The Suzuki Planet

August 2016

David Suzuki
SECONDARY SCHOOL

At David Suzuki Secondary School, we believe that parents, the school and the community must work together. By working together, we will be more effective in helping students learn to become responsible members of society by being sensitive to the diversity, cultural and special needs of all members of the community. Equally important, we will strive to have all members in the David Suzuki community demonstrate respect for the environment along with social justice and human rights at all times. Indeed, students will be given the challenge to

"Be The Change"

David Suzuki Secondary School
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L6X 0Z3

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Website and Twitter:
www.dsssonline.com
@DavidSuzukiSS
@facesofsuzuki

Administrative Team:
Leslie Grant, Principal
Altheia Grant, Vice Principal A to F
Steve Keenleyside, Vice Principal G to M
Sara Tielli-Mitchell,
Acting Vice Principal N to Z

Office Manager:
Nellie Alsop

Superintendent of Education:
Adrian Graham
North Field Office
215 Orenda Road,
Brampton, Ontario L6T 5L1
905-451-2862

Trustee:
David Green

School Council Co-Chair
Viviene Smith

Message From the Principal

Dear Parent /Guardian,

My name is Leslie Grant and as the Principal of David Suzuki Secondary School, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new and returning students to David Suzuki for the 2016-17 academic year!

Our entire staff looks forward to establishing an active partnership with all parents and guardians to support the success of your son / daughter in the upcoming school year.

To assist you in preparing for this school year, please be aware of the following pieces of information and important dates. As always, you can get more information by viewing the school website at http://dsssonline.com or by calling the school between 8 and 4 p.m. beginning August 29, 2016.

2016-2017 School Year Highlights

New Acting Vice Principal: David Suzuki Secondary School welcomes Sara Tielli-Mitchell as New Acting-Vice Principal. As the former Department Head of Health and Physical Education and Family Studies, Ms. Tielli-Mitchell has been a long standing member of our staff and leadership team. This year, she joins the admin team bringing her knowledge and enthusiasm to her role as Acting VP!

School Hours: Each day classes **will run from 8:35 a.m. to 3:04 p.m.** To be on time for class, **students should arrive no later than 8:25 a.m.** giving them time to prepare and then arrive at their first period class. Parents / Guardians - please ensure that your son / daughter attend school each day on time and that you promptly report absences or late arrivals to the main office. More, for the safety of students and the security of the school, all students who are not involved in a supervised activity after school must leave the building or be picked up by 3:30 daily.

Technology: The appropriate use of PODs (personally owned devices), is encouraged to support learning. Students may use their POD to conduct research from anywhere at any time within the school and with teacher consent in the classroom. However, students are responsible for the security and safe keeping of their devices.

Traffic Congestion and Safety: Traffic in and around the school is becoming more problematic with each year. **Parents / Guardians are reminded to:**

a) promote healthy exercise through encouraging walking and bicycle use
b) review traffic safety / crossing busy intersections with your son /daughter
c) avoid contributing to the gridlock around the school area by arriving 20 minutes before the school day or by dropping your child off at a location in the community near the school
d) create a car pool with other parents in your neighborhood
e) never leave your car idlying on or around the school property
f) <u>the front parking area is for school bus traffic only, please use the back parking and drive thru area for student pick up and drop off</u>

Student Transportation: The Peel District School Board offers bussing to secondary students who reside more than 3.8 km from their home school. To see if your son/daughter is eligible for bussing:

- Log onto: www.stopr.ca
- "AM I ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSPORTATION"
- Enter student's OEN # under "STUDENT LOGIN"

Safety for All: The **No Scents is Good Sense** program continues at David Suzuki. It is imperative that the working and learning environment is safe for all individuals in the David Suzuki community. For students and staff members who have a significant intolerance to perfumes and other scented products (i.e. after shave products, fabric softener sheets, etc.), exposure can negatively affect their health and productivity and it can even lead to migraines, breathing problems, or asthma attacks. To ensure everyone's safety, **David Suzuki Secondary School continues to be a scent free school.** Parents / Guardians – **please ensure that you and your son / daughter are in full compliance** with this important environmental and personal safety expectation.

Volunteer Community Service: Parents / Guardians and students are reminded that it is **mandatory** for all students to complete 40 hours of voluntary community service before being able to graduate. There are still many opportunities for students to work on this mandatory requirement this summer. Information on the expectations around the 40 hours of volunteer work can be found on the school website under the Student Services Department section.

School Dress Code: Parents /Guardians are requested to review the school dress code with their son / daughter. ***"The standards for the school dress code are based on common sense and are intended to support the comfort, safety and modesty of all students. There is a strong relationship between neat, clean and appropriate clothing and a positive learning environment."*** See the school website for the full policy.

Get Involved Early: At David Suzuki Secondary School, we believe that students enhance their opportunities for academic success by being involved in extra-curricular activities beyond the classroom. With well over 100 staff sponsored clubs and teams, there is something to pique everyone's interest. Parents / Guardians – please encourage your son / daughter to take advantage of all of the opportunities at David Suzuki to become involved in school life. The rewards are priceless!!

Enrolment: David Suzuki is accepting new students within **our boundary**.

Moving? Change of Phone Numbers? Change of Emergency Contacts?
Be safe and please let the office know!
It's important that we have up to date information for your child.
Change of address requires proof.
905-457-7941

Transitioning to high school can be one of the toughest experiences of a young person's life. The stress of new social pressures as well as the increased academic expectations often serves as an impetus for poor decision making, as well as high risk and self-destructive behaviour. We are proud to announce that beginning next year, David Suzuki Secondary School is going to take a very proactive approach to guiding our students through this crucial period in their lives. The introduction of the renowned Link Crew program will allow incoming grade 9 students to be supported both academically and socially by senior leaders and a team of staff. For details, please contact Vice Principal Steve Keenleyside at extension 402.

September Start Up Days: See Flyer attached.

Parents / Guardians and students are reminded that **only Grade 9 students attend school on Tuesday September 6th** – with a special day long program beginning at 8:35 a.m.

Classes will begin for all grades on Wednesday September 7th at 8:35 a.m. sharp.

School Council Needs You!: Parents / Guardians – please consider joining the School Council for the 2016-2017 school year. Meetings take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Learning Commons. The first School Council meeting is scheduled for Monday October 3 at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

KEEP IN TOUCH! Here's How:

- Visit DSSSonline.com and click "Subscribe" to get regular email and calendar updates;
- Visit peelschools.org and click "Subscribe" to get critical updates, news releases and school board highlights;
- Sign up for Parent Web through your son or daughter's vice principal to view and monitor student attendance;
- Always keep address and contact information current!

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Sept. 6	First Day of School for **Grade 9 ONLY**
Sept. 7	First Day of School for **all Grades**
Sept. 21	Photo Catch Up/Retake Day
Sept. 22	**Late Start – 10:25 a.m.**
Sept. 29	Terry Fox Run/Walk
Sept. 29	Community Open House (Gr. 8 Parent/Guardian Curriculum Night) @ 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	School Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 7	**Professional Learning Day – No School for Students**
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving Holiday
Oct. 14	Early Progress Reports Issued
Oct. 20	Parent –Teacher Interview Night – 5:30-8:00 pm
Nov. 16	Mid-Term Report Cards Issued
Nov. 18	**Professional Learning Day – No School for Students**
Nov. 24	**Late Start – 10:25 a.m.**

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START UP DAYS!

2016 - 2017

ALL GRADES

Pictures & Instant ID Cards

Sign up online for a locker of your choice (DSSS website). Your locker combination will be emailed (to your Peel Google account).

Tuesday, August 30, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 31, 2016 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, September 1, 2016 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Timetables

STUDENT ENHANCEMENT FEE

$70.00

CASH ONLY

NO CHEQUES NO US FUNDS

Special Student Events & Assemblies	$15.00
Clubs & Sports (additional fees may apply)	$10.00
Student Activity Council	$10.00
Student Print Credits	$5.00
Yearbook (optional)	$30.00

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR GRADE 9'S ONLY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2016 @ 8:35 A.M.

ALL GRADES ATTEND
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2016 @ 8:35 A.M.

Suzuki GRIZZLIES

DAILY SCHOOL SCHEDULE		
DAY 1	DAY 2	TIME
Homeform		8:35 – 8:40 a.m.
Period 1	Period 2	8:40 – 9:55 a.m.
Period 2	Period 1	9:58 – 11:13 a.m.
Period 3	Period 3	11:16 – 12:31 p.m.
Period 4	Period 4	12:31 – 1:46 p.m.
Period 5	Period 5	1:49 – 3:04 p.m.