

BARRIE CENTRAL COLLEGIATE

PART 1



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2015/2016

**BARRIE
CENTRAL
COLLEGIATE**
<http://cen@scdsb.on.ca>

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Name: _____

Regular Daily Time Schedule 2015/2016

Semester I Classes		Semester II Classes
Warning Bells 7:50 & 7:55		
	Period 1 8:00–9:15	
Travel Time 9:15–9:20		
	Announcements Period 2 9:20–10:40	
Lunch 10:40–11:50		
	Period 3 11:50–1:05	
Travel Time 1:05–1:10		
	Period 4 1:10–2:25	

A MESSAGE FROM BARRIE CENTRAL COLLEGIATE ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to Barrie Central Collegiate. We believe that the entire school community is responsible to assist students in reaching their full academic potential and to encourage them to have a positive attitude toward themselves and society. This will happen when a partnership is developed between schools, families and the community. We are committed to continuing to build relationships to further our partnerships.

The mission of Barrie Central Collegiate is to provide students with a level of knowledge that will enable them to become contributing members of society. In an atmosphere of mutual respect, each student will learn the decision-making strategies and the group skills needed to become confident problem solvers.



The school logo is a Phoenix – a bird fabled to have burned itself on a pyre and emerged from the ashes with renewed youth to live through another cycle. It is a mythical bird that never dies but flies far ahead. It represents our capacity for vision, perseverance and power.

This handbook includes information about school rules and expectations, and Board policies. It also provides information frequently asked of us with respect to important dates such as exams, holidays and provincial testing.

We invite each of you to take advantage of everything that Barrie Central Collegiate has to offer and we extend to you, on behalf of our entire staff, our best wishes for the 2015/2016 school year.

TOPICS BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER

ASSEMBLIES

During the course of the year there will be a number of assemblies. When you are called to an assembly, leave your books in the classroom. The teacher will lock the door. Do **NOT** go to your locker or any other area of the school. While in the auditorium, you will be courteous and respectful to all participants in the assembly. Please sit with your class and teacher in the designated seats.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (BCAA)

Involvement in the Barrie Central Athletic Association provides students with the opportunity to meet and socialize with a greater number of people. It also provides students with the opportunity to develop those leadership skills important in the achievement of future goals. BCAA representatives are responsible for organizing sporting events (i.e. scoring, timing, lining etc.), buy-ins and the annual athletic banquet. A Fitness Centre exists at Barrie Central Collegiate. You must be a member of the Fitness Centre in order to use the equipment. To be a member, you must purchase a student activity card as well as attend a brief tutorial on how to use the equipment.

ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

LEARNING SKILLS AND WORK HABITS

The development of learning skills and work habits is an integral part of a student learning. To the extent possible, the evaluation of learning skills and work habits, apart from any that may be included as part of a curriculum expectation, should not be considered in the determination of a student's grade. Learning skills and work habits such as **responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative and self-regulation** may be assessed and reported on in order to provide information to students and their parents to support improved achievement and performance.

CATEGORIES OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

The categories of knowledge and skills are:

- **Knowledge and Understanding** – subject specific content acquired in each subject/course (knowledge), and the comprehension of its meaning and significance (understanding);
- **Thinking** – the use of critical and creative thinking skills and/or process;
- **Communication** – the conveying of meaning through various forms;
- **Application/Inquiry** – the use of knowledge and skills to make connections within and between contexts.

LATE OR MISSED ASSIGNMENTS

BCC believes in supporting students in developing time-management skills. This is an important part of preparing you for future education and the workplace.

Students are responsible for providing evidence of their achievement within the time frame and form specified by the teacher. As well, **students must understand that there are consequences for not completing assignments or for submitting those assignments late.**

It is the responsibility of both the student and the teacher to work collaboratively to establish deadlines for the submission of assignments. Those deadlines will be clearly communicated to the students and where appropriate to parents/guardians.

Teachers will use their professional judgment to prevent/address late or missing assignments, including:

- Outlining the late/missed assignment policy on the course outlines and overviews and reviewing it with all students so they have a clear understanding of the policy and the purpose of the policy
- Conferencing with students to clarify the reason for not completing the assignment and utilizing a **BCC completion contract as deemed necessary by the teacher.**
- The following procedure has been suggested for common staff messaging to students- 5 % per day deduction on assignment to a maximum of 25% of the total mark (after 5 days)
- After five school days the teacher will use their professional judgment to determine next steps which may include assigning a “no mark”, an alternative assignment, or a zero.

ATTENDANCE POLICY & PROCEDURES

We believe that regular attendance and arriving to class on time with the proper materials required for full participation are vital in achieving greater academic success. Such expectations prepare students for the pursuit of post-secondary education and employment opportunities in the workplace.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

When the processes and content of learning are disrupted by irregular attendance, both the individual student and his/her classmates suffer a loss of experience that can't be entirely regained. Students who habitually miss class will suffer in the evaluation process because their participation and achievement cannot be fully assessed. Expectations of participation, achievement, and attendance must be realistically related to the objectives of the course and must be clearly communicated to all students and their parents.

Student Absences

Notification to the school can be done either by phone, email, or a written note from a parent/guardian for students under the age of 18. Students of compulsory school age who chronically do not attend school regularly are reported to the school board Attendance Counselor to monitor and follow-up with legal proceedings if need be.

Students who are 18 may sign their own notes for absences and sign-outs as long as they have a valid reason. The school administration reserves the right to ask at any time for proof of validity.

Absence from School	A parent/guardian should notify the office by 1:30pm on the day of the absence to provide the student's name, date, time, reason and expected length of absence. If a call is not made to the office, a note or email with the same information must be provided to the school on the day the student returns. <i>Unexcused absences will result in consequences.</i>
Late to School	Notification must be given to the office for all excused lates. Students will report to the office to be given an <u>admit slip</u> , and then proceed immediately to class. Should students arrive to class without an admit slip, please direct them to the office. <i>Unexcused lates will result in consequences.</i>

Leaving during the School Day	A parent/guardian must contact the office or provide a note. A <i>yellow excuse slip</i> with the dismissal time will be issued by the office, to the student, to show the teacher. The student must sign out at the office. If the student <i>returns</i> to the school during the day, the student must sign back in at the office and will be given an <u>admit slip</u> .
Emergencies or Illness during School Day	In the case of emergencies or sudden illness, students are to report to the office where contact will be made with a parent/guardian to arrange for permission to leave, or seek further professional intervention or care.

Attendance reporting and responsibilities

Absences:

It is the parent/guardian's duty to make sure that the child attends school regularly. Parents can assist us by contacting us to verify their child's absence. This can be done by calling the school attendance line, emailing us, or providing a note. It is important to remember that students are responsible for completing the work missed during an absence, and that wherever possible; teachers should be informed in advance.

- Legitimate Absences include:
 - ❖ Bereavement
 - ❖ Religious Holidays
 - ❖ Illness – verified by a doctor's note
 - ❖ Court Appearance – verified by a court slip
 - ❖ Medical Appointment – verified by an appointment card/slip
 - ❖ School Sanctioned Events – verified by a teacher's/coach's note
 - ❖

Lates:

A student is considered late if not in period 1 *before* the National Anthem is played. A student who arrives **after 8:15a.m.** must sign in at the office. Students who are late for classes must be recorded as either ELA or ULA (dependent upon whether or not validation/notification was given to the office).

- Late buses will be announced on the PA; these students should not be marked as late.
- Disciplinary measures for accumulated lates are at the professional discretion of the teacher.
- If 5 lates are accumulated, the teacher can complete the Attendance Referral Form and submit it to the appropriate vice principal for follow up with further disciplinary consequences.

Missed Tests and Assignments:

Students who have an unexplained absence/truancy will normally receive a grade of "R" (not demonstrated). If a student misses a 30% summative assessment at the end of a course, a doctor's note will be requested. If however it is an unexplained absence that cannot be validated, a student will receive "R" (not demonstrated) for the portion of the summative assessment which is not completed.

Parent Portal:

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to create a **Parent Portal Account** through the PowerSchool program. This will give parent/guardian access to their child's attendance and at the secondary level, grade information. Parents can also sign up for email alerts to monitor their child's attendance on a daily basis. To set-up an account, parents will need their child's Student Number as well as an Access ID. The login page can be found at <http://ps.scdsb.on.ca>

If a student is 18, their parents/guardians will not be automatically invited to create an account.

Attendance when participating in Athletic Events, Co-Curricular Events, Extra-Curricular Events and Field Trips

Students must attend school and all classes on the days that they are attending any event/activities or field trip. Students absent from any class during the school day are not to participate in the event/activities or field trip scheduled for that day. Students who are participating are required to catch up on any missed classroom work, assignments, projects or presentations.

Holiday/Extended Absences Policy and Procedures

Regular attendance on the part of the student is vital to the process of learning and achieving academic success. A student who is absent for a prolonged period of time, may suffer in the evaluation process as the student's participation and achievement cannot be fully assessed and may result in the credit not being granted.

On occasion, parents choose to remove their child, or students themselves (age 18), choose to leave school for an extended period of time to holiday outside of regular scheduled school breaks. Please review the policy and expectations stated below:

- Process for extended absence:

A student is **completely responsible** for advising the appropriate vice principal, and each of his/her teachers as well as the office in writing (with a parent/guardian signature) of the dates of his/her departure. A **two week notice in advance** of the departure is required. Students will be given an "**Extended Absence Form**" from the attendance secretary that must be completed by all teachers, signed by the student, their parent/guardian and finally the vice principal.

