



SPARTANS SPEAK

January 11, 2019

Principal's Message

Happy 2019 Spartans!

We hope that you and your family enjoyed a restful and rewarding holiday. Now that we are back at school, staff and students are busy preparing for the final days of our first semester. This is an important time for grade 9-12 students to be focused as they finish off their final projects and prepare for their final evaluations. It can also be a stressful time for students so make an effort to check in and see how your child is coping. As always, finding balance is the key.

Plenty of winter sports are underway. Our Spartans are competing in hockey, basketball, and volleyball as well as down-hill skiing. We will be taking a brief break soon when our grade 9-12 moratorium begins to give these students and staff the time to get ready for our exams. Also exciting news is that our Grade 7 and 8 classes will be heading up to Muskoka for a school trip. They will be learning a lot of new outdoor education skills such as snowshoeing.

The beginning of February marks the beginning of our second semester and the halfway point of our school year. We feel that the first half of the 2018-2019 school year at Stayner Collegiate Institute has been very positive and we look forward to more good things for the second half.

Mark Keating, Principal

Semester 1 Final Evaluations for Grades 9-12

As mentioned above, final evaluations are scheduled on the mornings of January 24-29. Parents need to know the following:

- Attendance at final exams is mandatory. If students are too ill to write an exam, they must have a doctor's note to support the absence. If there is a death in the immediate family, parents/guardians must call the Office. Any other absence must be pre-approved by the Vice Principal. Arrangements may be made for students to write the exam at a later date.
- Students must be in the exam room within the first 15 minutes. If they are later than 8:45 am, they must report to the Office to write in an alternate location.
- **If buses are cancelled** on an exam day, all exams shift to the next day. If there are two or more "snow days" there may be a need to use the PA Days scheduled for Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2019. Updates will be posted on the school website, Facebook page and via Twitter if buses are cancelled.

Please see our school website for more information about semester 1 final evaluations, including the schedule.

Coming Events

Jan 15	Grade 8 Grad Photos
Jan 15-17	Grade 12 Grad Photos (register your sitting online)
Jan 16	University applications due
Jan 16-17	Grade 9 EQAO Math Testing
Jan 17-23	Moratorium on Gr 9-12 activities
Jan 24-30	Gr 9-12 final evaluations
Jan 25	Gr 7-8 PD Day
Jan 28-30	Gr 7/8 School Trip to Muskoka Woods
Jan 28	School Council meeting (6:30-8:30 in our library)
Jan 31-Feb 1	Gr 9-12 PD Days
Feb 1	College applications due
Feb 4	First day of semester 2 for Grades 9-12
Feb 15	Gr 7-12 Report Cards
Feb 18	Family Day (School closed)
Feb 21	Grade 6 Explore SCI Night
Feb 25	School Council meeting (6:30-8:30 in our library)
Mar 1	Gr 7-8 PD Day
Mar 11-15	March Break (School closed)
June 26	Grade 8 Graduation (7:00pm)
June 27	Grade 12 Commencement Ceremonies (7:00pm)

Host families needed for international students

Our partner in providing homestay to the SCDSB's international students, Canada Homestay Network (CHN), is recruiting host families to welcome international students into their homes.

Host families help international students realize lifelong dreams, and benefit from a unique experience with another culture. As a host, you also receive an allowance to offset expenses.

[Learn about a current homestay family here](#) or get more details about the program on [the Canada Homestay Network website](#).

School's in for summer at 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!

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. Current SCDSB students should speak to their guidance counsellor for information and to register. Registration opens January 14!

Kindergarten registration opens this month

Do you (or someone you know) have a child who was born in 2015? If so, it's almost time to register them for Kindergarten in the SCDSB! Beginning Jan. 28, 2019, Simcoe County's public schools will register children for Kindergarten for the 2019-20 school year. New this year, **the registration process begins online!** Visit https://www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/kindergarten for more information.

Questions about your teen's health?

Health Connection offers free, confidential health information from nurses and health inspectors on:

- Birth control, sexually transmitted infections, stress, drugs and alcohol, safe food and water, quitting smoking
- Health unit clinics including dental, vaccines, sexual health
- Web resources for school projects
- Community resources for mental health, addictions and quitting smoking

Contact Health Connection at 1-705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/>. If English is not your first language, we have a telephone interpretation service.

Information provided by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

IMPORTANT LINKS

[Subscribe to our SCI website and stay up to date!!](#)

[Report Bullying, Drug Use or Vandalism](#)

[We post our Announcements to Facebook & Twitter every day!](#)

[Is It A Snow Day in West Zone?](#)

[SCDSB 2018-19 School Year Calendar](#)

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

[Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit](#)

[2018-19 Holy Days & Holidays Calendar Now Available](#)

[How To Study Better In High School: 16 Expert Tips](#)

[What To Do When Your Motivation Is Seriously Lacking](#)

[Kids, Teens and Impulse Control](#)

[Relationships: Utilizing I Feel Statements](#)

[Is It Anxiety?](#)

[How My "Bad Parenting" Can Help Us Recognize The Power Of Our Thoughts](#)

[30 Ways To Stay Connected With Your Teen](#)