



# BRADFORD DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

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November 2009

Dana Barakauskas  
Principal

Debra Jago  
Irfan Toor  
Vice-Principals

## Principals Message

Another fall quickly has come and our first official report card has arrived! By now we have held our first interview night, had teams compete in many events, held our Remembrance Day Services, our Sue Wright Awards, Take Our Kids to Work Day and many other worthwhile field-trips, club activities and student events. We hope that your child is reaching their goals and they are finding success.

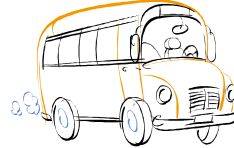
The report that your child brings home today is the report card that is in use in all of Ontario's secondary schools. The report provides you with a detailed snapshot of how your son or daughter is achieving with respect to the provincial curriculum expectations and standards. Your child should also use the response form as an opportunity to assess his / her own progress as well as to set his / her own goals. As a parent/guardian, the report provides you with information you need to help support your son or daughter at home. At the end of the semester the report card will also provide you with a summary of the credits achieved and graduation requirements that have been completed.

The report card is one means of communicating achievement to parents and students. Throughout the year teachers are available for parent-student-teacher conference interviews, telephone calls and informal reports. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns, or should you need more information on methods to support your child.

I hope that each student at Bradford District High School will experience success both inside and outside of the classroom. Collectively, we can all work together to support our children to reach their potential. My sincere best wishes to each student for a happy and successful school year.

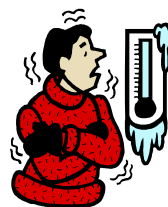
Mrs. Dana Barakauskas  
Principal

## Late Bus



Students who stay late for a practice, rehearsal, meeting or extra academic help now have a bus home. Two late bus runs have begun, leaving BDHS at 5 pm, **Monday through Thursday**. **Students must be bus students and sign the list in the main office before 12:00 pm on days that they need to use the bus.** On days when no students have signed the list, the bus runs will be cancelled. Encourage your children to get involved in after school activities and take advantage of this great opportunity. The bus routes are listed below, with the approximate times of each stop.

Route 1		
	5 pm	Leave BDHS
1	5:10	7 <sup>th</sup> Line @ Dixon Street, Bond Head
2	5:20	1896 20 <sup>th</sup> SR, just north of the 4 <sup>th</sup> Line
3	5:30	4324 3 <sup>rd</sup> Line, east of Hwy 27@ church
4	5:35	Leonard Road @ Line 2
5	5:40	Hwy 9 @ Brunell Street
Route 2		
	5 pm	Leave BDHS
1	5:05	SR 10 @ Arthur Evans Court
2	5:13	SR 10 @ Kilkenny Court
3	5:22	Gilford Road @ Fennel Drive
4	5:28	Gilford Road @ Woodfield Drive



## **Weather Zones for School Bus Cancellations**

Winter driving conditions can be challenging in Simcoe County and severe inclement weather sometimes requires the cancellation of school bus runs.

To limit bus cancellations if weather conditions warrant, the Simcoe County Student Transportation Consortium has developed 'Inclement Weather Zones'. These four new zone areas have been determined with consideration to weather patterns, school catchment areas, routes that cross over catchment areas and special needs transportation.

**Bradford District High School is in the South Simcoe County Weather Zone.**

Notification of bus cancellations will continue to be made via the school board website, scdsb.on.ca and media announcements on Rock 95 FM, B101 FM and the A Channel.

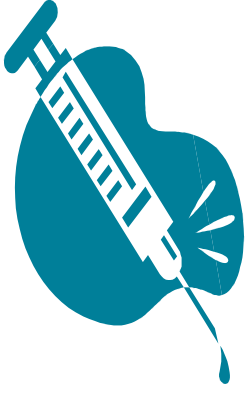
**Please listen to the media rather than calling the school during periods of inclement weather.** Please note that buses that are cancelled in the morning will not run in the afternoon; it is the parent's responsibility to ensure that students who are dropped off at the school in the morning can get home safely.