- Student Responsibility: A student is completely responsible for any missed work, handouts, notes, assignments and tests (as per information included on the "Extended Absence Form).
- Adverse Effects: A student's mark will be adversely affected by a prolonged absence in a performance-based course where daily participation carries a substantial weight of marks.

- ❖ Assignments and Reports:

If assignments and reports are handed in prior to a student's departure, then the student will be eligible for full marks. Otherwise, assignments that were given prior to an absence, but are submitted *after the due date* are subject to the appropriate penalty and professional discretion applied by the course teacher.

- ❖ Projects, Presentations, Practical Skills-based Testing and Performances: These types of assessments and evaluations that were scheduled prior to or during a student's absence may be re-scheduled at the teacher's professional judgment. If a student is a part of a group task which is due or takes place during a student's absence, the student may receive a mark of zero on the performance or presentation component of the group task.

- ❖ Labs:

Due to the specific timing, preparation and availability of materials for labs, the student's absence may result in an "incomplete/no mark" being given. Next steps may be determined based upon the teacher's professional judgment. **SEE: Late or Missed Assignments Policy.**

BARRIE CITY POLICE

The Barrie City Police Officer for our school is PC Fines and can be reached at 705-725-7025 ext 2551.

CAFETERIA & EATING IN THE HALLWAY

The cafeteria is your dining room; please be considerate of others with whom you are sharing this facility. In addition to the cafeteria, lunch may be eaten in the **lower hallway only**. Eating/drinking in the **upper hallways is not permitted**. Students who choose to eat in the lower hallways will be responsible for ensuring that the hallways are kept clear and clean by disposing all garbage into the garbage cans provided.

EAT WELL TO EXCEL

Our Breakfast Program provides food for students who are in need. A variety of breakfast foods are provided every school day at 7:30a.m, in the Cafeteria. Lunches are also provided and can be obtained from the main Office and Student Success. Snacks are provided throughout the day at various locations throughout the school.

DANCES

1. All dances, including formals are for the benefit of high school students only.
2. All guests **must** be approved by the front office and signed in prior to the dance. Students are responsible for the behaviour of their guests and must accompany them to the dance.
3. Entrance doors to the dance are locked at a pre-determined time. Any admission after this time because of work commitments etc. must be by special arrangement with the Student Council and Supervising Teacher prior to the dance.
4. Coats **must** be removed and placed a designated cloakroom upon admission.
5. There is no re-admittance to the dance. Once a student leaves he/she may not return.
6. Proper conduct and appropriate dress are expected. Any student creating a disturbance may be asked to leave. Serious offenses will result in suspensions and may necessitate the removal of future dance privileges for the offending students and their guests.
7. All dances require the appropriate police supervision.
8. A list of all students who purchased tickets must be available at any time during or after the dance.

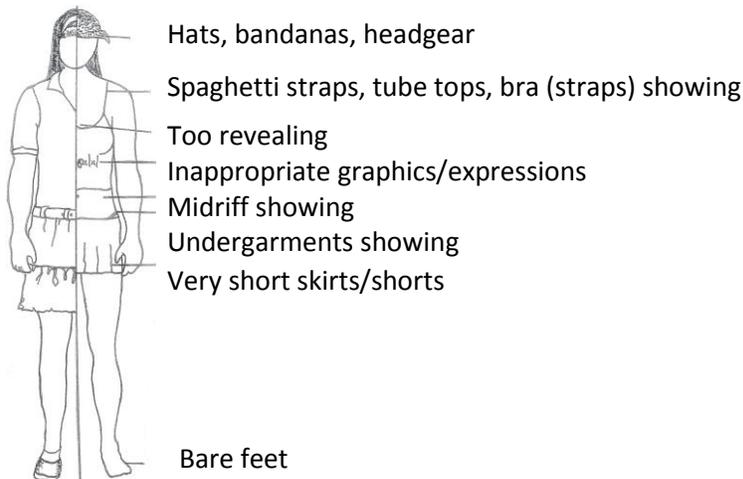
DRESS CODE

Students are expected to observe the dress code at all times while within the school area, as well as when they are representing the school out in the community. This includes the classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, and library. In addition, students must observe the dress code when participating in extra-curricular activities such as field trips and sporting events. Because our school is both an educational institution and a professional working environment, students must be dressed appropriately, in a non-offensive way which conveys respect for themselves and others.

- Unacceptable clothing includes: any apparel that promotes the use of alcohol, drugs, or illegal activities; any apparel that is profane or includes any degradation of an individual or group that may be racist, sexist, or homophobic; or that contains otherwise disturbing messages or pictures printed or drawn in any language.
- Shoes must be worn for health reasons.
- An uninterrupted line of clothing covering the body from the top of the shoulders to the mid-thigh is expected for both males and females. Midriffs are to be covered at all times. Students shall wear clothing with appropriate necklines as well as clothing that completely covers all underwear garments (*see pictures posted in each classroom*).

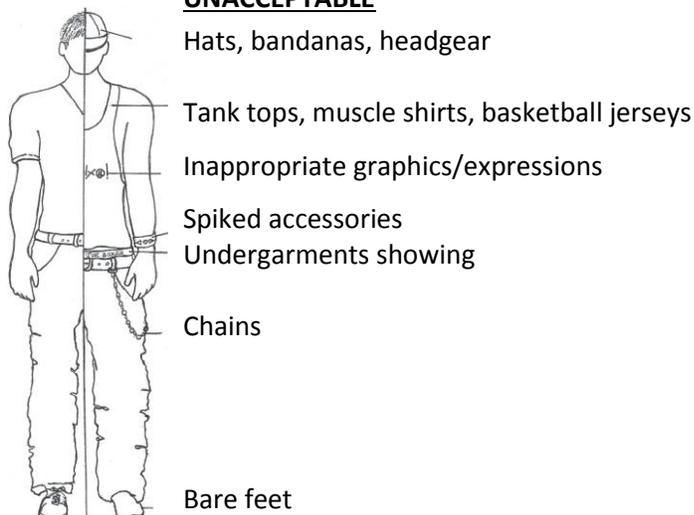
- The dress code applies at all times, including Hallowe'en and Spirit Days. Students may not wear face masks or hats, as this prevents teachers and other staff from clearly identifying students in and around the school area. In order to ensure the safety of everyone in the school, it is important that we are able to identify students at all times in order to prevent persons who are not a part of our school community from being present in the school illegitimately and creating a potential risk.
- Students who are not appropriately dressed for school will be sent to the office. If they do not have appropriate clothing of their own, they will be provided with attire by the school such as sweat pants and t-shirts.
- Students may be sent home to acquire appropriate clothing. If a student chooses to not comply with the dress code on a regular basis, further consequences may include detentions and/or suspensions.
- Students must store their hats, headgear, and coats, in their lockers upon arrival to school, before classes commence. Students who are seen in the school wearing hats/headgear will be reminded of the policy and may, at the professional discretion of a teacher or an administrator, ask to give up the item for the remainder of the day. Students, who are chronically non-compliant, will be sent to the office where disciplinary consequences will be given by Administration.

UNACCEPTABLE



- **Hairbands only for the purpose of pulling back the hair from the face**
- **An un-interrupted line of clothing from top of shoulder to mid-thigh**
- **Appropriate necklines. Clothing must completely cover all undergarments.**
- **Sheer or see-through tops are unacceptable**
- **Midriff must be covered**
- **Shorts, skirts and dress length must be at finger-tip length**
- **Appropriate footwear must be worn for health and safety reasons**

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EVALUATIONS

End of 1st semester evaluation days are scheduled for January 28, 29, 27 and February 1,2,3 2015. The final 2nd semester evaluations are scheduled for June 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27 2015. Students are responsible for reading the posted evaluation schedule and writing all required evaluations or attending all other evaluation activities. **Vacations and jobs must not be booked during this time.**

All students will write evaluations in those subjects for which an evaluation is scheduled – there will be no exemptions. The Principal will consider mitigating circumstances. Students who have 2 evaluations scheduled at the same time must report this conflict to the main office. A medical certificate is required for a student who is absent from an evaluation.

If inclement weather causes bus cancellations during evaluations, the evaluations for that day will be held on the next day of the evaluation schedule. All subsequent evaluations days, turn-around days and the opening day of the new semester may be adjusted.

FIELD TRIPS

School rules and policies are in place for all field trips. Where a student's conduct on a field trip is so refractory as to be injurious to the welfare or moral tone of the group, arrangements may be made for his/her immediate and safe return to the school or student's home. In such cases, legal custodians shall be notified of the travel arrangements and the cost to them of the supervised return. Barrie Central Collegiate and the SCDSB are not responsible to reimburse any money already paid when circumstances beyond the school's control present themselves. However, every effort will be made to minimize the impact of these decisions made in the best interest of the student involved.

