



# The Eagle Eye

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I am so thankful to be back at Elmvale District High School. We always mention the events such as Fall Fair, Remembrance Day, Music Concert, Academic Awards, various Students' Council and house activities, students, school trips and all of the various sporting events that occur at a rapid rate at EDHS. I certainly encourage all students to take every advantage to become involved in the many extra-curricular activities. However, I want to highlight the academic supports at EDHS. In a larger school, unfortunately, students can sometimes slip through the cracks. Their lack of production can go missing until it is too late. At this point in time, nothing is lost academically. There are many options for your student to be successful, they merely need to take advantage of one of these options.

The report card you are receiving today is an important form of communication about your student's progress in his/her courses up to the midterm point this semester. It is a time for students to reflect on their achievements and to set goals for the next couple of months. Receiving the first "formal" report card of the year is a good time to have discussion with your teen. Here are some discussion starters. What have you done well? What have you enjoyed? What courses are you considering for next year? What careers are related to these strengths and interests? It is also time to reflect on stumbling blocks and what can be done about those. What work don't you understand? How can you get help to improve a mark? What can you do to get to class regularly?

For students whose midterm mark is not where you would prefer it to be, consider the suggestions below to get support to achieve a successful semester. (Parents, you may need to help set this up as many teenagers are reluctant to ask for help)

1. Contact your teacher to arrange for extra help.
2. Make an appointment with our Student Success Teacher, Mrs. Burke in room 110.
3. Make an appointment with our Guidance Teacher, Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson in the Student Services Office.
4. If you have an IEP, make an appointment with your Special Education Resource Teacher to look at possibilities.
5. Speak to the Vice Principal, Ms. Glass, who will assist you in making connections with the staff members listed above.

School staff and parents working together as a team are a strong network. Let us know how we can help you in making education work for your teen. Please sign and return the "Response Form" section of the report card, even if you choose not to write a comment.

**Dan Macdonald**  
Principal

## **Renovations and Additions Update**

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 we received the long awaited news from the Ministry of Education that we would receive capital funding for an addition to EDHS. This addition will address enrolment pressures and provide the community with facility upgrades which will result in an increase in programming options. At this time, we have the plans and construction is slated to start in semester 2. It is an exciting time for EDHS, but there will be concessions that we will have to make during the building process. Planning for the addition is continuing and Administration will do our best to keep everyone informed. Many thanks are extended to current and former school and board staff, parents and community members who gave, and continue to give, many hours to bring this much needed improvement to our school.



**Elmvale District High School**



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### Student Athletic Association

SAA has been busy this fall with various activities and would like to encourage students to continue to participate in intramurals on Tuesdays and Thursdays; bring your friends, your running shoes, have fun and gain points for your house. Junior intramurals run Tuesdays and Seniors are on Thursday's. Hope to see you there!

Our annual Hicks with Sticks, 3-on-3 ball hockey tournament has come early this year and takes place during the lunch hour beginning November 14th and running through until November 29th. We have 8 teams in total and are looking forward to a great tournament as the quest for the glorious "Silver Silo" continues.



Extra, extra, read all about it! SAA is running a spirit wear fundraiser. Looking for a Christmas gift, a warm-up shirt for your school team, a cozy blanket to wrap around you while you cheer on an EDHS athlete or another way to sport your school spirit? Visit SAA outside the main office during lunch hours from November 14th to November 29th. We will be selling blankets, hooded sweatshirts and long-sleeve shirts. Please see the details below. Sample sizes will be available to try on. All orders and payments MUST be in to SAA by the end of lunch (12:30 pm) on November 29th in order to ensure a Christmas delivery. **With the excitement of the new addition, all proceeds will go towards the purchase of new athletic equipment.** Thank you for your on-going support. **Please find your order form at the back of the newsletter!** Go Eagles!

### School Council

Our last meeting was held on September 20<sup>th</sup> with a number of new members. Our next meeting will be held on Monday November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 here at our school library. New parents are always welcome. Please consider joining us.

### Co-operative Education

The clocks have been changed, the leaves are falling and EDHS's co-op program continues to run like a well-oiled machine. We have an excellent group of students this semester as proven by good grades and big smiles at mid-semester evaluations.

