



School Council Meeting

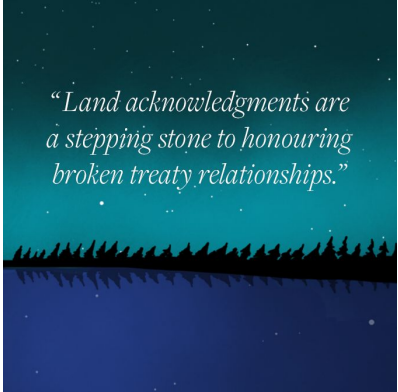
Thursday, November 2nd, 2023



We are on Indigenous Land

We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island who is our closest neighbour and partner in education.

To honour this agreement we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.



“Land acknowledgments are a stepping stone to honouring broken treaty relationships.”

If You Are Joining Us Online



- Cameras are optional
- Turn your mic off (turn on during the discussion of topics)
- Use the Chat to pose a question or make a comment

Introdu

AGENDA

Executive

School Council This Year

Staff Report

Student Voice - Wellness

School Council Planning

Report from Administration

2023-2024 WCI School Council

Nicolle Kopping-Pavars
Richa Prasher

CO-CHAIRS



Heidi Amernic
Fabiana Schvartz
Zvi Vaxman

OFFICERS

WCI Administration



Susan Maharaj

PRINCIPAL

Rory Gangbar

VICE-PRINCIPAL (A TO L)

Lana Fisher

VICE-PRINCIPAL (M TO Z)

Report from WCI Staff

Ms. S. Rosenberg

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Stephen Lewis Post-Secondary Fair	Thursday, Nov. 9	Alexander Mackenzie, Bayview, Maple, Stephen Lewis, Westmount 6-8pm
Ivey Presentation	Thursday, Nov. 9	Library - lunch
Grade 11 & 12 teachers - deadline to share mid- term marks	Friday, Nov. 10	
Grade 8 Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Dept displays 	Tuesday, Nov. 14	6:15-6:45pm Spec. Ed 7:00-8:30pm Main Presentation and Marketplace
Grade 12 Students -can fill in paperwork through Guidance to request to drop a course and also PT status	Friday, Nov. 10 to Wednesday Nov. 15	5 days prior to FD
Full Disclosure Date	Thursday, Nov. 16	

GUIDANCE UPDATE

Revised School Council Policy

School Council Policy #262

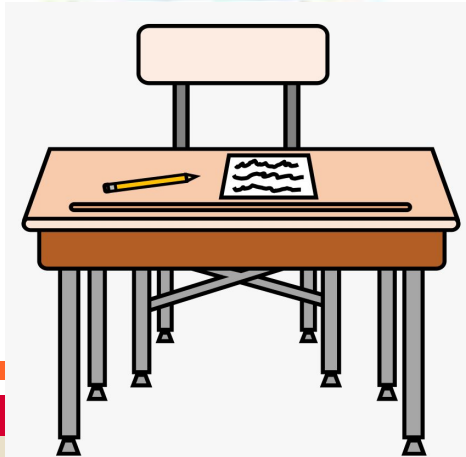


Matter & Belonging

Equity/Identity
Well-Being/
Culture
Instruction &
Assessment



Student Voice
&
Experiences



Authentic Identity affirming spaces are...



racially affirming environments for Indigenous, Black, and all racially marginalized groups

spaces where people can be their authentic selves (in school contexts, this includes students, parents or caregivers, and colleagues)

environments that require intentional CARE (e.g., **connectivity, accountability, responsivity, and empathy**)

designed with the input and voices of people you serve, particularly historically marginalized communities.

anti-oppressive, and reflect conditions that enhance one's ability to thrive

©Dr. Erica Buchanan-Rivera



SIP Connection

SIP Goal:

If we gather student voice to identify what factors are impacting their mental health then we will be able to refine programming and processes that are more specific to student needs.

Focus Statements:

- We are committed to build safe, healthy and inclusive learning and working environments where all feel they matter and belong
- Create and provide professional learning, resources, and opportunities to prioritize and support the mental health and well-being of students
- Validate the whole child through acknowledging and honouring the student's social identities as a means to support student mental health and well-being
- Increased understanding of how environment and circumstance can impact students' mental health
- Develop ongoing opportunities for student voice and student leadership at the school levels



