



# The Eagles' Eye

*Principal's Message*

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

*"Never was good work done without trouble" Chinese Proverb*

Over twenty years of advocacy, support and belief by the staff, students and Elmvale community has finally come to fruition. I am proud to say students are in the new building and it is amazing. Is everything completely finished? Anyone who has ever had a home renovation knows that it takes a long time for things to be completely finished. But 99% of everything that needs to be finished, has been completed. The cafeteria is beautiful, the gym is perhaps the best double gym in the county and it is just fantastic for students to have space. We have essentially doubled our size.

I am proud to report that the construction company repeatedly complimented the staff and students of EDHS on their support, willingness to compromise and just general Eagle class. As the site manager said (and I paraphrase) "I have worked on over 100 schools and I have never seen staff and students so happy and polite". That carries a lot of weight for me. I truly believe that EDHS is a very special school. It is the students that make the school such a terrific place to be.

With the new building, we have some significant dates coming up. Most importantly the Grand Opening on Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Exact times still have to be finalized but late afternoon, before the Variety Night (also to be held in our new cafeteria/concert hall), is a safe bet. We will make further announcements as we get closer to the date.

We will have a parent information night for grade 6/7 parents on Monday February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We will also have various days for students to transition to the new building so that they feel comfortable in September. I truly appreciate how welcoming and supportive the students have been. On behalf of the staff at EDHS we want to thank parents and the whole EDHS community for their unwavering support. There is no community like this and because of you, instead of closing our doors students are enjoying our new renovation and will for years to come.

Dan Macdonald, Principal.

## **Commencement 2019 -- Save the Date!**

Commencement for the graduating class of 2018-19 will be held on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. This year the ceremony will be held here in our new gymnasium. As you know, earning an Ontario Secondary School Diploma is an important and treasured accomplishment. Graduating students will have the chance to celebrate this achievement with their classmates before departing for the summer and transitioning to their post-secondary pursuits.



## **Nominations invited for Character Recognition Evening**

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) recognizes students, staff and volunteers who demonstrate good character in their daily lives at our annual Character Recognition Awards Evening taking place on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The nominations are open and the closing date for submissions is February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. More information on the Character Recognition nomination form is available at [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) under 'About Us' and then click on 'Commit to Character.'

Elmvale District High School

## **Student Services**

Congratulations to our departing grads from Semester 1. These students are heading to full-time employment, apprenticeships or temporary employment to save for college and university in the fall. Equal consideration application deadline dates for college and university have passed but it may not be too late to apply to some programs. If your son or daughter has missed the deadline date and is interested in applying for September 2019, please contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson in Student Services.

## **Thursday February 21; 6:00pm – Course Information meeting for all grade**

There will be a course information meeting for all grades on February 21 at 6pm. This meeting was originally scheduled on February 13 to discuss EDHS course offerings and programs, and was postponed due to weather. All parents and students welcome.

## **Thursday February 21; 7:00pm – Post-Secondary Information Night**

Parents and students are welcome to attend a session at EDHS on how to plan for post-secondary school. Topics covered will include how to research diploma/degree/certificate options at Ontario colleges and universities, a brief overview of scholarships/OSAP, timelines, etc. Please contact S. Georgy-Jenkinson in Guidance at [sgeorgyjenkinson@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:sgeorgyjenkinson@scdsb.on.ca) if you have any questions.

## **MyBlueprint**

MyBlueprint is an excellent database available to students, and many have been using this tool since elementary school. Parents may also create an account and link to their son's/daughter's account to provide you with access to a personalized high school planner, graduation tracker and a wealth of information that is national in scope. For more information, please contact Student Services ([sgeorgyjenkinson@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:sgeorgyjenkinson@scdsb.on.ca)).

