



Northdale Public School

290 Victoria Street, North, Woodstock, Ontario
N4S 6W5

Telephone: (519) 537-5761 Fax: (519) 537-1088



<https://northdalewoodstock.tvdsb.ca/en/index.aspx>

Christine Kramer, Principal Julie Pulley, Vice-Principal
Dennis Wright, Superintendent Barb Yeo / Bill MacKinnon –Trustees

March 26, 2021

STAR News UPDATE

Woodstock Attendance Area Review launched (WAAR)

The Thames Valley District School Board will launch a major Attendance Area Review to address significant pressures faced by schools in the City of Woodstock due to continued enrolment growth.

The review will consider ways to meet the growing demand for French Immersion in Oxford County, as well as address enrolment imbalances that have left some Woodstock schools underutilized while others are overcapacity.

For example, Roch Carrier French Immersion Public School is experiencing significant overcapacity due to the school's small size and continued strong demand for French Immersion programming across Oxford County. Roch Carrier is TVDSB's only French Immersion school in the county.

At the same time, schools such as Oliver Stephens and Eastdale currently utilize as little as 65 per cent of their capacity, while Springbank Public School requires 10 portable classrooms to deal with current overcapacity.

Enrolment growth is expected to continue in Woodstock over the coming years. This growth may require capital investments such as a new school or additions to existing schools. However, before Thames Valley can seek provincial funding for new projects, it must first make use of available space at underutilized schools.

Administration submitted an Initial Attendance Area Review Report to the Board of Trustees on February 23, containing proposed options to deal with current enrolment pressures.

The Report recommends Oliver Stephens Public School as the site of a dual-track English and French Immersion school to relieve overcapacity at Roch Carrier French Immersion Public School. The Report also recommends balancing enrolment throughout Woodstock by adjusting attendance areas at Algonquin, Eastdale, Springbank and Winchester Street public schools.

As part of the review, the Board will conduct extensive public engagement and establish school committees to review the proposed options and present their views to Trustees for consideration.

A final report is expected to be presented to Trustees later this year.

CHECK IT OUT!

Stay in touch and informed! Checkout our school website for updates, information and links to important happenings in and around the school and TVDSB.

Front Page: Important Updates and Links for our School and around TVDSB / School Cash online/Parent Portal /Brightspace

School Tab: School Council updates

Parent Tab: School Newsletters and Communication / Calendar updates

<https://northdalewoodstock.tvdsb.ca>

STAFFING CHANGES

We have to say some good-byes to staff this month. Ms. D. Jarvis has accepted a position at South Dorchester PS which will begin on April 1st. The board will be hiring her replacement in the coming weeks. We wish her all the best in her new school.

We also said good-bye to Ms. Pulley who left us on March 22nd for 6-8 weeks. Mrs. A. Timms who is a retired principal will be assisting us in the afternoons only during Ms. Pulley's absence. We will be hiring a teacher librarian replacement. Ms. Bruce will be supporting in the Library from 9-10 each morning assisting in the rotation of books. Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Timms! If you have any questions for her, you may contact her by calling the school at 519-537-5761.

MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

In TVDSB, students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 have been wearing masks to school since September 2020. The Ministry of Education has changed the requirement for students in Grades 1-3 to wear masks; previously this requirement from the province was for students in Grades 4-12. Therefore, we would like to remind families to please ensure your child continues to attend school with a mask. A mask will be provided, if needed.


















For families requesting a mask exemption, this is to be provided in writing to the school principal. All requests will be reviewed by the Mask Exemption Review Panel. Until an exemption is approved, students are required to wear masks.

Masks are now required to be worn outdoors, for recess breaks and outdoor learning where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Students will be supported to have breaks from mask wearing during these times while maintaining the requirement to be safely distanced from peers. In addition, congregating outdoors before and after school is not permitted. Parents are also encouraged to maintain social distance or wear a mask.

Thank you for working with us for the health and safety of our students, staff and communities.





DAILY SCREENING AND REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES -UPDATED FEB. 22nd

It is important that the daily screening for COVID-19 symptoms is completed daily. If your child is unwell, we ask that you follow direction provided through the screening tool and continue to report absences through School Messenger or contact the school.