Currently, we have students working in the following career fields: auto mechanics, early childhood education, long-term care, music education, building, welding and machining, teacher's aide, farming, computer services, heavy equipment construction, food services, building construction retail, office administration, cabinetry, power line construction, equine and library services

If your student is interested in acquiring real-life work experience and school credits simultaneously, contact Bill Neily in the Cooperative Education Department about possibilities.



### Celebrating 25 years

Simcoe County District School Board honoured an EDHS staff member for her amazing 25 years of service. Congratulations are extended to Tammy Mady, her incredible years of commitment, caring, support and encouragement to the students of Simcoe County schools.

### Final Evaluations

Semester 1 final evaluations are scheduled January 26<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. All students are required to participate in the final evaluation of their courses. Excused absences for evaluations include illness (medical note required) court appearance (court order required) or bereavement. Please refrain from booking vacations or appointments during this schedule.

### Link crew message

Link Crew has been hard at work making sure that the grade nines have been feeling at ease with their first few months of high school. During Halloween week, we put on a special morning for our grade nines in the cafeteria; playing fun games and getting them in the spirit of Halloween. Our goal is to encourage school spirit and help the grade nines become comfortable with getting involved. Link Crew has many exciting activities planned for Christmas this year and cannot wait to see you then! Stay tuned grade nines!

## **Bus cancellation information in case of inclement weather**

Fall weather has certainly arrived, which means winter is just around the corner in Simcoe County. With it comes the possibility of severe inclement weather conditions, challenging winter driving conditions and, as a result, possible bus and school event cancellations. All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium's bus information website at [www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca](http://www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca). Our school is in the **North Simcoe Weather Zone**. When buses are cancelled, please remember that schools are still open (unless otherwise noted) for student learning.

The Consortium, in conjunction with bus operators, will make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and as such, will make every effort to post announcements between 6 and 7 a.m. Parents should also note that inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day.

## **Student Services**

The end of first term is a good time for families to reflect on student progress. Student effort and achievement may be celebrated in a number of areas: academics, athletics, clubs and especially personal growth.

Grade 9 and 10 students can look at their Term 1 results and evaluate whether or not the courses they choose are at the appropriate levels, and if there are concerns, talk to a guidance counselor (Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson), our head of Special Education (Mr. Giles); or Mrs. Burke in Student Success.

EDHS has several supports available to students. Referrals may be made to a Social Worker, Child and Youth Worker (Kinark), and Mental Health and Addictions Nurse. Students may also drop in to see a registered nurse and a youth worker. If you have concerns and would like your son/daughter to access these services, please contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson.

Grade 12 students have had the opportunity to participate in college and university information sessions and interviews with Guidance. College applications for the 2017-2018 intake are open ([www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca)) and students may apply at any time. The equal consideration deadline for college applications is February 1, 2017. University applications will begin towards the end of November and are due Wednesday, January 11, 2017.

Potential graduates who intend to apply to college or university programs which start next fall are encouraged to complete their applications before Christmas, ahead of the equal consideration deadlines.

Good starting points to check out scholarship possibilities are: [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com) and [www.ScholarshipsCanada.com](http://www.ScholarshipsCanada.com). Scholarship opportunities are also emailed to potential graduates and posted on the Scholarships bulletin board outside Student Services. Elmvale District High School scholarships are posted on our website under Departments - Guidance - Post-secondary financing.

Graduates are reminded that one of the requirements for graduation is the completion of 40 hours of community service. Opportunities to complete these hours are announced and posted outside of Student Services. Another resource is <http://communitylink.cioc.ca/volunteer/student.asp>, a comprehensive database of volunteer opportunities in our geographic area. Please check with the school before completing volunteer hours to ensure they qualify.

MyBlueprint is a fantastic resource for students and parents. Some of its features include: a high school planner to track progress towards graduation, career quizzes to match students to occupations and post-secondary programs, a resume and cover letter builder, details about post-secondary programs across Canada, and outlooks/estimated salaries for various occupations. Please visit [www.myblueprint.ca/simcoe](http://www.myblueprint.ca/simcoe) to access the site. Parents/Guardians can create their own account to track the progress of their son/daughter, or to explore the various features available. If assistance is needed in creating an account, please contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson in student services at 705-322-2201 ext. 42056. Another resource is <http://communitylink.cioc.ca/volunteer/student.asp> a comprehensive database of volunteer opportunities in our geographic area. Please check with the school before completing volunteer hours to ensure they qualify.



## Parent Portal

The SCDSB Parent Portal is a secure online tool which provides parents and guardians quick access to their children's attendance, assessment information and important school announcements. Parents can set up daily, weekly or monthly email alerts for attendance information. Parents will receive registration and login information attached to this newsletter.

## Yearbook Gift certificates make a great gift!

The production of the 2016-17 yearbook "Eagles Zone" is well underway. This year's book holds some awesome surprises with the new Aurasma app which allows students to watch videos of the school events by holding their mobile device over specific pages! What a great holiday gift it would be for your child to receive a gift certificate for a yearbook! Pre-purchase your 2016-17 yearbook with a gift certificate that is redeemable when the book arrives in June. Gift certificates (and yearbooks) are only \$50 and can be purchased from Ms. Mady or online with School CashNet (then you can pick your gift certificate up at the main office, where it will be waiting for you). Give the unique gift of a hardcover volume of personal memories to be treasured for years to come! Happy Holidays!



## No Idle Zone

EDHS would like to remind you that all SCDSB properties are "No-Idle Zones". If you are waiting for your student, please shut off your car. Thank you.

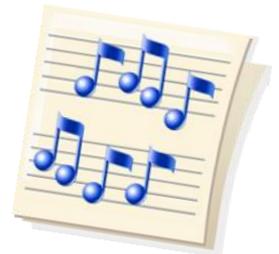


## Yukon Student Exchange

This year EDHS is fortunate to have received funding for an Experiences Canada exchange to Haines Junction, Yukon. In May, ten EDHS students will be travelling in to this small community adjacent to the St. Elias Mountains and Kluane National Park. In turn, we will be hosting students from St. Elias Community School, many of whom belong to the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations. We look forward to preparing our students for this wonderful opportunity and will be looking to the broader community for modest support.

## From the Music Department

Our fall concert called *Blast from the past* is scheduled for November 17th, 2016. It will run from 7-9pm in the gym, tickets are \$5 for students and seniors, \$10 for adults and \$15 for families. Rehearsals for the Concert, Blues Band and Concert Choir have begun. We are always looking for new members. All students are welcome to try out. Please remind your student that every rehearsal is important and that consistent attendance is a must if progress is to be made.



**The rehearsal schedule is as follows:**

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 - 8:40			Special Ensemble Rehearsal Time		
12:00 - 12:40		Choir (Muldoon)	Concert Band (Muldoon)	Acapela Singers (Mady)	Concert Band (Muldoon)
3:30 - 5:00			Blues Band (Muldoon)		

## Peer Mediation returns to EDHS

Peer mediation is a conflict resolution option that allows students to solve their own issues with the assistance of a peer who has been trained as a mediator. The peer mediators facilitate a discussion between conflicting students, with the goal of helping those students find their own solution to the conflict. It has been proven that this type of resolution technique is more effective than solutions imposed upon students by adults. Peer Mediation has also been used successfully as an alternative to suspension for students, in some cases. If your students finds himself/herself in conflict with another student (issues like bullying or gossip, for example), your student can ask for Peer Mediation or it may be suggested to your child by the administration. Questions about the program can be forwarded to Ms. T. Mady at the school.

## **Volunteer Policy updated**

In September 2013, the SCDSB Policy on Volunteers in Schools (APM 3250) was updated to include the ability for parents or community members to now oversee school extra-curricular activities when staff members are not available. The Policy now includes the following revision:

*At the discretion of the Principal, under the direction of the board, volunteers may oversee extra-curricular activities; when staff are not available. Community volunteer coaches will be subject to a board application, screening and training process commensurate with the level of risk of the activity as described in the administrative procedure memorandum (APM 7220, Volunteers in Schools). The expectation of GBSSA and OFSAA regarding teacher supervision at those events will be addressed in every case.*

For more information on SCDSB policies and procedures, visit [www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca) and click on 'Board' in the menu.