**GRADUATES:** Many students have been asking about OSAP and scholarships for post-secondary education. Students were given individualized folders in September, including a handout with scholarship information. Extra handouts are available in Guidance. Each post-secondary school offers their own scholarships/bursaries so a great place to start the search is on the websites of the schools you have applied to. Another great website to check is [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com) – students create a profile and results are filtered in this nation-wide database. Parents can also check their places of employment, insurance companies, and club/association affiliations, as many offer scholarships.

A financial aid presentation will be scheduled later in the spring. There is no application deadline for OSAP. Students must have accepted an offer of admission, and parents' income tax returns must be filed before a student can complete the application. It takes 8-10 weeks for OSAP to process an application, so if students apply in June they should have an answer by September.

Mid-term marks for grads are very important for anyone who has applied to college/university for the fall. Many offers will be based on semester 1 final marks and semester 2 mid-term marks. College offers may come as late as the end of April and students must accept an offer by May 1. Most university offers are given in May and the earliest date a student may be required to respond to an offer of admission and give a financial commitment (e.g., registration deposit, residence deposit, etc.) is June 3. Please contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson if you have any questions.

## **From Math**

Math Help: The math department offers math help to support homework and assignment completion and to enhance communication and numeracy skills. Extra help through the Math Support Program is available to students at lunch, Monday to Thursday 11:30 – 12:00 pm in Room 110. Please see your classroom teacher if you have any questions.



### **Additional Opportunities to Earn Credits**

Information about on-site summer school, elearning summer school, edutavel, elearning for the 2019-2020 school year, and night school for the 2019-2020 school year is available through the Guidance department. Please contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson for more information.

### **Course Selections**

We have begun to look ahead to the 2019-2020 school year and students are in the process of selecting their courses. The online course selection tool can be accessed from any computer, and all students have been given instructions. We held a Course Fair on February 15 to allow students the opportunity to meet with teachers and gather information about courses before making final selections. Students have also been given a scheduled lab time (Feb 14-March 6) to provide them with additional support. Course selections are due by March 8. We encourage you to support your son/daughter through this critical process. We decide which courses will run and which courses will be cancelled based on student selection. Teachers and resources are allocated to courses based on student demand. Once the master schedule has been built and courses have been filled, it is not always possible to change student timetables.

Our 2019-2020 Course Calendar is available on the EDHS website ([elm.scdsb.on.ca](http://elm.scdsb.on.ca)) under "Departments" > "Guidance" > "Course Selection" > "EDHS Course Calendar 2019-2020" should you wish to review course descriptions, diploma requirements, etc. Students moving into Grade 11 next year will be changing from the Academic, Applied or Locally Developed streams to the University, College, Mixed or Workplace streams. Their choices are important as the courses taken in Grade 11 prepare them for post-secondary pathways. Resources about apprenticeship, college and university requirements are provided on our website, are in the Course Calendar, and are also available through the Guidance office. Please encourage your sons/daughters to research their options.

### **Specialist High Skills Major – Environmental**

Would you like to glide quietly through a wetland in a canoe observing Bald Eagles, rare cranes or turtles? Would you like to help the environment by planting trees to help preserve endangered species? Would you like to learn valuable skills and certifications that may enhance future employment? Get outside and learn!! Couple your classroom learning with outdoor experiences designed to provide you with opportunities to apply your knowledge in real environmental stewardship activities. Learning experiences may include, but are not limited to, the following: canoeing through environmentally significant wetlands, bee keeping, streambank rehabilitation, navigation, back-country tripping, forestry management initiatives, water quality testing, working in Provincial Parks, and wildflower and tree planting for environmental improvement.

Curriculum expectations will be linked to some of the activities listed above and students will be given the opportunity to visit one or more colleges and universities, achieving certifications in first aid and CPR, GPS, canoe paddling, habitat rehabilitation, species identification and more.

Students within the SHSM program have the opportunity to apply to take a 3-credit integrated program - the Outdoor Environmental Leadership Program (OELP) - in the second semester of grade 11. This program boasts leadership development, cross-cultural connections, outdoor education and local community involvement; all with a hands-on environmental focus. Major components of the program include a variety of single and multi-day outdoor field trips, as well as numerous industry-recognized certifications which are offered throughout the semester. Credits included: grade 11 English, grade 12 Environment and Resource Management and an environmentally-focused co-op credit. Please see Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson in Guidance to discuss these programs.

### **From the Music Department:**

The new year brings a ton of new opportunities for our amazing music students; our Vocal Music class will again be performing at Riverside Retirement Home in Wasaga Beach on March 22nd, our school groups and classes will perform at a Student Exchange Fundraising Concert for our World Studies Department in April and again at the Maple Syrup Festival, and our annual Spring Concert takes place in late May. Your attendance and support is appreciated and will help encourage these young performers, our music department has a strong history of excellence and community involvement of which we are very proud.

All music rehearsals will resume on Monday February 11<sup>th</sup>. New members are always welcome to join regardless of musical experience, please encourage your student to participate and get involved! The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

#### **Music Rehearsal Schedule**

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8:40am					
12:00-12:35pm	Music Committee	Choir	Concert Band	Choir	Concert Band
3:30-5:00pm			Blues Band		

### **Attention Grade 10 students**

It is course selection time again, and Grade 10 students are reminded that there are numerous specialized program opportunities available at EDHS for Grade 11 students.

Have an interest in the outdoors? Apply for the Outdoor Environmental Leadership Program! OELP is a three credit package for University- and College-bound students (Academic and Applied Grade 10s) that will be delivered in the second semester of the year. It boasts leadership development, cross-cultural connections, outdoor education, local community involvement, and all of this with a hands-on environmental focus. Credits delivered included:

- Grade 11 English (University or College)
- Grade 12 Geography – Environment and Resource Management (University and College)
- Cooperative Education (1 credit)

The cooperative education component of the course includes working as a group to support programming with the Wye Marsh, Tiffin Centre, as well as multiple provincial parks, and earning outdoor and environmental certifications at Camp Kitchi. The program culminates in a multi-day canoe trip.

As a former OELP student explains, “This is the type of course you want to take if you want learn first-hand how to make a difference in the world...I’ve learned to take risks, deal with challenges, and discover things about myself that I never imagined I could do!”

Go to [www.oelp.ca](http://www.oelp.ca) and click on “APPLYING” to print an application form, or talk to Ms. Giles / Student Services for more information.

### **OSSLT Updates**

Grade 10 students will be taking the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) on the morning of March 27th, 2019. The OSSLT will also be written by students in grades 11 or 12 who have not yet met this graduation requirement.

Successful completion of the OSSLT is one of the graduation requirements for all secondary school students. Our school is using a variety of literacy strategies to help students prepare for this provincial assessment. Students and parents can learn about the test and look at sample questions by following the links at the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) website: [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

- For more information, visit [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com) or please contact the school
- As a result of the OSSLT, there will be an altered school day on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- Bus times will remain the same for students writing the OSSLT
- All other students who normally take the bus will be picked up 3 ½ hours later than their usual pickup time
- Please consult the school website for details regarding timetable changes and specific bus information

There will be a change in transportation for students not writing the test. These students will be picked up at their regular bus stops 3½ hours later than their regularly scheduled pick-up time.

### **Student Athletic Association**

As we move from the winter season into the spring and are excited to be in our fabulous new gym we are looking forward to a few upcoming events. First off, we will be reintroducing our lunch time intramural program where all students and staff have an opportunity to come out to our gym or field and participate in a variety of sports and activities for house points. Next up is our Winter Carnival is on Thursday, March 7th. weather permitting. School wide House activities will take place in the morning on school grounds and we will continue with the school spirit at the Arena in the afternoon with our Annual house hockey tournament. If you are interested in playing in the hockey tournament in the afternoon, please listen to announcements to know when to pick up your player form. Dress appropriately for the weather and remember your house colours. We will also be bringing back our Hicks with Sticks, 3 on 3 ball hockey tournament in April and will finish off the year with the Athletic Banquet where any student who has participated on a school team is invited to an evening celebration of athletic accomplishments. Please stay tuned to announcements and look for posters in the hallways with information about upcoming events. Direct any questions to any SAA member, Mrs. Oakes or Mr. Knox.

