



School Council Meeting

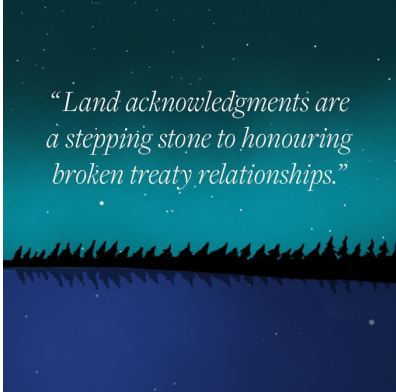
Wednesday, September 27, 2023



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.”*

AGENDA

Introductions

Applying to Post Secondary - 45 minutes

Opening Assembly (C & SS)

Information Items

School Council Roles

WCI Administration



Ms. Susan Maharaj

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Rory Gangbar

VICE-PRINCIPAL (A TO L)

Ms. Lana Fisher

VICE-PRINCIPAL (M TO Z)



WCI's Guidance Department

Ms. Rosenberg (A to B)

Mr. Gorewicz (C to F)

Ms. Jackson (G to M)

Ms. Popiel (N to Z)

Guidance Secretary

Ms. Han





WCI Supports

- ❖ **TEAM SPECIAL EDUCATION:**
 - Mr. Salsberg (Department Head)
 - Ms. Diaz (Assistant Head)
- ❖ **WOLF'S DEN (STUDENT SUCCESS):**
 - Ms. Tran (Child/Youth Worker)
 - Ms. Rosenberg





POST SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES

YOUR
Future
IS WAITING

Westmount Collegiate Institute



WCI – Home of the Wolves!

Wolves

work best as a pack.

Our mascot represents:

Wolves are **complex, highly intelligent animals who are caring, playful, and above all devoted to family.**

Wolves educate their young, take care of their injured and live in family groups.



ATTENDANCE

Safe Arrival Procedures

- Attendance submitted within the first 15 minutes
- Email message from Inform will be sent out
- Parent/Guardian calls to inform that student should be at school
 - Confirm with Classroom Teacher
 - Next steps at school
 - Communication with Parents/Guardians
 - Communication with Emergency Services

School Timetable

Time	Period
8:40 – 10:00	Opening Exercises & Period 1
10:05 – 11:20	Period 2
11:20 – 12:25	Lunch
12:25 – 1:40	Period 3
1:45 – 3:00	Period 4



1st day of
HIGH SCHOOL

Some Helpful Tips

Adolescence is a Balancing Act

SECONDARY SCHOOL

**Academic
Responsibilities**

Social Life

**Extra-
curricular
Activities**

**Social
Emotional
Wellness**

**Physical
Health**

*There are two lasting bequests
we can give our children.*

One is roots.

The other is wings.

~Hodding Carter, Jr. (1907-1972)
Southern U.S. progressive journalist and author

Tip #1 Be Proactive, Be Interested

- Your child needs to know that you are interested and will be involved in their education.
- Research has found that students with interested parents perform better at school.



Tip #2 Set Goals



- Check their timetable.
- Ask questions.
- Listen closely to what your child has to say.

Tip #3 Start the Day Right

- Get a good night's sleep
- Remove electronics from the bedroom
- Eat a healthy breakfast
- Arrive on time
- Period 1 starts promptly at 8:40 a.m.



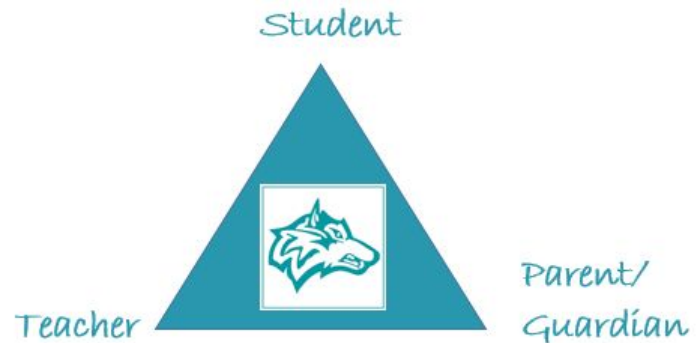
Tip #4 Attendance

- Daily attendance is essential for success
- If your child is ill, please keep your child at home
- Notifications are sent home when a student is absent from class
- Call the school when your child is absent
 - Voicemail and email available 24 hours a day
- For Doctor's appointments which occur during the school day – please call the school in advance
- Students must sign out/sign in at the office with parent/guardian permission
- Extended Absences – form required
- Truancy – please do not excuse