BRADFORD D.H.S. NEWS

## **Final Evaluations**

**January 25—29, 2010**

At the end of each semester, final evaluation in all courses will take place. Students are expected to be present for all of these activities. This is just a gentle reminder to please avoid booking events that would have your child absent from school during this time. A complete evaluation timetable will be available closer to the evaluation dates.



## **Immunization Clinics for the Community 2009:**

**November 28th at Bradford District High School from 10:00 am-4:00pm and on November 17th, 18th, 19th at the Royal Canadian Legion, 115 Back St. Bradford from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm**

## **A Community of Learning: A Series of Evening Workshops**

Bradford District High School and its Family of Elementary School's will be hosting a series for workshops directed at parents' engagement in their child's educational success. Workshops will be held from **6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at Bradford District High School.**

**Workshop 1:** EQAO-The realities of the Grade 3, 6 and 9 Assessment of Mathematics

**Date: November 25, 2009**

**Workshop 2:** EQAO- The realities of the Grade 3 and 6 Reading and Writing component and the Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

**Date: December 9, 2009**

**Workshop 3:** Technology in Education. Parents will explore the various technologies that are used in the classroom. Smartboard, Clickers, Moodle, Wiki, e-learning, Assistive Technology Programs-Special Education, Tumble books and Databases.

**Date: February 24, 2010**

**Workshop 4:** Community Agencies Evening

**Date: April 21, 2010**

**Workshop 5:** Triple P-Positive Parenting Program 3-Part Program

**Date: May 5, 2010**

## **University Information**

Students were given an overview of the application process to university in September. During October and November representatives from many Ontario universities gave presentations about their schools. Pin numbers, required for application, will be available in late November to students. Students will apply on-line to the universities of their choice by using the Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) web site. The web site address is [www.ouac.on.ca](http://www.ouac.on.ca). The deadline for submitting the application is January 13, 2010. The OUAC strongly recommends that applications be submitted at least three days prior to the deadline to avoid the heavy usage time leading up to the deadline date. The application cost is \$115 for the initial three choices. There is a \$38 charge for each additional university selected. Another source of information about universities and other career oriented data is [www.osca.ca](http://www.osca.ca), then click on "students".

## **College Information**

BDHS students applying to college this year will once again be completing their applications on-line. Students have already been invited to attend on-line training sessions during the third week of November. There will be another session December 10 at lunch. The cost of applying to college is \$95 for up to five choices. In October, representatives from many Ontario Colleges visited our school. We strongly encourage students and parents to carefully research colleges and programs. For equal consideration, applications must be submitted by February 1, 2010. We suggest that students submit their applications on-line before they start Christmas Break. OCAS will submit all applications received before January 15, 2010 into a draw for up to \$2000 in prizes. Links to all Ontario Colleges and the on-line application centre can be found on the school web site. All the information to search programs, apply to and accept colleges can be found at [www.ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.ontariocolleges.ca). This site also has lots of useful information for parents.

## **Grade 8 Visits to BDHS**

On November 4, Bradford DHS was delighted to host the Grade 8 students from Cookstown, Fieldcrest, Fred C. Cook, Hon. Earl Rowe, Killarney Beach, Sir William Osler, and W.H. Day elementary schools. Students participated in three mock Grade 9 classes and viewed an Arts presentation that featured dance, drama, and musical selections. There was also lots of time to meet many of the other 235 Grade 8 students from the various schools during lunch and activity time with LINK crew senior student leaders! Counsellors will continue to be in contact with the Grade 8 students throughout the academic year!

## **Take Our Kids to Work**

BDHS had more than 92% of our Grade 9 students participate in "Take our Kids to Work" on November 4th. Thanks to the many parents, employers, and business establishments for helping make this day so successful. A day of job shadowing is a valuable experience for all teens! Our students had the opportunity to experience the dynamics of a workplace, and observe and participate in some of the routines and duties performed by employees. Thanks to the classroom teachers, guidance counsellors, Co-op and Student Success teachers, and Vice-Principals who helped make this event successful.

