

HWDSB

2020-21



curiosity

creativity

possibility



HWDSB CODE OF CONDUCT

As members of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) community, each of us has a responsibility to contribute to a positive school climate that is inclusive and accepting of all students and staff, and that promotes the prevention of bullying and harassment. The HWDSB Code of Conduct Policy sets out the expectations for behavior consistent with the Provincial Code of Conduct.

As a student at HWDSB, to show respect and responsibility to myself and others I will:

- Come to school prepared, on time, and ready to learn
- Treat one another and those in authority with dignity and respect at all times, even when there is a disagreement
- Refrain from bringing anything to school that may compromise the safety of myself or others
- Demonstrate responsibility for actions or behaviour on or off school property or outside of the school day that would have an impact on the school climate
- Follow the established rules and expectations and take responsibility for my own actions
- Promote the safety of people in schools by preventing bullying and using non-violent ways to resolve conflict
- Demonstrate appropriate participation in the civic life (physical and digital) of the community.

**This is a sample of the expectations of students.
The full Code of Conduct can be found at www.hwdsb.on.ca.*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to another school year! I am very excited that you are a part of the Westwood family and look forward to see you learn and grow through out the year. My goal as the principal of Westwood is to ensure that all students are SAFE, HAPPY, AND LEARNING to their full potential. Please take the time to read through these first 8 pages of your school agenda as they contain very important information.

The school agenda is an essential part of your role as a student at Westwood. It will help you keep track of important events, organize your homework, inform you of school rules and help the school to communicate with your parents/guardians. The following steps will help make this agenda a regular part of your daily routine:

- The Agenda should be kept with you at all times while you are at school. It should be taken to each class every day and home every night. You may be asked to use it at any time, so you should be prepared.
- Record your homework assignments and test dates for each class. Use it to help plan your homework so that it is completed regularly. Also keep track of special events (team games, practices, club meetings, assemblies etc.)
- The Agenda should be available to open during announcements, learning and before dismissal so that information can be quickly recorded.
- Your parent(s)/guardian(s) should be checking your agenda regularly so that they can help you organize your homework.

2020/21 BELL TIMES

8:45 a.m.	Morning Entry/Period 1
9:25 a.m.	Period 2
10:05 a.m.	Period 3
10:45 a.m.	Nutrition Break 1
11:25 a.m.	Period 4
11:55 a.m.	Period 5
12:25 p.m.	Period 6
1:05 p.m.	Nutrition Break 2
1:45 p.m.	Period 7
2:25 p.m.	Period 8
3:05 p.m.	Dismissal

TRANSPORTATION

HWDSB provides our students with safe and secure transportation to and from school for eligible students by Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services (HWSTS). This may take the form of traditional yellow-and-black school buses, school purpose vans or Hamilton Street Railway transit.

General Rules for Students on School-Related Transportation:

- Obey the instructions and rules of the vehicle driver and cooperate with the driver, student patrollers, assistants and other students;
- Show respect for the rights of others and for property;
- Do not leave garbage or unwanted items on the bus;
- You are responsible for any damage you cause to vehicles or property;
- Discuss problems you have traveling to and from school with a trusted adult (for example: parent, guardian, teacher, principal or vehicle driver);
- Make sure you are away from the danger zone of a school bus by staying 10 giant steps away from it;
- Never cross or play behind a vehicle;
- Bus privileges may be suspended for unsafe actions that endanger the student or others on the bus. A warning will be given prior to the suspension of bus privileges.

SAFEARRIVAL AND THE SCHOOLMESSENGER COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

As a school in the HWDSB, one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all students safely arrive at school every day.

Please register for SafeArrival, a student absence reporting system within the SchoolMessenger communication platform. SafeArrival makes it easy for families to report student absences and allows school staff to respond quickly and thoroughly to all unexplained absences through notifications. SchoolMessenger will also notify you of other important announcements.

Follow the steps below to **create an account** and **set your preferences**:

1. **Download the SchoolMessenger App**, or visit go.schoolmessenger.ca.
2. **Create an account** (using the email address you have on file with your child's school).
3. Once you are logged in, go to **Preferences** on the left-hand menu and turn on/off phone, text, or email for each message type.

Use the **SchoolMessenger app** and website so that you receive messages in one or more of these ways:



Phone
(Home, cell or both)



Email



Text



**SchoolMessenger
App/Website**

For each of the following message types:

- **Attendance**
- **General**
- **Non-School Hours Emergency**
- **SafeArrival**
- **School Hours Emergency**
- **Survey**

With SafeArrival, families report a child's absence one of three ways:

1. Use the **SafeArrival website**, go.schoolmessenger.ca. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**
2. Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store (or from go.schoolmessenger.ca). Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.
3. **Call the toll-free number 1-844-506-4350** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, seven days a week. If you have any questions or if you try to explain an absence using SafeArrival, but are then told that it is past the cut-off time, please contact the school directly.

