



# Owen Sound District Secondary School Student Handbook

## **Welcome to the Owen Sound District Secondary School Code of Behaviour**

The OSDSS code is consistent with Ministry and Board policies and is reviewed annually as a function of our Safe Schools Committee, which includes representation from students, parents/guardians, teachers, school administrators and the community. The code will apply consistently to the behaviours of all students, staff and visitors on school property, on buses and at school sponsored functions.

At OSDSS, we believe that students have a responsibility for doing things right, and that it is the job of parents/guardians as well all school staff members to help students behave appropriately.

Students should note that what constitutes acceptable behaviour at OSDSS may be different from what is acceptable elsewhere. Whether in the classroom, in the halls or on the school grounds, students are expected to respect themselves, respect others, and respect their environment. Ways that you can demonstrate this through positive behaviour include:

- Appreciating the opinions, beliefs, customs and diversity of others regardless of race, creed, ethnic background or individual ability
- Acting in a kind, polite and helpful manner to others (saying please and thank you, holding the door for another individual, for example)
- Using appropriate language (avoiding swearing or hurtful comments, regulating your tone of voice, body language and facial expressions)
- Keeping your hands off other people and their possessions
- Cleaning up after yourself, taking ownership for your materials including your garbage, and putting waste in the appropriate places
- Working hard at all times to achieve your maximum potential
- Cooperating with others to help them succeed
- Dressing modestly according to the dress code, in all areas of the school
- Taking responsibility for your own actions (admitting when you have made a mistake and accepting help, direction and/or consequences)
- Acting with maturity and being a positive role model

Students who experience difficulty demonstrating these expectations will be taught how to do better. If their actions have offended, injured or negatively impacted another, they will be expected to make the situation right, with or without the assistance of school staff. Learning how to behave properly takes a lot of time and effort, and as such we at OSDSS believe that our senior students should be the best behaved. It is in accordance with this belief that some privileges, like responsibilities, will increase with age and grade level. /n

*addition* to the list of positive behaviours on the previous page, students have specific expectations of their behaviour in the following areas:

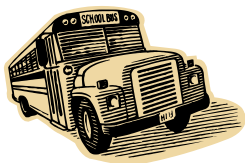
**Classrooms:** Students are to arrive to class on time and be prepared to work. Within the classroom, students are expected to follow the instructions of their teachers and stay focused on assigned tasks. Students are expected to sit quietly during morning announcements. At the end of the class, students are dismissed by their teacher and not the bell. Students are expected to leave all exterior clothing, including hats, coats and backpacks in their locker. Food or drink is not permitted in the classroom without the teacher's permission. Electronic devices are expected to be off and away, unless a teacher gives permission to use them.

**Hallways:** Students are expected to walk quietly and in an orderly fashion in the hallways, keeping to the right. Students in the hallways during morning announcements are expected to stop and listen. Students are not permitted to eat in the halls except in the designated spaces. Designated spaces include: the cafeteria, and lower hallways up to the double doors outside the cell block. There is no food or drink permitted in any other areas at OSDSS in order to avoid undue mess, clutter and disruption to classes. Students are expected not to loiter in the hallways and should find an appropriate place to study, work quietly or spend time with friends. Areas that are suggested at OSDSS are: the library and cafeteria.

A **Hall Pass** will be provided to students if they must leave a classroom. Students on spare will be asked to pick up their hall pass from Guidance, after the first week. This hall pass should be visual for administration and teachers, while students are seated in the cafeteria and library.

**School Grounds:** Play on the school yard should reflect the list of positive behaviours on the previous page. No student should throw snowballs or use sticks or stones in any capacity while at school.

**Riding the School Bus:** All regular school rules and regulations are in effect while you ride the bus. Students are reminded that they are representatives of Owen Sound District Secondary School and should behave accordingly. The Safe Schools Act and the OSDSS Code of Conduct apply to all students who ride a bus. Bus privileges may be suspended as a consequence of inappropriate conduct.



Students who need support in achieving the school expectations will be counseled by a staff member, possibly a school administrator. When assigning sanctions or consequences for student behaviour, a progressive discipline model will be utilized, and mitigating circumstances will be taken into consideration. Sanctions may include a discussion with a staff member, an apology, a detention with tutorial supports, removal of privileges, withdrawal from class, the implementation of a contract, or a suspension in or out of school. A school behaviour incident form may be sent home to be signed and returned by your parents and/or guardians. For severe infractions, a student may be expelled.