## **Community Service Hours**

All students must provide written evidence that they have completed 40 hours of community service. This is a requirement in order to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Community service forms are available in the Guidance department. The forms must be signed by the supervisor of the organization the service is being performed for and by the parents of the student. Forms are available in the Guidance department office.

## **Course Selections for 2010-2011**

The course calendar for the 2010-2011 academic year is currently being updated. The calendar should be posted on the school web site by the middle of December. The web site address is [www.bdhs.ca/cms](http://www.bdhs.ca/cms). Click on courses to view the course calendar. Course descriptions are listed by department. During February, 2010 students will be asked to select courses they want for the 2010-11 academic year. Guidance staff will make presentations to each grade and will provide assistance to students selecting courses. Amendments to the selections may be made after February. The school will seek parental approval of the selected courses in April. We will be encouraging students to use the electronic course calendar posted on the school web site as the number of hard copy calendars will be significantly reduced.

## Scholarships and Bursaries

Every year there are scholarships and bursaries made available to students who are going into college, university and apprenticeship courses. Applications may require a teacher recommendation, list of student involvement, and student marks. For further information, please visit the web sites listed. [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com); [www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com); [www.canlearn.ca](http://www.canlearn.ca); [www.millenniumscholarships.ca](http://www.millenniumscholarships.ca). Each college or university will have a financial aid office full of school specific scholarship information.

## Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

Grade 12 students interested in applying for OSAP will be invited to an information session in early May. Students are able to apply for OSAP **after** they have accepted an offer from their preferred college or university.

## Honours Standing

Achieving Honours represents an impressive level of scholastic ability. Students are encouraged to aim for Honours standing. For Grades 9, 10, and 11 students, honours is 80% or higher based on eight (8) courses taken from September to June of an academic school year. Grade 12 students earn honours by achieving 80% or higher based on their best six (6) Grade 12 courses from September to June of an academic school year.

Important Dates to Remember November—December 2009		
Nov.	17	Mid-Semester Reports Issued
	25	Full Disclosure Day
Dec.	1-4	Drama Nights
	10	Holiday Concert
	18	Olympic Torch Relay in Bradford
		<b>Christmas Break December 21 to January 1</b>
Jan.	4	Back to school
	14	Grade 8 Parents Night
	25-29	Semester 1 Final Evaluations
Feb	3 & 4	PD Days



# Flu Season Continues Answering Your Questions

Issued November 3, 2009



The Simcoe County District School Board knows parents have a variety of questions as our communities experience a different kind of flu season. We hope you find the following answers helpful.

### Q: What is H1N1 Flu?

A. H1N1 flu—which has also been called swine flu—is a respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to regular seasonal flu. In Ontario, the majority of cases of H1N1 flu have been reported in healthy young adults and most cases have been mild. People between 5 and 24 years of age make up a larger proportion of cases compared to other age groups. Younger children are most at risk of getting an infection, likely due to the lack of hand hygiene and proper cough/sneeze etiquette.

### Q: What are the signs and symptoms?

A: Flu signs and symptoms include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches and joint pain
- Feeling extremely tired
- Runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea
- Lack of appetite

### Q: What can I do to reduce the risk of infection and help my family stay healthy?

A: To reduce the risk of infection:

- wash your hands for at least 15 seconds and often with soap and water;
- use hand sanitizer if you can't wash;
- sneeze and cough into your upper sleeve—not your hands—or use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose;
- stay at home if you are ill;
- speak to your health care provider about flu immunization; and
- see your health care provider if you or your child are experiencing severe influenza-like symptoms.

### Q: How does the board make decisions about what needs to be done about pH1N1?

A. pH1N1 is a health issue and as such, the Simcoe County District School Board takes its direction from the local health officials, the Medical Officer of Health for

Simcoe County and the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. We also receive direction and information from the provincial Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

### Q: Is there a way I can assess my child's flu-like symptoms on-line?

A. The Ministry has provided a "flu self assessment tool" at: [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca). Click on the "H1N1 Flu Virus" information button.