NUTRITION GUIDELINES

HWDSB and our school, believe in the development of healthy school environments that support student learning and success by encouraging our students, educators, and parents/guardians to make nutritious food and beverage choices.

Healthy Eating Tips

Canada's Food Guide recommends that Canadians:

- Limit sugar
- Eat whole-grain food that is higher fiber and lower in fat and sodium
- Choose grain products that are lower in fat, sugar or salt
- Drink skim, 1% or 2% milk each day.
- Choose lower-fat milk alternatives i.e. partly skimmed mozzarella, light cheddar
- Eat extra-lean meat and vegetarian alternatives prepared with no or little added fat or sodium
- Eat meat alternatives like beans, lentils, and tofu
- Eat at least two servings of fish each week
- Choose lean meat and alternatives made with little or no added fat or salt
- Drink water to satisfy thirst
- Consume vegetables and fruit whole more often than in juice



Limit sugar

Eat whole-grain that is high in fiber

To create healthy learning environments our school will:

- Promote healthy eating and safe food practices for planned events and classroom activities that are in line with the current edition of Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide.
- Follow the Student Nutrition Program Nutrition Guidelines developed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.
- Consider the following when food or beverages are sold or provided:
 - Offer, when available and when possible, food and beverages that are produced in Ontario;
 - Be environmentally aware;
 - Take the appropriate measures to keep students with prevalent medical conditions, such as Anaphylaxis, safe when offering food or beverages. Find the Anaphylaxis Plan of Care at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Supporting-Students-with-Prevalent-Medical-Conditions.pdf> ;
 - Avoid offering food or beverages as a reward or an incentive for good behaviour, achievement or participation.

Learn more about how to stay healthy at school by visiting <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/secondary/supports/healthy-schools/>.

Respectful Learning and Working Environment

Hamilton-Wentworth DSB is committed to providing a working and learning environment free from objectionable behaviour where all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. The Board holds high expectations for the conduct of its employees, its students, parents/guardians and any others associated with the school community. It is the responsibility of every person to create and contribute to a climate of understanding and mutual respect for the rights and dignity of each individual.

Subscribing to our School Website

The school website is a great way to keep up to date on school news and updates. We will be posting things such as events on the online calendar, monthly newsletters, school updates as well as our school Twitter feed. There is also an option to subscribe so that you can receive email notifications any time the website is updated with new information.

To subscribe, please visit: www.hwdsb.on.ca/westwood/subscribe

School Council

“School councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario. They provide a forum through which parents and other members of school communities can contribute to improving student achievement and school performance.” (from “School Councils: A Guide for Members” MOE) The Westwood School Council generally meets 4 - 5 times a year. Elections take place in early September for the executive but parents can serve in any capacity and do not have to be a member to attend meetings. Your participation would be most welcomed. Please check our School Council page on our school website or monthly newsletter/calendar for meeting times.

Anaphylaxis Directive

HWDSB requires schools to have an Plan of Care where there are students identified with life-threatening allergies. In this case, contact with even trace amounts of a nut product or cross contamination from residue in snacks or containers can result in a severe reaction and sometimes even death. To ensure a safe environment for all students our school is “NUT SAFE”:

- Check ingredients of food your child brings to school.
- Avoid foods with traces of nuts/peanuts, plant protein or hydrolyzed plant protein.
- Review the information sheets in the September package for students.

Learning **MATH** Together



As you are our partner in your child's learning, we have put together some math resources to help you support your child.

These resources:

- Highlight student learning in each grade through the Ontario Curriculum
- Show an example of a math lesson in a classroom in Student Learning
- Hear from children about why they are learning math this way in Change in Teaching
- Link to resources for parents to support their child at home in Helping Your Child
- Explain HWDSB's Renewed Math Strategy and how we are supporting students and staff

To view and use these resources, please visit:

www.hwdsb.on.ca/mathhelp

With all of us working together toward shared goals, we can ensure that students make progress each year and graduate prepared to build a strong future for themselves.

www.hwdsb.on.ca/mathhelp



We Help.

Worried about a friend?
Talk to someone immediately.

kidshelpphone.ca 1-800-668-6868

HWDSB Helps app / text 905-963-0066 (non-crisis situations)

Suggest how we can help each other using #HWDSBwehelp

www.hwdsb.on.ca/wehelp

HWDSB *Helps*

*An anonymous way for students to find help
for themselves and one another.*

We all have the power to help.

Get help or share anonymous tips.

- Text message to **905-963-0066**. Standard rates apply.
- App for iOS and Android
- Web chat at: www.hwdsb.on.ca/hwdsbhelps

- Bullying
- Concern about a friend
- Harassment
- Drugs
- Fighting



HWDSB