



Dundana Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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June 2019 Dundana Newsletter

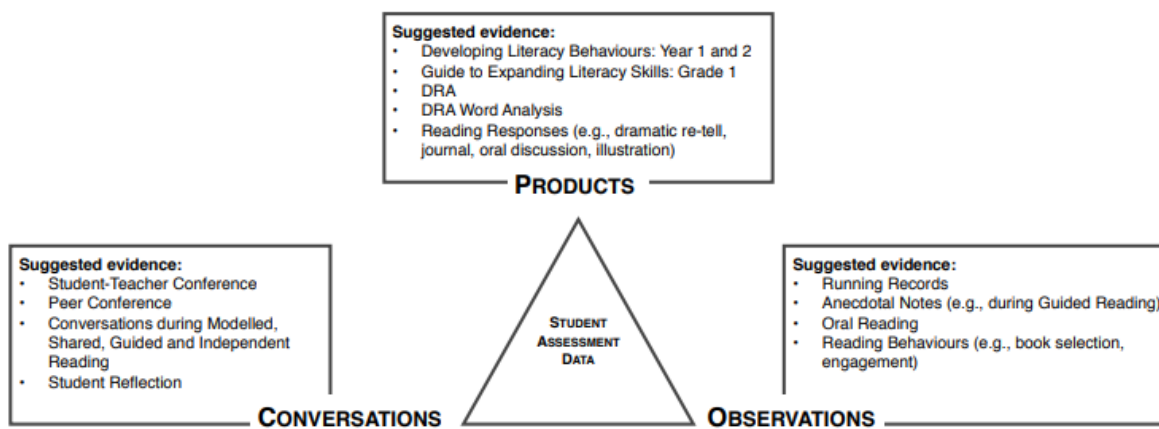
Principal Message

Have you ever wondered what goes into your child's mark on a report card? When Ontario put out Growing Success about a decade ago, elementary and secondary educators began to shift how they assess students. For example, to determine a mark in Reading, a primary teacher may use a combination of the following:

HOW WILL EDUCATORS ASSESS READING?

Evidence of student achievement for evaluation is collected over time through the **triangulation of data** (observations, conversations and student products). We use our professional judgment to gather evidence from a variety of sources to determine a report card mark.
Using multiple sources of evidence increases the reliability and the validity of the evaluation of student learning.

Growing Success, 2010



Excerpt from: *Early Reading Strategy: Determining a B in Reading by the End of Grade 1*, HWDSB 2018

As this demonstrates, it is a complex process. However, we use a vast array of data to determine grades because this is a more complete measure of a student's learning than a reliance on pencil/paper tasks alone. Your child will come home with a final report card on June 26th. Summer is a great time to set some goals for students to practice skills that will serve them well next year in school. But just as we don't only use pencil paper tasks to assess students, I encourage you to find creative ways for your child to continue learning in the summer. Counting money at the store, writing comic books about vacation memories, reading up on topics of interest, or exploring the backyard with a magnifying glass and explaining what you see are just a few ideas. Taking time to rest, relax and enjoy time with family and friends will also help to reinvigorate our students for another year of learning. Enjoy your summer!

School Council Wraps Up Another Successful Year

Dundana is very lucky to have a small but mighty group of parents who volunteer to support our school through the School Council. This year, the Council has committed to meeting one evening a month to discuss and plan fundraising and community events, spend fundraising dollars, discuss school-wide issues and plans and encourage further parent and community engagement in the school. We are very



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grateful for their efforts. Just this year, council has offered: 2 Family Movie Nights, 1 Meet the Teacher BBQ, 1 Open House BBQ and Fair, 2 Scholastic Book Fairs and weekly Pizza Days. Their fundraising efforts have resulted in: new phys. ed equipment, 10 new classroom ipads, agendas for all grade 1 – 5 students, coding and STEAM kits, Terry Fox and Playday snacks, new library books, bussing subsidies for spring class trips, new school freezer, 3 in-school productions (Dufflebag Theatre, Red Sky Productions, Silk Road Productions), grade 5 celebration funding, and Raz kids subscription for all students. In early September, a letter will come home with students asking if you would be interested in volunteering/joining as a member/serving as an executive member with this group. There are so many different ways you can help make this wonderful programming happen. I encourage you to consider if you could help support our students. On behalf of the staff and students, I thank this hard working committee and all of the volunteers to bringing a vibrancy to our programming and community engagement.