### Q: What can be done to avoid getting the flu?

A. In addition to getting the pH1N1 vaccine, everyone should continue to practice basic infection control such as hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and staying home when ill.

### Q: Where can people get the pH1N1 vaccine?

A. pH1N1 vaccination clinics are listed at: [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org) and click on the "H1N1 Flu Clinics" links.

### Q: Can I find out if students or staff are away because of pH1N1?

A. Student or staff absence information is confidential. Generally, if you have questions about symptoms or risks associated with influenza, please visit the Health Unit's website [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org), call the Health unit at (705)721-7520 ext. 8809, contact your health care provider or call TeleHealth at 1-866-797-0000.

### Q: Can I send hand sanitizer for use by my child?

A. Yes, if it is only for the personal use of the child. It is your responsibility to ensure the child is old enough to be given the hand sanitizer, and to review appropriate use. Please do not send scented products.

### Q: My child is not ill but I want to keep her/him home as a precaution. Is this a good idea?

A. It is our expectation that healthy children are at school. Influenza is a community acquired infection, so avoiding settings, like schools, will not reduce the risk of exposure.

### Q: What if my child gets sick at school?

A. Generally, if a student feels ill at school, the student will be taken to the office or another appropriate area and you will be called to pick up your child.



## General Information About H1N1

For more information, please consult the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website at [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org). For general information, call "Your Health Connection" at (705) 721-7520 or toll free at 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

## **From Your Library**

### **Reading Encourages More Reading**

A teen's reading and writing skills and habits are greatly affected by reading at home. Here are some ideas for parents/guardians to help increase a teen's literacy skills.



- Read yourself...teens read more when they see you read
- Reading comic books, magazines, newspapers and watching movies all lead to more reading...especially if a discussion about the material occurs after it is read or watched
- According to Jim Trelease, author of *The Read-Aloud Handbook* (1982), whenever possible, provide the 3B's in your teen's room: their own books, a book shelf and a bed lamp. Consider also keeping reading materials on a shelf in the bathroom
- Let teens choose their own reading material. If teens say they have never read a book they like, enlist the help of a librarian. Provide time and opportunities for your teen to read voluntarily

### **BDHS Library On-Line Resources**

Our students have access to a variety of on-line educational resources. There are links for these resources on the On-Line Resources page of our Library's web pages found on BDHS's website. Passwords for these resources are listed below and are also available to students from our librarians.

### **E-Books Available for Bradford Students**

Tumblebooks is a website which offers e-books for all reading levels with many current popular titles as well as classic and Shakespearean texts. Students can log on while at home or school and listen to books being read to them. They can also follow highlighted text in 3 different sizes and many different colours while easily bookmarking their place for future reading. Classes will be using Tumblebooks, but students can also access this resource for individual leisure reading.

Username: scdsb

Password: login

### **World Book Online**

Our school has recently subscribed to World Book Online



Username: scdsbsec

Password: earth

Most students should choose the *Advanced* format. This is an amazing resource with current and reliable research available to students at school and also at home. Features include word definitions by clicking on a word within an article, translation of articles into a variety of languages and also a "read aloud" option.

### **Databases**

Our school also has access to a variety of databases through Knowledge Ontario and EBSCO. Home use for Knowledge Ontario Databases requires the password of trillium. Databases are great research resources as they are an edited and current collection. Students can set up their email account to receive new material related to a certain topic as it is added to the database in the future.

### **Library Moodle**

The library moodle is a collection of material students need to maximize their use of our library resources. Once registered as a moodle user, students can access passwords for library resources, see our school's research model, find instructions for using databases and completing Boolean searches among other information management strategies. Students can get instructions for joining our moodle from our librarians.

### **Yearbooks**

Yearbooks for 2009/2010 are still available to purchase for \$50.00 if you have an activity card and \$55.00 if you do not have an activity card. Preorder your book now and avoid a price increase when the books arrive in June. If we don't get more preorders now the quantity of books we will have available will be reduced and there will not be as many books available to purchase at the end of the year. So please get your son or daughter to order their book now to guarantee their memories of this year.