



EDEN HIGH SCHOOL

**2023-2024
STUDENT HANDBOOK**



EDEN HIGH SCHOOL



Secondary Student Handbook

Welcome to the DSBN Family!

We are looking forward to working with you and your family to support all students!

The purpose of this handbook is to give you an understanding of how we support a safe, inclusive, welcoming school culture focused on student learning. In the following pages, you will see the commitments we make to students. This handbook also outlines the principles of good citizenship for all members of our educational community.

One of our most important commitments is to open communication between the school and home. If you have any questions about this handbook, we encourage you to contact the school who will be happy to discuss them with you.

COMMUNICATION

The relationship between guardian(s) and the school is a key component of student success. Our staff work hard to foster open communication with guardian(s). If you have feedback or concerns about your student's education, we invite you to contact your student's teacher as a first point of contact. We use a variety of tools to provide families and the community with timely information about the school and activities. These tools may include:

- Eden High School web page <https://eden.dsbm.org/>
- Twitter: @EdenHighDSBN
- Instagram handle: @edenhighdsbn
- Eden's Electronic Sign
- Customized emails and phone messages

BELL TIMES

Period	Times
Homeroom	8:45 – 8:50
1	8:50 – 10:05
2	10:10 – 11:25
LUNCH	11:25 – 12:05
3	12:10 – 1:25
4	1:30 – 2:45



IMPORTANT DATES AND DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE LINKS
Semester One

Date	Item
September 5	First Day of School
September 8	Photo Day
September 11	School Council Meeting
September 25	School Council Meeting
October 5	Progress Reports Sent Home
October 6	PD Day
October 9	School Holiday
October 16	Photo Retake Day
November 1	Take Your Kid To Work Day
November 7	Last Day of Term 1 (Semester 1)
November 8	First Day of Term 2 (Semester 1)
Nov 13 - Nov 14	OSSLT
November 15	Midterm Reports sent home
November 20	School Council Meeting
November 24	PD Day
November 28 - December 2	Grade 8 Open House
December 25 - January 5	Holiday Break
January 24 - 30	Culminating Activity Days
Jan 10 - Feb 2	EQAQO (exact date TBD)
Jan 31	First Day of Semester 2
Feb 16	PD Day
Feb 19	School Holiday



Feb 26	School Council Meeting
Mar 11 - Mar 15	School Break
Mar 18	School Council Meeting
Mar 29	School Holiday
Apr 1	School Holiday
Apr 8	PD Day
Apr 15	School Council Meeting
Apr 16	Last Day of Term 1 (Semester 2)
Apr 17	First Day of Term 2 (Semester 2)
May 20	School Holiday
May 27	School Council Meeting
June 19, 20, 24, 25, 26	Culminating Activity Days
June 21, 27, 28	PD Days

The Niagara Region is growing more diverse in creed and/or religious beliefs and practices. The District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) is committed to fostering diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning and working environments that promote acceptance and protect individuals from discrimination and harassment based on the protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code. Creed and/or religion is one of the grounds that is both an individual right and a collective responsibility. The DSBN recognizes and embraces the creed diversity represented in its students, staff, and community members.

As we start our school year, we invite you to share with us your family's most significant creed-based holiday(s). We will work together through the accommodation request process as Eden High recognizes the importance of families celebrating their creed and/or religious beliefs and practices.

The DSBN has created a [Family Guide: Recognizing and Respecting Creed Diversity](#) to support families in requesting accommodations. This guide has also been translated into the following languages; Arabic, French, Hungarian, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese, which can be viewed on the [DSBN Equity webpage](#). For a list of Days of Significance, please refer to the [Days of Significance Calendar](#).



PARKING/SAFE DRIVING

Parking and driving on school property are privileges which may be withdrawn as the result of careless driving. Students MAY NOT sit in, or socialize, around the cars in the parking lot during the school day, including during the lunch hour.

Students must park in the back of the building off of Linwell Street. They are to register their vehicles, using the link to a [Google Form](#).

Students who are being dropped off at the front of the building should enter off of Lake Street and exit via Linwell Street. We ask that you do NOT use the roundabout as this is for our buses and taxis ONLY.

If you are being dropped off at the back of the building, you should enter off of Linwell Street and exit via Lakeport Road. You are asked to follow the one way signs.

All drivers are encouraged not to enter the front of the school. If dropping off students at the front of the building, you must follow the one-way directional arrows by entering Lake Street and exiting via Linwell Street. Drivers are not permitted to park or drop off in the circle area at the front of the school. This area is for buses and taxis only.

SAFE ARRIVAL/ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Our school has an easy method for you to report your student's absences. With Safe Arrival, (<https://www.dsbn.org/safearrival/>), you can report daily absences and schedule absences by doing one of the following:

- Calling the toll-free phone line at 1-866-479-3261
- Logging on to the web portal at [Safe Arrival Login](#)
- Using your smartphone or tablet

Simply download the School Messenger app. We ask that you report all absences prior to bell time for the current day. To support the safety of our students, if your student is not at school and has not been reported absent, our staff will attempt to reach you and your contacts to confirm their whereabouts. If a student arrives late to school or needs to leave early, they must sign in/out. It is the responsibility of the student to make up for missed work.

Students who arrive before 9 am are asked to report directly to class. If a student arrives after 9 am, they are to report to the Main Office and get a late slip before going to class.

SKATEBOARDS, LONGBOARDS, ROLLERBLADES & BIKES



As per District School Board of Niagara policy, skateboards, longboards and rollerblades are NOT permitted to be used in the parking lot or halls of the school. Due to limited space in lockers, skateboards, longboards and rollerblades are discouraged. There are limited spaces available for bikes outside the school and all bikes are to be locked.

Continued violation of safety rules may result in the confiscation of these items by administration.

Students who ride their bikes to school must store them in the bike rack outside. The school is not responsible for the security of bikes that are stored in the bike rack outside so please ensure they are properly secured with an appropriate lock. Bikes MAY NOT be stored inside the school.

DRESS CODE

By choosing Eden High School, students and their parents have made a serious commitment to education at a uniformed school. The uniform is a reflection of who we are, how we see ourselves, and how others see our school. The Eden uniform is to be worn well and consistently. This policy has been established and reviewed by a committee consisting of students, parents and staff after a long and thorough process of consultation. Uniforms are mandatory for students every day, for the entire school day and anywhere on school property. Maddalena Uniforms is the proud supplier of the Eden High School uniform.

Eden chooses to be a uniform school because it:

- helps to establish a distinctive environment that focuses on learning and personal development
- diminishes the role of fashion in articulating a student's worth or importance
- [Uniform Policy](#)

9 Important notes about uniforms:

1. Students must be in proper school uniform throughout the entire school day - upon arrival at school and until dismissal – including lunch and spares and exam periods, and whenever you are on school property or at school sanctioned events.
2. Students who are out-of-uniform will not be admitted to class and will remain in the office until proper uniform items are obtained from home or office loaners, or students may be sent home to retrieve uniform.
3. Every three years this Uniform Policy is revisited by a committee of staff, students and parents. The next revision will be completed by April 2024.
4. Clothing to be worn during a co-op placement is at the discretion of the co-op employer and the co-op teacher.



5. Students who play on school teams or are part of recognized clubs may not wear jerseys etc. on game days; however, they may wear uniform tops or club shirts with regular uniform pants, shorts or kilts on scheduled Spirit Wear Days. Wearing these clothing items at any other time will be considered a uniform infraction and students will be asked to change prior to being admitted. *Special permission for students to wear team/club shirts may be granted with the permission of staff advisor and administration.*
6. Students on field trips must wear their uniform “or better” (as designated by the teacher in charge of the field trip). Better than uniform means Business or Dress attire. Some field trips require athletic and/or outdoor clothing. Teachers will advise students of the dress code when on a field trip.
7. Students who continually challenge the uniform policy will meet with parents and administration to resolve the problem.
8. The administration’s decision is final regarding the interpretation of all uniform regulations. From time to time students, due to health reasons, may need temporary exemptions from part of the school uniform and in this case should see an administrator.
9. Uniforms can be purchased through Maddalena’s store at 22 Geneva Street, or through their website <https://www.maddalena-uniforms.com/>.