## OSDSS School Procedures

### Procedures for Resolving Conflict

In order for the school to respond to an incident or conflict, students must first report any inappropriate or disrespectful behaviour to a staff member. Your teachers, administrators and school guidance counselors should be the first people you turn to in order to resolve conflict with another student. Even if this conflict took place off school grounds, it may impact the school climate and your ability to succeed or function appropriately at school. Reporting an incident is often difficult for students, but ensuring that adults are aware of the problem is usually the only way it becomes resolved.

Conflict between students comes in many forms, like verbal disagreements, name calling or physical altercations (pushing, shoving and hitting, for example). Some forms of conflict, like bullying, are serious infractions for which a principal must consider suspension (*for other serious infractions, see the Board's Safe Schools Policy BP 6820-D*). Because the school takes such behaviour very seriously, it is important to know exactly what constitutes bullying.

According to the *Ministry of Education* (PPM 144), bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour, directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation. Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance (differences in size, strength, age, intelligence, economic status, social status, sexual orientation, gender, race, etc.) Bullying can take many forms. It can be physical (eg. hitting, pushing, tripping), verbal (name calling, mocking, or making sexist, racist or homophobic comments), or social (eg. excluding others from a group, spreading gossip or rumours). It may also occur through the use of technology (e.g., spreading rumours, images, or hurtful comments through the use of e-mail, cell phones, text messaging, internet websites or other technology).

OSDSS employs a comprehensive intervention strategy to address incidents of bullying, including appropriate and timely responses to all incidents, but school staff cannot respond to what they do not know! Please ensure that all incidents of inappropriate behaviour or conflict are reported to a staff member in a timely manner. It's the only way we can keep our school a safe place for all!

### **Attendance Procedures**



At OSDSS, we believe that regular attendance is necessary for student success, and as such we have developed careful procedures surrounding the monitoring of student absenteeism. After a student absence, a note must be brought to the office or a phone call made by the student's parent or guardian, explaining the reason for absence. Unauthorized absences are considered trancies and are considered violations of the OSDSS code of behaviour. Such absences are recorded and tracked. All truant students will be counseled by staff members upon recognition of such infractions, and sanctions may be issued.

Students at OSDSS are expected to be in their classes on time. Students who arrive in class after the bell are considered late, and these incidents will also be recorded and tracked. Students who are consistently late for class will be counseled and encouraged to develop strategies to help them arrive on time. Students who accumulate lates will serve a noon-hour detention wherein they will receive a tutorial designed to support their behavior.



Students who arrive late to school, with a note, must sign in at the office before proceeding to class. Students under 18 years of age must arrive with a note signed by a parent or guardian indicating the reason for arriving late. Parent/guardians can leave messages on our school answering machine service at any time of the day/night. Students will be expected to bring a note to the office the following day. Students who need to leave school early are also required to bring a note from home. Students will be issued an excuse slip by the office professionals. This slip must be presented to teachers before students are allowed to leave class and must again be presented to the office professionals and teachers upon return to the school.

Students who are legitimately absent for tests or other forms of assessment may complete these upon their return. Students who are truant for tests may receive a mark of zero. Students may be required to write the test at a later date to demonstrate curriculum expectations. Attendance at end-of-semester summative evaluations and examinations are compulsory. The examination dates for the school year are set in advance and are noted on

the school year calendar and school website. It is expected that vacations and other appointments will be avoided during the exam periods. Exam deferrals/excusals are approved only in special circumstances by the principal/vice-principal.

### **Procedures for Late, Incomplete or Missed Assignments**

The purpose of assignment due dates is for teachers to evaluate students' learning skills and to assess their understanding of curriculum expectations in a timely manner. Responsibility, organization, working independently, collaboration, initiative, and self-regulation are all learning skills students may demonstrate when meeting assignment due dates. Development of these skills will aid students throughout all grade level, and in their post-secondary life.

Teachers are aware that there are circumstances in students' lives which may prevent them from submitting their assignments on time. In these circumstances, students are expected to enter into an agreement with their teacher(s). It is important to note however that teachers may, at their discretion, decide that an agreement for late assignments may not be used for particular assignments. All teachers will clearly communicate this to students when assignments are introduced. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate this process.

Incomplete assignments may jeopardize the granting of a course credit if the teacher and the administration feel the student has not demonstrated sufficient knowledge of curriculum expectations.

