



Nantyr News



September 2023

1146 Anna Maria Avenue

Innisfil, ON, L9S 4X5

Phone: (705) 431-5950

Attendance: 1-888-885-8065 / nssattendance@scdsb.on.ca

Website: <https://nss.scdsb.on.ca>

Principal:

Brian MacIsaac: bmacisaac@scdsb.on.ca

Vice Principals:

Brenna Campsall: bcampsall@scdsb.on.ca (A~F)

Nigel Martin: nmartin@scdsb.on.ca (G~N)

Joan Osawe: josawe@scdsb.on.ca (O~Z)

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 15: School Photo Day
- Nov 6: Photo Retake Day
- Sept 22: PA Day
- Sept 18: Parent Council Meeting
- Sept 29: Terry Fox Walk
- Sept 30: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day
- Oct 9: Thanksgiving

Welcome Back Tritons!

This could be your best year yet!
 Get involved, join clubs, study hard, plan your future, take chances and have a ton of fun.
 This year is what you make it!



YOUR PHOTO DAY IS APPROACHING!

Friday, September 15

Showcase Your Best Smile

- Students will be photographed at school.
- You must be photographed to receive your student ID.
- Review your images and purchase online with ease!



DON'T FORGET

To help make your photo day seamless, check out our photo day tips at edgeimaging.ca/photo-day-tips

GET REMINDERS

Sign up for notifications at edgeimaging.ca/photoday to get real-time updates about your photo day and stay in the know with Edge.



The 2023-24 **Standard Acknowledgment and Permission Form** and **Student Information Computing Technology Appropriate Use Agreement** are required forms for all Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) students. The forms have been made available electronically through School Cash Online until **Oct 16**. School Cash Online is our preferred method for forms.

Stay Connected

- Sign up to receive SCDSB media releases by clicking the 'Subscribe' button at scdsb.on.ca.
- Follow the SCDSB on X (@SCDSB_Schools), Facebook (facebook.com/SCDSB) and Instagram (instagram.com/scdsb).



@wetheshores



www.nantyrnews.com

Website: <https://nss.scdsb.on.ca>



Congratulations

A big congratulations goes out to **Ryland Breen** and **Jayce Hill** who competed at the Youth Legion Track and Field Nationals this summer. Ryland is ranked 20th and Jayce 10th in Canada for senior boys (both were in grade 11 competing against grade 12/13s!). This is an amazing accomplishment as its rare to see students who are not club members complete at a national level.

Meet Roxann Whittingham!

Roxann is back this year at Nantyr as your Graduation Coach for Black Students. She has previously worked with lots of parents, students and members of the community.

rwhittingham@scdsb.on.ca



What is SchoolCash Online?

SchoolCash Online is an easy to use and safe way to pay for your children's school fees. [Learn more](#)



If you have not yet registered for SchoolCash online, please go to www.schoolcashionline.com and select the "Register" option.

Subscribe to BusPlanner to receive delay notifications for your school vehicle. You can find all delays and cancellations at www.simcoecountyschoolbus.ca



Parent Portal

Go to <http://ps.scdsb.on.ca> to create a Parent Portal account or login.

Parents and guardians can set up daily, weekly or monthly email alerts for attendance information.

To access the Parent Portal, parents/guardians will need each child's Student Number, which can be found on the Student Information Verification Form sent home at the start of every school year, as well as an Access ID.

If you require the Access ID you call or visit the school office and it will be provided to you after your identity has been verified.

SCDSB 2023-24 Student Handbook

The SCDSB student handbook contains a variety of information that the SCDSB is required to share with all students and families. This September, schools will be distributing the student handbook to all families via email. The SCDSB 2023-24 Student Handbook can also be found on the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent and on school websites under 'students'. If you have questions, please contact the school.

Cooperative Education at the Shores!

We are excited to start the 2023/2024 school year! Thank you to all of our employers for their ongoing support of this amazing learning experience!

What is Cooperative Education?

