

INNISDALE SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Principal's Message:

Dear Innisdale Families,

I hope this message finds you well as we embrace the beautiful autumn season. It's hard to believe that we're already in October, but the leaves are changing, and Innisdale is buzzing with activity. As always, I am grateful for your ongoing support, and I am excited to share some important updates and events happening at our school this month.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to our school office at 705-726-2552 or visit our website at <https://iss.scdsb.on.ca/>

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We are committed to providing a safe and enriching learning environment and look forward to a successful and enjoyable October.

Julie Rennison
Principal

OUR TEAM

JULIE RENNISON
Principal

ALLISON REID
Vice-Principal

DARYL O'BRIEN
Vice-Principal

CONTACT INFORMATION

705-726-2552
innisdale@scdsb.on.ca
Attendance Reporting:
issattendance@scdsb.on.ca
1-888-885-8065

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Period 1	8:00 – 9:15 am
Period 2	9:20 – 10:40 am
Lunch	10:40 – 11:40am
Period 3	11:40 am – 12:55 pm
Period 4	1:00 – 2:15 pm

Upcoming Events:

- October 9th - Thanksgiving Day **(School Closed)**
- October 2nd - School Council Meeting in the library at 6:00PM
- October 19th – Parent/Guardian Teacher Night, 5:00PM -7:00PM
- October 20th – PA Day – (no classes)
- October 26th – Barrie Colts Game **(School Fundraiser)**
- October 27th – Halloween Extravaganza
- November 1st – Picture Retake Day
- November 2nd – Awards Assembly **(More information to follow)**
- November 17th -PA Day (no classes)

Parent/Guardian Teacher Night: October 19th 5:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.

Our first Parent/Guardian -Teacher Conferences of the school year will be held on October 19th. This is a valuable opportunity for you to meet with your child's teachers, discuss their progress, and collaborate on strategies to ensure their academic success. Please watch for an email with sign-up instructions and schedules.

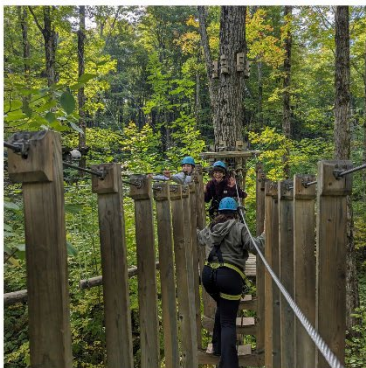
School Fundraising Program:



Interested in seeing a Barrie Colts hockey game and supporting Innisdale Secondary School at the same time? This is the perfect opportunity for you! Innisdale SS will be selling tickets for a Colts game against the Erie Otters taking place on October 26th. Tickets are \$23 per person and there are a limited number of tickets available. It is first come first serve so please watch for the School Cash Online item coming out shortly! We hope to see you there - Go COLTS!

French Immersion Plein Air Class:

This month the Grade 9 French Immersion Plein Air class went Treetop Trekking at Horseshoe Resort. It was a beautiful day with lots of smiles. We were even lucky enough to have French guides so we could speak French the whole time.



Guidance News:

Hello Invaders! We thank you for your patience as we have worked through September start up routines; chief among them, supporting timetable changes and new registrations to our school community. Please read below an end of September message from Innisdale Guidance:

eLearning progress updates – Students and parents, please note that if your child is in an elearning course(s), you should be receiving progress reports via email from their teacher. If you aren't receiving these reports, please check your junk mail folders just to be safe, and then check with guidance to ensure that the email in our system is accurate.

