to follow the advice of local, provincial and federal health agencies, including advisories related to travel.

Will daycare and before and after programs in schools be open during this closure?

No, the Minister of Education issued an order that all publicly funded schools be closed from March 14 until April 5, 2020. As a result, daycare and before and after programs in schools will be closed from March 14 until April 5, 2020. It is expected that these programs will resume as schools reopen on April 6, 2020.

Will transportation services continue during this shutdown?

No, school bus and taxi services will not operate. These services are expected to resume on April 6 when schools reopen.

Will OSSLT take place on March 31?

The OSSLT will not take place as scheduled on March 31 due to the school closure. Students who require the OSSLT to graduate will be supported. More information regarding the OSSLT will be made in the future.

Will the school year be extended into the summer as a result of this shutdown?

At this time, we have not received information from the Ministry of Education.

Will schools be open for evening permit activities, continued education and international languages?

No, schools will be closed from March 14 until April 5, 2020. All activities, including permits, continuing education and international languages, taking place in school buildings are cancelled.

Will Board offices be open during this shutdown?

All schools and Board offices will be closed during this shutdown. This closure is intended to disrupt the spread of COVID-19 and all are encouraged to follow the advice of local, provincial and federal health authorities.

Will staff be in the buildings during the shutdown?

Schools are closed from March 14 until April 5, 2020. While some staff members will continue to work to ensure essential services for the maintenance and safety of facilities, buildings will be closed throughout this time.

During school closures are there learning resources available to support my child's learning at home?

A [list of learning resources](#) connected to a variety of subject areas and grade areas has been created to support families during school closures. The Ministry has also indicated that they are working on resources that will be available online to support student learning during the closures.

What happens to university student-teacher and college student practicum placements during school closures?

All university student-teacher practicum placements and college student placements in elementary and secondary schools have been cancelled until April 6 due to school closures.

Will the closure affect my ability to graduate in June?

We are making every effort to minimize the effects of the closure on students and to ensure continuity. Once we receive more information from the Ministry of Education, we will share it with students and families.

Will co-op placements continue during the shutdown?

No, co-op placements will not continue during the shutdown.

Will students be expected to attend dual credit classes during the closure?

Students will not be attending their dual credit courses or engaging in online learning provided by the college.

Will students be able to attend their ALEP cooperative education placements?

Unpaid placements will not continue during the shutdown. Students in paid ALEP placements may continue during the two-week closure. Please be advised that students working at paid placements are working independently from the board will not be monitored by a teacher and the hours will not count towards their course expectations.

Will students continue to participate in accelerated OYAP programs?

Students may continue to attend classes or engage in online learning as per the colleges' direction.

Will YRDSB e-learning continue?

No, during the closure e-learning provided by YRDSB will not be available. We are waiting for additional information from the Ministry of Education regarding the Minister's announcement and will share that with families if and when it becomes available.

The Minister of Education spoke about e-learning options during the shutdown, when will we receive this information?

Once we have more information from the Minister of Education, we will share it with families. Resources provided by the Ministry of Education will be self-directed learning opportunities for students.

Will other measures be taken during the break to reduce the risk to staff and students upon their return?

During the shutdown, all schools and Board offices will receive a deep clean, using cleaning products recommended by public health authorities.

Will Board meetings, Advisor Committee Meetings and other public trustee meetings continue?

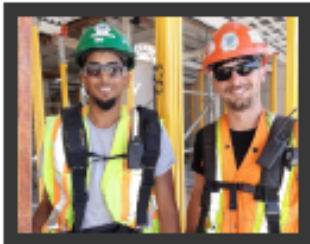
To ensure the well-being of the public and staff, all Board, Advisory and Board Committee meetings scheduled between March 14, 2020 and April 5, 2020 have been cancelled. Please visit the website for updates on public meetings of the Board or contact Corporate Secretariat and Trustee Services at trustee.services@yrdsb.ca or call 905-727-0022 ext. 2217 or your local trustee.

Learn About **Apprenticeship Opportunities in Carpentry and Floor Covering**

APPRENTICESHIP OPEN HOUSE



WHEN
April 23, 2020
6:30 P.M.



BENEFITING PEOPLE WHO:

- Are In Their Graduating Year of High School
- Missed Out On OYAP
- Are Interested In A Career In Construction Carpentry or Floor Covering



WHERE
The CCAT Training Centre
Second Floor Lunch Room
222 Rowntree Dairy Road, Woodbridge



INFORMATION ABOUT:

- Carpentry Apprenticeship
- Floor Covering Apprenticeship
- Union Membership

WWW.THEGCAT.CA



[@theccat.ca](https://www.instagram.com/theccat.ca)



[@the_ccat](https://twitter.com/the_ccat)



As a parent or guardian of a **young woman between grades 7 to 12**, we invite you to attend the Build a Dream **Career Discovery Expo** on Wednesday May 6th at Le Parc Conference Centre, 8432 Leslie Street, Thornhill. It's a special evening that gives you and your daughter the chance to explore a wide range of career paths in skilled trades, science, technology, engineering, emergency services, and more! This FREE event includes a Dream Maker Panel, with women who inspire and encourage, Exhibitors Showcase, companies that will share information about careers in their industry, prizes, hands-on activities, a photo booth and more.

To register for this free event visit the link [here](#). Please note that space is limited.

Westmount CII

March 2020

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
23	24	25	26	27
No School				
30	31			
No School				

April 2020

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
		1	2	3
		No School		
6	7	8	9	10
* Gr. 12 Prom Assembly—P2 1st half only	* Euclid Math Contest	* School Council 7:00 PM		Good Friday

SCHOOL BUS CANCELLATION NOTICE

Please remember that if the school buses are cancelled in the morning, then they will NOT operate in the afternoon. Therefore, if you drive your children to school in the morning, you must also pick them up from school at 3:50 p.m. When buses are cancelled, it does not necessarily mean that schools are closed. Schools usually remain open with a modified program. To find out whether or not the buses are cancelled, please check the following website: www.schoolbuscity.com or access the following radio or television stations:

Radio

CFRB 1010 AM	CHUM 1050 AM	CHUM 104.5	CHIN 1540 AM	NEWS 680
AM CJEZ 97.3	CKDX 88.5 AM	CHFI 98.1 FM	CHIN 100.7	CBC 99.1
FM CKFM 99.9 FM	Q107.1 FM			

Television

CITY TV, CFTO TV, THE WEATHER CHANNEL

A bus cancellation message will also be available at 1-877-330-3001.



Real World Learning Opportunities at Westmount CI



Opportunity Knocks

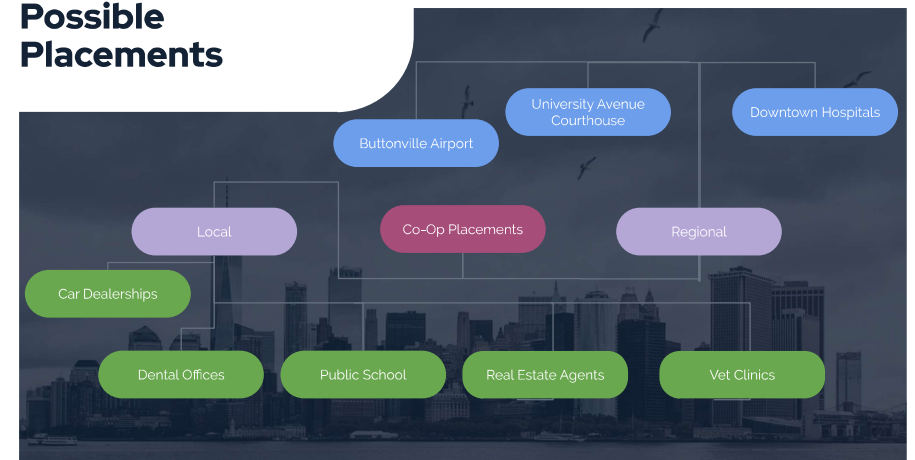
- Grade 11 & Grade 12 Co-Op
- Ontario Youth Apprentice Program
- Dual Credit Programs
- Specialist High Skills Major

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Co-operative Education

A chance to get out in the community and authentically engage in a chosen career

Possible Placements



What **Co-Op** looks like..

