



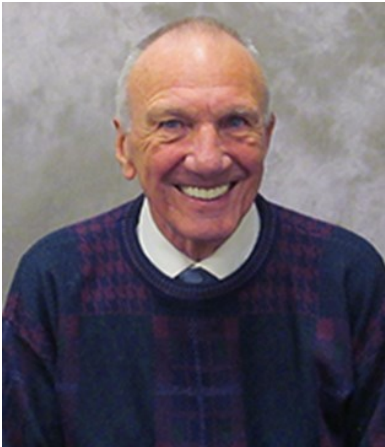
# Queen Mary Cardinal

January 2019

## From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed a restful break. It's amazing to me that so quickly in the 2018-19 school year we find ourselves in January—the second chance in the school year to start over, set goals, and be the best we can be. I encourage families to talk about goals for the 2019 year and reach out for support in achieving them. We are here to help.

I've been Tweeting (@QueenMary\_HWDSB & @teach\_mcc) and talking a lot about #GreatThingsHappenHere at QM. Our staff are working hard to provide students with new and rich learning experiences, support for developing social and academic skills, and getting students involved in many of our extra curricular programs in the arts, sports, and general interest. It is so important that our staff knows how much I appreciate their kindness and effort in supporting our students and I know that our students certainly do too. I am encouraging staff, students, and our community to share their thoughts around AWESOME things, inspired by The Book of Awesome. If you are visiting the school, I hope you will see some of the ideas in our display case. As individuals we are only one but together we are a community. Let's work together to make 2019 an awesome year for everyone.



## A Word From Our Trustee

Hello Parents, Guardians and Caregivers!  
My name is Ray Mulholland and I am your School Board Trustee representative for Ward 4. As a school board trustee, my role is to maintain a focus on student achievement, well-being and equity

and to participate in making decisions that benefit our board's entire jurisdiction while representing the interest of my constituents. I look forward to visiting our schools and seeing all of the hard work that is taking place by students and staff.

I'd invite you to reach out to me to introduce yourself and share any positive feedback or concerns you might have about the schools in our ward. I can be reached by email at remulhol@hwdsb.on.ca or by phone at 905-547-2237.

## Upcoming Dates

Please cut out this calendar for future reference.

Jan 7	Welcome Back—School starts @ 9:00 AM
Jan 8	Character Assemblies
Jan 9	Fire Safety Presentations—grades 1-4
Jan 21	Parent Council Meeting—5:30 PM
Jan 25	PA Day—No school for students
Jan 28	<b>Family Literacy Day—Details to come</b>
Jan 29	Tim Horton's Leadership Camp departs

## Important Message to Parents

If a student will be late, ill or absent for any reason, parents are asked to call the Office at **905-547-0321** before 9:00 a.m. and ensure their child has a note to support the late arrival. Timely communication, helps us know that your child is safe.

## Community Support at Christmas

Thank you to the many, many families and staff who supported our community over the holidays with donations of food, toiletries, and toys. We know it was greatly appreciated and much needed.

## Holiday Luncheon

A huge thank you to our Parent Council and all of those who volunteered or donated items for our Holiday Lunch. It was a wonderful experience for everyone.

## Volunteering @QM

There are many opportunities to get involved at Queen Mary. Whether helping with our nutrition programs, attending Parent Council meetings, attending field trips, or assisting in our classrooms, there's something for everyone. We love our volunteers! Thanks for all you do to make our school even better.

## Bug Busters

Need Help With Head Lice? Visit our Bug Buster Clinics to...

- Get checked for head lice
- Receive free head lice shampoo
- Speak with a Public Health Nurse about head lice

Caregivers must bring their children to be checked to receive treatment. Bus tickets available, if needed.

**Locations:**  
Eva Rockwell Centre  
460 Wentworth St. N.  
**Tues. 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

Hamilton East Kiwanis Boys' and Girls' Club  
45 Ellis Ave.  
**Thurs. 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

## Important Reminders From the Office

**Winter Conditions:** Playground salting and shovelling: Our caretakers will keep a clear path to our main entrance when there is snow or ice. Our playground is not cleared which can lead to slippery conditions. The gate at the corner of Roxborough and Province will be locked in the winter for safety reasons. When our playground is very icy, we may have nutrition breaks inside for safety. Canadian winters mean that at times there may be small patches of ice, please encourage your children to stay off the ice to avoid slips and falls.

**Snowballs: Throwing and kicking snow is not permitted at school.** Although this starts out as fun, it is often quickly escalated to fights and injuries. Please review this expectation with your child.

**Lates:** We know that sometimes things don't go as planned, but we've seen an increase in students arriving late. When a child arrives late they have often missed the start of the lesson in class and can feel confused and disconnected to the rest of the class. Please help us avoid unnecessary disruptions by arriving on time.

**Dogs and Pets:** No dogs or other pets on school property: To support the safety and well-being of all, there are no dogs allowed on school grounds between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Allergies: Please no bananas or nuts,** we have students and staff with allergies to these foods.

**Valuables/Lost and Found** Expensive and valuable items such as electronic devices, jewellery, and large sums of money, skateboards/rollerblades and scooters are brought to school at your own risk. Valuables (i.e. jewellery and glasses) are generally turned in to school office if they are found. Clothing items are placed in the lost and found box in front foyer.

**Bikes and Scooters, Boards and Blades** need to be stored properly in designated areas (i.e. racks or lockers). If you choose to bring your bike, scooter, blades or board, you are responsible for the care and well-being of it. They are not allowed to be used on school property or in our building. It is strongly recommended that a proper helmet be worn for your child's safety.

**Milk Program:** Our milk program continues. Tickets are available in the office for \$7.00 per card for 10 tickets. Milk will be given to the students NB #2. There will also be cash sales daily for \$.75 per milk.

**Pizza Sales:** Cheeses pizza is for sale every Tuesday for \$1.50 / slice. No pre-orders needed.

### Students Attending Kiwanis After School

If your child is attending Kiwanis after school, please speak to them about remaining in the Kiwanis building, not in the park. It may not be safe for kids when they are not properly supervised.

# HWDSB

## Winter Weather

### Bus cancellations and school closures

#### How does HWDSB decide on bus cancellations and school closures?

- When bad weather is expected, Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS) carriers check weather reports, road conditions and road clearing, starting as early as 4 a.m.
- Based on this information, the Director of Education makes the decision in conjunction with Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.



#### When do we make decisions?

HWDSB will announce the cancellation of school and board operations by 6 am based on the best information at the time.

#### The HWDSB Rule:

Inclement weather  
+ Bus cancellation  
= No school

When HWDSB cancels busing due to inclement weather, we have deemed the roads unsafe and this triggers the closure of schools. Some boards have different procedures.



#### What's the rule for extreme cold?

In extreme cold, buses may not start or run as expected and HWDSB may need to cancel transportation. But this **does not** automatically mean that schools will close. In 2014, Trustees gave the Director (or designate) the discretion to keep schools open when busing is cancelled due to extreme cold.



#### Where do I find cancellation information?

We will share this announcement in a variety of ways:

- The HWDSB website [www.hwdsb.on.ca](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca)
- HWDSB's Twitter account [www.twitter.com/HWDSB](https://www.twitter.com/HWDSB)
- HWSTS website [www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca)
- Local media outlets:  
CBC Hamilton, CHCH TV, CHML, CKPC Brantford, Hamilton Community News, Hamilton Spectator.



Families always have a choice

A school cancellation is a tough decision – and some families may disagree with HWDSB's call. Families can always make the choice they feel is best when it comes to sending their child to school.