Google Classrooms – please encourage your children to join Google Classrooms. Parents, we encourage you to join as well – please note that without an SCDSB email, you will receive email updates only, but not have access to “classroom” content. To see the content, we invite you to sit with your children and ask them to log in so that you can gain access and look together. These classrooms are the **MAIN SOURCE** of communication from the guidance department – we greatly appreciate your participation – there's lots of information to share! Please see the join codes below:

- Class of 2024 – ahwk2qi
- Class of 2025 – 5gu3pgp
- Class of 2026 – fwcbbps
- Class of 2027 – lzdkc5

Community Service Hours – please visit the Community Involvement page https://iss.scdsb.on.ca/departments/guidance/community_involvement of our Innisdale website for up to date forms and information regarding this important graduation requirement. Graduates do require 40 hours of community involvement to graduate in 2024. Please also note, any volunteer opportunities that are shared via the guidance office are vetted by guidance to the best of our ability, but you should never take part in any opportunity without speaking at home with a parent and/or guardian first and ensuring that you have vetted things as a family.

SHSM students – guidance will be in touch soon to confirm your course requirement progress. It is very important that you touch base with your lead teacher to ensure that you are receiving their communication regarding certification and experiential opportunities throughout the year. Please also remember, you cannot earn an SHSM without two linked coop credits – these can happen in the summer as early as grade 10 (if you know you're signed up to register for the SHSM program in fall of grade 11), and during any semester or summer leading up to grad after that.

OSSLT – Grade 12s, just a reminder that you needed to have passed the literacy test (OSSLT) or taken the literacy course (OLC) in preparation for graduating this June. Grad checks are happening in guidance the weeks of September 18th – October 13th, and they will provide an opportunity for you to confirm your progress. Counsellors are working to call students down individually. If you are concerned that you may be missing something, please feel free to come down and meet with your counsellor right away.

Post secondary application deadlines for grade 12s – Important dates for Ontario post-secondary schools have been shared in the Google Classroom. Breathe – you have lots of time. We will be having a very important Grad Assembly on October 3rd during second period. Please try to attend if you can. Now is your opportunity to research and explore all the resources provided to you in the Google Classroom. Please also note, if you plan on applying to US schools, they begin looking at applications in November. See our General Information section for information regarding the Common App – your one stop shop for most US applications. Please note - the majority of schools in the US look at your marks in grades 9-12. Make sure that you take advantage of providing supplemental application testimonial where available. See your guidance counsellor for support if needed.

Tutoring Supports for all students – we will continue to share any opportunities that we can find in our Google Classrooms. Also, again this year we are looking for senior students to volunteer as peer tutors on our Innisdale Tutors Instagram page. Earn volunteer hours and pad your resume all while supporting your peers!

Counsellor contacts – just a reminder, counsellor contacts and links to request semester two timetable changes are found on our Innisdale guidance website <https://iss.scdsb.on.ca/departments/guidance> . If you need us, please come by – we are an open door and are happy to help.

Awards Assembly – Save the Date! We will be celebrating all our grade 10-12 honour roll students on the morning of November 2nd. More information to follow!

University and College visits – we have shared our visit calendar document in the Class of 2024 Google Classroom and continue to update it as more schools are added. As well, please note the Ontario University and Ontario College Fair information has been shared in the classroom – if you can't make the bigger venues, regional fairs are also taking place closer to us – that information was also shared in the Google Classroom.

Community/School Supports – our guidance counsellors and SERT staff have access to a wide variety of school and community supports to help our students succeed and to maximize their high school experience. Also, we have many Grad Coaches and board support staff who are here to help. We will continue to update our Google Classroom with information about all these awesome people and places in the school community and beyond.

MyBlueprint – Invaders, are you using all that this awesome resource has to offer? Included in MyBlueprint is information about your specific high school plan, career possibilities relating to all high school pathways, job outlooks, education opportunities, scholarships, career surveys, resume and cover letter resources, financial planning resources, job search databases...the list is HUGE! Parents and guardians, we encourage you to sit with your children and to explore this fantastic resource together. Students, we encourage you to use the planning and portfolio tools that are provided – they are fantastic supports as well!

