

The Panabaker Chronicle

September 2025 Edition



Welcome back to Frank Panabaker! We hope you had a fantastic summer and are as excited as we are to kick off the 2025-2026 school year. This year, we're dedicated to nurturing your child's strengths by inspiring their curiosity and creativity every step of the way. Our amazing staff is ready to support and guide them on this journey.

Stay tuned to our morning announcements, where students will discover exciting opportunities to get involved in all the fun activities Panabaker has to offer. And parents and guardians, don't forget to keep an eye on our monthly newsletters and school website for important updates and upcoming events.

Here's to a vibrant, inspiring, and unforgettable year ahead — let's make it great together!

Mr. D. Fede & Mrs. T. Baggio



Please subscribe to our school website to stay up to date with important dates, events and reminders!



MEDICAL ALERT

Just a reminder that Frank Panabaker School is a **NUT FREE School**.

Do not send any nut products to school with your child.



Mobile Devices

Students must not use their personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, laptops and tablets) during the instructional day.

- **Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8** must have their devices stored out of view and powered off (or on silent mode) **throughout the full instructional day (school day)**, including nutrition breaks unless permitted by the educator as outlined below:
 - For educational purposes, if explicitly permitted by the educator.
 - For health and medical purposes, as outlined in a medical plan of care.
 - To support special education needs, as documented in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).

Students are responsible for their personal mobile devices and how they use them. If an educator sees a personal mobile device not stored out of view and powered off, the student must **hand it in for the instructional day (elementary)**. It will be placed by the student in a storage area in a location designated by the educator.



Vaping

Research is evident of the harmful and addictive effects of vaping. The Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 applies at all times and in all circumstances for all students (including summer school and evening continuing education students), staff, contractors and the public. It **prohibits**:

Smoking of tobacco and cannabis as well as vaping any substance in public schools and on public school property (grounds) or in private schools or on private school property, that is specifically annexed/used by the private school (e.g., a playground).

Smoking and vaping within 20 metres from the perimeter of school property.

Students cannot possess or use tobacco, nicotine, cannabis or vapour at school. If these products are found in the possession of students, families will be notified and students must surrender the item(s) to staff.



Office Staff:

Mrs. Lewis Office Administrator
 Mrs. Todoric Office Administrator
 Mrs. Wright Office Assistant
 Mrs. Baggio Vice Principal
 Mr. Fede Principal

2025-26 Classes:

Mrs. Bannerman/Mrs. Grundy	JK/SK	Mme. Diminie	Grade 3/4F
Mrs. Bondy/Mrs. Mainprize	JK/SK	Mme. Radji	Grade 4F
Ms. Roud/Mrs. Seeley	JK/SK	Mrs. Hawkins	Grade 1
Mme. Niamat	Grade 1F	Ms. Rohr	Grade 1/2
Mme. George	Grade 1F	Mrs. Froats	Grade 2
Mme. Garcia	Grade 1/2F	Mrs. Horvath	Grade 2/3
Mme. Hoy	Grade 2F	Mrs. Turnbull	Grade 3/4
Mme. Bishop	Grade 3F	Mrs. Speziale/ Mr. Waterhouse	Grade 4
Mme. Commission	Grade 3/4F	Mrs. Hoy	Grade 4
		Ms. Aromin	AUI

Mme. Zess	Grade 5F	Mrs. Zalter	Grade 6
TBD	Grades 5/6F	Mr. Churchman	Grade 6
Mlle. Ruetter	Grade 6F	Ms. Daley	Grade 7
Mlle. Cascioli	Grade 7F	Mr. Dowson	Grade 7
M. Brett	Grade 7/8F	Mrs. Thurston	Grade 7
M. Gill	Grade 8F	Mr. Nuttall	Grade 7
Mrs. Jack	Grade 5	Mr. Kortmann	Grade 8
Ms. Bailey	Grade 5	Mrs. McGillivray	Grade 8
		Mr. Worosz	Grade 8

Support Staff:

Mrs. White	LRT
Ms. Jansen	LRT
Mr. Little	Music
Mrs. Fairley	Phys. Ed
Mrs. Kostandoff	Phys. Ed
Mr. Waterhouse	Phys. Ed
Mrs. Darlington	Arts/Library
Mrs. Ortwein	Art
Mr. Fernandez	French
Mme Lisson	French
Mlle Andrego	French

Educational Assistants:

Mrs. Ashbury	Mrs. Ararat
Mrs. Krajinovic	Mrs. Cole
Mr. Copple	
Mrs. Haq	
Ms. Sewell	
Ms. Wells	

Caretaking Staff:

Mr. Linder, Mr. Rajball, Ms. Bielak

HERE'S THE NEWS



Parent Parking

Just a friendly reminder that when dropping off or picking up your child (entry and dismissal times) to please not block the bus loading zone or parking spaces. The parking lot is extremely busy at these times and we want to ensure the safety of all of our students.



DISMISSAL POLICY for Students

ALL bus students will gather in the gym (north) and hallway (south) at 2:35 pm for dismissal.

- Bus students will line up in their respective bus line. They will then be dismissed and escorted by the teacher on duty to their bus.

Please make the office and YMCA program aware of changes in afterschool dismissal plans.



- | | | |
|--------------|---|------------------------|
| September 19 | - | PA Day |
| September 26 | - | Terry Fox Day |
| October 2 | - | School Council Meeting |
| October 9 | - | Picture Day |

Meet the Teacher TBD

Secure School Information

During this term, Frank Panabaker school is required to conduct at least **3 Fire Drills**, **1 Lockdown Drill** and **1 Evacuation Drill** so that students are prepared in the event of a real emergency.

Please do not be alarmed if your child tells you that the alarm went off at school. This is all part of our Emergency Plan of Action.



Visitors Please Report to the Office

All visitors must first check in at the office. If you need to see or pick up your child, our office staff will page the classroom and have the student meet you at the office. If you are dropping something off, please label the item and leave it with our office staff to avoid disruptions in the classrooms.

Bus Information

The HWDSB Transportation service is responsible for the carriers that bring our students to and from school. At times, school busses may run late and the delay time could take up to 30 minutes. We strongly encourage all families to check the status of their child's bus on a daily basis. This could be done using the following link: <https://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca/>

Here you will find a posting of all the delays.

You can also phone transportation directly at (905) 523-2318 or 1-800-691-6402 with any questions you may have, as our school office closes at 3:15PM.



Annual Terry Fox Day

Frank Panabaker staff and students will be holding the annual Terry Fox Day on Friday, September 26th.

Thank you to Mr. Waterhouse for organizing the day!

More information will be coming!





Notifications to School of Medical Conditions

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is committed to ensuring a safe, accepting, and healthy learning environment which supports student well-being. This environment empowers students with health/medical needs to reach their full potential for self-management of their condition(s), according to their Plan of Care which is intended to support prevalent and non-prevalent medical conditions.

Returning Students (currently in SK to grade 8):

A Plan of Care is a plan for students who have a prevalent medical condition such as **anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, and epilepsy**. A Plan of Care is developed with the principal and provides details about your child's condition and how to manage it, what to do in the case of an emergency, a prioritized list of emergency contacts, information about medication, possibly even information about your child's health care providers, and who the Plan of Care should be shared with. During the first week of school, Plans of Care were sent home with students for parents to review. We ask that Plans of Care be reviewed and sent back to the school along with the Plan of Care Renewal form.

NEW students (currently JK to grade 8):

If you are a NEW family to Frank Panabaker School we ask that you please connect with the school immediately if you haven't already done so, to identify whether your child has a prevalent medical condition such as **Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and Epilepsy**. School staff will then connect with individual families to provide specific forms to support the medical condition.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in ensuring student safety!

STYLE YOUR CREATIVITY!

HWDSB STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES

Headwear	Tops	Bottoms
Can Wear: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bandanas • Durags • Hats • Head scarves • Religious/creed-based headwear 	Can Show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arms • Bellies • Chest • Shoulders • Straps 	Can Show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hips • Legs • Straps • Thighs • Waistband
Examples Include: Burqas, ballcaps, fezzes, hijabs, hoodies, keffiyehs, kippahs/yarmulkes, niqabs, tuques, turbans, etc.	Examples Include: Crop tops, midriff-bearing shirts, strap tops, t-shirts, tube tops, vests, etc.	Examples Include: Dresses, fitted pants, jeans (including ripped), leggings, pants, shorts, skirts, sweatpants, etc.

Cannot Show:

Fully covered face (Religious/creed-based headwear excluded), underwear as outerwear, butts, groin, nipples.

Cannot Promote:

- Drugs/alcohol
- Illegal activity
- Profanity
- Hate/Discrimination
- Pornography
- Violence

Note: Additional health and safety exceptions may apply.

To learn more about Student Dress Guidelines visit:
hwdsb.info/student-dress

HWDSB
 BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Code of Conduct

Members of the school community will:

- Treat each other with kindness and respect
- Support learning and keep distractions out of class
- Help others when they are in need

Members of the school community will not:

- Bully, cyberbully, or encourage others to do so
- Harm others, including harm with the motivation of hate or discrimination
- Use a personal mobile device during class unless permitted by an educator
- Use, share or sell vape, cannabis, nicotine and/or tobacco products on school property

Speak with a staff member if you or someone else needs help.

Visit hwdsb.info/school-rules to learn about the HWDSB Code of Conduct and Provincial Code of Conduct.



hwdsb.info/school-rules

HWDSB

Ontario 

School Council

Every school in Ontario is required to have a School Council to work collaboratively with the principal to improve student achievement and to enhance accountability of the school with parents. Information about School Councils can be found here:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/council02.pdf>.

We welcome all parents/guardians who are willing to volunteer their time to participate on our School Council for the 2025-2026 school year. Typically, the Frank Panabaker School Council meets in person to discuss school-wide interests and to make recommendations to the principal.

School Councils must hold annual elections to identify voting members and various positions such as School Council Chair. Elected members vote on School Council matters and represent the group's ideas and advisory suggestions for the Principal. Please note that you do not have to be an elected member of School Council to attend meetings. All meetings are open to all parents/guardians who wish to attend.

To declare your interest to become an elected member on School Council, please complete the nomination form below. All nominations forms must be received by September 25, 2025.

Please note that you must attend the first meeting in order to be elected to Council. Our first meeting of this school year will be held on Thursday, October 2nd, 2025 @ 6:00pm and will be held in our Learning Commons at the South Site.

Please consider joining us on School Council as an elected or general member. School Council involvement is a great way to support your child's education and we look forward to working together.

To show your interest, please complete and return the following nomination form.

Sincerely,

D. Fede (Principal) & T. Baggio (Vice-Principal)

Frank Panabaker SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM – 2025-2026

SELF-NOMINATION

I would like to join School Council as an elected member. I understand that an elected position requires more involvement and responsibilities than a general member does. I understand that this role involves attending School Council meetings.

My Name: _____

My Phone: _____

My E-mail: _____

I am interested in serving in one of the following School Council roles (please circle):

CHAIR CO-CHAIR TREASURER SECRETARY MEMBER AT LARGE OTHER

I am the parent/guardian of _____ [student name] who is currently registered in Grade ____ at Frank Panabaker.

I am an employee of HWDSB (please circle): YES NO

Please complete and return this form electronically to dfede@hwdsb.on.ca or send a copy to the office by September 25, 2025.

September 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
1 H	2 F 1	3 2	4 3	5 4
8 5	9 1	10 2	11 3	12 4
15 5	16 1	17 2	18 3	19 P
22 4	23 5	24 1	25 2	26 3
29 4	30 5			

October 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
		1 1	2 2	3 3
6 4	7 5	8 1	9 2	10 3
13 H	14 4	15 5	16 1	17 2
20 3	21 4	22 5	23 1	24 P
27 2	28 3	29 4	30 5	31 1

November 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
3 2	4 3	5 4	6 5	7 1
10 2	11 3	12 4	13 5	14 1
17 2	18 3	19 4	20 5	21 P
24 1	25 2	26 3	27 4	28 5

December 2025				
M	T	W	T	F
1 1	2 2	3 3	4 4	5 5
8 1	9 2	10 3	11 4	12 5
15 1	16 2	17 3	18 4	19 5
22 B	23 B	24 B	25 B	26 B
29 B	30 B	31 B		

January 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
			1 B	2 B
5 1	6 2	7 3	8 4	9 5
12 1	13 2	14 3	15 4	16 5
19 1	20 2	21 3	22 4	23 P
26 5	27 1	28 2	29 3	30 4

February 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
2 5	3 1	4 2	5 3	6 4
9 5	10 1	11 2	12 3	13 4
16 H	17 5	18 1	19 2	20 3
23 4	24 5	25 1	26 2	27 3

March 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
2 4	3 5	4 1	5 2	6 P
9 3	10 4	11 5	12 1	13 2
16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	20 B
23 3	24 4	25 5	26 1	27 2
30 3	31 4			

April 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
		1 5	2 1	3 H
6 H	7 2	8 3	9 4	10 5
13 1	14 2	15 3	16 4	17 5
20 1	21 2	22 3	23 4	24 5
27 1	28 2	29 3	30 4	

May 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
				1 5
4 1	5 2	6 3	7 4	8 5
11 1	12 2	13 3	14 4	15 5
18 H	19 1	20 2	21 3	22 4
25 5	26 1	27 2	28 3	29 4

June 2026				
M	T	W	T	F
1 5	2 1	3 2	4 3	5 P
8 4	9 5	10 1	11 2	12 3
15 4	16 5	17 1	18 2	19 3
22 4	23 5	24 1	25 L	26 P
29 B	30 B			

Calendar Key				
F – First Day of School				
H – Statutory Holiday				
B – Designated Holiday				
P – Professional Activity Day				
L – Last Day of School				

HWDSB's School Year Calendar can be found online at hwdsb.on.ca/about/school-year-calendar/.

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 2, 2025.

BE YOU. BE EXCELLENT.



2025-26 SCHOOL COUNCIL START-UP

School Council Chairs and members, Home & School Association members, Principals and Vice-Principals are invited to attend this kick-off event!

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

HWDSB Education Centre, 20 Education Court

- Hear tips on how to run an effective School Council.
- Explore the School Council Handbook, 2025-26 Edition.
- Learn about the roles of Chairs and Principals, funds to operate councils, getting others involved, fundraising and more.
- Light dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.



Please RSVP by October 7, 2025 by scanning the QR code or visiting:
hwdsb.info/SCstartupRSVP

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