

# SUNSET HEIGHTS NEWSLETTER



1130 Mohawk St., Oshawa ON L1G 4G7 905-723-9223  
Principal – C. Correll Vice-Principal – A. Asquith

“Celebrating Success”

School Web Page: <https://sunsetheights.ddsb.ca>

10/01/2019

## Here we Grow Again

Welcome back to another exciting year at Sunset Heights Public School for the 2019-2010 school year. We welcome back our former students and many new students to this great community. We also thank everyone for their patience and support during a busy time of growth at the beginning of the school year and making it as smooth as possible for our students.

## MEET THE TEACHER BBQ NIGHT

Many thanks to everyone who attended our Meet the Teacher and BBQ Night. It was a great success and we thank you for your support of our school.

## SAFE ARRIVAL AND ATTENDANCE PROGRAM

Parents/guardians should report their child's absence in advance through our **SchoolMessenger** program, before bell time for the current day in one of three ways:

1. **School Messenger App (Apple & Google Play Store)**
2. **[go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)**
3. **Toll Free Number: 1-844-350-2646**

As part of this program an automated notification system that will contact parents when a student is absent but no notification was relayed to the school. If our automated system is unable to reach a designated contact, office staff will follow up. Both phone and online options will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to be on time for school each day and where classes are on a rotary system, for each subject area.

### **Reasons for Punctuality:**

1. To encourage a positive life-style habit.
2. To show a measure of consideration towards others. Lateness is an inconvenience, not only for the teacher who spends long hours preparing lessons, but also for the students who have accepted the responsibility for preparing for class and arriving at school on time.
3. To maximize optimum learning opportunities.

## CITY CROSSING GUARD

The City of Oshawa will have an adult crossing guard on duty on all school days this year at the following location and times:

### **60 Somerville & Orchardview**

7:30 – 8:15 am 2:35 – 3:20 pm

### **61 Somerville & Pontiac / Taunton**

7:30 – 8:15 am 2:35 – 3:20 pm

### **66 Taunton W. at Somerville**

7:25 – 8:10 am 2:40 – 3:25 pm

Please encourage your child to use the proper crossing at all times. As well, we would remind parents that city enforcement of signed parking and stopping regulations in the vicinity of the school will continue, this year.

## PA DAY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup> is our first Professional Activity Day of the year. There is no school for students. School staff will be involved in educational workshops.



Trustees - Michael Barrett – [michael.barrett@ddsb.ca](mailto:michael.barrett@ddsb.ca)  
- Darlene Forbes – [darlene.forbes@ddsb.ca](mailto:darlene.forbes@ddsb.ca)  
- Ashley Noble – [ashley.noble@ddsb.ca](mailto:ashley.noble@ddsb.ca)  
School Community Officer – PC H. Dalton 905-579-1520

## **SAFE SCHOOLS**

We would remind you that during the school day, all outside doors are locked for security reasons, except for the front doors closest to the office. Please let our secretary, Mrs. Wilson, know your intentions and "sign" our Visitor's Book. Visitors who are moving through the school are required to wear a Visitor's Pass.

## **STUDENT AGENDAS**

Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, our school along with many others across the Board were unable to deliver agendas this year. We acknowledge the importance of communication between home and school and there are other forms of being up to date with school events. Our website is updated regularly with school events and announcements as well as a calendar with important dates. Newsletters will be sent electronically to the email addresses we have on file.

Our parent/School Community Council (SCC) also has a wonderful parent/guardian facebook page with up to date information. Your child's teacher may also send a calendar/newsletter home (ie. Primary students) or you may discuss another communication means, use a notebook or agenda purchased at the local dollar store.

## **STUDENT SIGN-OUT**

If your child needs to leave school early for an appointment, we ask that you provide a note for the teacher. The student will be asked to bring the note, initialed by the teacher, to the office and "sign out" in the sign out book. Students are to wait in the school **office** until the parent or guardian comes to the office to pick them up. If returning the same day, the student should come to the office and sign back in for the remainder of the day

## **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES**

Our hallways are very congested at arrival and departure times. For the safety of all students, we ask that parents/guardians wait outside the entry/exit door when bringing your children to school or picking them up. Late students in primary grades will be escorted to class by a staff member.

## **PHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS**

We ask parents/guardians to limit phone messages for students. Students will not be able to come to the phone during class time and will be directed to use the school phone during recess time only if necessary.

Parents/Guardians are asked to communicate any after school arrangements to their child/ren before school as the office is extremely busy and our population continues to grow therefore we cannot guarantee that message will reach your child.

## **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE**

Payment for school related activities (ie. trips, agendas, popcorn days) is now through SchoolCash Online in order to help reduce students bringing cash & cheques to the school. There are further instructions to register at the end of the newsletter. You will need your child's OEN # which can be found at the top of any report card. To register go to <https://DDSB.schoolcashionline.com>

## **HEALTH CONCERNS**



If your child has a medical condition that could affect his or her well-being, please inform the school immediately. If your child requires medication that must be taken at school or carries an

Epi-Pen, please make the teacher and Main Office aware of the situation, so the proper documentation is completed.

We have a number of students with severe food and insect allergies. This anaphylactic reaction can be life threatening. We ask all of our families to be aware of this problem and to follow safe procedures. A letter is coming home with each child providing information and guidelines. Thank you for your assistance in making our school safe for all students.

## **ALLERGY AWARE / WOW BUTTER**

In the Durham District School Board, we are committed to ensuring the safety of all students.

1. Sabrina's Law requires that all district school boards have procedures and training in place to protect students at risk of anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and can cause death. Triggers for anaphylaxis may include such things as food (e.g. peanuts, tree nuts).
2. Our goal is to eliminate preventable serious reactions and death due to anaphylaxis and to **reduce the risk of exposure** for students at risk of anaphylaxis to potential allergens.

- Schools within the DDSB can be considered "Allergy Aware" and not "Allergy Safe" as one cannot guarantee that the school environment is 100% allergen free. Where possible the learning environment should be free from any trace of the allergen.
- We strongly recommend that all schools exercise due caution and refrain from allowing soy bean butter and other similar peanut-free spreads (e.g. "WOW" soy butter) into schools. *The risk is that these types of products look, smell and taste like real peanut butter. It is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish these products from real peanut butter which makes it difficult for school administrators to control for a "peanut safe" environment.* As alternatives, other peanut-free spreads that don't look, smell and taste like peanut butter can be used as part of a nutritious lunch (e.g. hummus, low fat ricotta cheese, vegetable purees, bean dips, guacamole).

**Please do not to send these products in your child's school lunches or snacks.**

### **THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**

Our Thanksgiving Food Drive is starting next week, beginning Oct. 7 and are collecting until Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Please bring in all non-perishable food items. This is always a very successful food drive and we thank you for your donations. All donations will be given to the Oshawa Settlement House.



### **KEEPING THE SCHOOL INFORMED**

Please keep the school office informed and up-to-date regarding home/cell/work/emergency contact phone numbers and address for your child(ren). As well please let us know if custody and/or living arrangements have changed.

You would have received an email recently if we do not have up to date information for your child. Student verification forms will no longer be sent home as the board has moved to an electronic process. This is an

efficient tool where student information can be updated quickly and for more than one child. Please visit the following link to update your child's information and call the school if you require assistance.

<https://ddsbps.ddsbsschools.ca/public/home.html>

### **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

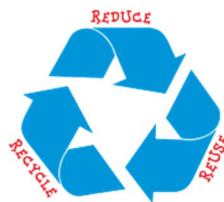
Providing safe learning environments is a strong and constant focus at the Durham District School Board. Families should however recognize that there is always a potential risk of injury with field trips, sports and other student activities both on and off school grounds. Accidents can happen, despite precautions to prevent them. Accidental injuries may involve medical, dental or other expenses not covered by provincial health care or employer group plans.

Please be aware that the Durham District School Board does not provide accident insurance coverage for student injuries. For your convenience, we do make available a Student Accident Insurance program through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. This program offers a variety of plans and benefits at affordable prices.

All rates are one-time annual premiums. The insurance agreement is between **you** and **Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada**. For complete details please refer to the *insuremykids Protection Plan* information/application form or visit their website at: [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com)

**Any questions should be directed to Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada toll free at 1-800-463-5437.**

### **LITTERLESS / BOOMERANG LUNCH**



Our school wide Litterless / Boomerang Lunch is still in effect. This means that all lunch/snack packaging and uneaten food goes back home.

Keep in mind that it takes a while to get used to any new routine, but once established, it becomes second nature. School lunches contribute significantly to our huge stream of waste. Think about how detrimental the actual packaging is to our environment, about the paper depleting our forest, about plastics and pollution and where our garbage goes after we toss it.

**Stop Making Garbage...** This is even more important than recycling...why use it in the first place? A waste-free lunch means you have no packaging to throw away when you're done – nothing other than apple cores, banana and orange peels or cherry pits. Please consider using the following to perfect your lunches:

★ Reusable lead-free carrier (insulated bag, lunchbox)

★ Reusable containers - #5 plastic or stainless steel - please no glass.

★ Cloth napkin (you have to do laundry anyway!)

★ Stainless cutlery (**we are no longer providing plastic cutlery at the school in order to reduce waste**)

Believe that you are making a difference ... regardless of your actions, you are currently making an impact whether it's negative or positive ... choose positive and watch how others follow ... set the trend!

### **SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

The first SCC meeting was held on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to this year's executive members:

**Executive: Christine Hannah (Chair), Kathy Luttrell (Secretary), Patricia MacMillan (Treasurer).**

The next SCC meeting is on October 23<sup>rd</sup> @6:45pm. All are welcome.

Fundraisers have begun to support school initiatives and resources and are optional. As always we thank you for continuing to support the students and our school.

Please follow the SCC Facebook page 'Sunset Heights Public School – Community Forum for Parents' @SunsetHeightsPublicSchoolParents for the latest updates from your SCC.

### **HEALTHY HUNGER: SCC PIZZA DAYS**

Volunteers from our SCC will be holding Pizza Days again this year. **The first pizza day is Friday, October 18th.** Please visit [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca) by Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> to place your order.

### **PICTURE RE-RETAKE DAY**

Picture re-take day will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup> for any students that were absent on picture day or for any new students to the school.

### **PARKING LOT**

The parking lot at Sunset Heights is for staff parking and anyone visiting/parking at the school. A reminder to please utilize our kiss and ride for dropping off and picking up students. Student safety is our primary focus over convenience.

### **TRAFFIC LOOP – SAFETY**

Please follow the rules stated below in order to help us insure safe and convenient use of the traffic loop for all.

When dropping off or picking up students in the morning or afternoon:

1. In the morning, arrive at the Traffic Loop between 7:55 am and 8:10 am when a staff member will be on duty to supervise students exiting cars.

2. Keep all access points to homes and roadways clear at all times.

3. In single file, enter through the North end of the Traffic Loop, and exit through the South end of the loop.

4. Stay in line until exiting, without pulling out of the line to pass other cars debarking students.

5. Pull up to the Kindergarten fenced in area to drop off Primary students (Junior and Intermediate students may make a QUICK exit onto the sidewalk of the Traffic Loop).

**6. Remain in your vehicle in the Traffic Loop. If you must exit your vehicle, please find street parking in order to do so.**

7. In the afternoon, return to the Traffic Loop between 2:40 pm and 2:50 pm, when a staff member will be on duty to supervise students entering vehicle. (also follow steps 2-5).

8. If your child(ren) are not at the loop, please exit and circle around the crescent and rejoin the end line.

As was the case last year, we anticipate a co-operative use of the Traffic Loop including patient and supportive parents with a primary focus on **safety** while taking advantage of the convenience.

## **DURHAM STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INFORMATION AT A GLANCE**

**AUTOMATED TELEPHONE LINE 905-666-6979  
OR 1-866-905-6578**



Parents can access information about their child's pickup/dropoff times/location of bus stop via the 24 hour automated line. Please have your child's OEN number (found on your child's report card) and date of birth (yyyymmdd) ready.

### **Websites:**

#### **Durham Student Transportation Services:**

[www.dsts.on.ca](http://www.dsts.on.ca)

#### **Durham Catholic District School Board Services:**

[www.dcdsb.ca](http://www.dcdsb.ca)

#### **Durham District School Board Services:**

[www.ddsb.on.ca](http://www.ddsb.on.ca)

### **Office Contact Numbers:**

**DSTS – 1-800-240-6943 or 905-666-6395**

Contact DSTS office directly to confirm eligibility and transportation related information.

In preparation for the upcoming school year and student transportation needs please contact the school as soon as possible if you are moving or have changed a caregiver. DSTS is open over the summer and can assist in updating your address and/or caregiver information.

Get connected – sign up!! Receive automated notification on bus delay and cancellation, SIGN UP under Track Your Child's Bus at [www.dsts.on.ca](http://www.dsts.on.ca).

Follow us on Twitter @ DurhamSTS.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

October 9	Cross Country Regional Finals
October 10	Grade 7 HEP B/HPV Immunization Clinic
October 11	PA Day – no school for students
October 14	Thanksgiving – no school
October 18	First Pizza Lunch (SCC) – order via <a href="http://www.healthyhunger.ca">www.healthyhunger.ca</a>
October 25	Assembly
October 31	Halloween
Nov 1	Pizza Day

### **TERRY FOX RUN**

On Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> our school held the Terry Fox Run and thanks to the support of the community, we raised over \$500.00 for this amazing cause. It was great to see everyone in the school participating in this worthwhile event.



# SchoolCashOnline

## SchoolCash Online Registration:

*It takes less than 5 minutes to register. Please follow these step-by-step instructions, so you can begin to receive email notifications regarding upcoming events involving your child(ren).*

### **Step 1: Register**

- a) If you have not yet registered, please go to the School Cash Online home page <https://DDSB.schoolcashonline.com> and select the **"Get Started Today"** option.
- b) Complete each of the three Registration Steps. \*For Security Reasons your password requires **8 characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter and a number.**

### **Step 2: Confirmation Email**

A registration confirmation email will be sent to you. Click on the link provided inside the email to confirm your email and School Cash Online account.

The confirmation link will open the School Cash Online site prompting you to sign into your account. Use your email address and password just created with your account.

### **Step 3: Find Student (OEN is required here – found on your child's report card)**

*This step will connect your children to your account.*

- a) Enter the School Board Name
- b) Select the School Name
- c) Enter your child's OEN number and last name
- d) Select **continue**
- e) On the next page confirm that you are related to the child, check in the Agree box and select **continue**

### **Step 4: View Items or Add Another Student**

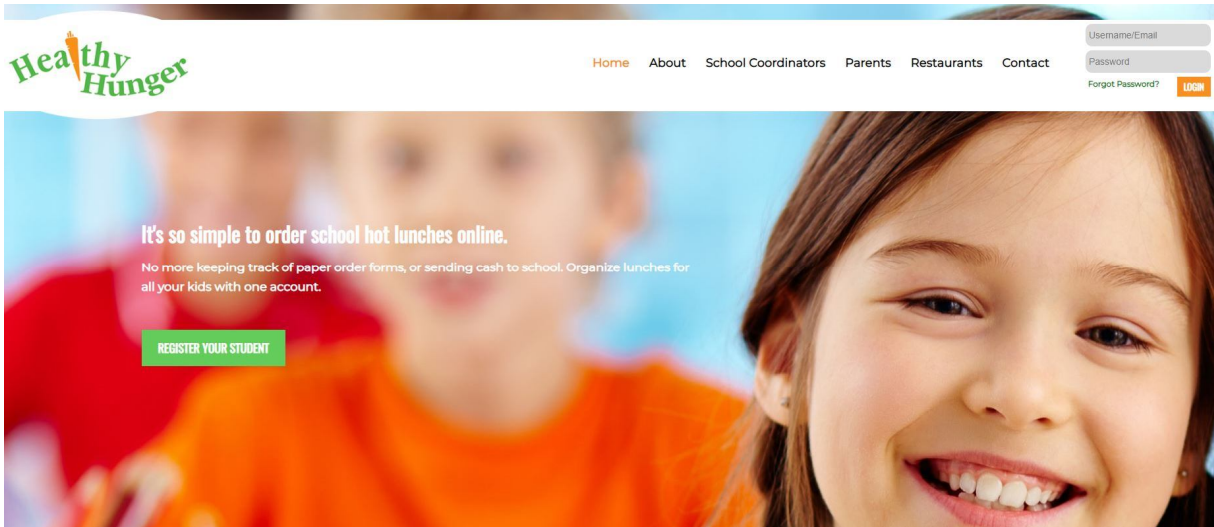
If you have more children, select **"Add Another Student"** option and repeat step 3 above. Up to 5 children can be added to one parent account.

If you do not wish to add additional children, select **"View Items for Students"** option. A listing of items for purchase will be displayed as soon as they become available.

*NOTE: If you require assistance, select the SUPPORT option in the top right hand corner of the SchoolCash homepage*

# S.C.C. Pizza Lunches are back!

Beginning October 18<sup>th</sup>, S.C.C. Pizza Lunches are back. Simply login into [healthyhunger.ca](http://healthyhunger.ca) to place your order or to create your account.



Lunch orders can now be completed up to and including December 20<sup>th</sup>. The lunch dates are as follows:

Friday October 18<sup>th</sup>

Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>

Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup>

Friday November 29<sup>th</sup>

Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>

Friday December 20<sup>th</sup>

2020 dates will be added in the future.

\*Orders will only be accepted online. Pizza will be delivered to the school and will be handed out by our S.C.C. volunteers. You must order before Sunday at 12am to get your order for the following week.

Thank you for supporting our school.