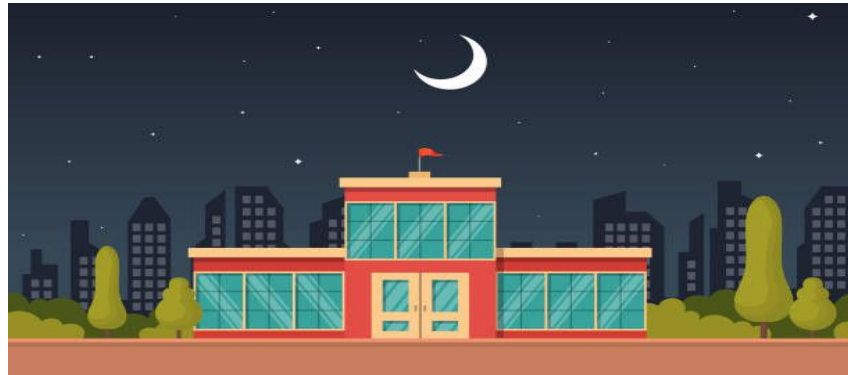
Tip #5 Support Expectations

- Supply Teachers
- Studying for test or completing assignments during another class
- Anxiety
- Dealing with Concerns:
 - Importance of the Triangle
 - Sleep on it
 - At least 2 sides to every story
 - No problem is too big!



Tip #6 After School

- The school day ends at 3:00 p.m.
- Ask questions
 - What did you learn at school today?
- Review course outlines for unit topics and components of assessment and evaluation



Tip #7 Homework

- Provide a quiet place to do homework
- Check on what homework is being completed
- If you are concerned that your child does not have homework, please contact the teacher



Tip #8 Cyber Parenting

- No student will need to use the computer every night, all night to complete homework
- Monitor electronic devices and their use
- If you are worried – please call us
- Supports available: guidance counsellor, student success teacher, CYW, social worker, etc.



Westmount Wolf Pack

Fostering a community of caring through mentoring and leadership

- Gr. 9 students (pups) will be grouped into “Wolf Packs” and assigned a Pack Leader through their homeroom
- The Pack Leader is a Grade 12 student.
- “A buddy system” – so that all students new to high school have a “big” friend they can talk to, ask questions, get advice, etc.



Stay Informed, Get Involved!

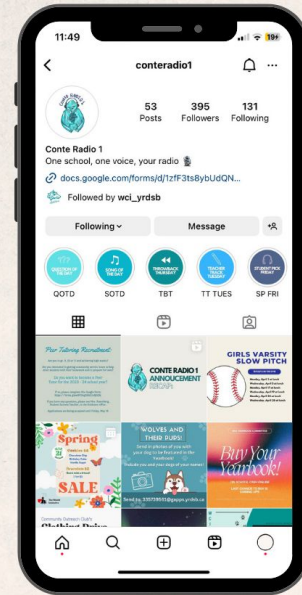
HOW TO CONNECT

follow **@CONTERADIO1**

(that's the number, not the word!)

on **INSTAGRAM**

for daily updates,
songs + questions of the day,
& all things Westmount!



School Rules and Policies

Stuff you need to know about...



ADMIN TEAM

Ms. Maharaj
Principal

Mr. Gangbar
Vice Principal (A-L)

Ms. Fisher
Vice Principal (M-Z)



STUDENT SUCCESS Wolf's Den: Room 230

Ms. Tran
CYW

Ms. Rosenberg
Student Success Teacher

GUIDANCE SERVICES



Ms. Rosenberg
A - B

Mr. Gorewicz
C - F

Ms. Jackson
G-M

Ms. Popiel
N - Z

Ms. Han
Reception

Videos

Welcoming Environment



Bullying Cyberbullying



Consent





Healthy Relationships and Behaviours

- What is a caring and safe school? Belonging, inclusion and a feeling of safety
- Why are pronouns important? They help support our understanding of identity (He/Him, She/Her, They/Them)
- What is Anti-Black Racism? Interpersonal racism and discrimination towards Black people.
- Using the Report the It Tool



WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Whenever you
need to talk,
we're open.

 Text 686868

 KidsHelpPhone.ca


 Call 1-800-668-6868

 Message at Facebook.com/
CrisisTextLinepoweredbyKidsHelpPhone

Kids Help Phone 

Kids Help Phone is a 24/7 service that offers professional counselling, information and referrals and volunteer-led, text-based support to young people.

If you or a friend needs help because of an unhealthy relationship, is being abused, or is being **sex trafficked** staff can help.



Canadian Human
Trafficking Hotline
1-833-900-1010
(24/7)



360 kids provides food, offers a place to stay and other supports for youth.

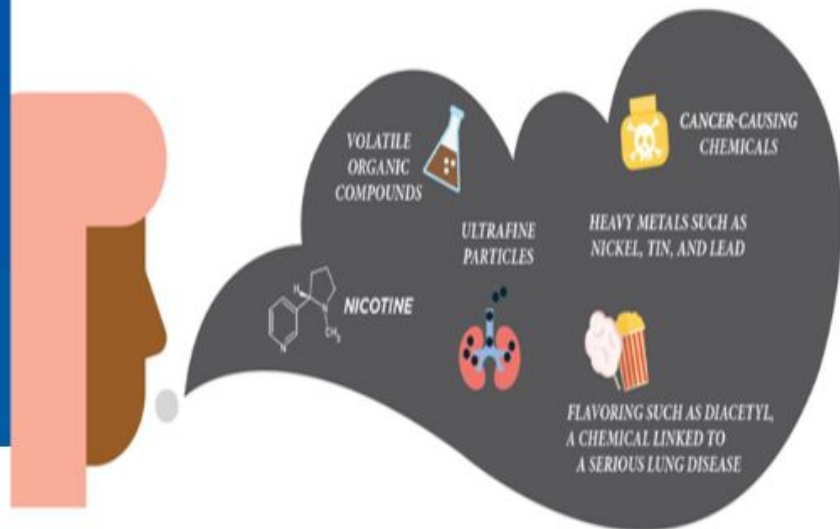
VAPING IS NOT ALLOWED IN ANY OF OUR SCHOOLS!



Vaping on school property can lead to:

- Very serious consequences such as suspensions!
- Fines for selling or supplying vape products to minors that start at \$400.00
- Fines for vaping in prohibited places that start at \$250.00

WHAT IS IN THE AEROSOL?



CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF VAPING ON YOUR SCHOOL!

STILL NOT SAFE
STILL NOT WATER VAPOR

STILL DESIGNED TO
ADDICT PEOPLE TO
NICOTINE

- Schoolmates who do not feel safe walking into a school washroom
- If you set off the alarm leading to a school evacuation, causing trauma for staff and students, and Fire Services attending the school

Let's work together to create
a caring and safe school community!



It is illegal for anyone regardless of age to use any cannabis products on school property!



Canadian Centre
on Substance Use
and Addiction



Know the Health Risks of Cannabis



Mental Health

Daily or near-daily use of cannabis can contribute to dependence and mental health problems over time.



Driving

Cannabis can impair your motor coordination, judgment and other skills required for safe driving.



Respiratory Effects

Toxic and carcinogenic chemicals found in tobacco smoke are also found in cannabis smoke, and can affect the lungs and airways.

There will be consequences for students if they are believed to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs or cannabis including edibles. Suspension will be considered.



THESE ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN ANY OF OUR SCHOOLS!



Video - Progressive Discipline

REMINDERS: HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS & BEHAVIOURS

Actions that are acceptable:



Being inclusive and accepting



Being kind, caring, and compassionate



Being collaborative



Respecting the personal boundaries of yourself and others

Actions that are unacceptable:



Bullying/Cyberbullying



Spreading hate/rumors



Sharing inappropriate images & recording others without consent



Non-consensual touching

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✱

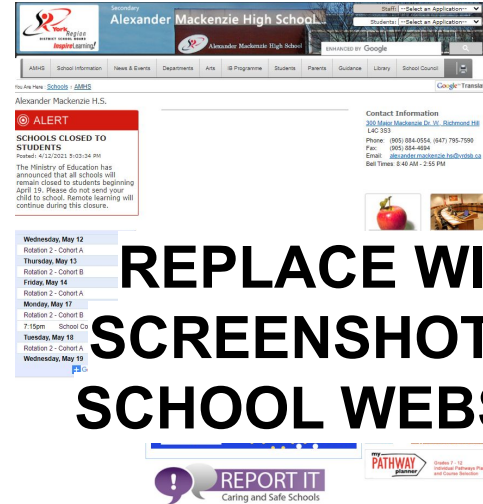
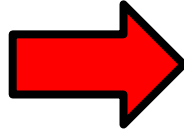
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If you notice something happening:

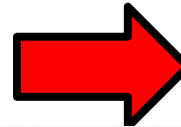
- If you feel safe, tell the other person to stop
 - Tell a trusted adult (educator, principal, family member)
 - Use the YRDSB Report It Tool
-
- ♥

How do you ask for help?

WHERE TO FIND REPORT IT BUTTON



REPLACE WITH
SCREENSHOT OF
SCHOOL WEBSITE



We are here to help!

If you feel you need to talk to someone, we are here.

- Teachers
- Support Staff
- Administrators

We can help connect you to others who can help if needed. For example the school psychologist, social worker or identity-specific community partners

**Whenever you
need to talk,
we're open.**



Text 686868



KidsHelpPhone.ca



Call 1-800-668-6868



Message at Facebook.com/
CrisisTextLinepoweredbyKidsHelpPhone

Kids Help Phone 

School Procedures/Expectations

Suspension and Expulsions: Are subject to progressive discipline and student behavior in line with the YRDSB policies and procedures on a student by student basis

Study Hall Expectations - During **period 4**, students are expected to be in the library or outside of the school to socialize; students should not be in the halls or the atrium during their study hall at this time **(1:45-3:00 pm)**

Photo Day - September 20th



Club Day - September 21st at Lunch

- **Thinking of Starting a Club?** Complete club proposal form by **September 15th**
- Proposal form can be found on your teachers' google classrooms



STEPS to SUCCESS

- Arrive by 8:30 a.m.
- Be here, be on time, be in class no later than 8:40 a.m.
- Attend all classes - take movement breaks **in the classroom**
- Stay engaged throughout the lesson
- Complete your homework
- Hand in your assignments
- Ask for assistance when needed
- Get involved in school life & in the local and global community



USE OF TECHNOLOGY

- All students must read and sign the YRDSB Computer/ Internet Acceptable Use Policy
- WCI and the YRDSB is not responsible for personal technology
- There will be consequences for misconduct carried out over the internet at home, school or elsewhere
- Students are not allowed to record other students or staff members unless the student or staff member gives express permission





APPROPRIATE ATTIRE

→ Reminders:

- ◆ WCI is a place of learning and work
- ◆ Clothing that has any writing or images depicting or promoting violence, weapons, drugs, cruelty, obscenity, racism, homophobia, sexism, inappropriate language or derogatory comments are not permitted
- ◆ Footwear must be worn at all times




LOCKERS

- Everyone in Grades 9 & 10 is assigned a locker; students in Grades 11 & 12 can request a locker from the Main Office
- Keep your combination confidential and keep your locker locked at all times
- You are responsible for the contents of the locker you are assigned to
- Keep valuables at home
- Lockers belong to the YRDSB so they can be searched at any time



WCI COMMUNITY

- Clean out your lockers
 - ◆ Old food = attracts critters!
- Traffic Safety: Drop Off & Pick Up Location
 - ◆ **Back Parking Lot**
 - ◆ **Student cars to be parked IN THE BACK**
- Plazas @ Lunch
 - ◆ Use the Crosswalks
 - ◆ Be Good Neighbours to Our Plaza Partners



Let's Have
A Great
SEMESTER
Wolves!

Some Final Notes

Full –Time Status

- All our students must be full-time – we are not a part-time institution
 - Part-time students hurt a school in many ways

Grades 9 to 11 must be enrolled in 8 courses

Grade 12 must be enrolled in 6 courses

We cannot timetable around your outside courses!

