



# The Eagle Eye

September 2020

## Principal's Message:

Please forgive me for not introducing myself sooner, but school start-up has been extremely busy this year. Being a new Principal presents significant challenges but add COVID preparation puts another layer to the mix. My name is Mark Ruzylo and I am delighted to be the principal of Elmvalle District High School. I have worked at the SCDSB for the past 20 years and was most recently the principal of Student Success. My job is to ensure that your children/student(s) are receiving the best education possible in a safe, caring, inclusive and engaging environment. I also believe in having open, positive, and productive communication with all stakeholders - especially parents and guardians. Please, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions with things pertaining to EDHS and your student, please call me at the school or email me: [mruzylo@scdsb.on.ca](mailto:mruzylo@scdsb.on.ca).

Over the past week our administration team has visited every classroom to both welcome students and remind them that safety is our collective responsibility. Having similar messages communicated at home would be appreciated. Please remind your child wash/sanitize their hands thoroughly and regularly as well as stressing the importance of social distancing when they are out with friends in the community. Being conscious of their space and taking half a step back goes a long way to maintaining healthy interactions. Together we are all responsible for supporting our youth and their journey to becoming socially responsible citizens.

Seeing everyone back at EDHS has been an absolute joy and while school may look a little different this fall, we will make every effort to make this a wonderful year. Please take a minute and read the important information below.

Mark Ruzylo  
Principal EDHS

## **STANDARD ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND PERMISSION FORM/STUDENT INFORMATION COMPUTING TECHNOLOGY APPROPRIATE USE AGREEMENT 2020-2021**

The 2020-2021 Standard Acknowledgment and Permission Form and Student Information Computing Technology Appropriate Use Agreement are required forms for all SCDSB students. The forms have been made available electronically through School Cash Online. School Cash Online is our preferred method for forms and all payments. Please follow the directions below.

### **SCHOOL CASH ONLINE SIGN UP**

To create your account go to <https://simcoecountydsb.schoolcashonline.com/> and click on "Get Started Today". Confirm Your Email: Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details. Add a Student Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details.

If you are unable to submit these forms electronically, please contact the office for paper copies of the forms Please contact the school office with any questions.

## **STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2020-2021**

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country trips), are not covered by the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. The SCDSB has selected the “insure my kids” program through Old Republic Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider. This insurance offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com) or by calling 1-800-463-5437. Participation in extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs) or out-of-province/out-of-country trips requires the purchase of this insurance, or other extended health and dental coverage. Student accident insurance packages will not be sent home with students.

## **LIBRARY TEXT BOOKS**

Please take a minute and ask your student if they have any textbooks or library books in their rooms. We have a large number of outstanding resources from March. Have your student return them to us as soon as possible.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

If you are interested to be a part of our School Council please stay tuned and keep a watchful eye on our web site!

## **ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION**

Some students are required to take medication during the school year. This includes those students with severe allergies (to food products or insect stings) as well as those with asthma. A “Request for Administration of Medication” form must be completed before any school personnel can administer medication to a student. These forms are available in the main office.



## **From the Music Department:**

This year will be a challenging one due to Covid restrictions: we're not permitted to use wind and brass instruments and singing is prohibited in indoor spaces. All extra-curricular groups including our Choir, Concert Band, and Blues Band are suspended until health conditions improve. However, all music students are encouraged to take instruments home and continue developing their skills until we can resume our normal rehearsal schedule, and Elmvale's famous student-led concerts.



Mr. Muldoon is excited to return to EDHS and we've received a class set of ukuleles which will be used to supplement our instrumental classes, in addition to guitars and percussion, as well as new recording equipment. We look forward to continuing our strong tradition of excellence in music education and helping our young people develop their skills further!



## PROCEDURES HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

The safety and well-being of students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **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. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.
- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.
- A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We 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](http://www.facebook.com/SCDSB) and [www.twitter.com/SCDSB\\_Schools](http://www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools)) and website ([www.scdsb.on.ca](http://www.scdsb.on.ca)), through local police and local media.
- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. Each school has an evacuation site. Ours is Huronia Centennial Elementary across the road with the arena bring our second option. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.
- Staff and volunteers must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents to contact us when their student will be absent from school as part of our **attendance** program.

At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All Simcoe County District School Board schools **have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**. When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.