CASUAL DRESS POLICY

Everyone has their own unique style and aesthetic. We celebrate students’ individuality and respect their ability to express themselves. Our only expectation is that all students come to school dressed appropriately for a learning environment. When deciding clothing, we ask that all members of our school community are mindful of:

- Health and safety considerations
- The dignity and well-being of all students and staff (i.e. clothing that is free of inappropriate or discriminatory imagery or wording).

SPIRITWEAR DAYS

Spirit wear days are scheduled on the calendar or as designated by Administration.

- spirit wear is defined as a top/T-shirt/sweatshirt on which the school name (Eden) is printed which qualifies it as spirit wear. It could be from a club or team.
- Eden regulation pants/shorts/kilts/shoes must be worn

AGE OF MAJORITY



Students who have attained the age of 18 are treated as adults in the educational setting. Reports regarding attendance and achievement are issued directly to the student and notes or phone calls from guardians regarding absences are not required. Additionally, guardians should be aware that the automatic phone system for student absence does not call the homes of 'age of majority' students. Students 18 years of age or older are permitted, and expected, to take responsibility for their attendance and achievement. They may sign themselves out at the Attendance Office without guardian permission. Students are reminded however, that with age and privilege comes responsibility.

Being 18 does not mean that students can sign themselves in and out without reason. In addition, students are responsible for the consequences of their decisions.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND VAPING

Eden promotes healthy lifestyles as described in the Ontario Curriculum and its expectations. Any action that is illegal in society is not permitted in school. The possession and use of alcohol and/or drugs by all students while on Board property, school buses, and while attending school and Board-sponsored events is strictly prohibited.

Students found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to progressive discipline. In striving to maintain a drug and alcohol-free environment, our school will make use of a variety of means to ensure the safety of all.

[Smoke Free Learning and Workplace Environments](#) - DSBN Policy

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION FOR GRADES 9-12

The primary purpose of assessment and evaluation is to improve student learning. Teachers use assessment to gather information about students' strengths and needs as learners to assist in planning and evaluation to judge how well students are meeting the Ontario Curriculum expectations. As part of the assessment process, teachers provide students with descriptive feedback and coaching for improvement. Teachers engage students in assessment and learning by helping all students develop their capacity to be independent, autonomous learners who are able to set individual goals, monitor their own progress, determine next steps, and reflect on their thinking and learning.

Evaluation refers to the process of judging the quality of student learning based on established performance standards and assigning a value to represent that quality. Students are responsible not only for their behaviour in the classroom and the school



but also for providing evidence of their achievement of the overall expectations within the time frame specified by the teacher, and in a form approved by the teacher.

Students must understand that there will be consequences for not completing assignments for evaluation or for submitting those assignments late ([Growing Success](#), p. 43).

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LATE AND MISSED ASSIGNMENTS FOR EVALUATION

Teachers will:

- Maintain ongoing and timely communication with students, parents/guardians and administrators
- Establish deadlines, in collaboration with students, for assignments for evaluation and clearly communicate those deadlines to students, and, where appropriate, to parents/guardians
- Use appropriate strategies, based on their professional judgment, to help students provide the required evidence of their learning
- Communicate with and return work in a reasonable timeframe to students
- Ensure the needs of students with exceptionalities are met, consistent with the strategies outlined in their Individual Education Plans (IEP).

Students will:

- Be responsible for providing evidence of their achievement of the overall expectations within the timeframe specified by the teacher, and in a form approved by the teacher
- Be encouraged to discuss assignments and issues with timelines with their teachers
- Understand that there will be consequences for not completing assignments for evaluation and/or for submitting those assignments late

Students can also access support at school through administration, guidance, social worker/youth counselor, school nurse, and/or classroom teacher. We encourage students to advocate for themselves. The DSBN also provides [resources online](#) for students.

DETERMINING A REPORT CARD GRADE

Before making a decision about the grade to be entered on the report card, teachers will consider:

- All individual evidence collected through observations, conversations, and student products
- Equity, by ensuring evaluation is completed whenever possible, with teacher supervision



- Assignments for evaluation must not include homework or practice opportunities
- Assignments for evaluation may involve group projects as long as each student's work within the group project is evaluated based on independent work and individual skills
- The impact that missing or incomplete assignments will have on the student's overall grade

STUDENTS WITH SPARES

Students with spares are asked not to wander the halls. To avoid unnecessary disruptions to other classes, students with spares are asked to go to the library, the cafeteria or to leave the building. Students in Grades 9, 10 and 11 are not permitted to have spares.