COVID-19 Decision Tool for Schools and Parents / Caregivers Last updated: February 22, 2021	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>SW SOUTHWESTERN Public Health <small>Woodstock - Elgin - St. Thomas</small></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>EACH DAY complete the COVID-19 School Screening Tool before school https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>ML BUREAU DE SANTÉ DE MIDDLESEX-LONDON HEALTH UNIT www.healthunit.com</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">If your child FAILS the Screen, follow these steps:</p>	
Scenario 1	Parent/Caregiver Action
<p>Your child has any ONE of these symptoms:</p> <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>fever</small> <small>(37.8 °C or 100 °F or higher)</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>cough</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>hard to breathe</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>decrease/loss taste or smell</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>sore throat</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>stuffy/runny nose</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>headache</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>nausea vomiting diarrhea</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>muscle aches</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <small>very tired</small> </div> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child and all household members MUST stay home. 2. Sick child should get tested. 3. While waiting for test results, all household members MUST stay home and cannot go to school or work until COVID-19 has been ruled out. <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">CALL AND BOOK A COVID-19 TEST:</p> <p>Woodstock Hospital Assessment Centre, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital Assessment Centre, or Alexandra Hospital Ingersoll Assessment Centre 1-855-905-8148</p> <p><u>St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital COVID-19 Assessment Centre</u> 519-631-2030 ext. 6210</p> <p>West Elgin Community Health Centre 519-857-2683</p> <p><u>Carling Heights Community Centre, London</u> 519-885-8500 ext. 75503</p> <p><u>Oakridge Arena, London</u> 519-887-8888</p>
<p>IF child's COVID-19 test is POSITIVE.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Health will contact you and let you know what to do. 2. Child and all people who live together MUST stay home, self-isolate*, and follow public health advice.
<p>IF child's COVID-19 test is NEGATIVE.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child can go back to school once ALL of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have been feeling better for 24 hours • They do not have a fever without using medication • They were not in close physical contact with someone who has COVID-19 2. All people in the house can go back to school and work if they are well and there are no other pending results for other household members. <p>Note: A child or household members who are a close contact of a COVID-19 case cannot go back to school/work, even if they tested negative. See Scenario 2 for more information.</p>
<p>IF child was not tested.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child MUST stay home. 2. Child MUST self-isolate away from others for 10 days from the day symptoms started. 3. All members of your household must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days from when your child developed symptoms. <p>Note: A child may only be able to return to school earlier than 10 days if ALL the following apply: a doctor diagnosed the child with another illness, the child does not have a fever (without using medication), and it has been at least 24 hours since the symptoms started improving.</p>

COVID-19 Decision Tool for Schools and Parents / Caregivers

Last updated: February 22, 2021

Scenario 2	Parent/Caregiver Action
<p>Child is a close contact of a COVID-19 case (confirmed by public health).</p> 	 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Child that is a close contact MUST stay home.2. Child that is a close contact MUST self-isolate away from others in the home. If self-isolation away from others in the home is not possible, those in contact with the child MUST also self-isolate.3. Household members who are well AND isolating away from the child that is a close contact can ONLY leave the household for essential reasons. Essential reasons include:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Attending work/school/childcareb. Essential errands such as groceries, attending medical appointments or picking up prescriptions.4. If anyone in the household develops symptoms, everyone in the home MUST stay home and self-isolate until the individual with symptoms receives a negative COVID-19 test or is provided with an alternative diagnosis from a health care provider.5. Public Health will give direction on self-isolation and when child can return to regular activities.6. Have your child that is a close contact tested for COVID-19, 7 days after their exposure, even if they do not have symptoms.7. If child that is a close contact tests negative, the child MUST still complete the full self-isolation period.
Scenario 3	Parent/Caregiver Action
<p>Child or anyone in the household has travelled outside of Canada.</p> 	 <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Child cannot go to school.2. Child MUST self-isolate for 14 days. Household members SHOULD stay home for 14 days too.3. Child can return to school after 14 days if no symptoms and pass screening tool.4. If child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while self-isolating, child should be tested. <p>Note: Anyone who travels outside of Canada MUST self-isolate in accordance with provincial and federal legislation.</p>

*Self-Isolate means: stay home and avoid contact with other people.



The Forest of Reading is up and running! Check out our Virtual Library for information about the books in this year's categories [Northdale PS Library Learning Commons \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/search?q=Northdale+PS+Library+Learning+Commons) On the site, I have indicated under some of the titles if they are available at the Woodstock Public Library (WPL). Students need a library card to access these books (free to Woodstock residents!).

- **WHAT IS THE FOREST OF READING®?**

The Forest of Reading is Canada's largest recreational reading program with over 270,000 participants every year. Our goal: to develop a lifelong love of reading. We have programs for all ages, and we connect them with stellar Canadian literature, as well as giving them the opportunity to vote for their favourite book. The Forest of Reading offers 10 reading programs for young people in English and French, plus there is an adult book club.

- **HOW DO THE PROGRAMS WORK?**

Young readers participate by reading of five out of the ten nominated titles and then vote during April for their favorite book. The picture book programs (Blue Spruce and Le prix Peuplier) require the reader to read 10 books, but also can have them read aloud to them in order to be eligible to vote.

Students are currently participating in the program. After reading a book, they mark it off in their Forest of Reading passports. Once they have read all 10 for Blue Spruce or five out of ten for the other categories, they vote for their favourite book! Voting occurs for the entire month of April, closing out on April 30th.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 26th -*Epilepsy Awareness Day* –Spirit Day - wear your purple!

April 2nd - *Autism Awareness Day*

April 2nd-5th -Easter Long Weekend

April 12th-16th -April Break (NEW –Government announcement of change)

April 23rd -Grade 8 **GRAD** photos

April 23rd -SPIRIT DAY –wear your favourite athletic shirt/jersey



Thames Valley District School Board
Elementary School Calendar
 2020-2021

SEPTEMBER				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14 CLASSES BEGIN	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

OCTOBER				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

DECEMBER				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

JANUARY				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

FEBRUARY				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

MARCH				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

APRIL				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

MAY				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

JUNE				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

LEGEND		
Classes Begin Sept. 14, 2020	PA DAYS September 1, 2020 September 2, 2020 September 3, 2020 January 22, 2021 March 5, 2021 June 11, 2021 June 29, 2021	HOLIDAYS Sept 7, 2020 Labour Day Oct 12, 2020 Thanksgiving Dec 21 - Jan 1, 2021 Christmas Break Feb 15, 2021 Family Day April 2, 2021 Good Friday April 5, 2021 Easter Monday April 12 - 16, 2021 Spring Break May 24, 2021 Victoria Day
Classes End June 28, 2021		

We build each student's tomorrow, every day.

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