

Panther News



HWDSB

Upcoming Events

January 31, 2012

Volume 4 Issue 2

Final Exams:

Jan 25 to 31

PA Day:

Feb 1 & 2

Semester 2 Begins:

Feb 3

DECA Provincials:

Feb 12 to 14

Family Day:

Feb 20

Math Contests:

Feb 23

Grad Photos:

Feb 27 to Mar 2

From the Main Office

Hello Everyone we are coming to the end of our first semester. Many fantastic events have happened all semester in and out of the classroom. Parkside continues to excel academically, athletically and in the arts.

We are saying goodbye to some staff and hello others joining Parkside.

Thank you to Mr. Dodds, Mr. C. Cividino, Miss. Greco, Mr. Lou, and Mr. Weare, as we say goodbye and wish them well in their new locations. Welcome to Miss Rimnyak, and Mr. M Cividino.

We are also saying goodbye to our wonderful vice-principal Ms. Malhotra. She has done fantastic things for Parkside and served staff and students exceptionally well. She will be missed and we wish her well in her new location next semester. We will be welcoming Ms Dube as our vice-principal next semester.

P. Barwinski, Principal

Math

Semester 2 Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics Test

The Semester 2 Grade 9 EQAO Mathematics Test will take place on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 and Thursday, June 14, 2012 during class time. All students registered in a Grade 9 Academic or a Grade 9 Applied math class will write the test. Please ensure that students have no appointments or other commitments for those days. Students and parents are encouraged to visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.com for practice questions.

Have you tried these On-Line Mathematics Resources?

Chat with a live teacher at homeworkhelp.ilc.org - This website is open Sunday to Thursday each week during the school year, from 5:30 until 9:30 p.m. Students will be tutored by Ontario Teachers on Math curriculum and homework questions that are challenging them. Students are issued 'lockers' that contain copies of all their chats. Lockers and 'best sessions' can be accessed 24/7. Test yourself at thatquiz.org

Enrich classroom learning at the Ontario Educational Resource Bank:

resources.elearningontario.ca (obtain a username and password from your math teacher)



Special Points of

Interest:

School Council

- Chair: Phyllis Chasty

Our next meeting is

Tuesday Jan 24th at 6:30 in the Library!

We hope to see you there!

MUSIC

Dramatic Arts at Parkside has already had a busy year! Coming into September there were already grade twelve shows going up and the casting for Godspell had begun. Mid-semester we had an incredibly successful trip to New York City where students were able to attend three Broadway musicals and multiple museums. In between this was trips to Theatre Aquarius for "The Thirty-nine Steps" and Toronto for the musical "Chess". We came back from winter break and hit the ground running with a successful production of our school musical, "Godspell", having five successful runs. Next semester looks to be just as promising and busy. Regular rehearsals have commenced for our schools' entry into this year's SEARS festival with the play "Never Swim Alone" by Daniel McIvor. There will also be three rounds of grade twelve productions that will be running next semester for the school and community to enjoy. Finally, Parkside drama classes have secured seats to go and see the highly praised (and sold out) show of "War Horse" in Toronto second semester. Exciting!

LITTLE TIDBITS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT!!!

Grade 12 and Portfolio art students are working super hard to finish their final work and prepare all materials for their university consultations. We wish them good luck!!

Grade 11 Art class just finished exploration of Renaissance in their history unit and students are working on final Renaissance painting. Everybody wants to travel to Italy now and see all that beautiful art first hand.

On December 20, 2011 - Media students organized FILM FESTIVAL where they presented their work for the school audience. Job well done! Keep those cameras rolling!

ART and Drama trip to New York in November was a great success !! What a great educational experience visiting MOMA, Guggenheim, Met and the Cloisters museums and seeing 3 Broadway shows and much much more. Thank you goes to all participants. You represented Parkside well!

ART and Drama trip - MAGIC RIDE 2012 - Trip to Italy and Greece.

Travellers are starting to pack their suitcases as we just got our flights confirmed.

On March 8th, 2012 we will board our flight to **Milan, Italy**, and our tour will take us to Romeo and Juliet's **Verona**, magical **Venice**, remarkable **Florence** where we will be viewing the renaissance masterpieces that fill the city's churches and museums. We will be astonished by the feeling of true beauty.

Magic Ride will transfer via **Assisi** to bella **Roma**, the Eternal city. The world's largest dome is located in the world's smallest country **Vatican**. We will see both as we tour St. Peter's Basilica, erected in Vatican City, packed with one artistic masterpiece after another. Our tour will lead us directly to the Sistine Chapel, painted by Michelangelo. Next is our excursion to **Capri** and visit of **Sorrento** and **Pompeii**.

Transfer to Brindisi to board your overnight ferry to **Patras, Greece**.

As we tour **Delphi**, ponder the mysteries of what lies in our future, as did Greece's ancient military leaders, who left gifts for the Oracle in hopes of good fortune in battle.

Then we will transfer to **Athens**, the Cradle of Democracy and birthplace of Western civilization. The great philosopher Socrates lived here, offering to fellow Athenians his views on virtue and knowledge. We will attend Greek evening and experience Greece's unique and colorful culture during an evening of traditional entertainment and cuisine.

On March 20th we will arrive back to **Dundas**, full of unforgettable memories and knowledge for life.

Athletics

Parkside Boys Phys Ed Dept.

The sports teams are in full swing here at Parkside. The Senior Boys' Basketball team is peaking for playoffs, having another outstanding season despite injuries to players along the way. A return to OFSAA looks in the picture. The Junior Boys' Basketball team, in a rebuilding season have surprised their coaches with some solid defensive play. The hockey team has had an up and down season to date, but is hoping to parlay their current win streak into a playoff run. Our water polo team just missed the playoffs but the future looks promising with many players coming back for next year. The swim team had an awesome performance at the City Championships, with numerous guys moving on to the SOSSA championships in February.



Co-ed badminton starts up early February and all are welcome to attend. Listen to the announcements for dates and times. With February just around the corner a Parkside tradition takes center stage in intramurals. Of course, I'm speaking of dodge ball, "the sport of champions". Think of how good it will feel to throw a ball at your favourite teacher. Make sure you sign up with your buddies to have the opportunity to play. Again, listen to the announcements for the date it will be starting. This will be a lunchtime activity so fans will be allowed to eat in stands to witness the event.

With the start of the new semester, some unique courses start with guys having the opportunity to take: Navy Seal fitness, the Basketball Academy and Kinesiology. Parkside is a great place and it is because you participate. Keep up the good work! Get involved!

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school. Students may have their knowledge and skills evaluated against the expectations outlined in provincial curriculum document policy documents in order to earn credits toward their secondary school diploma.

PLAR challenge for credit is only available to students registered in regular day school programs in a Hamilton-Wentworth secondary school. Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses that may be challenged for credit are courses currently being taught in this board that have been developed from a provincial policy document. Students interested in challenging for a credit **must** attend the Orientation Workshop at the Education Centre, 100 Main Street West at 7:00 pm February 23, 2012. Registration for the Orientation Workshop and further information is available through Student Services.

Report Cards

The Ministry document, *Growing Success* (the provincial document governing assessment and evaluation), includes the statement that “individual boards will work collaboratively with their school communities to determine the lower limit of the range of percentage marks below 50 per cent that teachers may record on the report cards of students in grades 9 to 12.” After consulting with our community, HWDSB has developed an interim policy including the lower limit marks listed below.

Schools will be using these lower limits beginning with the final report card in January 2012.

Schools will be using these lower limits beginning with the final report card in January 2012. If your student has been unsuccessful in obtaining a course credit (a mark below 50%) you may see one of the following lower limits on your student’s report card.

40% This mark will indicate to parents, students, and educators including guidance counselors, administration, student success teams and the teacher that additional learning is required.

If the mark is on a final report, the student may be eligible for Credit Recovery or the 2 week summer school course, based on teacher and principal recommendation.

If the mark is on a mid-term report, the student and teacher, in consultation with parents, will plan next steps as to how learning can be improved and supported, including interventions such as Credit Rescue.

30% This mark will indicate to parents, students, and educators including guidance counselors, administration, student success teams and the teacher that **significant** additional learning is required.



Note the inclusion of the word “significant” additional learning. This is a message of hope to students. Conversations with students and parents should be ongoing about their learning, gaps in their learning and next steps to address those gaps, including interventions such as Credit Rescue. It could indicate a change in program may be necessary.