Students who have scheduled online classes are expected to report to the library or cafeteria to complete work. If a student needs support, they can reach out to guidance or administration.

HALLS

Students are expected to refrain from any behaviour which endangers personal safety or the safety of others. Among such behaviours are pushing and shoving, horseplay, and running in the halls. Offensive or obscene language and profanity are also unacceptable. With the exception of students requiring access to their lockers for legitimate reasons, the halls are out of bounds while classes are in session. Students on spare are expected to work quietly in the designated areas (cafeteria, library)

CAFETERIA AND LUNCH HOUR

The cafeteria is open daily from 7:30 a.m. until school begins and then opens for lunch at 11:25 a.m. We have a community partnership with Chartwells, our cafeteria provider. Students are able to purchase items provided by Chartwells in the morning and at lunch. There is no service between classes and the cafeteria closes following the lunch hour.

All students share the responsibility to keep the cafeteria clean, and are expected to cooperate by clearing their own garbage/litter from their tables by putting their trash in the appropriate receptacles.

Students may also eat lunch in the library over the lunch hour and this space will be supervised by a teacher. Students may eat outdoors during nice weather providing that all litter is placed in the proper receptacles. Students are permitted to eat in the halls where there is teacher supervision. Students must clean up after themselves.



Students are expected to cooperate with the student leaders and teachers who are on supervision duty in the cafeteria each day.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (FIELD TRIPS AND ATHLETICS)

Student involvement is an integral part of school life at Eden High. Students are encouraged to become involved in school activities. Eligibility for a school team and/or club is maintained as long as:

- a) during the playing season the student has a minimum of 3 classes
- b) the student has at least a 50% average, and,
- c) is not encountering attendance and/or discipline problems

[Eden Student Athlete Manual](#)

School trips and games are available to students in good standing. Students who need financial assistance to attend these events are asked to reach to administration for support.

School trips must be connected to the curriculum and all sports games are assigned prior to the start of the season.

GUIDANCE

WHAT DO WE DO?

The goals of the Guidance & Career Education Program are to assist students in acquiring the knowledge and skills required to learn effectively, live and work cooperatively and productively with a wide range of people, and set and pursue education and career goals. We look after a number of tasks within the school such as timetabling, university and college applications, graduation, career planning, personal counselling, new student registration, maintenance of student records, liaison with feeder schools, and much more. If you're not sure about something, the best place to start is Guidance!

ARRANGING AN APPOINTMENT

If you wish to see a Counsellor, please visit the Guidance Office or complete a request [form online](#). While we prefer that you arrange an appointment in advance, we know that emergencies do arise. Should you require immediate assistance, please come directly to the Guidance Office. If you require an appointment with one of our support staff, please see the Guidance Secretary.



EDEN SUPPORT STAFF

Social Worker: Ms. Naomi Petendra
Youth Counsellor: Mr. Rob D’Amario
School Nurse: Stephanie Forestell

You may request an appointment with our social worker and/or youth counsellor through our [Eden website](#). Students who are under the age of 16 may require consent to meet with our social worker.

To meet with the school nurse, you can go to the Main Office or Guidance. The school nurse is in the building once a week to support students.

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Our main way of communicating with you is through the morning announcements. These announcements are posted on the [Eden website](#). On occasion, we may come to your classes or invite you to assemblies and meetings where we will do presentations on various topics. Both inside and outside the Guidance Office you will find a great deal of information posted on bulletin boards and the walls. Check this out on a regular basis so that you are constantly aware of upcoming presentations and other happenings. You should also check out our website by going to [Eden website](#) and clicking on the [Guidance](#) link. There you will find the latest news, links, events, and other important information.

DSBN POLICIES:

It is recommended that parents and students read the policies listed below.

To view all [District School Board of Niagara policies](#), visit: www.dsbni.org/policies

- [G-03 Equity and Inclusive Education](#)
- [Safe Schools: Policy G-2,](#)
- [D-01 Digital Technology Use by Students](#)
- [G-26, Fees for Learning Materials and Activities:](#)
- [G-32, Concussions: G-36](#)
- [E-09 Human Rights](#)

INCLEMENT WEATHER

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 canceled and schools remain open, the decision to have students attend school on that day rests with the parent or guardian.