Cooperative Education is designed to provide an opportunity to achieve high school credits while working in the community. Cooperative education is typically scheduled as a 2 credit (half day) or a 4 credit (full day) course. The Cooperative Education teacher and student work together to find a suitable placement that matches the interests, strengths and wants of the student. Co-op encourages students to discover possible career paths they may pursue after high school graduation. Co-op can also launch students into the [Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program](#) (OYAP) allowing them to begin an apprenticeship while in high school.

How can you help?

Are you a business owner in the Innisfil Community? We are always seeking partners in experiential learning. Fill out the google form below and we will be in touch!

<https://forms.gle/Rv5ALjdqx1tWNGqu6>

Contact Dave Hooper with any questions.

dhooper@scdsb.on.ca (705)431-5950 ext. 40260

Use this QR code to sign up for Nantyr sports and clubs!



School council nominations for 2023-24 school year

School council is a committee made up of elected parents/guardians, community representatives, staff, and sometimes students that help to provide the community voice and parent/guardian perspective on important school topics. School council is a good way for parents/guardians to get involved in their child/children's education while playing an important role in the partnership between home and school.

School council nominations take place every fall. If you are interested, please watch your email for upcoming communication and for more information visit www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/parent/school_councils.



LOVE DOGS? DRIVE FOR COPE!

Help make a difference in the lives of students & those living with mobility disabilities - Become a Volunteer Van Driver with COPE Service Dogs today!

volunteer perks

- ✓ Spend time with COPE dogs!
- ✓ Flexible scheduling
- ✓ Be part of an amazing team of dedicated volunteers



APPLY TODAY!

Apply online at www.copedogs.org/support/volunteer/

Email julia@copedogs.org or call 705-734-2673 with any questions.



News from Guidance:

For the latest information, follow us on Twitter! @NantyrGuidance, Instagram: @NantyrGuidance @wetheshores, or visit our website @ nss@scdsb.on.ca. Students should be checking their school email frequently for the latest updates and information from Guidance.

Post-Secondary Planning for Potential Graduates

Many Colleges and Universities have created 'virtual' campus tours and information session that students can sign up for on their websites. As well, most post-secondary campuses are hosting 'in-person' campus tours once again. These can also be booked through their websites. Also, the Ontario University Fair will take place on October 21st and 22nd at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please visit <https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/ouf/about/> for everything about the University Fair. We encourage students to start this process early.

Guidance will still be conducting our 'Graduation Checks' this Fall which are one-on-one meetings with a counselor to discuss the student's future and to assist them with the planning for this.

We are currently creating a "Grade 12 Google Classroom" and will be advertising how to sign up very soon. Everything to do with graduation will be post here, along with post-high school information about College, University, Apprenticeships and the World of Work. More information to follow.

Researching College, University, Apprenticeship & Workplace Options

Parents and students are encouraged to consult the following websites to help with post-secondary planning:

Programs and entrance requirements for Ontario colleges: www.ontariocolleges.ca

Programs and entrance requirements for Ontario universities: www.ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca.

Information about Apprenticeships and the skilled trades: www.oyap.com and www.apprenticesearch.com

Exploring workplace opportunities: <http://www.barriecareercentre.com>

Want to learn more about careers that match with your interests and abilities? Explore all that www.myblueprint.ca/simcoe has to offer! Click "log in with school account", students then enter their school login and password, then give MyBlueprint's "Who am I" surveys a try, or explore options under the "post-secondary" menu.

Scholarships, Bursaries and Financial Planning for Post-Secondary Education

It is never too early to start your scholarship search! Students should check out the 'Scholarship/Bursary' section on post-secondary website and are encouraged to visit the following websites to create profiles and be matched with scholarships / bursaries:

<https://yconic.com/> <https://www.scholarshipscanada.com/> www.schoolfinder.com
www.studentscholarships.org <https://www.grantme.ca/>

In addition, further scholarship and bursary opportunities arrive in the guidance office regularly. Scholarship information will be emailed to all grade 12 students as we receive it as well as posted in the 'Scholarship' section of the grade 12 Google Classroom.

Community Service Hours!!

Every student must complete 40 hours of community involvement to receive their diploma. Students can start accumulating community involvement hours in the summer before they enter Grade 9. Students are encouraged to choose activities that interest them or explore a potential career. Some students may complete more than 40 hours.

Eligible Activities

A list of eligible activities has been established by the SCDSB in consultation with the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and insurance experts. Activities include: assistance to seniors, environmental projects, sports and recreation activities, working with charitable and service organizations, working in health facilities, community or specific school-related activities

Ineligible Activities

The Ministry of Education developed a list of activities that are ineligible. These include activities that: would normally be performed for wages by a worker; consist of duties normally performed in the home;

A full list of ineligible activities can be found on SCDSB: https://www.scdsb.on.ca/secondary/planning_for_high_school/community_involvement

New absence reporting system for SCDSB schools – call 1-888-885-8065 to report an absence (secondary)

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is implementing a new absence reporting system at secondary schools. This system will support us in continuing to improve our home-to-school communication process and streamline absence reporting. **To report a student absence, call 1-888-885-8065.** Callers will be prompted to identify the school before leaving a message. Parents should include the student's name, teachers' name, dates, and reason for the absence. If you have questions about the new system, please contact the school office.

September PA Day

Please note that Friday, Sept. 22 is a PA Day for all SCDSB students. Please refer to the 2023-24 School Year Calendar on the SCDSB website for more information: www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/planning_for_school/school_year_calendar.

Below is a summary of the activities planned for the Sept. 22 PA Day:

Length:	Full day
Topic:	Reading and Literacy, Social Studies, Assessment
Host:	Simcoe County District School Board
Presenter(s)/facilitator(s):	School board staff and school administrators

Educators will participate in person to review the newly revised Language Curriculum, *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8, Language, 2023*, and new de-streamed *English, Grade 9, and Français, 9e année* courses and explore resources to support their implementation with students. Through group discussions and hands-on activities, elementary educators will learn about early reading instruction and the use of screening tools to help ensure that students with reading difficulties are identified and supported early. They will also explore and plan for literacy instruction across the curriculum, including the new Holocaust Education curriculum in Grade 6. Secondary educators will also engage in assessment activities and the collaborative planning of student tasks and opportunities to inform both course instruction and evaluation.

Student Dress Code

Our board's dress code is one way that we embed the principles set out in the SCDSB and Ministry of Education documents, Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario, and Equity and Inclusive Education to ensure safe, inclusive and equitable learning environments for all of our students. In SCDSB schools, we believe that students should be able to learn in a safe and caring space that is free of bias and discrimination. When making choices about what to wear to school, we respect your individuality. To ensure that our learning environments are safe and respectful spaces, our board has consulted with students and staff to develop a set of shared standards for student dress.

The SCDSB dress code is available on the SCDSB website at www.scdsb.on.ca/elementary/dress_code.

If you have questions about the dress code, contact your school principal.

Student Accident Insurance 2023-24

Student injuries at school during school events, extra-curricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and out-of-province/out-of-country trips are not covered by the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen.

A variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices can be found through either:

StudyInsured at www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com or by calling 1-833-560-0527; or,
Insure my Kids through at www.insuremykids.com or by calling 1-800-463-5437.

Participation in extra-curricular activities (e.g., athletics, clubs, etc.) and/or out-of-province/ out-of-country trips require the purchase of this insurance, or other extended health and dental coverage.

Annual notice to adult students or parent(s)/guardian(s) of students under the age of 16

A completed Student Medical Form (FORM A1420 - 1) is required each school year, or when a medical need is identified, or when the student transfers to another school, in order to authorize medical response plan development and the administration of prescribed medication to students who require it during school hours, or when the medication and/or dosage requirements change. Specific to asthma, every student is now permitted to carry their asthma medication if the student has their parent's/guardian's permission. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and adult students are responsible for ensuring that a current, completed Student Medical Form is on file at the school. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and adult students are also to complete a Plan of Care for students with prevalent medical conditions such as anaphylaxis, asthma, type 1 diabetes, or epilepsy/seizure disorder.