GUIDANCE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

There are many services offered to students by Guidance. Contact Guidance at 726-1846 ext. 40561 for further help or information. All students are welcome to make an appointment to see a counsellor. Students may wish to discuss educational plans, career alternatives or topics of a personal nature. Counsellors will assist students in looking at alternatives and making informed decisions. Referrals will be made to outside agencies where this type of assistance would appear to be beneficial. Group meetings, workshops and seminars will be organized throughout the year in order to assist students with their educational career or work-related plans. Representatives from colleges and universities will visit the school to talk with prospective applicants. A variety of resources are available in the Guidance area to give students an opportunity to explore their career options. Students should visit Guidance early in Semester I for a complete listing of Scholarship/Bursary Information. Information and assistance with applications for college, university and apprenticeships is available.

HALLS

Halls are designed to allow for travel throughout the school – students are not to loiter in any hallway during classes. During the regular school day students may be at their locker 5 minutes before the beginning and end of each period. If you are a student with an unassigned period, you may leave the school, go to the **Library** or the **Cafeteria**. **Please do not eat or drink in our halls.** You will be asked to go to the cafeteria or deposit any food / beverage items in the garbage.

HEALTH INFORMATION

At all times your safety and well-being is our main priority. Students sometimes become ill at school or are involved in an accident. Depending on the nature of the injury, parents will be called. Emergency contact numbers will be used in the event parents cannot be contacted.

HOME SUPPORT FOR STUDENT LEARNING

The support of parents and guardians is closely linked to academic achievement. Parents and guardians can help students learn by:

- demonstrating their interest in education and in their child's progress, discussing their child's work and academic progress with the teacher.
- praising their child's efforts and accomplishments.
- discussing various aspects of school work and activities with their child in a positive and supportive manner.
- setting up an appropriate homework area, providing appropriate materials, and limiting distractions.
- asking their child to explain the assignment to them.
- monitoring their child's homework and provide assistance where needed.
- helping their child draw up a schedule to complete homework or a major project balanced with family time and extra-curricular activities.
- developing awareness of the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum.
- maintaining close communication with the school.

See the SCDSB School Year Calendar (available at the main office) for more suggestions.

HOMEWORK

Homework provides students with the opportunity to practice assignments, reinforce skills and learning introduced in the classroom, prepare assignments to gain background before instruction begins in class, and extend assignments by applying knowledge and skills beyond classroom learning. For further information, please refer to Board Policy 4106 posted on the SCDSB website: www.scdsb.on.ca

HONOUR SOCIETY

Members of the Honour Society have achieved an average of 80% for the year. Students of grades 9, 10, and 11 must average their eight subjects for the year. All subjects must be taken for the first time. Students in Grade 12 must be taking a minimum of 6 credits. This would complete their requirements for the OSSD. Students are acknowledged on a plaque located in the main foyer of the school.

KIDS HELP LINE

Most students will talk to their parents, other family members, teachers and friends about things that are bothering them. While we hope that students can get the support they need from this circle, on occasion, some students might like to talk with an objective person that is not involved in their day-to-day lives. The Kids Help Line at 1-800-668-6868 or www.kidshelpphone.ca is a 24/7, free, professional counselling service for children and teens.

LATE OR MISSED ASSIGNMENTS

It must be clear to students that they are responsible for providing evidence of their achievement within the time frame and form specified by the teacher. As well, students must understand that there are consequences for not completing assignments or for submitting those assignments late. It is the responsibility of both the student and the teacher to work collaboratively to establish deadlines for the submission of assignments. Those deadlines must be clearly communicated to the students and where appropriate to parents/guardians. It is expected that teachers will use a variety of strategies

to ensure that students submit assignments for evaluation and meet timelines. Where appropriate, students' tendency for submitting assignments late, or not submitting assignments may be noted as part of their report card comments.

Teachers will use their professional judgment to prevent/address late or missing assignments, including:

- Outlining the late/missed assignment policy on the course outlines and overviews and reviewing it with all students so they have a clear understanding of the policy and the purpose of the policy
- Conferencing with students to clarify the reason for not completing the assignment and utilizing a **BCC completion contract as deemed necessary by the teacher.**
- The following procedure has been suggested for common staff messaging to students- 5 % per day deduction on assignment to a maximum of 25% of the total mark (after 5 days)
- After five school days the teacher will use their professional judgment to determine next steps which may include assigning a "no mark", an alternative assignment, or a zero (please see below for board policy)

MEMO A1460 9.10

In some cases when student/parent/guardian/teacher communication, teachers/student interventions and referrals meet with no success, a teacher may deduct for late assignments, up to and including the full value of the assignment. When marks are deducted or zeros are assigned, teachers must use their professional judgment to ensure that the resulting final grade does not misrepresent the student's actual achievement relative to the overall expectations.

- support students in developing better time-management skills;
- having major assignments completed in stages to reduce 'all or nothing' situations for students;
- maintain on-going communication with students and parents/guardians regarding due dates;
- refer students to Student Success Team for support for mitigating circumstances;
- make appropriate accommodations/modifications based on the recommendation of the Student Success Team due to mitigating circumstances;
- review students' special educational needs (IEP) and access the support of students' special education resource teacher (SERT);
- make appropriate accommodations/modifications based on the students' IEP;
- review the students' English language learner needs (ELL);
- provide alternative assignments/tests (differentiated assessment) to support student engagement and choice.

LOCKER INFORMATION

1. Students will be assigned their own lockers. Their locker number, combination and serial number is to be recorded by each student on the Locker Information Sheet, which they will give to their Homeroom Teacher.
2. School combination locks may be purchased from the main office for \$5. A school purchased **Dudley** lock is the only type of lock which may be used on school lockers unless special permission is given.
3. Lockers are the property of the Simcoe County District School Board. School administrators have the right to access your locker any time without notice. The school reserves the right to remove the lock by force if necessary in order to gain access. Students are fully responsible for all contents found in their locker.
4. Locks purchased from the school become the property of the student. If a lock is lost, stolen or broken, it is the responsibility of the student to replace it at his/her own expense. The school will not exchange locks.

5. Locker damage, including thefts from lockers, should be reported immediately to the Main Office. The school cannot be responsible for any loss of or damage to personal property from lockers or elsewhere in the school. To prevent loss, do not reveal your locker combination to anyone.
6. Money and other valuables (jewellery, cameras, etc.) should never be left in a locker or change room but should be left in the Main Office or PE Office for safe keeping.

During late December and early June students will have the opportunity to clean out their lockers. At the end of the school year students are to have all contents removed by the announced date or items will be removed and discarded.

MEDICATION

Requests for school personnel to administer medication to students must be made through the principal. A special form is needed and is available at the school office. You must take the form to your doctor for authorization of the medication and the dosage to be administered. You are required to sign the form and bring it to the principal to discuss the procedure. Administration of short-term medications such as cold remedies, antibiotics, and pain relievers is also governed by this procedure. All medication will be kept locked in the office. Medication must be in its original labeled container. Please notify the office of any changes in the dosage, which your doctor has authorized.

OFFICE TELEPHONE CALLS

Students may use the office phone in emergencies only or during sign out procedures.

PARKING PASSES & PERSONAL VEHICLE

Students are expected to use Board transportation wherever it is provided. Effective **September 8, 2015, Parking Passes will be issued at the main office for \$10.00 refundable fee for Staff and Students.** You must complete a registration form with the correct and current vehicle information. It is your responsibility to ensure that the information is kept up to date at the main office. Your \$10.00 will be refunded to you at the end of the school year. We ask all students to be mindful of the additional vehicles and pedestrians. The school is not responsible for damage to vehicles while on school property.

PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION – SCHOOL EVENTS

Students on teams and field trips are expected to travel on the transportation provided by the school. Adult students may travel to these events in their own vehicles provided they have received written approval from school administration and their teacher at least ONE day in advance.

PLAGIARISM

BCC is concerned that fraudulent use of research materials will have consequences that are serious enough to jeopardize academic standing and post-secondary aspirations. Plagiarism includes copying the work of another student, having someone else write an assignment, copying a published author's text and using (by paraphrase) substantial ideas, argument or graphical representations from a published source without proper citation. You may be an accomplice in plagiarism if you knowingly allow your own work to be submitted as the work of another person. Examples of academic dishonesty are the following:

- to represent as one's own any idea, expression of an idea or work in any form.
- to hand in the same paper for more than one course including courses in other schools.
- to submit any academic work containing a purported statement of fact or reference to a source which has been concocted.

You must reference every statement of fact that is not considered to be common knowledge in the subject area, every opinion that is not arrived at independently and every time you paraphrase another person's ideas and opinions.

You must demonstrate your ability to use previous work on the subject, assimilate and present it, not as a patchwork of paraphrases but a freshly organized and individual design, which exhibits your own understanding of the subject. Most plagiarists are easily identified because teachers are familiar with sources and able to detect inconsistencies in the writing style, vocabulary, and syntactical structure of submitted work. Students are expected to cite all ideas or words quoted or paraphrased. When in doubt, **cite your sources**.

Students should keep all rough notes and a copy of the final assignment in the event that academic integrity becomes an issue. When it is believed that academic dishonesty has occurred, the following consequences may be applied:

- Receive a zero for the assignment.
- Be required to resubmit the assignment to be assessed but "no mark" will be entered.
- Suspension.
- Withdrawal from the course.

For more information, please refer to Board Policy 4181.