EXAMS DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER

If inclement weather occurs on exam days, detailed instructions will be provided for rescheduling. Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will be available through the following channels:

- www.dsbn.org or www.nsts.ca
- DSBN Facebook or Twitter
- NSTS Transportation Delay or Cancellation Alerts
- Niagara Student Transportation Service
- 905-346-0290 Voice Auto Attendant
- Local radio and television stations

COLLECTION OF FUNDS & PERMISSION FORMS

[School Cash Online](#) is a safe, reliable portal that will ensure the security of your information. School Cash Online, enables you to use your debit or credit card to make quick and easy payments. Our school also uses School Cash Online to obtain permission for school events. To gain access to the system, simply click on the “School Cash” button which is located on our school website. Guardians that do not bank online are always welcome to come into the office to pay for items using cash or cheque only, and to sign permission forms.

VISITORS

We want all visitors to feel welcome at our school. The procedures we have in place help us provide you with timely access to the school and give our entire school community confidence that student safety is being maintained. Once you enter the school, please report directly to the Main Office where our staff can assist you. There, you will sign in and receive a visitor badge that identifies you as a trusted member of our community. At the end of your visit you will sign out at the office.

We do host ‘shadow students.’ These students are not currently enrolled at Eden, but may consider an Eden application in the future. If a current Eden student wants to host a shadow student, they must complete a form in the Main Office PRIOR to the shadow student coming to Eden.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS



If you are interested in becoming involved with our school, please contact the office and our staff would be happy to work through the process with you. You may also read the [DSBN Policy outlines - Police Vulnerable Sector Check For Service Providers - E-14](#) and [School Volunteers - G-01](#)



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council provides a vital link between the school, parents and community. The council is made up of dedicated parent volunteers interested in supporting student success. The council meets regularly throughout the school year and provides feedback and supports programs to improve student achievement. We encourage you to become involved.

You may also find more information on [our website](#) (including meeting dates) or refer to DSBN Policy [School Councils - A-12](#).

SMOKING/VAPING

Smoking and vaping are NOT allowed in schools or within 20 meters of school grounds. Adults wishing to smoke or vape in public areas must be at least 20 meters from school grounds. Those caught smoking or vaping are at risk of suspension and/or referral to our Tobacco Enforcement Officers.

BELONGINGS

Students who choose to bring personal items to school do so at their own risk and must accept responsibility for their care. We will not be held responsible for damage, loss, or theft. Students are strongly advised to lock all items in their assigned locker.

LOCKERS

At our school, students are assigned lockers. A google form link will be provided with a to enter locker combination for later reference if needed. Students are expected to keep their personal belongings in their locker, clean it regularly, and make sure locker doors are locked. Lockers are the property of the DSBN and are used by students with permission of the school. Students are advised that the school has the right to search lockers and remove locks, if necessary. Where the school has concerns of possible criminal violations, the search may also include the Niagara Regional Police who may use any of their investigative tools, including the trained canine unit.

Students are to keep backpacks in their lockers for the duration of the school day. Due to safety concerns and small classroom and large class sizes, it allows students to navigate the space in each classroom safely.

PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS



If you have a student with a prevalent medical condition (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy or others) we want to make sure we have a current Plan of Care to support your student. All parents of students with prevalent medical conditions are asked to fill out the new Plan of Care and submit to the school. You can fill in the forms here:

<https://www.dsbns.org/prevalent-medical-conditions>

For more information, please contact the school.

CONCUSSIONS

The DSBN has a [concussion policy and procedures](#) to support proper prevention, identification, management, and return to learn strategies. The DSBN engages in concussion education in a variety of ways, including recognizing Rowan's Law Day commemorated on the last Wednesday in September to raise awareness about concussions. If your student has sustained a suspected or actual concussion while not at school, please contact the school, to make sure they are aware.

The DSBN also provides a [Guide for Guardians and Students](#).

FIRE DRILLS/EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS/ LOCKDOWNS

We are committed to maintaining our schools as safe places for all of our students. To create and maintain a culture of safety, we practice both fire and lockdown procedures several times during the school year. School staff work with students to ensure they understand these procedures and feel comfortable acting should the circumstances ever warrant.

ONTARIO CURRICULUM

Click here to view the Ontario curriculum:

<https://www.dsbns.org/secondary/curriculum>

SPECIAL EDUCATION

[Special Education](#) supports and programs are responsive to the strengths and needs of each student ensuring a successful learning environment for all. Working together and collaborating with parents as a team to support our students is essential to achieving success. For more information please contact your student's Special Education resource teacher.

INDIGENOUS SELF-ID



The DSBN provides programs and measures to support all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. All First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students have the right to voluntarily self-identify so that they may receive supportive programming and instructional practices that better serve their learning needs. The first such measure in recognizing this right is to establish self-identification procedures to identify, collect, and aggregate student achievement data for students.

Who Can Identify?

Any student of Indigenous ancestry, First Nations (Status, Non-Status), Métis, or Inuit can identify. This process is completely voluntary and confidential, and no proof of ancestry is needed.

How is the Data Collected?

Students can identify by filling in the student registration form or the student information update form any time during the school year.

What if I Do Not Wish to Participate?

Students and/or Parents/Guardians who do not wish to participate will not check off any box. The self-identification will remain open to all who attend the DSBN. You can activate self-identification at any time by requesting a student registration form or self identification postcard from the main office.

For further information email: Indigenous@dsbn.org or call Indigenous Consultants at: 905-641-2929 K-8 ext. 52246, 9-12 ext. 52317

[Home - Indigenous Education](#)

FIELD TRIPS/EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Field trips and experiential learning provide your student the opportunity to learn outside of their classroom. When planning these experiences, we consider curriculum connections, safety of students and accessibility for all. We will work together to address any barriers to your student's participation.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR LEARNING

To enhance the learning and empowerment of our students and maintain an effective and safe electronic learning environment, the DSBN requires that all students follow the rules and regulations set by the Ministry of Education. The regulations are outlined through DSBN Policy: [Digital Technology Use by Students - D-01](#)

REPORT CARDS/PARENT & TEACHER MEETINGS



Each semester, there are three reporting periods: progress report, mid-term report and final report. After the progress report, guardians can meet with their student's teacher.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

DSBN schools strive to help students develop integrity, a strong work ethic, learning skills and work habits needed for success beyond school. Academic integrity means that students complete their own work, ask the teacher questions if they are unsure, and use proper citations when using another person's work for reference.

Plagiarism is when students claim that schoolwork they have submitted is theirs, even when a part or all of it has been taken from an uncredited source.

Some examples are:

- Using a sentence word for word without citing the source
- Using diagrams, charts, graphics, without citing the source
- Submitting work by another person and claiming it as your own
- Paraphrasing without citing the source
- Copying and pasting from the internet

Proper citation will be reviewed with classroom teachers.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences for academic dishonesty are considered on a case-by-case basis. Teachers use their professional judgment in cases of suspected academic dishonesty.

Consequences may include one or more of the following:

- Redoing part or all of an assignment
- Completing an alternative assignment
- A loss of marks
- A mark of zero
- Suspension

Academic dishonesty can include, but is not exclusive to, plagiarism, use of artificial intelligence platforms, and/or using other students' work.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

Every student who begins secondary school in Ontario is required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement to receive their diploma. This requirement encourages students to develop an understanding of the various roles they can play in their communities and to help them develop a greater sense of belonging within their communities. Talk to [Guidance to learn](#) more about how to earn and track your hours.



HONOUR ROLL

DSBN secondary schools value the commitment and hard work of all our students. The honour roll is one way that students can be recognized for their academic accomplishments. Students in all pathways will be considered for the honour roll if they have an average of 80% on their top eight courses for the school year. Grade twelve academic achievement is honoured through graduation awards.

Please note the following:

Summer School:

- Grade 9 - Summer school courses taken the summer before and the summer after grade 9 are included
- Grades 10 & 11- Summer school courses taken the summer after each grade are included. E-Learning, Night School & Alternative Pathways Program
- All courses included Cooperative Education (Double Credit)
- Weighted according to the number of credits. Students taking Resource & Student Success Periods (Spare in Grade 11)
- Minimum credits to be adjusted

Specialized School to Community

- Included when integrated at principal's discretion

Students with unusual circumstances (e.g. Instructional Outreach, Supervised Alternative Learning)

- Minimum credits adjusted at principal's discretion

GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with your Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) you need 30 credits: 18 Compulsory and 12 Elective.