### **Procedures for When Plagiarism is Suspected**

"Plagiarism is defined as the use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another without attribution, in order to represent them as one's own original work" (Ministry of Education *Growing Success*, p. 151). OSDSS also considers using an electronic translator to translate French assignments an act of plagiarism. Students suspected of plagiarizing will have their work scrutinized by both teachers and school administration. If plagiarizing is confirmed, students will receive consequences consistent with the school's progressive discipline policy; mitigating circumstances and/or the number and severity of the infraction(s) will be taken into consideration. Teachers will decide consequences in consultation with administration, which may include re-doing part or all of the assignment, completing an alternate assignment, mark deduction or suspension.

### **Excursions and Field Trips Procedures**

All students who plan to participate in excursions, sporting events or field trips off school grounds will be required to submit a completed and signed *Parental Information and Consent for Field Trips* form (AF 5603), as supplied by their teacher or coach. Students who fail to return completed consent forms will not be allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities off school property.

Students should inform all of their teachers of absences due to extra-curricular activities, excursions or field trips **ahead of time**, especially if the absences will affect assessment and evaluation processes (absence on the day of a test or presentation, for example). Students are responsible for all work missed in their absence and should make arrangements with fellow students to obtain missed material.

Students may be denied involvement in extra-curricular activities, field trips or excursions if they are on suspension for behavioural or other issues, if their attendance is problematic, or if they are not succeeding academically in their courses. This decision will be made in consultation with school administration.

### **Procedures Surrounding Medication and Medical Attention**

At the start of the school year, OSDSS will send home forms that must be completed by a parent or guardian updating the school on student health and medical conditions, as well as emergency contact numbers. Throughout the year, please inform the school of any changes to student medical information (new allergies, the need for epi-pens, a change in doctor's information, etc.) so that records can be updated accordingly. Parents or guardians must complete specific forms in order for any assistance to be given in the administration of medication at school. All medication should be transported to the school by parents or guardians so it reaches the office directly.

When a child has an accident or an altercation that results in a minor cut or bruise, he or she is sent to the office for immediate first aid treatment which may include cleaning the wound and a bandage if required. For an accident that we suspect to be of a more serious nature, the pupil will be brought to the office only if he or she is able to be moved. Immediate first aid will be given, and a parent or emergency contact will be phoned. If possible, arrangements will be made to take the student to either the doctor's office or a local hospital. An adult, (a staff member, a relative or an emergency contact) will always accompany the child if the parent is not available, or if the child needs to be seen before a parent can attend. In more serious cases, an ambulance may be called.

## **Procedures for Dressing Appropriately**

Students must wear clothing, accessories, and shoes that are suitable for the BWDSB environment and that meet the following expectations:

Dress will:

1. comply with health and safety requirements for the intended activity, including appropriate footwear (e.g., physical education classes, science classes, sporting events, technical education, etc.);
  2. Swimwear of any type may only be worn if required for the intended activity and would not be appropriate as outerwear in any other circumstance;
  3. respect the board's intent to sustain a community that is positive, anti-oppressive, equitable, accepting, and inclusive of a diverse range of social and cultural identities;
  4. not promote content that can reasonably be interpreted to be discriminatory, defamatory, threatening, lewd, vulgar, obscene, promoting hate, profanity, pornography, or any other content that disrupts the learning environment;
  5. not refer to tobacco, cannabis, alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia, promotion or incitement of violence or harassment, any illegal conduct, profanity, pornography, or criminal activities, or depict or display hate speech; and
  6. not interfere with the safe operation of the school.
- Clothing will be worn in such a way to cover the groin, nipples, and buttocks with material that is not see-through/transparent.
  - Clothing may expose shoulders, abdomen, neck lines, legs, thighs, and hips.
  - Underwear cannot be used as outerwear and should be worn beneath a layer of outerwear. Straps and waistbands may be exposed.
  - Headwear that is worn for the purpose of religious observance may obscure the face. All other headwear may be worn as long as it does not obscure the face.

## **Physical Education Class**

In accordance with Ontario Physical Education Safety Guidelines gym shorts must be free of any loops or pockets and loose fitting to allow for free movement. Shirts must meet the minimal standards of school summer wear guidelines. All grade nine students will wear the t-shirt provided by the school.

Students will be asked to remove jewellery and accessories for gym or at any other time the teacher feels the items represent a safety risk.