## **Front entrance circle traffic**

EDHS would like to remind parents to please use the side parking lots when picking up and dropping off students. There is a drop off zone on Robinson Road for easy drop off and pick up as well. The front traffic circle is a fire route and therefore needs to be kept clear. In addition, there are times when the traffic circle has been blocked, not allowing some of our special needs students' safe access to transportation. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## **School Grounds Smoke-free 24/7**

This is an important reminder to students, parents, guardians, and community members, that under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act it is against the law for any person to hold lit tobacco or to smoke anywhere on school property at any time. It is the responsibility of the SCDSB to be in compliance with all aspects of the *Smoke Free Ontario Act (SFOA)*. The SCDSB prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco products, emerging tobacco industry products, tobacco-related products (e.g. e-cigarettes and vapourizers), and any smoking paraphernalia. This applies to all students, school board employees, and any other individuals on school board premises. Please respect this law when visiting the property for purposes such as to pick up students, meet with staff, attend school performances, graduations and sports events. Your actions encourage youth to obey the law and to choose tobacco-free lifestyles. Have questions? Contact *Your Health Connection* at 705-721-7520 or [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org).



## **School Day Start**

Regular attendance is vital to academic success as well as an expected component of all workplaces. Included in the expectation of daily attendance is arrival to class on time. At EDHS we start our day at 8:45 a.m. with 5 minutes of music to indicate that the school day will begin and students should be moving to their period 1 class or to another location if it is a House Homeroom or Assembly Day. The bell rings at 8:50 which indicates period 1 has begun and students not in their period 1 class are late. All students are expected to be in their period 1 class by the time the bell rings at 8:50 a.m. We are fully aware there are occasional circumstances that arise that prevent students from arriving to class on time, however habitual arrival past 8:50 a.m. is not a pattern that we support. If you are a student who finds themselves habitually late arriving to school in the morning, please adjust regular morning routines so that you can begin to meet this expectation. If you do find yourself late for period 1, please proceed to the office after announcements to get a late form. Our expectation is students will arrive to all classes on time ready to participate in the class learning activities and we believe starting the day off with attention to arrival to period 1 on time will develop the important life-long habit of promptness. Parent are asked to please contact the school for all absences.



*Good morning!*

## **Student Council notes**

Students' Council is off to a successful start this year. Our Halloween week, with many awesome activities and an assembly, had a great turnout with many amazing and awesome costumes. We held a clothing swap that was open to our school and to the community over three days donating all leftover clothes to Ravenwood and Youth Haven. A chili and bake sale is planned for Friday November 25<sup>th</sup> as well as a plaid day. Please plan for a chili lunch and support your council by wearing plaid.



Next month we are planning semi-formal for December 2 from 7-10 p.m. Get all dressed up and come to our photo booth to take pictures with your friends! We are also very excited for our Christmas week that will be five days of dressing up, eating cookies, pictures with Santa, and more. We are looking forward to continuing a great year with EDHS students.

<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>	
<b>School Council</b>	<b>November 21<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Semi-Formal Dance</b>	<b>December 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>Grad Pictures</b>	<b>Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> - Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>Christmas Activities</b>	<b>December 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>Christmas Assembly</b>	<b>December 23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>Christmas Break Begins</b>	<b>December 23<sup>rd</sup> - January 8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Classes Resume</b>	<b>January 9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Grade 8 Parent Information Night</b>	<b>January 18<sup>th</sup> 630-800</b>
<b>EQAO Grade 9 Math Test</b>	<b>January 16-27</b>
<b>Moratorium Begins</b>	<b>January 19<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>In-class Evaluation Activities</b>	<b>January 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Co-Operative Education Breakfast</b>	<b>January 25<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Final Evaluations</b>	<b>January 26<sup>th</sup> – February 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>PA Days</b>	<b>February 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>Semester 2 Begins</b>	<b>February 6<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Semester 1 Final Report Cards</b>	<b>February 17<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Family Day</b>	<b>February 20<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Progress Reports</b>	<b>March 9<sup>th</sup></b>

*After fall comes winter.....*