Online learning graduation requirement and opt out options - Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in the 2023-24

school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with learning and working in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that they will need for success after secondary school, including in post-secondary education and the workplace.

Opting out - Parents/guardians may choose to opt their children out of the mandatory online learning credits required for graduation. To opt out, a parent/guardian must submit the [Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-out Form](#) Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent/guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control.

Check with your local school if you have questions regarding the registration or opt-out process.

More News:

Days of Awareness 2023-2024:

Please review the Days of Awareness (NM1) at www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion

October PA Day:

Please note that Friday, Oct. 20 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Oct. 20 PA Day:

Length:	Full day
Topic:	Health and Safety, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Mathematics
Host:	Simcoe County District School Board
Presenter(s)/facilitator(s):	School board staff and school administrators and school leads

Educators will participate in a half-day Health and Safety digital learning session focused on health and safety incident reporting and investigations with a particular emphasis on the essential aspect of workplace violence prevention. The session will equip staff with the knowledge and tools to report incidents effectively and promptly, provide insights into the investigative and risk mitigation process, fostering transparency and accountability, and highlight the critical role staff play in preventing workplace injuries.

Educators will learn about Somali, Latino, South Asian, and African Black Indigenous heritage. They will collaboratively plan within grades and divisions. Through this, they will celebrate identities and create environments that foster well-being and sense of belonging.

Educators will choose learning related to the Knowledgehook digital math tool based on their readiness. Different learning pathways have been planned for new users, those with some experience, and those who are ready to extend their use of the math tool. All participants will learn about how to

invite parents/guardians to view their child's progress. Additionally, educators will engage in High Impact Instructional Practices in Mathematics learning modules that align with their school's Achievement in Mathematics goal.

Communication to families regarding inclement weather days:

Please note that APM A3020 – Inclement Weather, 3.1.2 states that "parents/guardians are to be reminded, in writing at appropriate times (October and January) each school year, that it is their responsibility to decide whether or not it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions."

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 **Central** 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 it is safe for their child(ren) to leave for school under severe weather conditions.

The Consortium 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 Consortium on Twitter

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You can also subscribe to receive bus delay notifications here:

<https://scstc.ca/Subscriptions/Login.aspx>

School bus transportation information available from the SCSTC:

In order to receive delay and cancellation notifications, families can check the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) website at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca or download the 'BusPlanner Delays' app from the Apple or Android app stores to receive delay notifications to their devices. Users would need to select Simcoe County STC as the transportation authority. The app will need to be forced closed, but you will be able to select your student(s) routes or school to receive delays.

The app will send a general notice for any cancellation in Simcoe County. You only need to know which 'zone' you're in, so you would know which one to look out for in the app. You can find your student's zone by visiting the School Bus Status page at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca and clicking the dropdown for the area you live in.

School Bus Safety Week and School Bus Driver Appreciation Day:

School Bus Safety Week takes place Oct. 16 to 20, 2023. Please visit the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium (SCSTC) website at main.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca for information on school bus safety and links to school bus safety resources. Oct. 19, 2023 is School Bus Driver Appreciation Day in the province of Ontario. It's a great opportunity for the school community to thank our bus drivers for all their hard work transporting students to and from school safely.

Get on the move:

There are many benefits to walking or wheeling to school. Walking or wheeling to school reduces traffic, helps students establish healthy lifestyles, is better for the environment and enhances community safety. Wherever possible, we encourage students within walking zones to *get on the move* and walk or wheel to school. For more information please visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website here: bit.ly/3OC4CJ9

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 8 to 14

This year, the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme, 'Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™', works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe when cooking. For more information about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, along with a wealth of resources to help promote the campaign locally, visit fpw.org.

Information from the National Fire Protection Association website

Parents' Guide to Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Learn to navigate the world of assessment, evaluation, and reporting with this new guide for parents/guardians. Created to support parents/guardians understanding of assessment, this guide was designed to effectively empower you to actively engage in your child's educational journey. The guide has been posted to the Simcoe County District School Board's website and can be accessed via the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/2urcm2tm>

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

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.