All students require gym shoes with non- marking soles. During wet seasons students will benefit from a change of footwear for indoors.

***Note: Do not leave valuables in the Phys. Ed. change rooms. Lock valuables in your locker prior to Phys. Ed. or, better yet, do not bring expensive items to school. Despite security measures, theft from locker rooms occurs regularly.***

A school is a place of learning and business.

### **Procedures for Storing and Protecting Your Property**

All valuable materials and possessions brought to school but not directly on your person should be safely secured in a locked environment, such as your locker, or left in the school office to be reclaimed at a later date. Do not leave valuables or large sums of money unattended. Valuables or money should not be left in clothes or backpacks inside the school's change rooms. Students are expected to bring any misplaced or lost items found on school property to the main office, and to report any misplaced or stolen items immediately to a school staff member. **The school cannot assume responsibility for lost or stolen goods, but will attempt to aid the student in their recovery.**

Bicycles brought to the school should be secured with a lock to a bike rack, and should not be ridden on school property. Motorized vehicles parked in the school parking lot should be parked appropriately and locked to inhibit theft. A reasonable speed limit of 10 km/hr is recommended in the school parking lot to ensure accidents and damage to vehicles does not occur. Individuals who are not driving responsibly on school property will not be permitted to drive/park on school property. All students are required to sign for a parking pass, with administration, if parking on school property.

To ensure the safety of your property, all visitors with legitimate business in the school are required to report first to the main office and sign in. All other casual visitors will be considered to be trespassing. Trespassers should be reported immediately to the nearest staff member or to the main office. Students found in the company of trespassers will be held responsible for their presence.

### **Procedures for the Use and Care of School Property and Materials**

Students are responsible for textbooks, library books, uniforms, supplies and equipment loaned to them, and will be charged for loss (if not returned promptly) or damage. Lockers are the property of the Bluewater District School Board and are assigned at the beginning of the school year on loan to students. The school will provide locks to students. Students are entitled to one locker only. Do not share your locker, share your combination, mark or deface

your locker, or leave your locker unlocked and unattended. The school does not assume responsibility for the loss of articles from your locker. You are expected to keep your locker neat and tidy. The school administration has the authority to examine any locker when it is deemed necessary to protect the health/safety of the school community.

**The Howey Educational Trust supports the purchase of learning materials to ensure that every child is able to participate in every aspect of the educational experience. Families needing to access this funding should contact one of the Vice-Principals.**

### Student Parking

Employee parking is provided in the front lots. Student parking is provided in the back parking lot **ONLY** by permit. This Parking Permit gives the student the right to park in the back lot, but it does not ensure there will be a parking spot. Arrive early if you want to ensure you get a student parking spot. Students are to drive with caution at all times while on school property or parking privileges may be suspended. Police will be contacted for any major driving infractions. Please do not park in the clearly marked No Parking areas of the school as you risk being ticketed by the By-law officer. At no time are students allowed to sit in or around their vehicles. **Students who do not adhere to this rule will lose their parking privileges.**



### Procedures for Fire, Lockdown and Severe Weather Drills

A continuous sounding of the fire alarm (loud buzzer) is the sign that **every** person is to leave the building. The proper exit is posted in each room. Know your exits and alternative exits. As soon as you hear the alarm, go **directly** outside and move away from the exits. You will be directed back into the building by a staff member following the sounding of a return bell. **Causing a false alarm or misusing fire-fighting equipment is a criminal offense.**

**Offenders will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. If the school is in Lockdown, disregard the Fire Alarm procedure until the "All Clear" signal has been initiated.** A Lockdown is the restriction of movement during a time of potentially serious violent incident or intruder threat. The administration might be required to initiate a lockdown. Should this happen, a siren will sound 3



times. The following announcement will be made: **"This school is in lockdown. Please initiate lockdown procedure. Anyone in the halls should go to the nearest safe place and remain there until given further instruction."** Students are to remain quiet and follow teacher's direction to move away from door and windows. Cell phones must remain off to ensure Police radio communication. All efforts are made to make classrooms appear empty. Students outside of classrooms are to find cover in empty classrooms or washrooms.

Students outside the building are to move away from the school and hide. **An announcement indicating the Lockdown procedure is over ends the Lockdown.**

Severe weather drills will also occur once throughout the school year. When the announcement sounds on the PA system, students are expected to vacate their classrooms and sit with their classes in a sheltered area of the hall. In a real emergency, once students have arrived to their sheltered area they should assume a protective position by kneeling on their knees and elbows with their foreheads on the floor and covering their heads with their hands. Students remain in this position until an announcement has been made and the emergency is over. During a drill, students will remain sitting quietly in a sheltered area until an announcement is made that the drill is over.

### **Procedures for School Dances**

Each OSDSS student may sign in a guest(s) from another secondary school. The names of these guests and their sponsors must be included on a list in the main office two days prior to the dance. All guests must enter the dance with their OSDSS sponsor, and bring their school ID or photo ID in order to be admitted.

All conduct at dances is governed by the OSDSS code of behaviour. Guest conduct at dances is the direct responsibility of their SDSS sponsor. No locker visits are permitted during dances. Food and drink are not permitted in the dance area. Backpacks, coats or other items in bags must be checked into the supervised coat area prior to entering the dance area.

Dances run from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM, with doors closing at 8:00 PM. Students are not admitted into the school prior to doors opening except in an emergency, nor after the doors close without prior permission of the administration. Students leaving the dance will not be re-admitted. Students under the influence of alcohol or illicit substances will not be allowed to enter the dance and school administration will determine consequences for those actions.

### **Procedures Surrounding the Use or Possession of Illicit or Illegal Substances**

Alcohol or illegal drugs are not to be brought onto, or consumed on, school property during any school activity. Likewise students under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or illegal drugs are not to be on school property. Police will be involved and suspensions will be issued should these substances be identified in connection with any student. Students requiring assistance with drug or alcohol dependency should consult a guidance counsellor, public health nurse or school administration.

The Tobacco Control Act has been renamed to the Smoke Free Ontario Act. The Smoke Free Ontario Act will continue to reduce the number of children and teens who start smoking/vaping and protect Ontarians from secondhand smoke. The Smoke Free Ontario Act states that it is illegal for anyone to sell, buy for, or give cigarettes/vapes or vaping products to anyone under the age of 19. This also includes Chewing Tobacco products. If you are caught supplying, you will be charged and issued a large fine. It is also against the law to smoke/vape anywhere on school property and within a 20-meter perimeter of the property. If you are caught smoking/vaping on or within 20 meters of the school property you will be subject to a fine of approximately \$305.00. To report someone supplying tobacco/vaping products to anyone under 19 years old, call the Grey Bruce Health Unit at 519-376-9420 or 1- 800-263-3456.

### **Adverse Weather, Billeting and Bus Cancellation Procedures**

Bus cancellation information will be communicated via the radio stations and websites for local weather. If the school is closed, no students can attend. When the school is open, but buses have been canceled, all students will go online, with the exception of those Special Education students who had prior approval to attend. Transportation both to and from school on these days is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. If, due to adverse weather, buses are not able to return students to their homes at the end of the school day, students will be billeted to families in town according to the billeting information sheets submitted to the office at the start of the school year. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardians to ensure that billeting information is up to date and that your child has a plan to leave the school safely in these circumstances.

### **Student Council**

#### **2023-2024 OSDSS Student Council**

Co-Presidents –Kima Parkes and Cam Lovell  
Vice-President –Ava Stutzman  
Student Senator –Macy Robinson  
Operations Rep – Anita Jiang  
Secretary - Olive Borowski  
Social Convenor Reps – Afreen Rahman and Sydney Belbeck  
Grade 12 Rep (2) –Jadyn Sylvest  
Grade 11 Rep (2) –Brodie Dixon  
Grade 10 Rep (2) –Angeline Edgar, Teagan Cunningham  
Grade 9 Reps – TBD in September  
Public Relations Rep – Belle Walpole

Social Media Rep –Madison Rayner  
Yearbook Rep –Isaiah Burgess  
Athletic Council Reps– TBD in September  
Announcements Rep –Levi Wathke  
Tech Crew Rep – William Rawn  
Arts Rep- Vaughan Coffey  
BIPOC rep – Brianna Wayoe

The purpose of Owen Sound District Student Council is to represent the student body, organize activities, and promote school spirit, community pride, and citizenship. Student Council's mission is to serve the students of the school. Student Council has official power with regards to all student and teacher run extra-curricular organizations pertaining to students at OSDSS. If you are interested in participating in Student Council's many activities, listen to announcements, or drop by the Student Council office, located in the cafeteria. Many Student Council positions will be selected in September: this is your opportunity to participate in student government!

### **Student Fee**

All students are required to pay a student fee of \$60.00 which is collected during the first week of school. Paid student fees entitle students to a student card, yearbook, and a possible discount on dance tickets. Students must pay the student fee if they wish to join a team or club.

### **Online Payments - [SchoolCash Online](#)**

We now offer parents the convenience of paying online for school activities, field trips and sports events. Parents can even use their VISA or MASTERCARD on this system. For safety and efficiency reasons, we want to reduce the amount of cash and cheques coming into our school. School related expenses will be available online for you to make payments. Information is available on our website and in our newsletters.

### **SchoolMessenger**

Know what is going on in your school. Sign up for school messages using SchoolMessenger. SchoolMessenger is available through phone, email or text. Check out our school website for instructions: [www.osdss.bwdsb.on.ca](http://www.osdss.bwdsb.on.ca) - families/ community top tab and SchoolMessenger side tab.

You can also join us at OSDSS\_OFFICIAL on Instagram.



### **Food for Thought Program**

A breakfast program operated by our Special Education unit exists each day at OSDSS. Healthy food options are available to students daily. Volunteers are always welcome, and donations of money and supplies are always appreciated. At OSDSS, we also offer a lunch time program for students to take advantage of. Students should help themselves to the food provided at the front of the cafeteria.

### **OSDSS Athletics**

Athletes are expected to follow the OSDSS Athletics Code of Conduct that is given to them by their coaches. Athletic Eligibility: Students should be aware of the following criteria when they plan to participate in extra-curricular sports:

- Sixth-year students will NOT be permitted to participate in OFSAA sanctioned events. Students will be eligible for no more than five consecutive calendar years from their date of entry into grade 9
- For the first four years of a semestered high school, a student must be registered in a minimum of 3 credit courses in the semester in which he/she participates
- Students who have earned 22 credits may take 2 credits in the semester they are participating in sports
- Students must be in attendance at school and have paid student fees in order to be eligible to play school sports (tournament and uniform fees may be required for some sports)
- Students who work to their individual academic potential are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities
- Poor academic achievement or poor attendance may result in removal of extra-curricular privileges

### **Students new to Owen Sound District (exception of grade 9 students)**

Students transferring from another school are deemed ineligible for sports competition for the year after they transfer UNLESS they apply and meet the criteria. Application forms are available from Student Services and should be completed as soon as possible after the transfer.

### **Library Books**

Library books are signed out for 2 weeks at a time, and can be renewed (in 2-week increments) if still needed for a course, unless another patron has placed a hold on the book. Library books can be returned by placing them in the book bin in the hall outside the Library,

or in the slot in the Library circulation desk. Late fines will not be charged as long as books are returned in good condition. Library patrons will be required to pay the full replacement cost of any books not returned by the end of the semester, or books that are damaged.



### **Library Services**

See one of our Teacher-Librarians if you need help with computer or email logins and passwords, wifi access on your phone, tablet, or laptop, bibliography format (MLA, APA, Chicago style), colour printing (\$1 per page) and photocopying (25 cents/page).

### **Computer and Internet Use**

#### **Computer Use**

If students wish to use the computer equipment at OSDSS, they must abide by the computer use policy. Essentially, the policy states that students will respect the computer equipment and will not copy, change or use files of others without permission. They will also not access system programs without permission. All students must abide by the protocol established for Internet use.

#### **Internet Use**

The use of the Internet, and the Board's access to the Internet, are privileges. It is assumed that users will maintain a high standard of conduct at all times and by doing so, users will retain the privilege of accessing the Internet. All usage of the network will be consistent with the school's Code of Conduct.

### **Regulations for Acceptable Use of Computer Network Access**

Only software that has been authorized by Bluewater District School Board or created in class with teacher supervision may be installed on a computer network. No computer games will be allowed in the classroom with the exception of educational activities at the discretion of the teacher. Consequences for inappropriate computer/network activity will include: detention assigned through the office, suspension from school and ultimately removal of computer privileges.

## Important Dates 2023 -2024

Sept 4 ..... Labour Day  
Sept 5..... First Day Whole School  
Sept 12 ..... Picture Day  
Sept 21 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #1  
Sept 22 ..... PA Day  
Oct 4 ..... Picture Re-Take Day  
Oct 5 ..... Junior/Senior Awards Night  
Oct 6 ..... OSDSS Commencement  
Oct 9 ..... Thanksgiving Holiday  
Oct 18..... Interim Reports  
Oct 25 ..... Parent Teacher Interviews  
Oct 26 ..... Halloween Breakfast  
School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #1  
Oct 27 ..... PA Day  
Nov 6-17 ... Beaver Computing Challenge  
Nov 9 ..... Last day of Semester 1 - Term 1  
Nov 10 ..... First day of Semester 1 - Term 2  
Remembrance Day Assembly  
Nov 15 ..... Canadian Sr/Int Math Contests  
Nov 23 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #3  
Semi-Formal  
Mid-Term Report Cards go Home  
Nov 24 ..... PA Day  
Nov 27-29 . Grad Photos  
Dec 5 ..... Grade 8 Parent Information Night  
Dec 21 ..... School Food and Beverage Exemption Date #4  
Dec 25 -Jan 5 School Holiday  
Jan 8 ..... First Day Back  
Jan 24 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #5  
Jan 26 -Feb 1 Exams  
Feb 2 ..... PA Day  
Feb 5 ..... First Day of Classes Semester 2  
Feb 19..... Family Day Holiday  
Feb 15..... Semester 1 Reports Card go Home  
Feb 21..... Canadian Computing Competition  
Feb 28 ..... Pascal, Cayley and Fermat Math Contests  
Feb 29 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #6  
Mar ..... Grad Retakes TBD





Mar 11 -15 .... March Break  
Mar 28 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #7  
Mar 29 ..... Good Friday  
Apr 1 ..... Easter Monday  
Apr 3 ..... Elucid Math Contest  
Apr 16 ..... Last Day of Semester 2 - Term 1  
Apr 17 ..... First Day of Semester 2 - Term 2  
                    Careers and Civics Switch  
Apr 25 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #8  
Apr 26 ..... PA Day  
May 2 ..... Mid-Term Report Cards go Home  
May 20 ..... Victoria Day Holiday  
May 23 ..... School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #9  
May 24..... Track & Field Day  
June TBD.... Student Council Fun Day  
                    Special Olympics Rain Date  
Jun 6 ..... Prom  
Jun 13..... Co-op Employer Luncheon  
                    Athletic Banquet  
Jun 14 ..... Year-End Assembly  
                    School Food & Beverage Exemption Date #10  
Jun 19 ..... Locker Clean-Out  
Jun 21 -27 .... Exams  
Jun 28 ..... PA Day

### **Special Days in the School Year**

Occasionally special days will be held during the school year. These may include activities such as special assemblies, workshops, athletic events, drama presentations, etc. **Please understand that these are not optional activities, but are designed to be meaningful parts of a student's education.** Absences from these special activities will be considered truanancies.

### **Course Changes & Full Disclosure Full-Time Requirement:**

- Students with fewer than 23 credits are required to take 4 credits per semester. If a parent believes it is in the best interest of their son/daughter to take fewer than 4 courses they must have the permission of the school Principal
- It is vitally important that they spend time carefully choosing their courses so that they maximize their post-secondary options. Colleges, universities and apprenticeships all require students to have taken certain courses to qualify for admission.

### **Full Disclosure Policy**

- All attempts at senior courses (11-12) will be shown on the students' transcripts. Students wishing to have a course not appear on their transcript must officially drop the course in guidance before the sixth day following the mid-term report cards being issued.

### **Cafeteria**

Prepaid meal cards available \$60 for 10 meals. Prepay cards can be purchased on [SchoolCash Online](#) or in the Cafeteria.

- All cafeteria food provided to students meet the Ministry of Education: Healthy Eating Guidelines
- Students are encouraged to eat lunch in the cafeteria where tables and chairs are provided
- Being a good school citizen includes cleaning up lunch litter

### **Immunization**

The Immunization of School Pupils Act (1982) requires that all students be immunized against diphtheria, measles, mumps, poliomyelitis, rubella and tetanus, unless exempted by a statement of medical exemption or by a statement of religious belief. Failure to be immunized will result in suspension from school by the Public Health Unit.

### **Public Health Clinic**

A Public Health Nurse is available for service to our students. Students may speak privately by booking an appointment through the website outlined below or calling 519-376-9420 ext 1256. The Public Health nurse is also happy to help students and teachers access resources for school projects or other agencies.

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

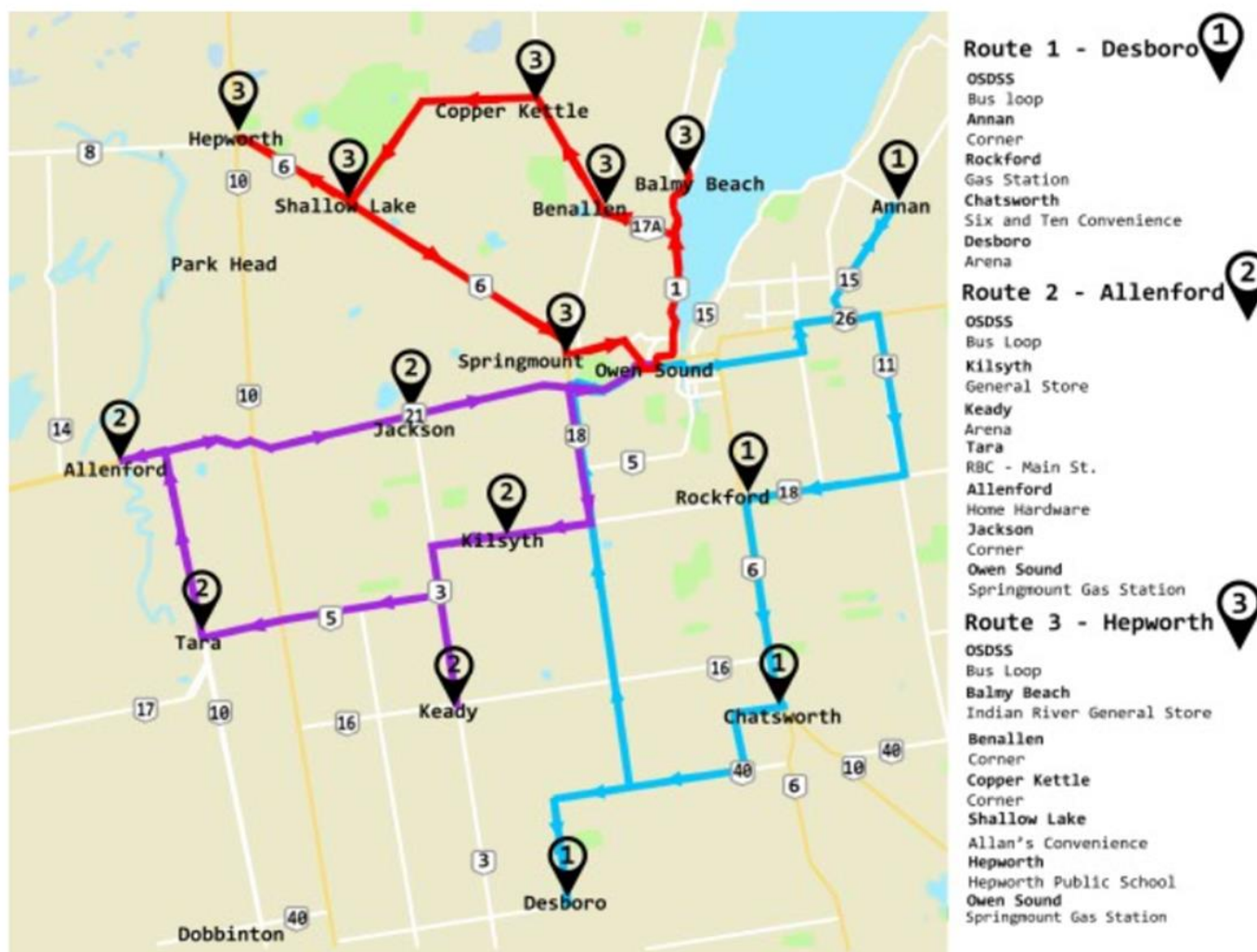
### **Mental Health Support**

Not sure where to look for help? Please see Student Success or Guidance for assistance. If you have other support questions, please call 211.



## The Wolf Express

The OSDSS After School Extra-Curricular Bus The bus will run Monday to Thursday if there are team/club practices/games/meetings. Sign up for the bus in the main office before 12:40 each day. Choose the route of your destination. Meet your bus at the front of the school (bus loop) by 5:15 p.m. – departure 5:20 p.m. **The bus must meet the minimum riders in order to run.**



## Board Policies

For further information on board policies, please see the board website at [www.bwdsb.on.ca](http://www.bwdsb.on.ca).

Have a Good Year!