- English: 4 courses
- Math: 3 courses
- Science: 2 courses
- French as a Second Language: 1 course
- Canadian Geography: 1 course
- Canadian History: 1 course
- The Arts: 1 course
- Health and Physical Education: 1 course
- Civics: .5
- Careers: .5



PLUS ONE CREDIT FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

- 1 Group 1: additional credit in English, or French as a second language, or a Native language, or a classical or an international language, or social sciences and the humanities, or Canadian and world studies, or guidance and career education, or cooperative education
- 1 Group 2: additional credit in health and physical education, or the arts, or business studies, or French as a second language, or cooperative education
- 1 Group 3: additional credit in Science (Grade 11 or 12), or technological education, or French as a second language, or computer studies, or cooperative education

IN ADDITION, STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE:

- 40 Hours Community Service (completed over 4 years)
- The provincial literacy requirement – OSSLT
- Two online courses (if you choose to opt out of this requirement, you must see a guidance counsellor)

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING SCHOOL SUPPORTS

Mental health and well-being is an important factor in student success. Learning to form healthy relationships, maintain physical health, academic engagement, and educational achievement are all impacted by mental health and well-being.

Students mental health and well-being is supported in many ways:

- Helping students feel safe and included
- Instilling a sense of belonging and connectedness
- Working with them to feel confident in their identity
- There may be times where the challenges of school and life lead students to feel overwhelmed

Every student has access to a comprehensive support system to help them succeed. It starts with anyone in the DSNB that students identify as a caring adult. To learn more visit:

[Home - Mental Health & Well Being](#)

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

KIDS HELP PHONE Kids Help Phone is always there for you. No matter what you want to talk about, they're there to listen. No judgment, totally private, 24/7.

- Call 1-800-668-6868
- Text CONNECT to 686868
- Live chat and explore resources at www.kidshelpphone.ca



ANXIETY CANADA YOUTH

You are not alone! Many teens experience difficulties with anxiety. There are lots of things that you can do to take charge of your anxiety for good.

- Visit www.youth.anxietycanada.com
- Download the MindShift CBT app

PATHSTONE MENTAL HEALTH NEED HELP NOW?

Call 1-800-263-4944 Youth up to age 17 may visit the HERE AND NOW CLINIC at:

- 1338 Fourth Ave. in St. Catharines Open Mondays to Thursdays 9am - 7pm Fridays 9am - 4pm

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION (CMHA) – NIAGARA BRANCH

If you're age 16 or older, you may visit the CMHA Adult Walk-In Clinic at:

- 1338 Fourth Ave. in St. Catharines Open Tuesdays 11:30am-5:30pm

LGBTQ+ YOUTH LINE

A confidential, safe, and judgment-free place to talk for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning youth

- Call 1-800-268-9688 • Text 647-694-4275
- Live chat and explore resources at www.youthline.ca

TEENMENTALHEALTH.ORG

- This website is designed to share information about teen mental health and provide resources that can help you understand your mental health and help those you care about
- Start by visiting [Mental Health Literacy](#)

CODE OF CONDUCT

District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) [Code of Conduct for Schools](#) states that a school should be a place that promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment. A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included, accepted, and agree that it is the responsibility of all individuals to actively contribute to a positive school climate.

The DSBN believes that to foster a positive school climate that supports student achievement and well-being, a focus should be on prevention and early intervention strategies to address inappropriate behaviour. These standards of behaviour apply whether on school property, on school buses, or other transportation means supplied by DSBN, at school-related events or activities or in any other circumstance that could have an impact on the school climate.



The provincial Code of Conduct outlined in PPM 128, revised October 17, 2018, sets clear provincial standards of behaviour. According to PPM 128, the following responsibilities are outlined to support a collaborative ownership of the code of conduct. All DSBN schools will have a link to policy [G-08: Code of Conduct for Schools](#) on their website.

PURPOSES OF THE CODE

Subsection 301(1) of Part XIII of the Education Act states that “the Minister may establish a code of conduct governing the behaviour of all persons in schools”.

Subsection 301(2) sets out the purposes of this provincial code of conduct, as follows:

- To ensure that all members of the school community, especially people in positions of authority, are treated with respect and dignity
- To promote responsible citizenship by encouraging appropriate participation in the civic life of the school community
- To maintain an environment where conflict and difference can be addressed in a manner characterized by respect and civility To
- encourage the use of non-violent means to resolve conflict
- To promote the safety of people in the schools
- To discourage the use of alcohol, illegal drugs and, except by a medical cannabis user, cannabis
- To prevent bullying in schools

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

- Respect, Civility, and Responsible Citizenship. All members of the school community must: Respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial, and municipal laws
- Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- Respect differences in people, their ideas, and their opinions
- Treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement
- Respect and treat others fairly, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, family status, or disability
- Respect the rights of others
- Show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others
- Take appropriate measures to help those in need
- Seek assistance from a member of the school staff, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully



- Respect all members of the school community, especially persons in positions of authority
- Respect the need of others to work in an environment that is conducive to learning and teaching
- Not swear at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority

SAFETY

All members of the school community must not:

- Engage in bullying behaviours
- Commit sexual assault
- Traffic in weapons or illegal drugs
- Give alcohol or cannabis to a minor
- Commit robbery
- Be in possession of any weapon, including firearms
- Use any object to threaten or intimidate another person
- Cause injury to any person with an object
- Be in possession of, or be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis (unless the individual has been authorized to use cannabis for medical purposes), and illegal drugs
- Provide others with alcohol, illegal drugs, or cannabis (unless the recipient is an individual who has been authorized to use cannabis for medical purposes)
- Inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person
- Engage in hate propaganda and other forms of behaviour motivated by hate or bias
- Commit an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property or to property located on the premises of the school

TEACHERS AND OTHER SCHOOL STAFF

Under the leadership of their principals, teachers and other school staff maintain a positive learning environment and are expected to hold everyone to the highest standard of respectful and responsible behaviour.

As role models, teachers and other school staff uphold these high standards when they:

- Help students work to their full potential and develop their sense of self-worth
- Empower students to be positive leaders in their classroom, school, and community
- Communicate regularly and meaningfully with guardians



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Under the direction of DSBN, school administrators take a leadership role in the daily operation of a school. They provide this leadership by:

- Demonstrating care for the school community and a commitment to student achievement and well-being in a safe, inclusive, and accepting learning environment
- Holding everyone under their authority accountable for their own behaviour and actions
- Empowering students to be positive leaders in their school and community
- Communicating regularly and meaningfully with all members of their school community
- Maintain consistent and fair standards of behaviour for all students
- Demonstrating respect for one another, all students, guardians, volunteers, and other members of the school community
- Prepare students for the full responsibilities of citizenship

STUDENTS

Students are to be treated with respect and dignity. In return, they must demonstrate respect for themselves, for others, and for the responsibilities of citizenship through acceptable behaviour.

Respect and responsibility are demonstrated when students:

- Come to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn
- Show respect for themselves, and for others, and for those in positions of authority
- Refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of others
- Follow the established rules and take responsibility for their own actions

GUARDIANS

Guardians play an important role in the education of their students and can support the efforts of school staff in maintaining a safe, inclusive, accepting, and respectful learning environment for all students.

Guardians fulfill their role when they:

- Are engaged in their student's schoolwork and progress
- Communicate regularly with the school
- Help their student be appropriately dressed and prepared for school
- Ensure that their student attends school regularly and on time



- Promptly report to the school their student’s absence or late arrival
- Become familiar with the provincial Code of Conduct, the DSBN Code of Conduct, and, if applicable, the school’s Code of Conduct
- Encourage and assist their student in following the rules of behaviour
- Assist school staff in dealing with disciplinary issues involving their student

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Through outreach, existing partnerships may be enhanced and new partnerships with community-based service providers and members of the community may also be created. Community-based service providers and resources that boards can use to deliver prevention or intervention programs are valuable contributors to our students’ education and success. Protocols are effective ways of establishing linkages between boards and community-based service providers and of formalizing the relationship between them. These partnerships must respect all applicable collective agreements.