Dotmocracy - April 12
94 students participated
All grades - All demographics

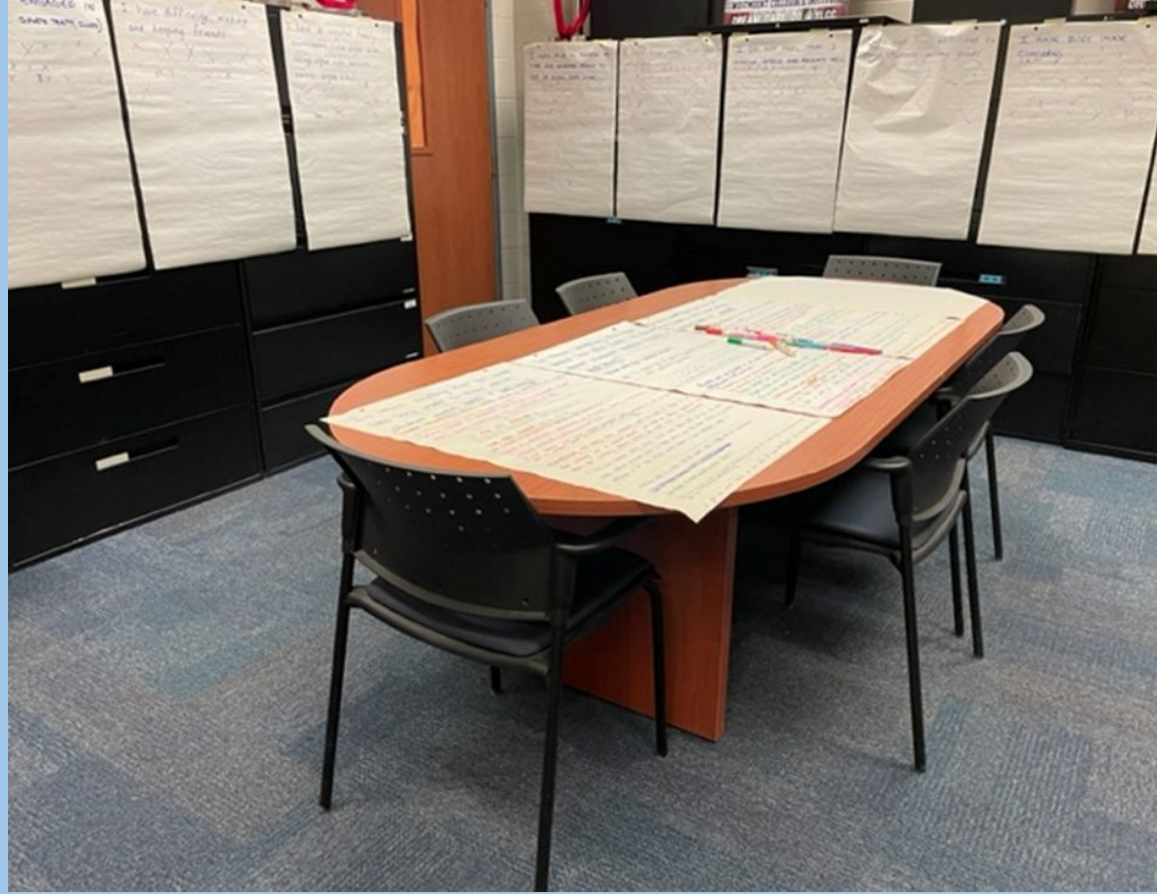
Town Hall

May 2 - 28 students
(13 in period 1, 15 in period 2 - Grades 9/10)

May 9 - 25 students
(13 in period 1, 12 in period 2 - Grades 11/12)

Dotmocracy

- a) 12 statements
- b) "What else should we know..."





DATA SHARING

Dotmocracy



74 (79%) - I feel pressure to achieve high marks in school

57 (61%) - I need help with test-taking strategies

56 (60%) - I need help to manage my time and organize myself to get my school work done

52 (55%) - I do not feel that I handle stress and anxiety well

40 (43%) - I have body image concerns

38 (40%) - I need help to live a healthier lifestyle (ex. Sleep hygiene, healthy eating, exercise, etc.)

31 - I am not engaged in school life (ex. Sports teams, clubs)

24 - I do not feel well-liked by other students in my grade

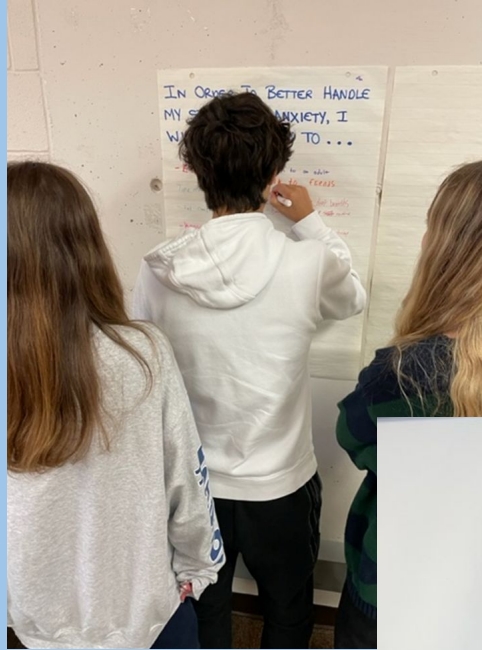
16 - I have a negative family environment (ex. Argue with siblings, argue with parents, parents arguing, etc.)

6 - I feel peer pressure to engage in substance abuse

Town Hall

What do you feel students need / how can the school help support?

**4-corners activity:
chart paper with
sentence starters**



Town Hall - Large Group Discussion



- a) *If we had workshops or programs (ex. Anxiety - 6 weeks, facilitators leading group), would students participate?*
- b) *If not, how can school staff help you?*
- c) *How do you know you are stressed?*
- d) *What are the sources of your stress?*
- e) *What are your 3 biggest stressors at school?*
- f) *If we offered a test-taking strategies session, do you see that being helpful?*
- g) *If not, what alternatives might be helpful for you?*
- h) *Which subjects do you find most challenging to write tests in?*
- i) *Which elements of tests make you the most anxious? (m.c., essay, exam vs. test)*
- j) *Anything else you want us to know?*

Student Wellness Intentional Skill Development Lessons



POSSIBLE TOPICS


- i. **The importance of Self-advocacy**
- ii. **How to backwards plan to get work done on time**
- iii. **Daily stress relief tips**
- iv. **How to schedule your time day to day**
- v. **How to avoid distractions**
- vi. **Using phone apps, agenda, etc. to organize yourself**
- vii. **How to keep your binders organized**
- viii. **How to keep Google Drive organized**
- ix. **Who to talk to for help with organizational skills, time management skills, test taking skills, stress, etc.**
- x. **Study tips - throughout unit, days prior to test**
- xi. **How to budget your time while writing a test**
- xii. **How to approach the writing of a test (ex. Brain dump, start on any page, budget your time, etc.)**
- xiii. **Stress relief tips before/ during tests**
- xiv. **Citations**
- xv. **Presentation skills**

Role of School Council


How might we support the topics students have raised?

School Council 2023-24

Goals (draft):

- Support school community health/well-being/mental health
 - Support communication/information exchange
 - Providing a platform in coordination with guidance team for various concerns/ issues faced in learning process .
 - Act as a three tier bridge ...
- 

Meeting Ideas

- Well-being (overall health/mental health)
 - Session on supporting students/families with stress/anxiety
 - Take a short survey of various stress triggers with students /parents and discuss strategies to help overcome those.
 -
- Communication/Information exchange
 -  Post-secondary application information session
 - Session with Trustee/Superintendent (ask questions/get information about what they do)
 - Session with local MPP and/or Minister of Education
 - Sharing information online and privacy risks
 -

Information Items



Report from WCI Admin Team

Ms. L. Fisher, Mr. R. Gangbar

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Literacy Test (OSSLT)

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



November 6-16 - Grade 10 Students

- Practice tests the week of October 30 (in period 1 classes)
- All literacy tests take place in the library during period 1
- Board computers are provided
- A student who has a SEA computer, may use their own
- Everyone is allowed noise cancelling headphones

Literacy Test (OSSLT)

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



The test has two parts over two days

Day 1 – Section A: (65 min.)

- **Reading**
 - Three Reading Selections (Selected-Response, One 100 Word Open-Response)
- **Writing**
 - Language Conventions (Selected-Response)

Day 2 – Section B (75 min)

- **Reading**
 - Two Reading Selections (Selected-Response)
- **Writing**
 - Essay Expressing an Opinion (500 words)
 - Language Conventions (Selected-Response)

EQAO Achievement Results

Grade 9: Contextual Student Information

Year: 2022-2023 | Board Language: English | Board: York Region DSB | School: Westmount CI (952516)

All

267

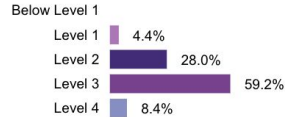
Fully Participated

250

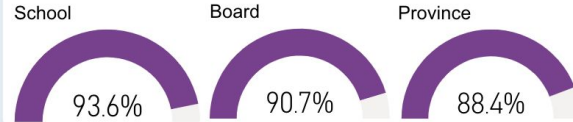
No Data

17

Results by Achievement Level



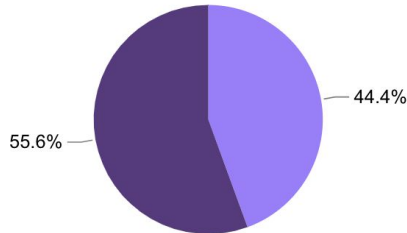
Participation Rate



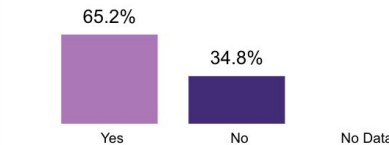
School-Level Information About Fully Participating (FP) Students

Sex or Gender Identity

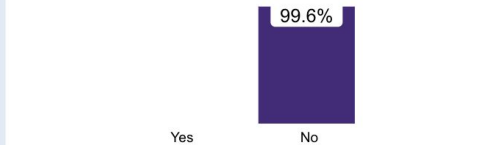
Male Female



First Language English



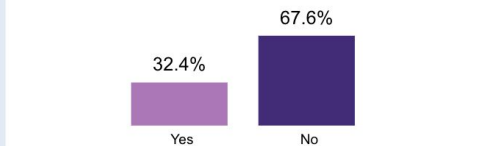
ELL



Administration Window



Special Education (Excl. Gifted)



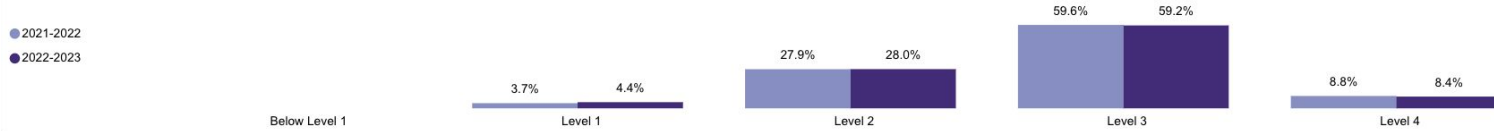
*Results do not appear if the number of fully participating students was fewer than 10.

†Counts for all students in the 2021–2022 Grade 9 cohort are lower than in previous years, due to unforeseen circumstances related to COVID-19, which prevented some students from participating.

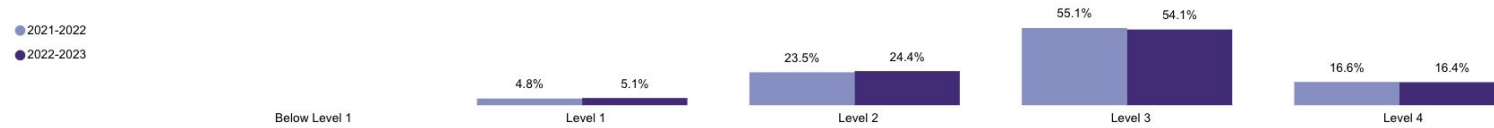
EQAO Achievement Results

School-, Board- and Provincial-Level Achievement Results Over Time

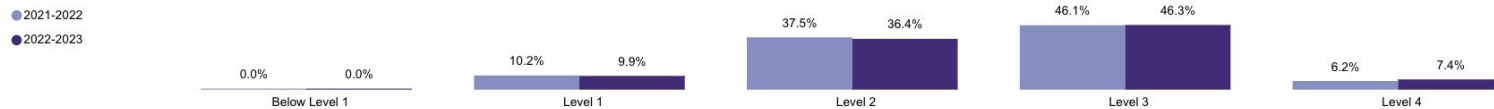
Results by Achievement at School Level Over Time



Results by Achievement at Board Level Over Time



Results by Achievement at Provincial Level Over Time



*Results do not appear if the number of fully participating students was fewer than 10.

EQAO Questionnaire Results

Grade 9: Student Questionnaire (SQ), Growth Mindset in Math

Year	Board Language	Board	School
2022-2023	English	York Region DSB	Westmount CI (952516)

School-Level Information About Fully Participating (FP) Students

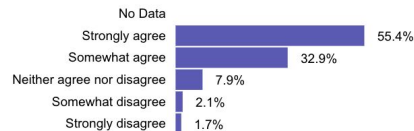
of FP Students

240

Response Rate

96.0%

Distribution of Student Responses

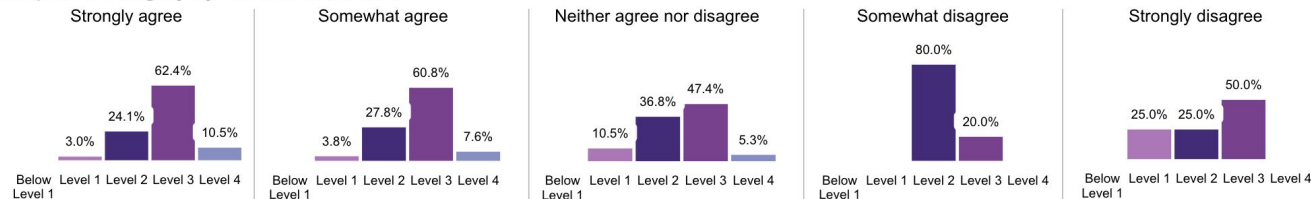


Question:

Please think about how you feel when you are in school. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- A person can always get better at math.
- Only certain people can be good at math.
- Almost everyone can understand math if they are able to work at it.

Response Category by Achievement Level



*Results do not appear if the number of fully participating students was fewer than 10.

EQAO Next Steps

- Connect with grade 9 team to review the data
- Work closely with Department Head to Set-up EQAO Assessment for this year
- Continue to review achievement results to support student success at WCI

Student Leadership Council Goals & Purpose

Our goal is to promote student leadership within the school with the aim of fostering lifelong leadership skills and abilities.

As a group, our purpose is:

- To ensure students' voices are heard.
- To raise school and community spirit.
- To ensure that all students have a memorable year.
- To build bridges between faculty, community, and students.
- To unify and coordinate all student affairs.
- To oversee operations of school clubs and committees.
- To promote a safe and accessible school environment.

Student Leadership Council

Operating Norms and Commitment

Operating Norms

I. Meetings

- **Will meet on Mondays from 3:15-4:15 pm**
- start and end times - 1 hour Meetings
- Location: At School
- alternate/extra meetings/subcommittees

The agenda for meetings will be:

- Sent to members via email by
- Posted by (date)
- All discussions held at meetings will remain amongst the members who are present at meetings
- Members will only share information about decisions made by the group, presenting a unified front.
- All items still under discussion or review will only be discussed if (name of group) has directed a member to gather information or feedback.

Student Leadership Council Timeline

October: Information Session

November - December: Applications & Election

January: First meeting

Semester 2: Goal for 2 Events, Election for
2024-2025 in May

Hall Pass Expectations

Expectations

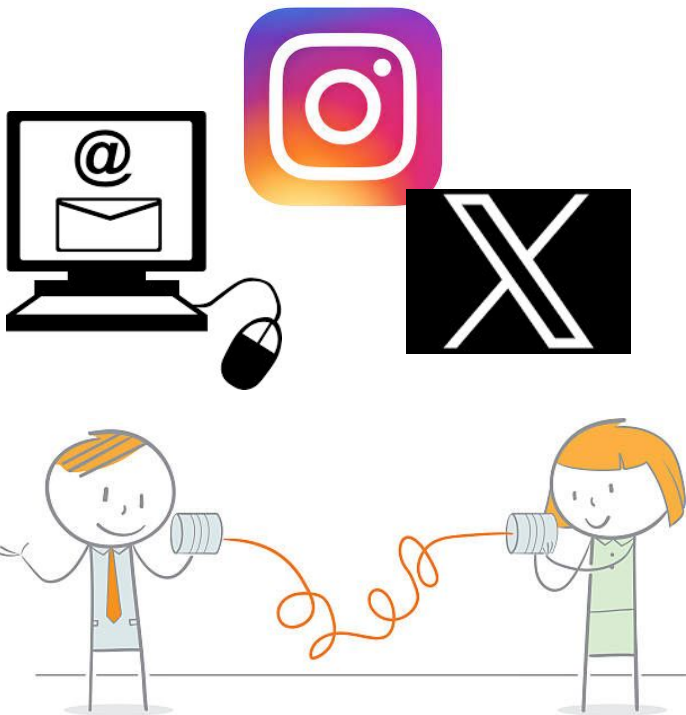
- Two student out at a time Max.
- Students identify that they have asked permission to use the washroom
- 3 Tags Total (Max)

Rationale

- Still seeing multiple students out a time
- Still seeing students walking around multiple floors
- Help to establish routine reasons for being outside of class
- Support the importance of instructional time
- Department Heads to facilitate this at next staff meeting
- Success at Other Schools



WCI Communication



- **WCI Blog**
 - <https://westmountci.blogspot.com/>
- **WCI X (Formerly Twitter)**
 - [@WCI_YRDSB](#)
- **WCI Instagram**
 - [wci_yrdsb](#)
- **Email**
 - firstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca
 - e.g., ana.fisher@yrdsb.ca
- **Phone**
 - 905-882-0277

Meetings Ahead for 2023-2024*

Wednesday, December 6

Wednesday, February 21

Tuesday, April 16

Wednesday, May 22

Thank you

FOR COMING!