At final report card time, this student may be recommended to repeat the course, or in a few circumstances may be eligible for Credit Recovery based on teacher and principal recommendation. The student will not be eligible for the 2 week summer school course.

I “I” is used in secondary school for Grades 9 and 10 only. It may also be used in ESL course levels 1-5. It is also used in grades 1 – 8 in elementary schools. This indicates insufficient evidence is available to determine a grade. Teachers will recommend when the use of “I” is appropriate and in the best interests of the student. Determining when to use “I” is to be done in consultation with Administration.

Using “I” is based on the unique circumstances of the individual student. Examples of when to use “I” include (but are not limited to):

- the student has enrolled in the school or program very recently

- the student’s circumstances include mitigating factors such as protracted illness, or as discussed with Administration.

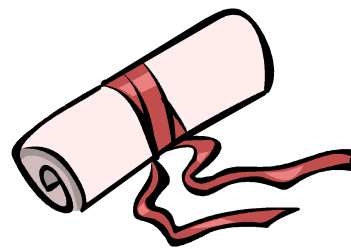
25% This lower limit mark indicates the same circumstances as the “I” in grade 9 and 10.

Growing Success does not allow grades 11 and 12 to receive an “I” because schools need full disclosure numerical marks in the senior levels. However, the reporting philosophy is the same as the grade 9 and 10 use of “I”; in other words, a lower limit mark indicates what direction a school can take to provide hope and support for all kids.

0% No evidence of learning through observations conversations or products

Lower limits are put in place as a communication tool to promote student success. During reporting times, this is one more indicator to teachers, students, and parents that more work needs to be done and next steps need to be put in place giving the message that there is hope for the student to be successful.

Lower limits are put in place as a communication tool to promote student success.





Parkside High School

HWDSB

31 Parkside Avenue
Dundas, Ontario
L9H 2S8
Phone: 905-628-6339
Fax: 905-628-1388

Students Achieving
Their Full Potential

Please visit our new school website
at:<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/parkside/>

Life-Threatening Allergies

Many students have allergies. A few, however, are life-threatening. Our Board has a policy in place to help reduce the risk for students with life-threatening allergies. If you are the parent of a student with a life-threatening allergy, we need your assistance in providing the school with current medical information and in the development of a plan to protect your child's health. At Parkside this information is shared with staff via a dedicated bulletin board with each student's photo, allergy information and intervention plan. If you would like further information, please call the school office. You may also view the board's Anaphylaxis Policy 7.09 at www.hwdsb.on.ca under "About Us-Welcome to the HWDSB-Planning and Reporting-Policies, Procedures and Reviews."

New Provincial Terms for school incidents are currently being rolled out across the province. Please review the following terms and language to ensure everyone is using the proper terminology.

"Hold and Secure" used when the school is secured due to an ongoing situation outside and not related to the school (e.g. bank robbery near a school).

The school continues to function normally, with the exterior doors locked until the situation is resolved.

Staff member posted at each entrance.

All movement in and out of the school is restricted.

Exterior facing windows should be covered or blinds drawn, lights dimmed, where possible.

School most likely to be notified by Hamilton Police Services

"Shelter in Place" used for an environmental, or weather related situation, where it is necessary to keep all occupants within the school to protect them. (May be recommended by HES-Fire). Examples may include chemical spills, blackouts, explosions or extreme weather conditions.

People enter and remain in a building with the doors and windows closed.

Fans including heating and air conditioning units, should be turned off to prevent air from outside entering the building.

Normal operations may continue within the building.

"Lockdown" used when there is a major incident or threat of school violence within the school, or in relation to the school.

Threat is inside the school, or is on school property, and poses an immediate threat to the students and staff.

Follow current lockdown procedures.

All movement in and out of the school and within the school is restricted.

Doors remain open to permit police immediate entry.

The above terminology is to ensure consistency across the province. Common language across the province allows for easy integration when staff, students and other emergency service personnel are transferred from one jurisdiction to another.

Please note in the event of any of the above situations, parents can view the board website where updated information will be posted as soon as it is reported. To enable emergency personnel to communicate effectively, parents are asked not to call the school or cell phones.