Semester 1 or Semester 2

Co-Op can occur in either semester. Most students complete Co-Op during Grade 11.

2 Credit or 4 Credit

2 Credit Co-Op happen for half the school day. Students attend during Period 1 & 2 or Period 4 & 5 and use Period 3 as travel time/lunch.

4 Credit Co-Op is full day.

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Finding the **perfect** placement

Two options:

- Work with the Co-Op teacher to secure a placement in a relevant field
- Reach out on your own and find a willing employer.



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The **Application** process

Step 1:

Students apply for during the Course Selection process. It is not too late for students to add Co-Op at this point.

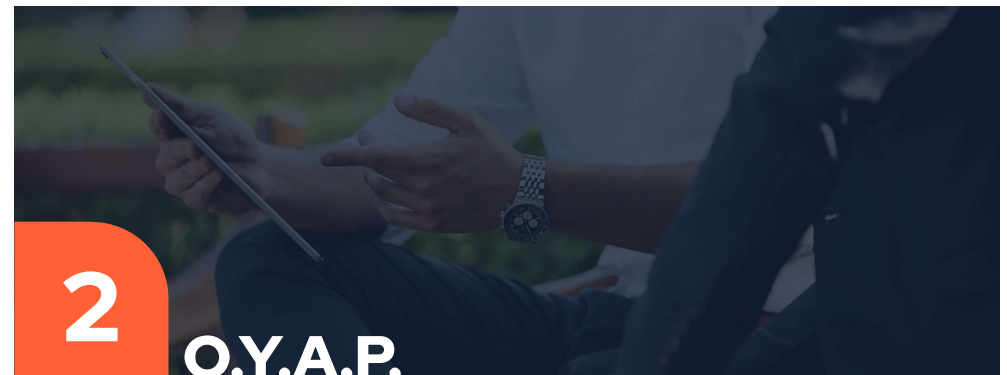
Step 2:

The Co-Op teacher schedules an interview with the student to meet them and learn about their interests and possible placement opportunities

Step 3:

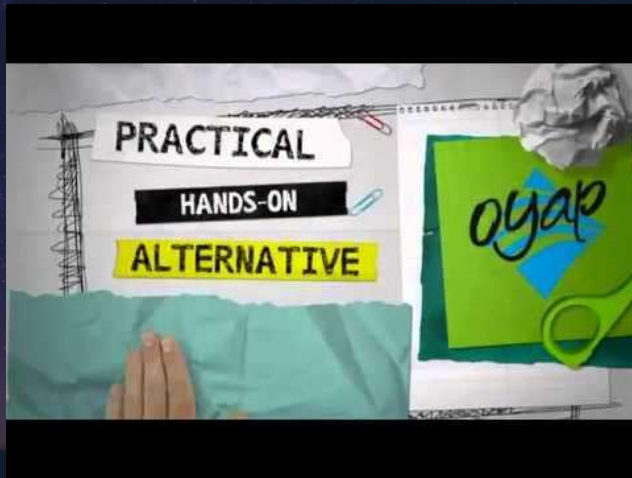
Students are accepted into the program and attend programming in school for the first three weeks of the semester. They prepare a resume and interview with their placement.

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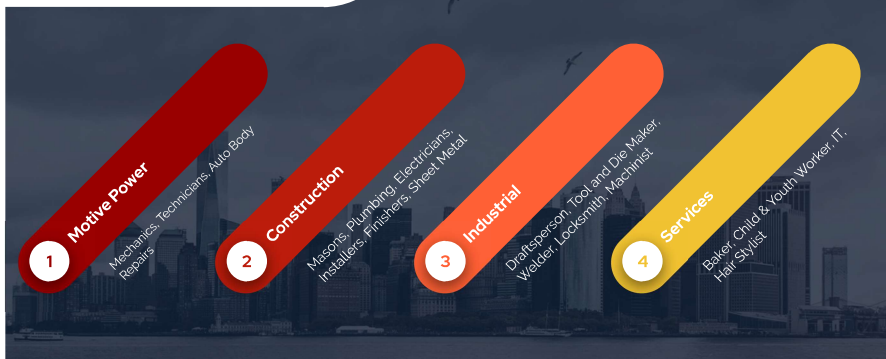
O.Y.A.P.