REPORTS

Regular reports inform parents/guardians and students how students are progressing in each course. Assessments made by teachers are based on the manner in which students complete their daily work and assignments, general attitude and participation in class, progress marks on tests, evaluations and assignments to date. Refer to the school calendar for reporting dates. Reports are available on request of the student's parents or guardians.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

All students must have one of the following before being permitted to participate in extra-curricular athletics, or overnight field trips:

- * Student accident insurance purchased through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada or
- * Coverage through an extended health and dental plan or
- * Parent/Guardian signature waiving participation in the insurance plan, with knowledge of the risk involved.

All students participating in a field trip outside the province or country must purchase student accident insurance or be covered by an extended health and dental plan. Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada contact information: 1-800-436-5437 or www.insuremykids.com.

SPECIAL AWARDS AND CRESTS

Honour points may lead to the awarding of a school Honour Crest, Honour Bar, Honour Letter or the Award of Merit. These Honour Awards are sponsored and financed by the Students' Council. Honour points are awarded in seven categories: Athletics, Dramatics, Executive, Literary, Music, Scholarship and Miscellaneous. A maximum of 10 points may be earned in any one category per year.

SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Modifications to evaluation techniques, counselling, tutoring, remediation, and timetable alterations can be done to accommodate the student's needs. Monitoring or direct assistance, whether on a one-to-one basis or in a small group, can be arranged. Please contact Mrs. Alexander, the Special Education Department Chair for more information. For information about Special Education programming and the Special Education Advisory Committee, please visit our web site at

www.scdsb.on.ca and click on Programs and Services, or call 705-734-6363. Our Review Committee process, Individual Education Plans, programs and services for exceptional pupils and contact numbers for members of the Special Education Advisory Committee are available from the Board Office.

STUDENT ACTIVITY CARD

The student card is \$20. The card identifies you as a student of Barrie Central Collegiate. It is required that all students participating on school teams or becoming members of school clubs have an activity card. The card is also required to purchase tickets to attend school-sponsored events, such as school game days, dances, etc.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Much can be gained from an educational experience beyond academic advancement. Be involved in Central's many teams, clubs and activities. This will promote the development of friendships, a sense of accomplishment and leadership ability. All the clubs are always open to new members at all times.

TEXTBOOKS

Thousands of dollars are spent each year replacing lost textbooks. Students are responsible for their texts. Students will sign out a text and it is to be returned by the student to the lending teacher prior to the final evaluation. Students misplacing a text must pay a replacement amount determined by the school. Central to enrol in another school should ask Guidance for copy of their transcript. Please return all your textbooks before you leave.

2015 - 2016 CALENDAR - SEMESTER 1

Thurs Sept 3	Gr. 9 Orientation Day 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Fri Sept 4	P.A. Day
Mon Sept 7	Labour Day Holiday
Tues Sept 8	Semester 1 Classes Begin
Thurs Sept 17	Photo Day
Fri Sept 18	White Attire Dance (Student's Council)
Wed Sept 18	Ring Day Showcase – Jostens
Wed Sept 21 and Thurs Oct 2	Ring Order Day – Jostens
Thurs Sept 24	Inside Ride Assembly
Fri Sept 25	Grade 9 Orientation
Fri Oct 2	Terry Fox Run/Walk – 35 th Anniversary
Wed Oct 7	MADD Assembly - Period 2
Mon Oct 12	Thanksgiving Holiday
Fri Oct 16	Interim Reports Issued
Thurs Oct 22	Parent / Teacher Interview Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm (5:15 BBQ)
Fri Oct 23	Photo Retake Day (Morning Only)
Mon Oct 27	P.A. Day
Mon Oct 26 - Fri Oct 30	Spirit Week
Fri Oct 30	Halloween Dance (Classics Club)
Fri Oct 30	Inside Ride Event

Wed Nov 4	Grade Nine "Take Our Kids To Work Day"
Wed Nov 4	"Picture Yourself at Central"
Wed Nov 11	Remembrance Day Assembly - Period 2
Fri Nov 13	P.A. Day
Thurs Nov 19	Mid-Semester reports issued
Wed Dec 2	Football Banquet
Fri Dec 4	Semi-Formal Dance (Classics Club)
Wed Dec 10	A Holiday Celebration Concert 7:30 pm
Fri Dec 11	Semi Formal (Snow Date)
Tue Dec 15	Saturnalia
Wed Dec 16	Locker Clean-Up
Fri Dec 18	Last Day of Classes – Christmas Assembly Period 2
Mon Dec 21 - Fri Jan 1	Christmas Break
Mon Jan 4	Classes Resume
Mon Jan 11 - Fri Jan 15	Graduation Photos
Mon Jan 11 and Mon Jan 18	EQAO Math
Wed Jan 27	Locker Clean-up
Thurs Jan 28 - Wed Feb 3	Evaluations
Thurs Feb 4 - Fri Feb 5	P.A. Days

2015 - 2016 CALENDAR - SEMESTER 2

Mon Feb 8	Semester 2 Classes Begin
Thurs Feb 18	Semester 1 Reports Issued
Mon Feb 15	Family Day Holiday
Mon Feb 23 and Tue Feb 24	Ring Days – Jostens
Mon Mar 14 – Fri Mar 18	March Break
Thurs Mar 24	Interim Reports issued
Thurs Mar 31	Parent/Teacher Interview Night 6:00 – 8:00pm
Fri Mar 25 – Mon Mar 28	Easter Weekend
Thurs Mar 31	OSSLT
Tue Apr 12	Semi-Formal Dance
Fri Apr 22-24	School Musical
Thu Apr 28	Mid-Semester Reports Issued
Tue May 3 – Sun May 8	Classics Conference
Fri May 6	Barrie Central Film Festival

Tue May 10	SCDSB Model UN
Wed May 11	Spring Rhapsody Music Night 7:30pm
Mon May 23	Victoria Day Holiday
Fri May 27 – Sun May 29	“Celebrate Central” Event
Wed June 1 and Mon June 6	EQAO Grade 9 Math
Wed June 1	Athletic Banquet
Wed June 1	Locker Clean Up
Thurs June 15	Grad Luncheon Bar-B-Q
Mon June 20	Final Assembly
Tue June 21 – Mon June 27	Evaluations
Tues June 28	Commencement
Fri July 7	Semester 2 Report Cards Mailed Out

For additional information, please see “Part 2” of the Student Planner for Board Policies below.

PART 2

SIMCOE COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Your Future... Our Priority

Message from Director of Education Kathryn Wallace

Welcome to the 2015-16 school year! This student handbook provides students and parents/guardians with information about student learning, Code of Conduct, safety, parent involvement, technology use, bus transportation, health and wellness, school year calendars and more. Please take the time to read this valuable information. On behalf of the Simcoe County District School Board, I wish all of you the best in achieving your goals. I hope you have a wonderful and successful school year.

School Year Calendars

The SCDSB 2015-16 school year calendars are published in this agenda and are also available at www.scdsb.on.ca under ‘Schools’ and ‘School Year Calendars’.

The Simcoe Path

The Simcoe Path multi-year plan sets out goals, directions and action plans to support student achievement in Simcoe County’s public education system. The plan focuses on:

- Relevant, purposeful learning supporting high achievement, well-being and learning for life
- Inclusive, equitable and safe learning and working environments
- Responsible stewardship of resources
- Confidence in public education

The Simcoe Path is available at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'About Us' and 'Multi-Year Plan'.

Student learning

The Ontario Curriculum:

- sets out expectations for student learning in each subject area and at every grade level K-12
- provides expectations for implications that are inclusive and reflect the diversity of all learners
- gives our students the most up-to-date knowledge and skills to be successful in the competitive global economy and to be responsible citizens in their communities

For more information, please visit the Ministry of Education website, www.edu.gov.on.ca.

Assessment and reporting

Teachers assess how students meet curriculum expectations in various ways, depending on the grade and subject matter. This may be through discussions, tests or exams, projects, reports, participation and assignments. Parents and guardians of elementary students can get specific information on assessment from the classroom teacher. Most secondary teachers provide assessment information at the beginning of each course.

Elementary school progress reports are sent home in November with a focus on learning skills and work habits. Report cards are sent home in February and June. In addition, student/teacher/parent conferences are held in the fall. Secondary school progress reports are provided in October and March prior to student/teacher/parent conferences, with midterm reports in November and April and final reports prepared in February and July.

The main purpose of assessment and reporting is to improve student learning. Reporting to parents through report cards provides information about:

- student achievement of the curriculum expectations (grade and comment)
- student demonstration of specific learning skills
- student attendance including times late and days absent, if applicable
- information about second language programming and special learning needs

Homework

All SCDSB schools follow the board's homework policy, which can be viewed online at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board' and 'Policies', Policy 4106 Homework. Homework is a range of activities completed outside of school that support learning.

Homework should:

- be planned by the teacher to directly support classroom instruction
- be an engaging and relevant learning activity that can be completed by the student independently
- be planned to meet each student's strengths and needs
- include feedback from the teacher

Teachers will avoid giving homework during holidays and days of significance.

Provincial assessments

Provincial assessments are developed and scored by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO). Each student who completes a provincial assessment receives an Individual Student Report (ISR) which outlines the student's overall achievement. School and board achievement data are used to inform changes to teaching practices to support student learning.