The first session, *IEPs and school-based assessments – information for parents/caregivers*, will be held on Oct. 24 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This virtual presentation will include an opportunity for participants to share some of their questions regarding IEPs and special education programming.

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 upcoming sessions and how to register on the SCDSB website:

www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/special_education/special_education_outreach_sessions

simply download the app, use their SCDSB login and start reading for free on their phone or tablet. The collection can be accessed at: meet.soraapp.com.

Join us! A learning series for parents/guardians with Pine River Institute

Mental health and well-being continues to be a key strategic priority within the SCDSB. We are pleased to continue our partnership with the Centre for Family Initiatives at Pine River Institute (CFI@PRI) to provide several curated learning sessions focused on student mental health and well-being to SCDSB families, staff and within the SCDSB's broader school communities.

There are eight webinars in the learning series specifically planned for parents/guardians and other caregivers during this school year.

Oct. 26, 2023	Understanding and managing screen time, part one - gaming edition
Nov. 9, 2023	Understanding and managing screen time, part two - social media edition
Nov. 30, 2023	Helping parents align
Jan. 11, 2024	Sleep hygiene
Feb. 8, 2024	Self-regulation for kids
Feb. 22, 2024	Self-regulation for teens
March 28, 2024	Building parents' resiliency
April 18, 2024	Vaping, weed, and alcohol

We hope you save these dates in your calendar and join us for these learning opportunities. For more information and to register, please visit the SCDSB website: <https://bit.ly/3jGaC74>

Pine River Institute is a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth aged 13 to 19 struggling with addictive behaviours and often other mental health issues. Combining therapy with a fully-accredited education program, PRI reinforces the healthy life skills required for a successful future. CFI@PRI extends PRI's knowledge, experience and evidence-informed treatment approach to families and care providers in the community to support youth mental wellness and prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Learn more about PRI by visiting their website at www.pineriverinstitute.com

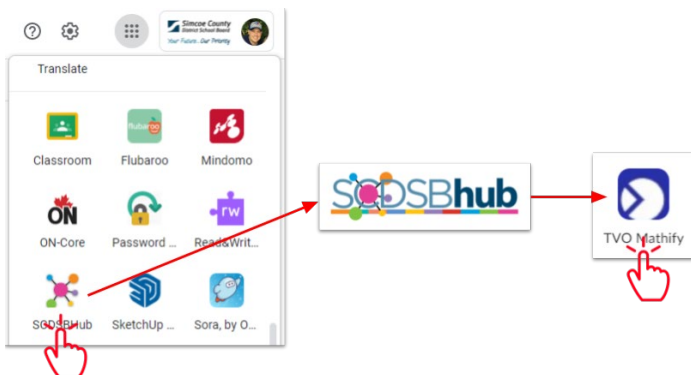
Supporting your child with math

Are you curious about how you can support your child's growth as a mathematician? Visit the Parents Guide to Mathematics at www.ontario.ca/page/new-math-curriculum-grades-1-8 where you can find a summary of the knowledge and skills your child will be learning as they progress through the grades, information about how you can support your child's learning, and how the curriculum was developed.

TVO Mathify offers free 1:1 online Grade 4-12 math tutoring to SCDSB students. Connect with an Ontario Certified Teacher of your choice. It is anonymous and secure, and can be used from a phone, tablet, or computer. Math tutors are available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday to Friday, and 3:30 to 9 p.m. ET Sunday.

All SCDSB students from Grades 4-12 have been pre-registered for this amazing service. For quick access to TVO Mathify:

1. Find the link in your child's Google waffle to the SCDSBhub.
2. Look for the TVO Mathify icon on their dashboard.



Your child will not need to enter their OEN number or any identifying information when TVO Mathify is accessed through the SCDSBhub