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program



“ OYAP program provides students with the opportunities to begin apprenticeships for over 150 trade programs while still in high school.

Our four groupings



Benefits of OYAP:

- Transportation Subsidies
- Hours Banked for Certifications
- Tool Loans
- Real World Experience

4 credit

OYAP placements are entirely out-of-school for the duration of a semester, normally during second semester. The student reports either to a job site or union shop.

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Dual Credit

Exploring college while still in high school

A partnership between YRDSB and various colleges

- Students attend their regular YRDSB home school, and one/two days a week attend a college class.
- Students earn a credit at their homeschool (towards their high school diploma), as well as a credit in the college system, which can be counted towards a college diploma

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DUAL CREDIT advantages

- Free tuition
- Transportation subsidy
- Variety of programs/schools
- College instructors with real-world expertise
- College credits (!!)



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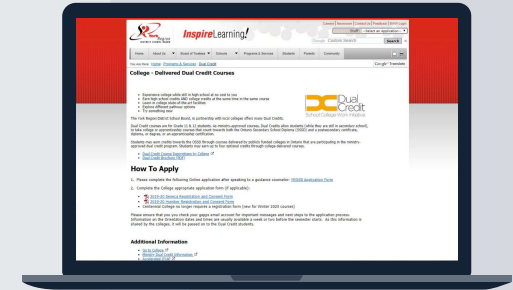
Sample current Dual Credit program offerings

- Centennial College** - all campuses: Heavy Equipment, Skin Care, Baking & Culinary Skills, Professional Police Standards
- George Brown College** - all campuses: Object Oriented Programming, Welding Arts, Introduction to Drafting
- Fleming College** - Frost Campus: Introduction to Mechanical Trades, Ecosystem Skills
- Georgian College** -Barrie and Huron campuses: Electrical Installation, Essential Body, Lifestyle Management
- Humber College** - North Campus: Animation, Home Renovation, Introduction to Media, Studio Production
- Seneca College** - all campuses: Dining Room Management, Introduction to Advertising, Flight Attendant, AUTO-CAD, CNC Programming, Fire Protection, Make-Up application, Leadership, TV Broadcasting, Animal Behaviour, Canadian Criminal Justice

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The Application process

Centralized process through the Board. The WCI Co-Op teacher can assist in the process and facilitate placements.



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SHSM

Specialized High Skills Major

The nuts and bolts of SHSM

Conjunction

The SHSM program is an add-on, available to students participating in Co-Op.

Elective Certifications

Depending on the sector, students complete between 2-4 elective, additional certifications, related to their interests.

Reach Aheads/Exp. Learning

Free field trips and other experiences to provide students with real-world exposure in their given sector.

Required Certifications

All students complete (free) their First Aid & CPR course, as well as a course on workplace safety (WHMIS).

Core Courses

In addition to certifications, students must complete a number of sector-specific course requirements.

SPCE

Each student must also complete a Sector Partner Contextualized Learning Event, a hands-on, full-day, program that looks to solve a real world problem.

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SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR



Ontario.ca/SHSM

Application Process



Students can apply in Semester 2 of Grade 10, or in Grade 11. Students need to take Co-Op in either Grade 11 or Grade 12.



Students must additional apply via the Board application at: <https://bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp>

Contacts, Questions and More Information

	WCI Teacher Contact	Website	Application
Co-Op	Monica Del-Bianco Monica.Del-Bianco@yrdsb.ca	Co-Op Website	Thru WCI Co-Op
OYAP	Monica Del-Bianco Monica.Del-Bianco@yrdsb.ca	YRDSB OYAP Website	Thru WCI Co-Op
Dual Credit	Monica Del-Bianco Monica.Del-Bianco@yrdsb.ca	YRDSB Dual Credit	Board Application
SHSM	Fadi Boutanos Fadi.Boutanos@yrds.ca	SHSM Website	Board Application