



# Yorkview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue  
Dundas, Ontario L9H 1P8  
Phone: 905.628.8212  
Fax: 905.628.8234

EMAIL: [yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca)  
PRINCIPAL: Suzana Milinovich  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview)

September 2, 2022

Dear families,

We are excited to welcome students back to class – in person and remote learning – for the 2022-23 school year.

We know that the past two years have been challenging, and we are thrilled to see students, staff and families again. Each new year is a great new opportunity.

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Tuesday, September 6, 2022.**

We know that many families remain concerned about safety, and we are too. We continue to take COVID-19 precautions, such as doing daily [COVID-19 school and child care screening](#) and staying home when sick or instructed within the screening tool.

As we move through the pandemic, we will continue to update families on important developments. We know that families may have a lot of questions.

We also invite families to keep up with communications from HWDSB by [subscribing to email updates](#) or following HWDSB on social media.

Here are some important points to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year:

## **First Day of School**

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday, students in Grades 1-5 will meet their teachers at the back of the building on the blacktop. Staff will be on the school yard to supervise and assist students 15 minutes before and after the school day (8:20am-2:40pm). Parents/caregivers are asked to remain on the grass/field area during pick up and drop off.

## **First Day of Kindergarten**

The first day of kindergarten classes will be **Wednesday, September 7.**

All children new to kindergarten and/or the school have been invited for a short visit with a caregiver on Tuesday, September 6.



# Yorkview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue  
Dundas, Ontario L9H 1P8  
Phone: 905.628.8212  
Fax: 905.628.8234

EMAIL: [yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca)  
PRINCIPAL: Suzana Milinovich  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview)

## **Transportation**

If your child is taking the bus this year, they will be met by staff upon arrival at the bus unloading/loading zone. It is very important that your child knows how they will be getting home at the end of the day. Please take time to review this with your child and let their teacher and/or office know the plan if there is any possibility of confusion.

## **Parking Lot**

Vehicles will not be entering the parking lot during arrival and dismissal for safety reasons. Vehicles can be parked on Cameron Avenue and/or McKay Rd. There are many pedestrians and students cycling during these busy times in our school zone. We ask drivers to elevate their awareness and take careful notice of possible student cyclists and pedestrians.

## **Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions: Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy**

Students with a prevalent medical condition must have a plan of care in place. Information will be sent home on the first day of school with students with an existing plan of care. A letter will also be sent to all families to review and invite families to communicate the need for a possible new plan of care to be put into place for their child. Please review this documentation and send back to school as soon as possible.

## **Lunch & Snack Food Items**

A gentle reminder that we are a nut-free school. We have students with anaphylaxis in our school and need all families to regularly review the ingredients of the food items sent to school with children throughout the school year. For these reasons, we do not share food at school, eat outdoors, and/or accept food for celebrations in specific classes.

We know the return to school can be stressful for some students. We are here to support every student. If you think your child might struggle with school, please let us know.

## **Supporting a Positive Return to School**

HWDSB will continue to offer a wide variety of mental health supports for students, knowing that the pandemic has impacted student well-being. This is especially important during the return to school, which can be stressful for some students. See some supportive tips on our [recent web post](#). Explore our [We Help web page](#) for more evidence-based and timely school-based mental health services and supports.

## **COVID-19**

Most health and safety guidance from the province is unchanged from the end of the 2021-22 school year, but here are some items we want to bring to your attention:

- It is still recommended that staff, students and visitors continue to self-screen every day before attending school using the [COVID-19 school and childcare screening tool](#). We no longer verify



# Yorkview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue  
Dundas, Ontario L9H 1P8  
Phone: 905.628.8212  
Fax: 905.628.8234

EMAIL: [yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca)  
PRINCIPAL: Suzana Milinovich  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview)

student screening results in schools. Please stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms or are waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms.

- HWDSB is a mask-friendly environment. We continue to support the wearing of masks in schools, administrative buildings and buses, as an effective public health measure. We will continue to offer free masks for students and visitors to our schools. Although masks are not required, our schools, offices and buses are respectful, welcoming and inclusive environments where individuals can choose to wear or not to wear a mask.
- HEPA filter units are installed in every occupied kindergarten class, in all occupied learning spaces without mechanical ventilation, and in mechanically ventilated learning spaces without MERV-13 level filters. HWDSB will continue to deploy HEPA filter units in learning spaces in a manner that maximizes their benefit. We will continue to publicly communicate ventilation measures on our [website](#).

## Transportation

We have been supporting HWSTS, our local transportation consortium, as they adopt a new platform for their Parent Portal. If your child qualifies for transportation, **please follow the steps listed to access your child(ren)'s information via the online portal**. Please keep in mind that last minute changes sometimes do occur and that it is important to re-check the information prior to sending your child(ren) to their assigned pickup location on September 6, 2022. Go to [www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca](http://www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca) and click on the "Parent's Portal" on the Home page, OR "Bus Stop Finder" on the landing page. [Learn more](#).

Bus contactors will continue with regular cleaning routines, to ensure that students and drivers have a sanitary environment. Masks are optional but encouraged while riding the bus.

## Addressing a Concern

Students and families with classroom concerns are encouraged to contact their student's classroom teacher. School-wide concerns can be addressed by the principal. [Addressing a Concern \(PDF\)](#).

## Right to Disconnect

Healthy work-life boundaries, including the ability for all employees to disconnect from work after hours, is an important part of maintaining one's health and well-being. HWDSB has implemented a [Right to Disconnect Procedure](#) to support educators, administrators and other HWDSB staff. While all urgent communication will continue to be shared after hours, please note that families communicating with educators and administrators may receive a delay in response to all non-emergency inquiries received after hours.

Sincerely,

*Suzana Milinovich*  
Principal