### **Student Council**

Second semester promises to be another exciting one for the students of EDHS. We will be holding our first ever talent show in our new cafeteria on Friday March 8. This is a great opportunity for students to show off some of that awesome talent. We will also be doing something for all our students on Valentine's Day to make sure everyone knows how loved we Eagles are. There will also be Easter activities and treats for all in the Spring. Stay tuned to our Morning Hype announcements and follow us on our Instagram page for more information @edhs.is.the.best

### **Subscribe to receive school bus delay notifications**

Did you know you can subscribe to receive school bus delay notifications from the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium? Sign up on the Consortium's website: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions> and remember that you can also follow the Consortium on Twitter @SCSTC\_SchoolBus.

### **Elmvale Screamin' Eagles Sports**

As you read this, our Eagles sports teams will be playing out of their new gym. Boys basketball and girls' volleyball were able to finish out their seasons hosting home competitions for the first time in two years. What an amazing facility.

Boys basketball teams had great seasons with our juniors finishing second in their league and facing Stayner and Nouvelle in playoff action.

Girls volleyball hosted their first playoff games in the new gym and are looking to build and become a real threat at GB's next season.

The girls' hockey team finished in first place in their league and hosted GBDSS in their first playoff game.

Curlers had a great season sliding along the ice with brooms in hand and our Nordic skiers tried to find snow to compete on this season.

Remember you can always find home schedules on [scaasports.ca](http://scaasports.ca). Come by and catch the action!

### **Co-operative Education**

On the morning of January 30th, a group of co-op partners including students, employers and staff members celebrated the end of our Semester One Co-op, with our famous all-you-can-eat breakfast held at Steelers' Restaurant. Although it was frosty outside, there was warmth inside created by feelings of fellowship and success. The food and service was fantastic. Thanks to Sue, Jay and their staff.

In February, students will be selecting courses for next year. A student can register for either a half day or full day co-op placement. There is no limit on the number of co-op courses that a student may take. Co-op may count for up to two compulsory credits towards their OSSD.

Students can be involved in a wide range of career opportunities, not just locally, but in Barrie, Midland, Wasaga Beach and other outlying areas. At this time, the board is partially funding travel expenses to out of town co-op students. Examples of this semester's placements include: auto technician, teaching, electrical, machining, industrial manufacturing, building construction, personal support worker, building supply industry, fire services, hair styling, food/grocery, plumbing, athletic/physiotherapy, library services, heating & air conditioning, heavy equipment mechanics and operation, and automotive body repairer, among others.

If you are an employer, or work in a business, organization or industry, that you think may be interested in the co-op experience, don't hesitate to call us! (705-322-2201, Ext. 4)

### **It's flu season – protect yourself and your family**

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has issued a declaration of widespread influenza activity in Simcoe Muskoka. To protect yourself and your family, consider getting the flu shot. Stay home if sick, cover your cough and wash your hands frequently. More information about the flu is available on the health unit's website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org), or by calling Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1- 877-721-7520 weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**From the Attendance Secretary...Parents/Guardians:** If your child is going to be late or absent, please leave a message on our attendance line by calling 705-322-2201 and pressing 1 from the main menu. If your child is leaving school during class time, please send a note with the student and advise him/her to sign out at the main office.

Please advise the main office of any changes to personal information IE; address, phone numbers, emergency contacts, medical, etc. We strive to keep your child's records up to date!

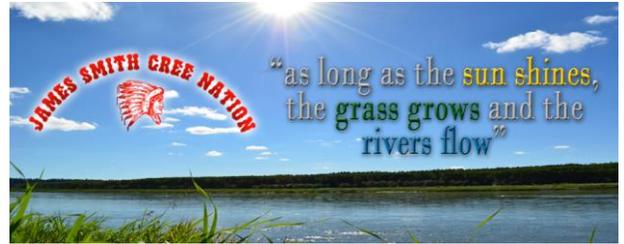
Check out the EDHS website! Please visit our website at [elm.scdsb.on.ca](http://elm.scdsb.on.ca) and subscribe to receive new information on school events. If you would like to communicate with a staff member by e-mail, addresses are located on our website under the 'Departments' heading.

### **Saskatchewan Exchange 2019**

Fifteen EDHS students are very hard at work organizing their educational exchange happening in the month of May 2019! This group of youth will be travelling along with EDHS teacher chaperones Gregory Davidson and Katie Cameron to James Smith First Nation near Melfort, Saskatchewan where they will be twinned with students from St. Bernard Community School. The students are excited to experience this First Nation community first hand and will participate in activities such as a pow wow, sweat lodge, a visit to the University of Saskatchewan, The Mann Art Gallery in Prince Albert and Prince Albert National Park. The James Smith

students will be visiting Elmvale in early May and will be busy with activities such as a trip to sugar bush, a Blue Jays game, Algonquin Park, Niagara Falls and a working farm. This opportunity is funded in part and organized through Experiences Canada, who have been apart of many previous exchanges.

Elmvale students have already began fundraising so that we may adequately host our guests. They made and sold Christmas wreaths, Christmas candy grams at school. Previous exchanges to the Yukon and Nunavut have been very successful and the students who participated had nothing but good things to say about their opportunity for growth and how the experience widened their perspective. The best part however are the friendships made. Support is very much appreciated for this very unique opportunity. For any questions about donating or fundraising please contact Greg Davidson at [gdauidson@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:gdauidson@scdsb.on.ca)



Daniella Henry  
EDHS Exchange Student

### **Provide input on proposed 2019-2020 school year calendar**

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

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

The deadline to submit input is Feb. 15.

### **Start thinking about summer (school) with the SCDSB!**

Are you and your child planning their courses for next school year? Looking for a way to create flexibility in their timetable and earn a credit? Consider summer school – registration is now open! Each year, the SCDSB offers a variety of summer programs to over 2,000 students. Summer school options include open, college and university level courses from Grades 9 to 12. Courses are offered in-person or online. Interested students can also travel and earn credits with the summer EduTravel program.

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

### **Parents/guardians invited to information sessions about special education**

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

Sessions will take place at the SCDSB Education Centre, located at 1170 Highway 26 in Midhurst. Participants may also access the sessions online via Google Meet. More information, including dates, times and links to register, are online at [https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special\\_education](https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education).

### **Coping with anxiety**

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

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

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

## **SECOND SEMESTER DATES TO REMEMBER**

Grade 8 Parent meetings .....	Feb 13 & 21
Grade 6/7 meeting for parents .....	Feb 25
Parent Council .....	Feb. 25
Winter Carnival.....	March 7
Progress Reports .....	March 8
March Break.....	March 11-15
Parent Teacher Interviews .....	March 21
EQAO Literacy (OSSLT) .....	March 27
Good Friday/Easter Monday.....	April 19/April 22
Maple Syrup Concert and GRAND OPENING .....	April 26
Mid Semester Report .....	April 26
Professional Development Day .....	May 3
EDHS Day.....	May 8
Victoria Day .....	May 20
Spring Music Concert .....	May 23
Prom .....	May 31
EQAO MathGr.9Test.....	June 5 and 7
Athletic Banquet .....	June 11
Final Evaluations .....	June 20-26
Commencement .....	June 27
Reports ready for pickup .....	July 4

Are you receiving our newsletters by e-mail? If not, please contact the school office at 705-322-2201 to give us your address or to update the one we have.