Each school develops a school plan that focuses on strategies to promote successful learning and encourages students to be actively involved in their learning. School-by-school results are available at www.eqao.com.

Provincial Assessments			
Grades	Assessment	When (2015-16)	Individual, School, Board Reports
Grades 3 and 6	Primary & Junior Assessment of Reading, Writing & Mathematics	May 25-June 5	Available in the fall
Grade 9	Assessment of Mathematics	Semester 1: Jan 8-23 Semester 2: May 28-June 12	Available in the fall
Grade 10	Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) assesses reading and writing skills. The OSSLT is one of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. www.eqao.com	March 26	Available in June. Report indicates whether or not the student successfully completed the assessment. Candidates who are unsuccessful will receive suggestions for improvement. Principals have the discretion to allow students to enroll in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC) before they have a second opportunity to take the test, if the principal determines that it is in the best educational interests of the student (Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum 127). The OSSLC is a full-credit, non-compulsory Grade 12 course that is offered as part of the English program. Students who successfully complete the OSSLT or the OSSLC have met the literacy requirements for graduation.

Student Success

The SCDSB has established strategies in Grades 7 to 12 that focus on literacy and numeracy skills, and enhance learning opportunities for all students. Student Success teams work together to ensure smooth transitions for students from elementary to secondary school, between grades and after graduation.

The development of Individual Pathway Plans encourages students to set goals, discover and identify skills and abilities related to future interests, and plan for both secondary and post-secondary education.

Through the myBlueprint education planner, students and parents can plan and revise Individual Pathway Plans.

Programs such as Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSMs) are designed to prepare students for sector-specific career destinations. Job-related career awareness activities and experiential learning opportunities are explored in Grades 7 to 12, and opportunities for more in-depth exploration through Co-operative Education Programs are available in Grades 11 and 12. Dual credit courses enable students to gain a secondary school credit while completing a college course and earning a college credit. The Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) allows students in trades related cooperative education placements to begin working towards apprenticeship requirements.

More information about Student Success initiatives is available at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Students' and 'Secondary Program Info'.

Community Involvement Hours

As part of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma graduation requirements, students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement activities. The aim of this requirement is to encourage students to develop both civic responsibility and a desire to play a role in strengthening their community. Students may begin to accumulate community involvement hours in the summer before they enter Grade 9. For a list of eligible and ineligible activities and for the form that is to be used to document community involvement activities, please visit www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Students' and 'Community Involvement'.

Special Education

The goal of special education in the SCDSB is to help students achieve the curriculum to the best of their ability and to become as independent as possible as they do so. For information about Special Education programs and services, and about the Special Education Advisory Committee, please visit www.scdsb.on.ca and select 'Programs' and 'Special Education' or call 705-734-6363, ext. 11729. Our Special Education Plan (available on our website) has information about the Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) process, Individual Education Plans (IEP), programs and services for exceptional students and contact numbers for members of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Voluntary, Confidential Self Identification of First nation, Métis and Inuit Students

Are you a First Nation, Métis or Inuit student? If so, you are invited to participate in our Voluntary, Confidential Self- Identification process. The SCDSB collects First Nation, Métis and Inuit Self-Identification data to support student achievement and reduce gaps in student achievement. Information collected is used to inform program planning and services that are relevant for First Nation, Métis and Inuit learners. Disclosing First Nation, Métis and Inuit ancestry is completely voluntary and confidential and NO proof of ancestry is required. Please contact your school office if you wish to self-identify.

Character Development in SCDSB Schools

Character development is the intentional modeling, teaching and practising of positive character traits and is an integral part of each day. Character development includes respecting others by listening, promoting responsibility and honesty, trusting and respecting the ideas of others, encouraging honest/ responsible actions, respecting individual differences, as well as being responsible in learning. Board and school initiatives are designed to teach and encourage students to be positive, productive members of our community.

The SCDSB's character education program is a deliberate effort to nurture universal attributes that transcend racial, religious, socio-economic and cultural lines. It focuses on 10 character traits that are taught and modeled in all SCDSB elementary and secondary schools. These traits are: integrity, responsibility, cooperation, caring, respect, optimism, honesty, empathy, courage and inclusiveness.

Child safety

Bullying Prevention and Intervention

Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful society is a shared responsibility in which school boards and schools play an important role. Bullying prevention and intervention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment that supports academic achievement for all students and helps students reach their full potential.

Staff, students and parents work together to implement bullying prevention and intervention plans in their schools. Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, aggressive behaviour that is directed at an individual(s) that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear, 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.

Bullying will not be accepted on school property, at school-related activities, on school buses or in any other circumstances (e.g. online). Schools use a progressive discipline approach and may use a range of interventions, supports and consequences when bullying behaviour has occurred, with a focus on improving behaviour. Bullying is on the list of infractions for which suspension must be considered. More information can be found at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Parents' and 'Safe and Healthy Schools'.

Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

The Ontario Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) provides a range of services for families and children, including children who are, or may be, victims of child abuse or neglect. The Act promotes the best interests, protection and well-being of children. The Act states clearly that members of the public, including professionals who work with children, have an obligation to promptly report to a Children's Aid Society if they suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection.

Info: Children's Aid Society or Family and Children's Services.

Working Together to Keep Our Schools Safe

The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place designed to keep our schools safe.

Shelter in Place

Shelter in place is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. During a shelter in place, activities will continue inside the school, but students and staff will not be allowed to leave the building. In some cases, the ventilation system may be shut off.

Hold and Secure

A hold and secure is initiated when there is a situation taking place in the community that is not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. A hold and secure is usually initiated by police. During a hold and secure, activities continue inside the building, but all doors are locked and no one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

Lockdown

A lockdown is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. A lockdown can be initiated by police or by school staff. During a lockdown, students and staff will move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff will remain quiet.

Our schools practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools), www.scdsb.on.ca, through local police and local media.

Fire Drills and Evacuation Plans

All schools have evacuation plans, which include a designated evacuation site. All schools practice their evacuation plan throughout the year during regular fire drills.

Sign-in at the office

All visitors are required to sign-in at school offices and wear visitor identification. Even regular visitors, like school volunteers, must sign in. Elementary school doors are locked during the school day, so visitors will be buzzed into the building.

Criminal Record Checks for Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers are required to complete a criminal record check with vulnerable sector screening before having contact with students.

Safe Arrival System

We ask all parents to contact their school when their child will be absent from school. When schools don't hear from a parent/ guardian, and a student who is enrolled in the program is absent, the school will call home to find out the reason for the absence.

First Aid Equipment

All schools are equipped with Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

Police Partnership

We have a great relationship with our local police. Each school's School Resource Officer is an important part of the school team. School Resource Officers help our schools be proactive by presenting at assemblies, working with classes and groups of students, being available to answer questions and provide guidance, and acting as a liaison with our local police if an issue comes up.

Our commitment

It's important for you to know that we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. Your children are our children—we are committed to their safety, well-being and success.

If you have any questions about safety procedures, as always, please contact the school office.

Kids Help Phone

Many students will talk to their parents, other family members, teachers and friends about things that are bothering them. While we hope that students can get the support they need from this circle, on occasion, some students might like to talk with an objective person who is not involved in their day-to-day lives. The Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868 or www.kidshelpphone.ca is a 24/7, free, professional counselling service for children and teens.

Code of Conduct

The SCDSB code of conduct outlines expected standards of behaviour and student discipline procedures. It applies to every member of the school community, and outlines the roles and responsibilities for each group.

Code of Conduct

Standards of Behaviour

Respect, Civility and Responsible Citizenship

All members of the school community must:

- Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws;
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity;
- Respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions;
- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement;
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of, for example, their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability;
- Respect the rights of others;
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others;
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- Seek assistance from a member of the school staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully;
- Dress in a manner that is appropriate to school activities with regard to exposure, cleanliness and/or message;
- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority;
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching;
- Not swear at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority.

Safety

All members of the school community must not:

- Possess any weapon, including firearms;
- Use any object to threaten or intimidate another person;
- Cause injury to any person with an object;
- Possess or be under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs;
- Provide others with alcohol or illegal drugs;
- Be under the influence of a noxious substance, such as glue or gasoline;
- Contravene the Tobacco Control Act;
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person;
- Engage in bullying behaviours;
- Commit sexual assault;
- Traffic weapons or illegal drugs;
- Give alcohol to a minor;
- Commit robbery;
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias;
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school.

Student Discipline Procedures

Prevention and Early Intervention

Prevention and early intervention strategies help students achieve their potential and support a positive school environment. School programs and activities focus on building healthy relationships, character development, and civic responsibility and encourage positive participation of the school community in the life of the school.

Progressive Discipline

Progressive discipline is a non-punitive, whole-school approach that uses a continuum of corrective and supportive interventions, supports and consequences to address inappropriate behaviour and to build upon strategies that promote positive behaviours. Consequences include learning opportunities for reinforcing positive behaviour and assisting pupils to make good choices.

Factors Considered Before Addressing Inappropriate Behaviour through Progressive Discipline

The principal or designate:

- Considers the particular student and circumstances, including mitigating and other factors;
- Considers the nature and severity of the behaviour;
- Considers the impact of the inappropriate behaviour on the school climate;
- Consults with the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) (unless the student is an adult).

Mitigating factors to be considered include the student's:

- Ability to control his/her behaviour;
- Ability to understand the foreseeable consequences of his/her behaviour;
- Presence at the school and whether or not this presence would create an unacceptable risk to the safety of any individuals at the school.

Other factors to be considered include:

- Academic, discipline and personal history;
- Previous progressive discipline approaches taken with the student;
- Whether the infraction for which the student might be disciplined was related to any harassment of the student because of race, ethnic origin, place of origin, religion, creed, disability, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation or harassment for any other reason;
- Impact of the discipline on the student's prospects for further education;
- The student's age;
- Where the student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or disability-related needs:

- Whether the behaviour causing the incident was a manifestation of the student's disability;
- Whether appropriate individualized accommodation has been provided;
- Whether a suspension is likely to result in aggravating or worsening the pupil's behaviour or conduct or whether a suspension is likely to result in a greater likelihood of further inappropriate conduct;
- Whether or not the pupil's continuing presence at the school creates an unacceptable risk to the safety of anyone in the school;
- If the pupil's continuing presence in the school creates an unacceptable risk to the safety of others in the school, then a progressive discipline approach may not be appropriate.

Infractions for which a suspension may be imposed by the principal include:

- Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person;
- Possessing alcohol, illegal or restricted drugs;
- Being under the influence of alcohol;
- Swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority;
- Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at the pupil's school or to property located on the premises of the pupil's school;
- Bullying;
- Any act considered by the Principal to be injurious to the moral tone of the school or the physical or mental well-being of members of the school community;
- Any act considered by the Principal to be contrary to the Board or school Code of Conduct.

A student may be suspended only once for an infraction and may be suspended for a minimum of one (1) school day and a maximum of twenty (20) school days.

Infractions for which an expulsion may be recommended to the Board:

- Possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm or knife;
- Using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person;
- Committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner;
- Committing sexual assault;
- Trafficking in weapons, illegal or restricted drugs;
- Committing robbery;
- Giving alcohol to a minor;
- An act considered by the principal to be significantly injurious to the moral tone of the school and/or to the physical or mental well-being of others;
- A pattern of behaviour that is so inappropriate that the pupil's continued presence is injurious to the effective learning and/or working environment of others;
- Activities engaged in by the pupil on or off school property that cause the pupil's continuing presence in the school to create an unacceptable risk to the physical or mental well-being of other person(s) in the school or Board;
- Activities engaged in by the pupil on or off school property that have caused extensive damage to the property of the Board or to goods that are/were on Board property;
- The pupil has demonstrated through a pattern of behaviour that he/she has not prospered by the instruction available to him or her and that he/she is persistently resistant to making changes in behaviour which would enable him or her to prosper;
- Any act considered by the principal to be a serious violation of the Board or school Code of Conduct;
- Where a pupil has no history of discipline or behaviour intervention, or no relevant history, a single act, incident or infraction considered by the principal to be a serious violation of the expectations of pupil behaviour and/or a serious breach of the Board or school Code of Conduct.

References (available at www.scdsb.on.ca or from your school): Policy 4240: Safe, Inclusive and Accepting Schools; Policy 4250: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour; Policy 4255: Bullying Prevention & Intervention; Administrative Procedures Memorandum A7630: Code of Conduct; Administrative Procedures Memorandum A7635: Student Discipline Procedures.

Parental Involvement

Parents play a key role in their children's education. You were your child's first teacher. Your attitude toward learning can influence and shape how your child views education, as well as their own ability to learn. There are many valuable ways for you to participate in your child's education:

Volunteers

The SCDSB encourages parents to volunteer in schools. Volunteers are asked to complete an information form, provide an original copy of a Criminal Record Check which includes Vulnerable Sector screening and go through an orientation program to become familiar with the school and its daily routines. Volunteers work under the direction of the principal and staff. Should you wish to join our team of volunteers, please contact the school.

School Councils

School councils are a vital link between schools and the community. Each school council serves as an advisory group and provides input to school administrators about a variety of school-based topics and issues. Although membership may vary slightly from school to school, school councils consist of parents, as well as the school principal or vice-principal, a teacher, a non-teaching school employee, a student (required at the secondary level) and a community representative. New school council members are recruited and elected on an annual basis. All school council meetings are open to the public, so parents can attend even if they are not formal members of school council.

Parent involvement Committee

The SCDSB encourages the involvement of parents in their child's education in a number of settings and structures. The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) of the SCDSB links the work of schools with families, and that links parents to senior board staff and trustees. The PIC works collaboratively with stakeholders in our school system to develop strategies to enhance parent engagement and outreach, particularly through district workshops, conferences and inter-school communication. The mandate of the PIC is to:

- support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being
- provide information and advice on parent engagement to the board
- communicate with and support school councils
- undertake activities to help parents support their children's learning at home and at school
- identify and reduce barriers to parents who find involvement challenging

Other ways to support learning

There are many ways parents can support and encourage their children's learning.

- Lead by example: be a lifelong learner yourself!
- Look for ways to "bring the lesson home" by tying in school lessons with everyday experiences.
- Instill confidence in your child that he/she is capable of learning.
- Encourage your child to seek help when she/he doesn't understand something. Share suggestions and input with your School Council, school principal and child's teachers. Talk to your school principal or vice-principal to find out about more involvement opportunities.

Technology

Technology use

The SCDSB believes that technology and technological devices play an important role in learning and teaching. The proper use of technology is expected of all students and staff. As part of a technology enabled learning environment, the SCDSB has created guidelines regarding technology use in schools and SCDSB facilities. The Appropriate Use Guidelines can be found online at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board' and 'Procedures',

A1300 – Information and Computing Technology – Appropriate Use Guidelines for Students.

Digital Citizens

The SCDSB's multi-year plan, The Simcoe Path, supports the integration of technology for learning and teaching. Teachers assist our students in developing the ability to determine what is appropriate, safe and realistic in their interactions online through discussions on digital citizenship. Teachers integrate digital citizenship into curriculum delivery to assist students in developing the skills required to navigate the online world.

Misuse of Technology

Student misuse and/or abuse of board and school facilities and resources is subject to consequences as defined and explained in the SCDSB Code of Conduct. The SCDSB Appropriate Use Guidelines can be found at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board' and 'Procedures', A1300 - Information and Computing Technology - Appropriate Use Guidelines for Students.

The proper and effective use of educational technology devices is expected of all students and staff. While teachers do supervise the use of such devices, students are expected to use all devices and access sites in a responsible way. Students in the SCDSB have access to the Internet to support their learning goals, to access curriculum related materials and to research reference materials. The SCDSB uses filtering software to guide, and in some cases restrict, access by students to the Internet. No software, however, can be completely effective in blocking unacceptable websites.

Social networking

The evolution of the Internet and social networking sites has changed how we communicate and collaborate with teachers, students, parents and communities. Collaboration in the online world can be a very powerful learning tool and help students connect with peers around the world. It is important that staff and students use proper digital citizenship at all times online, and recognize the internet is a public forum—what goes online, stays online and may never be fully erased. Schools regularly teach cyber safety, and social media and Internet safety workshops are often held for parents. Your child's classroom teacher will provide you with information on how social media is being used in the classroom. If you have concerns, express these to the teacher and principal. Should you decide you do not wish for your child to participate in social media based lessons, a suitable educational alternative will be found.

If using social networking sites outside of the classroom (i.e. in their homes), students are reminded that appropriate behaviour and anti-bullying guidelines apply in the online world. Protect your own privacy, safety and reputation.

Student guest wireless network

The SCDSB guest wireless network connects students and teachers with access to the Internet with their personal devices in classrooms for academic purposes. This enriches learning experiences and supports student achievement, and the use of online collaboration forum tools such as blogs, social networking sites, wikis, etc., may be enhanced with wireless access. Students will require parent/guardian permission to access the network. Parents/ guardians should consider the following information when granting permission:

- The decision to allow a student to bring a personally owned device to school rests with the parent and the student.
- The SCDSB is not responsible for devices that are lost, stolen or damaged in any way. Devices should be easily identifiable, clearly labelled and, where possible, registered with the manufacturer.
- Parents/guardians are expected to review the Appropriate Use Guidelines with their children, found at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board' and 'Procedures', A1300 - Information and Computing Technology – Appropriate Use Guidelines for Students.

Students' access to the guest network will not be limited to instructional time. Parents/guardians should discuss appropriate guidelines for personal use of the Internet with their children, and determine if their child can responsibly manage their device at school. Students at no time have permission to connect to the local

area network (LAN) using a cable of any sort. Access to the guest network is a privilege. The SCDSB may deny guest network access at any time.

Use of recording equipment

The use of recording equipment (audio, video, digital or photography) must be authorized by the teacher or staff member before any recordings are made. Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, iPods, iPads, computers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), MP3 players, tape recorders, video-recorders or digital audio recorders. This is to respect the privacy and ensure the safety of all students and staff. If recordings are taken without permission, it may result in confiscation of the equipment and appropriate discipline. Confiscated equipment may be returned to the parent or guardian, or in the event of suspected illegal or inappropriate activity, it may be forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Transportation

The Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) plans and coordinates the safe and efficient home-to- school transportation for over 34,000 students—21,000 from the SCDSB. The role of the SCSTC includes contracting bus and vehicle operators on behalf of the SCDSB and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board. SCDSB transportation policies are available at your school or online at www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board', 'Policies' and Policy 2410 Transportation of Students. For SCSTC policies and procedures related to student transportation eligibility, stop locations, bus cancellations and more, please visit www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca.

Pick up/drop off location change requests can only be made through your school. The school principal will contact the SCSTC regarding change requests. For safety and insurance reasons, students are not permitted to ride on school vehicles other than the vehicle they have been assigned to.

Rider safety

All students must be safe while riding school vehicles. The bus driver has full charge of the vehicle and students must follow his/her instructions. For discipline issues, school vehicles are considered an extension of the classroom. Students are responsible to the school principal, through the driver, for their behaviour on a school vehicle. Failure to comply with board and SCSTC policies/guidelines or instructions from the school vehicle driver may result in removal of bus riding privileges.

The board may equip school vehicles with surveillance systems. These systems are installed in accordance with the SCDSB Surveillance Guidelines to enhance the safety and security of students and staff, to protect property against theft and vandalism and to aid in the identification of individuals who endanger the health, well-being or safety of school community members.

Weather-Related School Vehicle Cancellations Procedures

Student safety is always the priority. During pre-dawn hours, the SCSTC and their contracted school vehicle operators review weather and road conditions throughout Simcoe County to determine if school vehicle cancellations are required. School vehicle cancellations are confirmed and communicated between 6 to 6:30 a.m. School vehicle cancellation information is:

- posted on the SCSTC website www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca
- announced via the SCSTC twitter account @SCSTC_SchoolBus

Additionally, local radio stations and other media outlets are notified.

When school vehicle service is cancelled in the morning, the decision remains in effect for the entire school day. Schools remain open for student learning.

Please be aware of your school's weather zone, as well as your child's bus number and bus company name. School vehicle cancellations may:

- be specific to a single weather zone
- include multiple weather zones, or
- apply to all Simcoe County weather zones

On rare occasions, transportation may be cancelled mid-day due to rapidly deteriorating road and weather conditions. In this situation, students will remain supervised at school until it is safe for parents pick them up. At all times, the safety and well-being of your child is our main priority.

School closures are rare and are made by the Director of Education, in consultation with school and board staff. Any closures of this nature will be posted online at www.scdsb.on.ca and sent to the local media.

Health and wellness

Food allergies

To ensure a safe environment for all students, please do not send any peanut or nut products to school. Read ingredients carefully and check with teachers before sending treats for any special occasions. Please be aware that there may be different allergies in a classroom which might mean other items may not be brought in. Your classroom teacher will make you aware if this is the case.

Many schools implement “Reduce the Risk” programs to support students with potentially life-threatening food allergies. Your co-operation is essential and greatly appreciated.

Medication in School

Requests for school staff to administer medication to students must be made through the principal. A special form is needed and is available at the school office. Parents must take the form to the doctor for authorization of the medication and the dosage to be administered. Parents are required to sign the form and bring it to the principal to discuss the procedure. Administration of short-term medications such as cold remedies, antibiotics, and pain relievers is also governed by this procedure. All medication, with the exception of EpiPen and asthma inhalers, will be kept locked in the office, and must be in its original labeled container. Please notify the office of any changes in the dosage, which your doctor has authorized.

Prevention of illnesses at School

Sicknesses can spread quickly at school. If your child is sick, please keep them home. To help stop the spread of illnesses, staff and students are advised to cough or sneeze into their arm or a tissue and wash their hands before eating and after using the washroom and coughing or sneezing. Notify the school when your child is absent due to a communicable disease. Some of these illnesses must be reported to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. Fact sheets and brochures are available at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Hand Hygiene

The single most important thing anyone can do to control infections is to keep their hands clean. Students and staff should:

- wash hands with soap and water for at least 15 seconds
- rub all parts of the hands and wrists with soap and water including in between fingers and under the finger nails
- use alcohol-based hand rubs when access to running water is limited

Immunization

Vaccines are a safe and effective way to prevent many life threatening diseases. It is important to get all vaccines in the recommended schedule to provide the best possible protection. When registering for school, parents are required to provide the health unit with proof of completed immunization against tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps and rubella, or with the appropriate documentation if they choose not to have their child immunized.

It is important to contact the health unit each time your child receives immunization(s) from your health care provider so their record at the health unit can be updated. Students who do not have up-to-date immunization records or a valid exemption on file at the health unit may be suspended from school.

Use the secure online form at www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/immsonline to update your child’s record or call the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Laser pointers not permitted

Laser pointers are useful tools for educators and for students when supervised in the classroom, but they can be hazardous when used incorrectly. Students are not permitted to bring laser pointers on school property.

Head lice management

The SCDSB has a common procedure for all elementary schools to follow in the management of head lice (see A7210, Head Lice (Pediculosis) Management on www.scdsb.on.ca under 'Board' and 'Procedures').

Parents of a student with head lice are required to complete a form to indicate that his/her child has been treated and is free of lice before the child is allowed to return to the classroom. The school will provide this form.

Checking your child's head on a regular basis (weekly is best) or more often during an outbreak will prevent the spread of head lice. Learn to recognize head lice:

- Head lice are tiny insects that live on the scalp, where they lay their eggs.
- Lice have three stages: the egg (nits), the nymph and the adult.
- Nits are whitish-grey, tan or yellow ovals about the size of a grain of sand. They are glued to the hair shaft and do not flick off like dandruff.
- The nymph are baby lice which are transparent.
- The adult lice are the size of a sesame seed, dark brown in colour, flat, and have wingless bodies.

Please notify the school when you identify that your child has head lice. Schools will provide parents with an information sheet to help with the management of head lice. For more information about identification, treatment and prevention, contact your family doctor, local pharmacist or Your Health Connection (Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit) at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Smoke-free School Grounds

There is no smoking on school grounds by anyone, anywhere, anytime. Schools and school boards are required by law to ensure that school property is 100% smoke free 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. get a Healthy Start with Free Dental Care The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has two no-cost dental programs for eligible children 17 and under—the Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT) program and the Healthy Smiless Ontario (HSO) program. CINOT treats the urgent dental needs of children and youth whose families cannot pay for a dentist. HSO offers a full range of dental services, including checkups, cleaning, fillings and more.

To find out more about the programs, eligibility requirements and how to make an appointment, call the health unit at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Student accident insurance

All students must have one of the following before being permitted to participate in extra-curricular activities:

- Student accident insurance purchased through Reliable Life Insurance Company. The cost of the minimum plan, Bronze, is \$13.50 for 365 days of coverage; or,
- Parental/guardian confirmation of coverage through an extended health and dental plan.

All students participating in a field trip outside the province or country must purchase student accident insurance or be covered by an extended health and dental plan. The cost of the insurance and travel plan Platinum, through Reliable Life Insurance Company, is \$32 for 365 days of coverage.

Reliable Life Insurance Company contact information: 1-800-463-5437 or www.insuremykids.com.

No exclusion Due to inability to Pay

No student will be excluded from a field trip or school activity due to extenuating financial circumstances. Parents should notify the school office if support is needed.

Communicating

SCDSB information

Website: www.scdsb.on.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SCDSB

Twitter: @SCDSB_Schools

Blog: www.sharingsimcoe.com

Emergency Information Line: 1-877-728-1187

Subscribe to SCDSB news releases

To subscribe to SCDSB news releases, visit www.scdsb.on.ca and click 'Subscribe' at the very top of the homepage.

Addressing Your Concerns

If you have a concern, please follow these steps in order:

1. Gather as much information as possible, then call the school to arrange a meeting with the teacher. Most concerns can be resolved at this point through dialogue and co-operation among those involved.
2. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your meeting, call the school to arrange a meeting with the principal. With open communication and collaboration among those involved, your concern should be resolved at this point.
3. If your concern has not been resolved at this point, contact the Superintendent of Education for your school by calling the SCDSB Education Centre at 705-728-7570 or 905-729-2265. The Superintendent of Education will assist you by acting as a facilitator in attempting to resolve your concern. You may wish to put your concerns in writing at this time.
4. If you feel strongly that the situation requires further consideration, you may contact the Director of Education. At that time, your concern will be reviewed and may be directed to another staff member for action.
5. If you feel your concern has not been addressed at this level, please contact your Trustee. Trustee contact information is available from your principal, the board website www.scdsb.on.ca, or by calling the SCDSB Education Centre at 705-728-7570 or 905-729-2265.

Additionally, please don't hesitate to communicate appreciation or your positive feedback to teachers, school staff, school administration, your superintendent and your trustee!

Student fees

Students are not charged fees to participate in the regular school program. Students enrolled in the SCDSB are provided with basic classroom learning resources required to complete course expectations.

There may be fee-based resources and opportunities offered to students designed to enhance their program (e.g., field trips, visiting artists). Elementary schools will provide support to students and families when there is a situation of financial need.

Beyond the cost of field trips, students involved in some extra-curricular opportunities (e.g., string instrumental programs/ music clubs) will be made aware of any additional cost obligations or participation/equipment rental fees prior to making a commitment to participate.

With respect to athletic teams, some schools request a deposit cheque from parents when a uniform is being loaned for student use. This cheque will be held until the end of the season and will only be cashed if the loaned uniform is not returned in good condition for future use.

Personal information

Notice of routine Collection and use of Student Personal information

The purpose of this notice is to make you aware of how the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) and your school use the personal information you provide to us, in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of

Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). The MFIPPA is a law that sets guidelines that schools and district school boards must follow when collecting, using and/or disclosing students' personal information. Under this Act, personal information refers to recorded information about an identifiable individual.

The Education Act sets out duties and powers of the board and authorizes school boards to collect personal information for the purpose of planning and delivering educational programs and services which best meet students' needs and for reporting to the Minister of Education, as required. In addition, the information may be used to attend to matters of health and safety or discipline which best meet student needs and for reporting to the Minister of Education, as required. The Act requires that the school principal maintain an Ontario Student Record (OSR) for each student attending the school. The OSR is a record of a student's educational progress through school, in Ontario, and follows students when they transfer schools. The Ontario Student Record Guideline sets out how OSRs are to be managed and the SCDSB adheres to the OSR guideline.

Under the MFIPPA, personal information may be used or disclosed by the SCDSB:

- for the purpose for which it was obtained or a consistent purpose (a purpose consistent for the reason collected)
- to board officers or employees who need access to the information in the performance of their duties, if necessary, and proper in the discharge of the board's authorized functions
- to comply with legislation, a court order or subpoena or to aid in a law enforcement investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency
- to report to the Children's Aid Society regarding child protection matters, in accordance with the law in compelling circumstances affecting health or safety of staff or students

In accordance with MFIPPA and the Education Act, releasing personal information for any other purpose requires the informed consent of:

- the parent/guardian for children under 16 years of age
- the parent/guardian and the student where the student is 16 and 17
- the student where the student is over 18 or is 16 or 17 years of age and has withdrawn from parental control

It is our practice to include a notice statement on forms used to collect personal information to advise you how we will use and disclose the information. To help you understand how we use the information you provide to us, we draw your attention to the following routine uses and/or disclosures of student personal information so that you may express any concerns you may have.

Routine uses and/or Disclosures of Student Personal information

The student's OSR will be used by school and board staff to support the classroom teacher in developing an educational program which best meets the student's needs. Staff working with the classroom teacher or directly with the student may include individuals working in areas such as Special Education, guidance counselling, student success, etc.

In keeping with 21st century learning, the board provides students and teachers with Office 365 for education, Google Docs for education and the Ministry of Education Desire to Learn (D2L) for educational purposes. In addition, students may also use social media tools such as Wikis, blogs, podcasts, video conferencing, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other sites or tools deemed appropriate by the classroom teacher. Students receive age-appropriate instruction on digital citizenship and the safe use of technology. Use of the internet and social media sites shall be in accordance with the Appropriate Use Guidelines for students and posting of personal information shall be with parental consent, where appropriate.

Email addresses (parent and student) will be used for communication between home and school/board.

Contracted photographers will take individual and class photos of students. These photos will be used for administrative and archival purposes, on student cards, in school yearbooks and will be offered to parents for purchase.

Student medical health information provided by parents/guardians or adult students will be used to address the student's medical needs at school and during school activities.

Medical emergency plans for students with life-threatening medical conditions will be shared with school staff, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium, contracted bus operators and bus drivers and will be posted in identified areas of the school for emergency response purposes.

Surveillance equipment may be used in schools and on buses to enhance the safety of students and staff, to protect property against theft or vandalism, and to aid in the identification of intruders or persons who endanger the health, well-being or safety of school community members.

Student personal information such as home addressees, student photos, life-threatening medical emergency information, accessibility and safety needs, will be shared with the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium, contracted bus company operators and bus drivers for the purpose of administering the board's contracted bus program and for the safety of students.

Birthdays may be announced over the PA system and/or in classrooms. Class lists with student first names and last initial only may be distributed to other parents for the purpose of addressing greeting cards or invitations in connection with holidays, birthday parties, etc.

Student work, including student first name and last initial may be displayed throughout the school and in school and board newsletters or websites. It may also be publicly displayed at community events such as science fairs, colouring/writing/ posters contests or similar events outside the school.

Students may be recorded or photographed as part of their educational program for assessment and evaluation purposes. Photos or recordings may be shared with students and parents for the purpose of celebrating and memorializing the student's life at school.

School activities and events may be reported in school and board newsletters and on school and board websites. This may include non-sensitive student personal information such as first name and last initial and student group photos.

Student names and/or photographs may be printed in school yearbooks, school programs or brochures (commencement or graduation programs, school plays and musical productions), on student awards, honour rolls, on class assignment lists and posted throughout the school.

The media, such as newspapers, television and radio may be invited to the school to take photos of students and write articles about newsworthy events or activities including graduations, student achievements/awards, co-curricular activities, sports and current events. Their reports may include group photos of students. Individual students would only be photographed or identified with appropriate consent.

Students participating in extra-curricular activities or school events where the public is invited or that take place in public places such as field trips, malls and fairs, may be photographed by the school community or general public. This may result in photos or recordings being posted on social media sites. The school has no control over how and where these images will be posted; however parents and students are asked to practice good digital citizenship by being respectful when they post photos of others, which includes only posting photos involving other students with permission.

Student information is shared in order to design and deliver programming to meet the needs of all students in our schools. To that end, learning profiles and student achievement levels are shared between staff within a school, in order to best address student needs as they progress through grade levels. As students' progress from elementary to secondary school, important information is shared to ease the student's transition to secondary school. Sharing information also improves our ability to program effectively to the benefit of all students. The secondary school

will share information about each student's progress throughout secondary school with the student's previous elementary school to support continuous improvement of the elementary school program for all students. Please contact your principal if you would like more information about the transition process.

Secondary schools will send information of potential graduates (contact information, marks and transcripts) to Ontario Colleges and Universities to support the student's post-secondary applications.

Authorized volunteers or school council members may contact parents on behalf of the school regarding school-related activities which benefit the student and the school community or for safe-arrival programs.

Student health numbers (OHIP) will not be collected; however parents/guardians/students may be invited to volunteer such information for students going on field trips to facilitate medical services, if needed.

Student accidents that take place during school or on school-sponsored activities will be reported to the board's insurer. Reports include the name of the injured student(s) and details about the incident, as well as, the name and contact information of witnesses to the accident.

Personal information such as child's name, birth date, grade, name of parents/guardians, home address and phone numbers will be shared with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, in accordance with the Immunization of School Pupils Act. Communicable diseases shall be reported, in accordance with the Health Promotion and Protection Act and the Education Act.

Aboriginal ancestry information of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students who chose to voluntarily, self-identify will be used to allocate resources, improve student learning and student success, and to offer individualized supports and opportunities to students and families. Aboriginal information will also be reported to the Ministry of Education and the Education Quality Accountability Office (EQAO). Contact your school principal for more information about Self-Identification.

In keeping with the legislative requirements of the Education Act and Personal Health Information Protection Act, informed consent will be sought prior to conducting intelligence or behavioural tests and/or involvement of psychological or speech and language staff. The SCDSB follows the legislative requirements of the Child and Family Services Act for students accessing social work and/or child and youth work services with regards to informing parent(s)/guardian(s) for students 12 years of age and under prior to accessing services.

A statement outlining how personal health information is collected, used or disclosed in the provision of board psychological, speech and language or social work services will be provided to parents/guardians or students, as appropriate, when students are referred for board service providers. This statement is also available on the board website at <http://www.scdsb.on.ca/About%20Us/About%20Us%20Documents/PHIPA-Written-Statement.pdf>.

Questions regarding these practices may be addressed to the School Principal or the Corporate Risk Officer, Privacy, Records and Information Management, 1170 Highway 26, Midhurst, ON L0L 1X0, (705) 734-6363 ext. 11265. Please communicate any concerns you have with regards to the sharing of personal information as outlined above, by contacting the school principal as soon as possible. The above will apply unless an objection is filed with the principal and an alternative resolution can be found.

Message from Director of Education Kathryn Wallace

Welcome to a new school year which will offer you many new discoveries and experiences along the journey of learning. You are part of a wonderful public education system which includes nearly 50,000 students and more than 100 schools throughout beautiful Simcoe County. Your school will provide you with many opportunities to increase your knowledge, build new skills and participate in a wide range of school activities. I believe these memories and experiences that you will be part of will stay with you for a lifetime. We are so glad you are part of the SCDSB community of schools. Enjoy your year!

SCDSB Mission

The mission of the Simcoe County District School Board, serving diverse, growing urban and rural communities in the Huronia and Georgian Bay region, is to ensure students reach their full potential to become responsible and contributing members of an ever-changing global society through quality programs which develop the skills of lifelong learning in a safe, caring environment enhanced by community support.

The Simcoe Path

The Simcoe Path multi-year plan sets out goals, directions and action plans to support student achievement in Simcoe County's public education system. Available at www.scdsb.on.ca, the full plan focuses on:

- ▶ Relevant, purposeful learning supporting high achievement, well-being and learning for life
- ▶ Inclusive, equitable and safe learning and working environments
- ▶ Responsible stewardship of resources
- ▶ Confidence in public education

School Year Calendars

The SCDSB 2015-2016 school year calendar is on the inside cover of this planner and available at www.scdsb.on.ca. As well, the SCDSB's Equity and Diversity Calendar, featuring student artwork, is posted with the school year calendars.