

THE ACADEMY TIMES

Elementary Administrator: Mrs. A. Grieve
Administrative Assistants: Mrs. P. Hayward

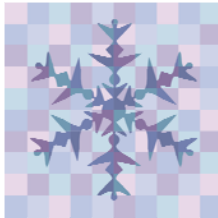
Secondary Administrator: Mrs. L. Nazar
Mrs. L. VanderMolen, Mrs. M. Priore

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to school!! We hope everyone had a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday.

We have many exciting learning opportunities planned and 2018 promises to be an eventful one.

We feel it is extremely important that our students spend some time outside each day to refresh and reenergize in order to focus and participate fully in classroom activities. All students are expected to spend the fitness portion of the break outside unless previous arrangements have been made. There are times when bitterly cold temperatures and other inclement weather conditions require that we keep the students inside. Students are encouraged to bring a quiet activity to work on when this happens.



Extreme cold weather alerts issued by the Niagara Region are often good indicators that students may stay inside.

As we return to school, we will be encouraging students to regain their focus and put forth their best efforts. Parents can help by checking your child's organizer daily, checking their assignments and working together at home on reading and mathematics review and practice.

What's Happening this Month

- Mon. Jan. 8**– Welcome Back for 2018
- Tues. Jan. 9**– Spirit Wear Day
- Tues. Jan. 9**– Sec Boys' Basketball @ Heritage
- Thurs. Jan. 11**– Sec. Girls' Volleyball game
- Tues. Jan 16**– Sec. Boys' Basketball vs Great Lakes
- Tues. Jan. 16**– Grade 6s leave for Tim Horton's Camp
- Thurs. Jan 18**– Grade 6s return from Camp
- Wed. Jan. 24**– Grade 9 EQAO
- Fri. Jan. 19**– Elementary PA Day, Secondary Alternate Dress Day
- Fri. Jan. 26**– Secondary Exams Begin
- Fri. Feb. 2**– Secondary PA Day, Elementary Alternate Dress Day



New Students for September 2018

Our application form for September 2018 is now available for current **Grade 5, 6 or 7 students**. If you know a student that may be interested in joining our school in September 2018, please have them either call the office or let them know they can access the application form on our website <http://academy.dsbns.org/>

This year we again have **Parent Information Nights** happening in different community public schools.

- Mon. Jan. 15**– Harriet Tubman
- Tues. Jan. 16**– Diamond Trail
- Thurs. Jan 18**– Valleyway
- Tues. Jan 23**– Dewitt Carter
- Thurs. Jan 25**– Senator Gibson
- Tues. Jan. 30**– Peacebridge
- Tues. Feb. 6**– DSBN Academy

All presentations begin at 6:30 pm. Please encourage any interested families to come hear what our school is about.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE ACADEMY

"We want YOU at the DSBN Academy!"

Research overwhelmingly states that children whose parents are involved in their children's school and support the culture created at the school, achieve at a higher academic level and are more engaged. As a reminder, our parents are required to volunteer a minimum of 15 hours toward activities and events at the DSBN Academy. There are a number of different ways to make an impact on our young men and young women. Volunteering can take on many different forms.

If you have volunteered, please call or email the office to log your hours.

We are in need of Breakfast Program Volunteers.

Volunteers are paid in six figures...

S-M-I-L-E-S.

~Gayla LeMaire

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

There may be times during the school year where inclement weather or other situations could cause transportation cancellations or school closures.

At times when student transportation has been cancelled and schools remain open, the decision of whether or not to have children in school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

Should you decide not to send your child to school in the event that transportation is cancelled but schools remain open, or if your child is ill or late, please ensure that you call your child’s school to inform them of your child’s absence.

A key resource in any emergency is the DSBN Emergency Information form that you filled out at the beginning of the school year. Please let the school know of any changes in contact information or procedures you wish to be followed throughout the school year.

For secondary schools it may become necessary to cancel late buses. Notice will be provided via school announcements and on the websites and subscription features by 11:30 a.m.

Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available as soon as it is available through the following channels:

Websites:

<http://www.dsbns.org/inclementweather/>
www.nsts.ca

Subscription Features:

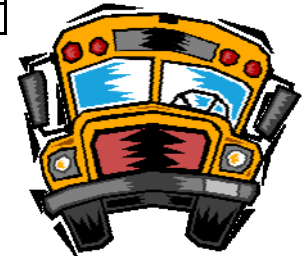
DSBN Facebook or Twitter
 NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts

Phone: Niagara Student Transportation Services 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant



Radio Stations: CKTB (610 AM) St. Catharines	CHRE (105.7 FM) St. Catharines
WAVE (94.7 FM) Hamilton	CHTZ-FM (97.7 FM) St. Catharines
CKOC (1150 AM) Hamilton	2DayFM (105.1 FM) Niagara Falls/Fort Erie
CHML (900 AM) Hamilton	K-LITE-FM (102.9 FM) Hamilton
CHAM (820 AM) Hamilton	GIANT FM (91.7 FM) Welland
Y-108(107.9) Hamilton	

What parents need to know when the buses are cancelled!



During the school year, the buses are sometimes cancelled, but the schools remain open. The decision to cancel buses is made by NSTS (nsts.ca) and the decision to close schools is made by the District School Board of Niagara. When buses are cancelled Mrs. Hayward has to still call every student absent from school. The reason for this is that if your child is a bussed student and did not hear about the bus cancellation he/she could very well be waiting for the bus in extreme weather. The school’s responsibility is to ensure every student absent from school is safe and accounted for. We understand that trying to call Mrs. Hayward is challenging on such a morning due to the high volume of telephone calls into the office. When the buses are cancelled, Mrs. Hayward would be happy to receive an e-mail from you reporting your child absent for the day. You can email her at **dac@dsbn.org**. If you put your child’s name in the subject line and the word “absent” this will be recorded and Mrs. Hayward will not have to call you. **You may also text your child’s absence to 905-328-0273. Please ensure you tell us: Student name, grade, reason for absence and who you are.**

Term One Report Cards

The provincial report cards for Grades 6-8, will be arriving home on **February 9th**. On this report card, students in grades 6 will receive letter grades (e.g., A, B, C, D) and students in grades 7 and 8 will receive percentage grades (e.g., 84%, 72%, 67%) to indicate how well they are achieving the curriculum in each of their subjects. If a particular subject or strand is not part of a student's program this term, then the NA box will be checked. Achievement in this subject or strand will be addressed in June. The Learning Skills and Work Habits are the same as those on the Progress Reports. These are essential skills that will help students be successful in both school and as active members of their community. The Learning Skills and Work Habits are: **Responsibility; Organization; Independent Work; Collaboration; Initiative; and Self-regulation.**

We hope that you are pleased to see the excellent work that our teachers are doing to ensure that the report card comments are written in parent-friendly language. Comments will identify: the **learning focus** based on curriculum, **student strengths**, and the **next steps** that students should take in order to improve their learning. We invite you to continue to communicate with us if you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress and achievement. While there is no formal interview day, please do not hesitate to

contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. You may receive a phone call from your child's teacher asking you to come in for a meeting to discuss your child's

progress. Great schools ensure that families and schools work closely together to ensure the fullest potential is reached for all our learners. **Thank you for your continued support at home!**



I Matter as an Individual

(shares thoughts, viewpoints and experiences in a respectful, insightful way while acknowledging and respecting the beliefs of others)

Nacura B
Hailey H
Taneika T
Alyssa H
Natalie M
Owen H
Ruby B
Fatima H

I Matter as a Learner

(consistently/exceptionally exhibits critical thinking and/or a desire to learn and grow)

Ethan L
Anastasha R
Linda R
Maria B
Melora S
Olivia M
Rylee S
Sam G
Shayla H
Carson D
Kai W
Mason D
Azka S
Alida M

I Matter as a Community Member

(seeks to make a positive impact in the classroom, school and community)

Haley H
Aleem B
Jesse T
Kyden W
Adrina B
Aspen R
Harley A



FREE PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION FOR EVERYONE 24 & UNDER

STARTING JANUARY 1ST 2018

The new **OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare** will cover 100% of the cost of **over 4,400** medications – the entire Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary. Eligible prescriptions can be filled free of charge at any Ontario pharmacy – all you need is an Ontario health card number.

► For more information, visit ontario.ca/OHIPplus

- NO ENROLLMENT
- NO CO-PAYMENT
- NO ANNUAL DEDUCTIBLE
- NO UPFRONT COSTS



Is Your Child's Vaccination Record Up to Date?

The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA), Amending Reg. 645 of R.R.O. 1990 requires Public Health to collect and maintain immunizations records for all school-aged children in Niagara. At the beginning of December 2017, letters were mailed to parents/legal guardian of elementary and secondary school students who have **incomplete immunization records on file at Public Health**.

If you received this **Immunization Notice** in the mail (blue form) please ensure that you provide the required immunization information to Public Health in order to avoid suspension from school. Suspensions will take effect in May 2018. If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage you to call the Vaccine Preventable Disease program at **1-888-505-6074 or 905 688 8248 ext. 7425** Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.