Lockers

- Students will have access to lockers

Stay Informed/Stay Connected

Emergency Information

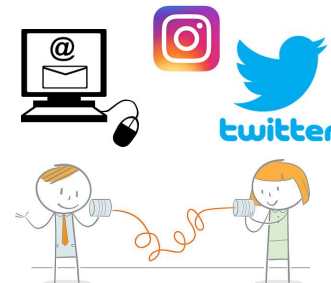
- Please ensure we have your up to date address, phone numbers and email addresses

Email:

- Best way to reach teachers is through email.
- We all have the same address – first.last@yrdsb.ca

Stay Connected with School:

- **BLOG:** <https://westmountci.blogspot.com/>
- School website
 - Google "Westmount C.I."
- WCI Twitter (X) – **@WCI_YRDSB**
- Instagram – **wci_yrdsb**



Please Ask Questions!

If you have any questions,
please email
westmount.ci@yrdsb.ca



School Council Items



School Council Meetings



Organization

Time Management

Active Participation

Listen

Respect

School Wide Perspective

The Role of YRDSB School Councils



The role of School Council is to improve student learning and to develop a shared sense of accountability for the public education system among both parents and educators.

"The Board believes that school councils play an important role in building school, family and community partnerships by providing input into relevant Board and school-level decisions and by encouraging the involvement of all members of the school community in support of student learning."

(YRDSB Policy 262.0)

Selection of WCI School Council Executive



*Thank you to Heidi & Gary & Zvif for being our
Co-Chairs!*

Who is interested in these roles for this year?

Chair (or Co-Chairs)

Treasurer

Secretary

We can vote if we have multiple candidates who are interested

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIRS/CO-CHAIRS

- Call school council meetings, prepare the agenda and chair the meetings;
- Communicate with the school principal, senior Board staff and trustees, as required;
- Ensure that minutes are recorded, parents are consulted, fundraising meets Board policies, and the bylaws are reviewed annually;
- Strong oral and written communication skills.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

- Provide Council with updates on balance of available funds;
- Strong oral and written communication skills.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY

- Take minutes at each meeting;
- Review and edit minutes and forward to one of the chairs;
- Strong oral and written communication skills.



Selection of WCI School Council Executive



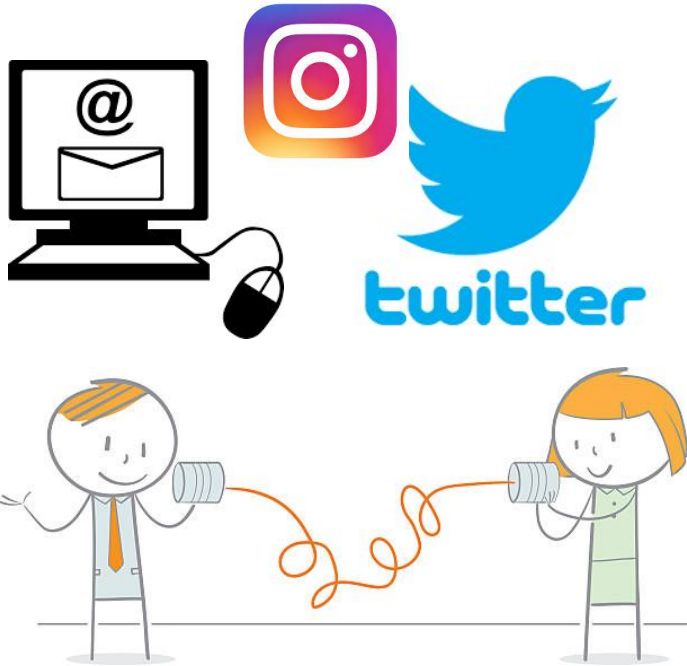
Our 2023-2024 School Council Executive:

Co-Chairs:

Treasurer:

Secretary:

WCI Communication



- **WCI Blog**
 - <https://westmountci.blogspot.com/>
- **WCI Twitter**
 - @WCI_YRDSB
- **WCI Instagram**
 - wci_yrdsb
- **Email**
 - firstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca
 - e.g., lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca
- **Phone**
 - 905-882-0277

Meetings Ahead for 2023-2024*

Thursday, November 2
Wednesday, December 6
Wednesday, February 21
Tuesday, April 16
Wednesday, May 22

Thank you
FOR COMING!

