



ORILLIA SECONDARY SCHOOL

February, 2019



Provide input on proposed 2019-2020 school year calendar

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) invites public school communities to submit input regarding the proposed school year calendar for next school year (Sept. 2019 to June 2020).

Starting Jan. 21, input can be provided by visiting www.scdsb.on.ca, hovering over 'Elementary,' or 'Secondary,' then 'Planning for School,' and clicking 'School Year Calendar.' All stakeholders including staff, school council members, parents/guardians, students and members of the school community are invited to provide input.

The deadline to submit input is Feb. 15.

Host families needed for international students

Our partner in providing homestay to the SCDSB's international students, Canada Homestay Network (CHN), is recruiting host families to welcome international students into their homes. Host families help international students realize lifelong dreams, and benefit from a unique experience with another culture. As a host, you also receive an allowance to offset expenses. [Learn about a current homestay family here](#) or get more details about the program on [the Canada Homestay Network website](#).

Start thinking about summer (school) with the SCDSB!

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school – registration is now open!

Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

Summer school program details can be found on the Learning Centres website at www.learningcentres.com. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register.

Parents/guardians invited to information sessions about special education

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting a series of information sessions for parents and guardians to learn about special education in the SCDSB, and how to support students with special education needs. Topics include building a plan for the summer, understanding the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) and applied behaviour analysis (ABA).

Sessions will take place at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. Participants may also access the sessions online via Google Meet.

More information, including dates, times and links to register, are online at https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education.

Personal Support Workers (PSW) needed in labour market – Graduate with a PSW certificate!

If you are a student who requires only six elective credits to graduate, consider attending the Simcoe County District School Board's accredited PSW program. Students accepted to the program can earn six elective credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and their PSW certificate in only 6 months!

Free information sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Visit www.thelearningcentres.com or call 705-725-8360 ext. 45149 for dates and times.

Train as a Personal Support Worker (PSW) – many employment opportunities available!

The Learning Centres offers an accredited PSW program, taught by qualified teachers with health science backgrounds. Be finished in six months, receive a PSW certificate and earn up to six secondary school credits!

Free information sessions are scheduled throughout the year. Visit www.thelearningcentres.com or call 705-725-8360 ext. 45149 for dates and times.

Coping with anxiety

Feelings of anxiety can be common among teens. Sometimes normally happy teens will become anxious or fearful about something for a day or two but will return to normal without any need for help from their parents. However, some teens experience more intense and frequent feelings of anxiety that prevent them from participating in normal everyday life. Creating a positive family environment, encouraging regular school attendance and helping your teen understand and discover ways to cope with their anxiety can help.

If you would like to learn more about monitoring and understanding your teenager's emotions and behaviours, ways to talk openly with your teenager and encouraging your teenager to practice their coping skills, call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 and talk to a public health nurse about Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, or visit <http://www.tripleontario.ca/en/home.aspx>.

Your child's immunization record

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is required to keep up-to-date immunization records for all students who attend elementary or secondary school in the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka. Parents are responsible for reporting immunizations to the health unit each time their child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. The immunizations that the health unit requires records for include:

- Diphtheria, tetanus, polio and pertussis
- Measles, mumps and rubella
- Meningococcal
- Varicella (chickenpox) (for those born in 2010 or later)

It's easy to update your child's immunization status. Go to www.smdhu.org/immsonline to update your child's record or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 (toll free).

**Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit*