

BRADFORD D.H.S.

JANUARY 2023 -NEWSLETTER

Bradford District High School

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Bradford, ON L3Z 3B9
(905)775-2262

GUIDANCE OFFICE

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STUDENT SUCCESS

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KEY DATES IN JANUARY & BEYOND...

- **January 19th, 2023**
 - Grade 8 Open House 6pm – 7:30pm
- **January 24th (Part A) and Wednesday, January 25th (Part B)**
 - Grade 9 EQAO Math
- **January 26th, 2023**
 - BDHS School Council Mtg 6pm-7pm (BDHS Library)
- **January 30, 2023**
 - The last day of regular instruction for semester one
- **January 31 to February 2, 2023**
 - Feedback, Recovery, and Improvement Days
- **February 3rd, 2023**
 - PA Day
- **February 6th, 2023**
 - First Day of Semester 2
- **February 20th, 2023**
 - The last day for students to choose courses for 2023/2024
- **February 9th and February 10th, 2023, in the small gym**
 - BDHS Immunization Catch-Clinic

BDHS ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Principal: Mr. David Brooks
dbrooks@scdsb.on.ca

VP: Tracey Galbraith
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VP: Teresa Kokkas
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VP: Karen Quesnel
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DAILY SCHEDULE

Students are encouraged to be at school by 7:45am

Period 1	8:00am - 9:15am
Transition	9:15am – 9:20am
Period 2	9:20am – 10:35am
Lunch	10:35am – 11:35am
Period 3	11:35am – 12:50pm
Transition	12:50pm – 12:55pm
Period 4	12:55pm – 2:10pm

KEY INFORMATION

BDHS SCHOOL COUNCIL UPCOMING MEETING:

The BDHS School Council is a committee made up of elected parents/guardians, community representatives, staff, and sometimes students that help to provide the community voice and parent/guardian perspective on important school topics such as fundraising plans, field trips and community events. School Council is a good way for parents/guardians to get involved in their child/children's education while playing an important role in the partnership between home and school. Council generally meets monthly (schedule below). These meetings typically average 1-2 hours in length and take place during evening hours.

All parents are welcome to attend any BDHS School Council Meeting. Specific inquiries about our BDHS School Council can be directed to:

Lynane Newton (Chair of BDHS School Council) councilchairbdh@scdsb.on.ca
David Brooks (Principal, BDHS) dbrooks@scdsb.on.ca

Scheduled Meetings for 2022/2023

Thursday Jan. 26th, 2023, 6pm - 7pm in BDHS School Library

BDHS ATHLETICS UPDATE:

Winter Sport Season Recap:

We are starting off 2023 with both home and away games this month as we wrap up the regular season. Playoffs will start up in February. BDHS is running the following teams:

- Boys' hockey
- Jr. Girls' volleyball
- Sr. Girls' volleyball
- Jr. Boys' basketball
- Sr. Boys' basketball
- Swimming and
- Badminton.

New for this season: Students must show their student activity card to watch the indoor home game sports, parents are asked to complete a spectator sign in form. Follow us on Instagram [@bucsathletics](https://www.instagram.com/bucsathletics) for team and game updates. Let's go BUCS!

BDHS GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Course Selection for 2023-2024

Guidance will be hosting assemblies for each grade on Wednesday, January 18th, 2023, during periods one and two to inform students of the process for selecting their courses for next year. The assemblies will cover how to use My Blueprint and will review diploma requirements for graduation. All information will be posted in the grade-specific Guidance Google Classrooms and emailed to students. If students have questions about course selections, they are encouraged to book an appointment with their Guidance Counsellor. ***The last day to choose courses is February 20th, 2023.***

Equal Consideration for College:

A reminder that the last day to apply for equal consideration to Ontario colleges is February 1, 2023. To complete your application visit: www.ontariocolleges.ca

Community Service Hours

This is a reminder to all students and parents that the Ministry of Education has provided flexible ways for students to obtain their 40 hours of community involvement, including:

- helping an elderly relative with an errand
- assisting a sibling with homework
- household chores
- up to a maximum of 10 hours from paid employment with proof of a paystub.

All students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to satisfy the diploma requirement to graduate. The deadline to submit community service hours for graduating Grade 12 students is April 28, 2023. If you have questions, please see your Guidance Counsellor.