Some students may experience severe life-threatening allergic reactions to bee, hornet, wasp, or other flying insect stings or to certain foods or food ingredients such as peanuts. The best way to reduce the risk of accidental exposure for these students is to respectfully ask parent(s)/guardian(s) to avoid sending peanut butter or products with peanuts and/or tree nuts listed in the ingredients to school. For students with life-threatening allergies, it is recommended that two doses of an epinephrine auto-injector are available on site at school. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions you may have.

Online learning graduation requirement and opt out options

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The online learning graduation requirement also applies to adult learners that will be entering the Ontario secondary school system starting in the 2023-24 school year. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with learning and working in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that they will need for success after secondary school, including in post-secondary education and the workplace.

Opting out

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their children out of the mandatory online learning credits required for graduation. To opt out, a parent/guardian must submit the [Secondary Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-out Form](#). Exemption from the online learning graduation requirements may be requested by:

- the parent/guardian of the secondary student
- students who are 18 years of age or older
- students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control

Check with your local school if you have questions regarding the registration or opt-out process.

Volunteering in Schools During the 2023-24 School Year

Volunteers are an important part of what makes our schools great places to learn and grow. We value and appreciate the support of our volunteers. Volunteers have various roles at our schools including:

- School event volunteer
- Hot lunch day organizers
- Field trip supervisors
- Classroom helpers

Please contact your local school's office if you are interested in volunteering and would like to know more about the opportunities available.

To become a volunteer in a Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) school, you must complete accessibility training and submit a current (dated within six months) Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC). Schools require all VSCs to be in their original form and emailed directly to the school for processing. Please note, volunteers are unable to upload VSCs directly to the volunteer portal. Each potential volunteer must create an account within the volunteer portal. Please remember to choose the school you wish to volunteer with. If you do not have a computer or require assistance, please contact the school.

Current volunteers

Current approved volunteers must keep their Community Apps account/Volunteer Portal information up-to-date with email address changes. Communication is sent throughout the year to the provided email address with respect to timelines, necessary requirements, etc. regarding your volunteer status. Instructions on how to change your email address in Community Apps can be found [here](#). Updating your email address in your Community Apps account will automatically update your email address in your Volunteer Portal.

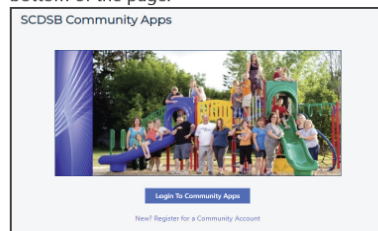
If you are also a parent, check out [our Parent Portal](#).

How to access the Volunteer Portal

Click this [SCDSB Community Apps link](#) or find the link on the volunteer page of your schools website, under the Parents menu.

If you have previously registered a Community Account, click the **Login To Community Apps** button, and login with your username and password.

If you do **not** have an account, click the **New? Register for new Community Account** link at the bottom of the page.



REMINDER: Each volunteer will have to have their own community apps account. Each community apps account is created with a separate email address.

- Complete an annual offence declaration through the SCDSB Community Apps – Volunteers page for up to four years to continue volunteering.
- Submit a new VSC at the beginning of the fifth year.
- Be responsible for the cost of the VSC.
- Be responsible to the principal and work under the supervision of teaching staff.
- Work co-operatively as part of a team to support and supplement school programs.
- Respect the confidentiality of the relationship to the school, ensuring that staff issues and student work and behaviour issues are held in confidence.
- Adhere to established SCDSB and school procedures.
- Communicate regularly with staff.
- Be prompt, dependable and regular in attendance, and give advance notice to teachers when unable to attend.

SCDSB launches updated character education program for 2023-24 school year

This year the SCDSB will begin implementation of the updated character education program. Rather than focus on one attribute each month, the program has been changed to reflect that character is a fluid concept that includes a variety of attributes.

