



Yorkview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue
Dundas ON L9H 1P8
Phone: 905-628-8212
Fax: 905-628-8234

Email: yorkview@hwdsb.on.ca
Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview
Principal: Ms. G. Stafford

September 5, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year. We hope you all had an enjoyable first week and we are looking forward to having our wonderful community of learners and staff come together this school year. Each new year is a new opportunity for students to reach their full potential, make new connections and learn and grow with their school community.

- **JK, SK and Grade 1-5 students begin school at 8:20 a.m. The Kindergarten FDK area and back playground opens at 8:05 a.m. for students and staff will be outside to guide and support students.**
- Dismissal will be at 2:40 p.m. For those picking up students, please wait at the grass area along the playground and your student will come out the same door they entered through in the morning.
- Upon arrival, bus students will be walked around from the front bus drop off area to the back hardtop area for line ups. If the bus arrives after the bell, the students will be brought in through the front doors and escorted to classes by staff.
- All Kindergarten FDK students who come on the bus will be greeted and walked into the Kindergarten FDK playground by staff.

PARKING

A reminder that our school parking lot is for staff only to ensure safety for everyone. Street parking is available at the front and side of our building, please note that this can get very busy at drop off and pick up and we encourage all those students who are able to walk, bike/scooter etc. to do so. This will ease the congestion of the traffic in our area and keep everyone safe.

TRANSPORTATION

If your child qualifies for transportation, please follow the steps listed to access your child(ren)'s information via the online portal. Go to www.hamiltonschoolbus.ca and click on the "Parent Portal" on the Home page, OR "Bus Stop Finder" on the landing page.



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In order to have busing run smoothly, please ensure that if you have any changes to riding the bus in the afternoon connect with our office directly via phone, so we can ensure that students are safe.

LATE ARRIVAL / ABSENCE – SCHOOL BEGINS AT 8:20 a.m.

If your child is late for school, please bring your child to the front doors, ring the bell and come to the main office and they will be supported in getting to their classroom. If you know your child will be late or absent for the day please ensure that you put this into School Messenger that can be found on the board website or the App can be downloaded to your phone.

EARLY PICK UP

If you need to pick up your child from school early, we remind you to please allow some extra time for your child to arrive at the office. Students will be called down once you are here and it can take a few minutes for your child(ren) to gather their things and get to the office area. Please let your child(ren)s classroom teacher or the office know if you will be picking up early and the time so they can ensure that your child is ready.



STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES

In September 2024, all Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board elementary and secondary schools will be introduced to updated **Student Dress Guidelines**. Developed with input from students across Hamilton, as well as staff and families, they are rooted in fairness and respect for all cultures and identities.

These guidelines were developed with a strong focus supporting students in their dress as it relates to human rights, safety, mental health, well-being, compassion, dignity and belonging. By supporting personal expression and self-identity, schools can become safer and more welcoming environments for every student.



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Student Dress Guidelines can be found on **posters in all schools** and as part of the **HWDSB Code of Conduct**. Posters and the code are available on the board website as well.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Members of the school community, educators, students and parents, will treat each other with kindness and respect, support learning and keep distractions out of class and help others when they are in need.

CELLPHONES/ ELECTRONIC DEVICES

One area of particular concern that we have been experiencing is the growing use of cell phones/electronic devices and smartwatches during instructional time in the classroom setting. Our goal is and has always been to maximize the learning time for our students and ensure a positive learning environment. Devices have many positive uses. However, in the classroom setting they are an enormous distraction to learning. There are research studies that cite the negative effects of cell phone use on students, particularly the overuse of social media. We have found that cell phones not only distract students from learning, but also facilitate negative behavior such as:

cyberbullying, harassment, taking photos or videos of students and staff without their permission, accessing unapproved websites and arranging meetings with friends in the restrooms during class time.

My sincere hope is that you have a conversation with your child(ren) about the acceptable time and use of their cell phones and other devices during the school day. Prior to entering school, students should have their cell phones on silent and stored in the safe space provided in the classroom. Students who disregard this policy may be subject to disciplinary consequences including confiscation of devices or a phone call to parents.

Please note that if you need to contact your child during the school day, our Office Administrator is available to take your call and pass on the message to your child(ren).

Thank you for your continued support as we work to reduce classroom distractions and provide our students with the best learning environment possible.



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WEBSITE

Please check our school website for updates and important dates. Please ensure that you subscribe to our school website. Informed parents make great partners.

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.

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. Please feel free to reach out when needed.

We know the return to school can be stressful but we are here to support every student's back-to-school experience. Thank you for your support and welcome back Yorkview students and parents/guardians to our safe and comfy school.

Looking forward to another great school year at Yorkview!

Kind regards,

Ms. G. Stafford

Principal

Yorkview Public School