



SPARTANS SPEAK

October 4, 2016

Coming Events

Oct 10	Thanksgiving (no classes)
Oct 11	Progress Reports
Oct 13	Picture Retakes
Oct 13	Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews - 5:00-7:30pm
Oct 19	University Information Program
Oct 20	Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
Oct 21	PD Day (no classes)
Oct 24	School Council Meeting (6:30-8:30pm)
Oct 28	Haunted House (5:00-9:00pm)
Nov 2	Take Our Kids To Work Day (grade 9 only)
Nov 2	Grade 8 Spartans In Training Day
Nov 18	PD Day (no classes)
Nov 21	Mid Term Report Cards

What's the SCDSB Difference? We need to hear from you!

We need your help developing the new strategic plan for the Simcoe County District School Board. The purpose of a strategic plan is to set goals and directions that will guide the work of our organization and help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

We want to know:

- What does the SCDSB do already to help us realize our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential? (What are we doing well?)
- What is the most important thing that we can begin to do to help us realize our vision? (What else can we do to improve?)
- What role do you think SCDSB schools play or should play in your community?

Get involved:

- Visit www.scdsb.on.ca/difference to take our survey and complete the *Where should we invest?* sorting activity to help identify priority areas.
- Follow our @scdsb_schools Twitter account and join our #SCDSBDifference Twitter chat to share your ideas on Thurs., Oct. 6 at 8 p.m.

Other consultation activities:

- We had community outreach booths at Collingwood Downtown Farmers' Market (Sept. 17), Orillia Downtown Farmers' Market (Sept. 24) and Alliston Downtown Farmers' Market (Oct. 1).
- We are conducting on-the-spot interviews with parents and students at select schools across Simcoe County.
- We've invited randomly selected representatives from various stakeholder groups to workshops on Oct. 4 at the Education Centre.

We'll use the input to identify the key areas stakeholders think the SCDSB should focus on. We will also review research on effective practices in education, our own data and the expectations we receive from the Ministry of Education. This information will help the Board of Trustees set our priorities. The strategic plan will outline how—together—we inspire and empower learning for life. Ultimately, our strategic priorities should move us toward our vision of a community of learners achieving full potential.

For Better or For Worse®

by Lynn Johnston



Pay for field trips, etc. with SchoolCash Online

The SchoolCash Online program is available at our school, offering parents the option to pay online for lunch days and other items. Parents who sign up will receive a notification when a new item becomes available for purchase. Items are personalized to each student.

Parents use a secure online account to process payments, and can either make a one-time payment for each item as it occurs, or load money to carry a balance in the online account to make payments in the future. To create an online account, go to simcoecounty.schoolcashionline.com. Please contact the school office with any questions.

Message from the Health Unit: Ensure your child's immunization record is up-to-date

The Ontario Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) requires the health unit to have up-to-date immunization records for all students attending school. According to ISPA (2014), students are required to be vaccinated against the following diseases:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio and Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (must have two doses after the first birthday)
- Meningococcal Disease (must have one dose after the first birthday & Men-C-ACYW in Grade 7)
- Varicella (chickenpox) - only for those born 2010 and after

The health unit **does not** receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Please contact the health unit each time your child receives a vaccine from their health care provider.

What you can do:

- check your child's yellow immunization card
- contact your child's health-care provider to obtain records or get missing vaccinations
- go to <http://www.smdhu.org/immsonline> to enter the complete record, or fax a completed record to 705-726-3962

Giving back to the school community - volunteer in our school

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our school a great place to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. There are many opportunities available, including school council, breakfast clubs, reading help, assisting in the classroom or library and much more. Everyone who volunteers in a school must have a criminal record check which includes a Vulnerable Sector Screening. Please call or visit the school office for more information about opportunities available or if you'd like to volunteer!

High School Information Nights Coming To A School Near You!

Is your child starting Grade 9 next year? High school information nights happen this fall and winter. This event gives an overview of what's new, what to expect, as well as a chance to check out the school and ask questions. Attend our Grade 8 Inquiry Showcase on November 30 from 6:00 - 8:00pm. To see the full schedule of info nights and more information at www.scdsb.on.ca/highschool.

Reminder from the Health Unit: School grounds are smoke free 24/7

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of secondhand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students.

It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250. For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Tobacco.aspx>.



IMPORTANT LINKS

[Check out our website and subscribe to stay up to date!!](#)

[What was on Today's Morning Announcements?](#)

[Homework Help for students in Grades 7 to 10](#)

[Fire Prevention Week is Oct 9-15: Join the Don't Wait, Check The Date Selfie Challenge](#)

[October is International Walk to School Month](#)

[Student Accident Insurance Available for Extra-Curricular Activities and Trips](#)

SCI IN THE NEWS

[Harvesting at Stayner Collegiate](#)

[150 trees planted during TD Tree Day event at Stayner Eco-Park](#)

[Clearview Outreach Group Hosts Second Fall Festival in Stayner](#)

There are lots of ways to dress for school...



...but there are a few things that aren't okay.



Exposed underwear



Spiked or chained accessories



Offensive or inappropriate content