The updated character attributes are:

Bravery	Helpfulness	Listening	Responsibility
Caring	Honesty	Love	Trustworthiness
Compassion	Humility	Loyalty	Truth
Cooperation	Inclusiveness	Optimism	Sharing
Courage	Integrity	Perseverance	Wisdom
Empathy	Kindness	Respect	

For more information on the updated character education program, visit the character education page on the SCDSB website: www.scdsb.on.ca/about/character_education.

Procedures Help Keep Our School Safe

We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
 - reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents/guardians should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off temporarily.
- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all exterior doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.

A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Interior doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents/guardians do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media.

All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents/guardians will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.

When parents/guardians are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire, and/or emergency personnel. Parents/guardians may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent/guardian care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe. Please note the following:

- Elementary school main doors are locked during the school day. Visitors must use the **intercom system** and wait for assistance. **Staff may not be available to answer the door immediately, so please be patient.**
- Staff must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents/guardians of elementary students to contact us when their child will be absent from school as part of our **Safe Arrival** program. When we don't hear from a parent/guardian and a student is absent, we will call home to find out the reason for the absence.

At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All SCDSB schools have **automated external defibrillators (AEDs)**.

Sept. 1-30	Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month
Sept. 3	Farvadegan (Zoroastrianism - Shenshahi Calendar)
Sept. 4	Labour Day
Sept. 5-6	Arbaeen (Islam)
Sept. 6-7	Krishna Janmashtami (Hinduism)
Sept. 7	Birth Date of H.H. Sakya Trizin (Buddhism) Ukrainian Heritage Day
Sept. 8	International Literacy Day
Sept. 9	International Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day
Sept. 10	World Suicide Prevention Day
Sept. 10-16	Mennonite Heritage Week
Sept. 11-18	Paryushan Parva (Jainism)
Sept. 12	Anniversary of the Tatsunokuchi Persecution (Buddhism) Coptic New Year/Nayrouz (Eastern Orthodox Christianity)
Sept. 15	International Dot Day
Sept. 15-17	Rosh Hashanah (Judaism)
Sept. 17	Terry Fox Run
Sept. 17-23	National Forest Week
Sept. 19	Ganesh Chaturthi (Hinduism) Powley Day (Indigenous World View) Samvatsari/Paryushan Parva ends/Daslakshan Parva begins (Jainism)
Sept. 20	Kshamavani or 'Forgiveness Day' (Jainism) National Tree Day Rowan's Law Day
Sept. 20-26	Festival of Higan-e (Buddhism)
Sept. 21	Harvestide/Mabon/Fall Equinox (Wicca) International Day of Peace
Sept. 23	International Day of Sign Languages Sept. 24 Eihei Dogen Kigen Memorial (Buddhism)
Sept. 24-25	Yom Kippur (Judaism)
Sept. 25	Franco-Ontarian Day
Sept. 25-30	National Truth and Reconciliation Week
Sept. 26-27	Milad-un-Nabi (Islam)
Sept. 28	Anant Chaturdashi (Hinduism) Anant Chaturdashi/Daslakshan Parva ends (Jainism)
Sept. 29	Mid-Autum Festival (Moon Festival) (Buddhism)
Sept. 29 – Oct. 6	Sukkot (Judaism)
Sept. 30	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Orange Shirt Day

Universal Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT) screening process

The OLSAT is a standardized group test of ability. The results of this test will help us gain a better understanding of students' areas of relative strength and needs as related to their verbal and non-verbal abilities so that we can plan our programs and supports accordingly. Results may also be used to inform identification (e.g., Intellectual: Gifted).

Students who display an advanced degree of general intellectual ability may require additional program support to reach their educational potential. This support may be through enhancing the curriculum, differentiated instruction, and through providing program extensions and enrichment. This type of programming is important to engage, motivate, and challenge students who are identified as gifted in either the regular classroom or in an elementary gifted classroom placement.