Thanks, Dundana Volunteers!

Without volunteers, we couldn't plan school excursions, in-school events like Scientists in the School, take our sports teams to games and competitions, or give that extra bit of help to so many of our students. Dundana staff are very thankful for the time and effort all of our volunteers have committed to make Dundana a great place for our students to learn. On Tuesday, June 4, we invite our volunteers to drop in to join us for a Volunteer Tea, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Dundana School library.

School Year Transition Information

As our school year wraps up and we begin to plan for next year's start up, here is some information to help you plan.

Report cards will come home on June 26 for all K to 5 students. On the report, placement information for next year will be listed if your child will be returning to Dundana. This may indicate a teacher (if known), classroom location and class designation (e.g. 1/2A). Please note that we spend a significant amount of time as a staff trying to build balanced classes that support our students. **Requests for class changes will not be considered.** Students will have the opportunity to briefly visit their new classes on June 27.

Students are on summer break beginning Friday, June 28 (a PA day for students). Classes will resume for the 2019/2020 school on Tuesday, September 3. Our school hours for next year will remain the same, with our entry at 8:55 and our dismissal at 3:15. On the first day, our teachers and other staff will come out to the playground at 8:55 and help students get to the correct lines.

Transportation – if your child is eligible for bussing, you will receive notification from the bus company in August. If you don't receive information and expected to, please contact the Transportation department at 905.523.2318. If you have a change in address or school, it is particularly important to check that the details are correct. Please note that we will **not** be able to take Courtesy bus requests at this time as we await direction from the board regarding both this process and the process to determine eligible bus ridership. **Please note that courtesy transportation approvals from the 2018/2019 school year do not carry over in the 2019/2020 school year.** In the fall, as soon as the process for courtesy bussing is known, information will be sent out. Please expect that no courtesy approvals will happen



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until at least October, and there are no guarantees that they will be available even then. Families will need to make alternate arrangements for before and after school transportation if your child is not eligible for transportation. Please see the transportation website:

<https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/faq.aspx> and this information on the board website: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/about/september-start-up-frequently-asked-questions/> for more information.

If you are moving out of our catchment area before the new school year, you will need to register at your new catchment school as we are unable to accept students out of catchment. To find your new school, please go to: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/find/> All elementary schools will be closed after June 28th, but will reopen the week of August 26th for registration purposes.

Registration for HWDSB Strings Program

Did you know HWDSB runs a strings instruction program where your child can learn to play the Violin or Cello? Instruments and instruction books are included. This program is offered to students in grades 4 to 8. We offer various lesson options including in-school lessons. For more information about this program, lesson options and pricing, go to www.hwdsb.on.ca/cce/strings or call 905.561.2190 x 4770

In School Piano Lessons

A piano instruction program is offered at Dundana. Students in grades 2 to 5 who might be interested in semi-private classes beginning in September 2019, please contact Mrs Janssen at 905.627.8075 or email miriamjanssen@gmail.com. This is not a board supervised program.

Calendar of Events

June 3, 10, 17, 24	Lunch Lady
June 3	School Council meeting, 6:30, library
June 3	Grade 3 trip to RBG
June 3	K trip to Art Gallery, a.m.
June 4	Volunteer Tea, 1 p.m., library
June 4	Soccer team to tournament
June 5	Grade 5 visit to SWO, a.m.
June 7	PD day – no school for students
June 14	Spirit Day- Canadian Colours Day
June 17	Piano recital, p.m., library
June 18	Grade 1 trip to Hamilton Conservatory of the Arts
June 19	Grade 2 (and ½) to Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory
June 20	Track and Field for select team to Mohawk Sports Park
June 20	Celebration Assembly, 9:10, gym



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June 21	Playday
June 24	Kindergarten (SK students) celebration, 2 p.m.
June 25	Grade 5 Celebration, 9:15, gym
June 26	Sanctuary Park picnic, junior classes
June 26	Report Cards go home
June 27	Last day of school for students
June 28	PD day – no school for students