Course changes for semester 2

Students interested in or needing a course change for semester 2 are encouraged to book an appointment with their Guidance Counsellor in the coming weeks. Guidance will not be making timetable changes during the first week of semester 2. To book an appointment, scan the QR code outside of Guidance, or visit our school website / your grade-specific Google classroom for the link.

Grade 8 Open House

Guidance will be hosting a Grade 8 Open House on January 19th, 2023, from 6:00-7:30 pm. Students and families are welcome to tour the school, meet teachers and learn about all of the incredible opportunities that BDHS has to offer.

SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJORS

What is SHSM? A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) that provides students with an opportunity to focus their learning and gain valuable experience for both work and post-secondary opportunities. Upon graduation, students are given a specialized red seal SHSM diploma and transcript which demonstrates they have learned the knowledge and skills of today's sector specific requirements. The program is open to ALL students. BDHS has two different SHSM programs; Construction and Transportation. The program requires students to complete a total of four grade 11/12 construction or transportation courses. Along with 4 supporting credits in English, math, business or science. SHSM also requires a total of 2 cooperative education credits linked to transportation or construction. In addition to the course requirements, students must complete a designated amount of compulsory and elected Sector-recognized certifications and/or training courses/programs along with experiential learning opportunities. Ask a guidance counselor about SHSM today and graduate with a resume - not just a diploma!

NOTICE: EQAO – GRADE 9 ASSESSMENT OF MATHEMATICS

The semester 1 dates for EQAO have been set for our grade 9 math students. The assessments will be completed on Tuesday, January 24th (Part A) and Wednesday, January 25th (Part B). The inclement weather back-up date is scheduled for Thursday, January 26th, if required. Students will be given 2 periods to write each section of the test, but may finish it within one period. The mark will only be counted toward the students' final mathematics grade if it brings their average up.

FEEDBACK, RECOVERY, AND IMPROVEMENT DAYS

At the end of each semester, all secondary schools will run feedback, recovery and improvement days for students. Culminating assessments such as portfolios, essays, examinations, and interviews will take place during instructional days and will be returned to students with feedback.

The last day of regular instruction for students in semester one is Monday, Jan. 30, 2023. The period from Tuesday, Jan. 31 to Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023, is reserved for students who require an opportunity to receive feedback from an assessment, to rescue or recover a credit, or to improve on an area of missed expectations. Teachers and support staff will communicate with students who will benefit most from attending this opportunity; however, all students will be invited to attend. There will be no new instruction these days. Feedback, recovery, and improvement days are an opportunity for students to work closely with their teacher if they require feedback, credit recovery or an opportunity to improve on an area of missed expectations.

FROM THE BDHS LEARNING COMMONS:

EBSCO Databases

BDHS purchases a yearly subscription to EBSCO databases for our students. This collection of books, articles, maps, journals, transcripts etc. covers a wide range of topics and allows students to learn and practice research skills necessary in their inquiry process.

EBSCO is an edited, current and reliable source. It will also format entries for source references in MLA, APA, Harvard and Chicago styles. Properly referencing sources is an essential skill in order for students to avoid plagiarism. Our school's username and password are available in the Learning Commons' Google Classroom (joining code 6ieopgj).

Students are shown how to use EBSCO in our Learning Commons Orientations. There is an important step of connecting students' Google accounts to EBSCO before they can use this tool at home. Students who have questions are encouraged to stop in and see one of our Teacher-Librarians.

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Routine immunizations prevent serious diseases and are free

Did you know that all students in Simcoe Muskoka must have up-to-date immunization records with the health unit? Reporting an immunization is easy, go to www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Immunization.

Need to get immunized? Nurses will be visiting all secondary schools in February and March 2023 to offer catch-up clinics. **The catch-up clinic at Bradford District High School is scheduled for February 9th and February 10th, 2023, in the small gym.**

Immunizations offered include:

- Required vaccines (Tdap booster for 14 to 16 year-olds, Men-C-ACYW [meningitis – usually offered in Grade 7] and/or if missed)
- Hepatitis B, and Human Papillomavirus (vaccines given during Grade 7 that may have been missed)

More information will be sent home prior to the school clinic for review by the parent/guardian and student. No COVID-19 vaccines will be offered at these clinics. Visit smdhu.org/grade9to12 for your school's clinic dates. Just walk-ins, no appointments. Catch-up clinics are also available at all health unit offices. To book an appointment visit: smdhu.inputhealth.com/. For more information about routine vaccinations, visit our school immunization page www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/Immunization/Clinics-and-Programs/Secondary-School-Immunization.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS

Has your child already received their routine immunizations? As a parent or guardian, **you are required to report your child's immunizations** to your local public health unit if your child attends school, or a licensed child care centre. Students currently in high school are required to be vaccinated against:

- Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio and Pertussis (whooping cough) - booster required between 14-16 years old
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella
- Meningococcal Disease

The health unit does not receive immunization information directly from doctor's offices. Please submit immunizations records to the health unit each time your child receives a vaccine from their health care provider. December 2022

What you can do:

- Check – your child's yellow immunization card
- Contact – your child's health-care provider to obtain records, or to get missing vaccinations
- Submit an immunization record – go to smdhu.org/immsonline to enter the complete record or fax a completed record to 705-726-3962.

For more information visit our school immunization records page.

BDHS LUNCHTIME MATH HELP IN ROOM 234:

The BDHS Math Department is excited to announce the opening of a Math Help Room every day at lunch. If any student requires assistance in Math, can come to Room 234 during any lunch period and get help from one of our math teachers. All students who have a question about their math work are encouraged to use the Math Help Room 234 to find the help they need.

BDHS ATTENDANCE REMINDERS:

Student Absences

If it is necessary for students to be absent from school because of illness or any other reason, they will be marked as an unknown absence until the absence has been reported to the school. The preferred method of communication for absences is through the attendance line [905-775-2262](tel:905-775-2262) option 1 or email bdhattendance@scdsb.on.ca. Absences reported to teachers via email may not be recorded as an excused absence and will prompt an automated attendance call home at day's end. Absences must be reported by parents/guardians until the student reaches the age of 18. Students who are 18 or older may have the privilege of signing themselves out. If the student signs out of school, they are expected to leave the school premises.

Appointments During the Day

Appointments happen and we are aware of that! However, to avoid unnecessary classroom interruption please provide as much notice as possible to have your student contacted and excused from the class. If office staff are given notice about an appointment, staff can email the teacher to have the student excused, rather than interrupting valuable teaching time with phone calls. Your co-operation with this process is appreciated.

Extended Absences

If you are planning to go on a vacation with your student or planning an extended absence from school (5 days or more), please have your student complete an extended absence form which are available in the main office.

REGISTER NOW FOR NIGHT SCHOOL (SEMESTER TWO) TO COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL, PREPARE FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

Night school offers secondary school credits in a variety of subjects for students completing their Ontario

Secondary School Diploma, and for students who are preparing for post-secondary education. Subjects include math, English, chemistry, biology, physics and social science. All night school courses this year are offered as teacher-led, synchronous online classes using Brightspace/D2L. Classes are held two nights per week from 6 to 9 p.m. on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule, with online student attendance being mandatory. Night school classes run given sufficient enrolment. Learn more at: www.thelearningcentres.com.

INCLEMENT WEATHER AND BUS CANCELLATION INFORMATION REMINDER

All information regarding cancelled buses in Simcoe County is posted on the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC)'s bus information website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca. Our school is in the South zone. When buses are cancelled, schools remain open for student learning, unless otherwise noted. School staff are expected to plan for such emergencies in order to transition students who are unable to attend due to inclement weather to their online platforms (Google Classroom and/or SCDSBhub [Brightspace by D2L]) and continue with academic programming. It is always a family decision whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

The SCSTC and bus operators try to make the decision to cancel school buses before 6 a.m. and make every effort to post announcements before 7 a.m. Inclement weather cancellations are effective for the whole day and buses cancelled in the morning will not run at the end of the day. You can follow the SCSTC on Twitter [@SCSTC_SchoolBus](https://twitter.com/SCSTC_SchoolBus) for bus cancellations and other information. You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here: <https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR & CONSEQUENCES FOR STUDENT ACTION RELATED TO RACISM, BIAS OR HATE

At the SCDSB, we are committed to maintaining safe, inviting and supportive school environments, and recognize that all students have the right to be safe, and feel safe, in our schools. With this right comes the responsibility to contribute to a positive school climate.

We want you to know that any incident of racism, bias or hate will not be tolerated. Any such incident is treated very seriously with immediate action and consequences in accordance with the requirements of the *Education Act*, and consistent with our values and obligations under the *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

Students who engage in acts of racism, bias or hate will face severe consequences as a result of their actions. Please take a moment to review the [SCDSB Code of Conduct](#) with your child(ren). The Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour and specifies consequences for student actions that do not comply with these standards.

We are dedicated to educating our students and staff about the injustice and impact of systemic racism. We continue to work with students, staff, parents/guardians and community partners to ensure that our schools are the safe places they are intended to be for all students.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE WAYS THAT THE SCDSB SUPPORTS STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES? JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION OUTREACH SERIES

In 2023, the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is hosting virtual special education outreach sessions to assist parents/caregivers in learning more about programs, supports and ways that we work together to support students with special education needs.

IEPs and school-based assessments – information for parents/caregivers

Jan. 12
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Supporting students with autism spectrum disorder

Feb. 14
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Supporting students as they transition into school, from one school to another, and from school upon graduation

April 20
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Working with families to create safe and supportive environments for children who have experienced trauma

May 9
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register in advance. Information to access the sessions will be shared via email with individuals who have pre-registered. Learn more about each session and how to register on the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions.

FOUR WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S STUDY HABITS

As we welcome the new year, people often take this time to reflect and make resolutions to form good habits for the year ahead. For some, these resolutions are personal goals, like cooking more meals at home, or joining a local gym – but what about setting family goals? As a parent, you can help your children set goals that will help them succeed at school, such as improving study habits.

It is difficult to see your child struggle with their schoolwork, but with these tips, your child will be able to effectively use their study time to thrive in school this year. Even better, working on these habits now will set them up for success for years to come — both in school and in the workplace. Here are four ways you can help improve your child's study habits:

1. Eliminate distraction

Learning requires focus and concentration to be successful. Removing distractions from your child's learning space is crucial. Portable technology is the largest distraction when it comes to studying. While studying, try to choose a location outside of their study space where they can leave their phone or tablet to minimize distractions. Of course, there are other types of distractions as well, such as a nearby TV or other children. If possible, find a study location away from the home's common space. Allow your child to turn on white noise or music if it helps them concentrate. It might aid in blocking out other obtrusive sounds so they can concentrate on their schoolwork.

2. Try alternatives to reading

It can get tiresome to read notes and textbooks to learn new information. Your child can only focus for so long before they begin to lose interest and tire of the subject. Try alternative strategies, such as creating flashcards, finding an informative video, listening to educational podcasts or audio books, or asking them to visualize a concept with a graphic or diagram. Kids learn in different ways. Find what works best for your child and use it to their advantage. Just be sure to keep the focus on studying and avoid the online distractions.

3. Give regular praise

Positive parenting and recognizing their accomplishments (both big and small) may be all the motivation

they require to succeed. Let them know you appreciate all their effort and hard work. Make sure to celebrate effort over outcome to show your child that trying is the most important thing. Some great wins to celebrate include solving a tricky problem, reaching a reading or math goal, or finishing a project or assignment. Let them know you are proud of them and that they should be proud of themselves as well. They'll be eager to advance if you sometimes throw in a special treat or outing!

4. Find additional help when needed

Perhaps one of the biggest lessons for students to learn is not be afraid to ask for help when needed. However, as a parent, sometimes we don't have the knowledge or ability to provide the help they need when it comes to schooling. That's when it's important to seek additional help, such as a tutor. Tutors can provide professional, tailored help to students, whether it is with an entire subject or a concept within a subject. Tutors can help your child succeed in school, while giving you peace of mind that they are learning with a professional.

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) has teamed up with the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka to launch the Y Achieve Tutoring program. This program provides free tutoring sessions outside of school hours, free of charge for any students who may be struggling. These sessions are open to students from Grades 6 to 12 attending a school within the SCDSB, whether you have a YMCA membership or not. For more information, or to book a session online, please visit www.ymcasm.ca/tutoring or contact morgan.gillies@sm.ymca.ca.

Information provided by the YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka