



Welland Centennial Student and Parent Information Guide

240 Thorold Road West

Welland, Ontario

L3C 3W2

School Number: 905-735-0700

Attendance Number: 905-735-6876

Fax: 905-735-8063

Website: centennial.dsbn.org

[Email](mailto:cen@dsbn.org): cen@dsbn.org

Principal: Mrs. Tammy Zonneveld

Vice-Principal: Ms. Julie Volcansek Grade 9 and 12

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Lindsey Cain Grade 10 and 11



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Welcome to the Welland Centennial Family!

At Centennial we are an inclusive, welcoming, safe school community. We offer a multitude of course choices and extra-curricular activities. With the support and mentorship of our caring and dedicated staff, students have many opportunities to accomplish their goals and demonstrate their skills and talent, both inside and outside the classroom.

Centennial Cougars are Strong, Welcoming, and Proud!

We are looking forward to working with you to support all students.



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The information in this **Student and Parent Guide** is provided to answer questions and clarify expectations specific to Centennial school procedures.

The **DSBN Secondary Handbook** outlines the Student Code of Conduct and expectations and procedures consistent in all schools. The **DSBN Student Handbook** is linked on the Centennial Website.





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Bell times

Travel to Period 1

8:05

Period 1

8:10 - 9:25

Travel

9:25 - 9:30

Period 2

9:30 - 10:45

LUNCH

10:45 - 11:30

Travel

11:30 - 11:35

Period 3

11:35 - 12:50

Travel

12:50 - 12:55

Period 4

12:55 - 2:10

Dismissal

2:10



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IMPORTANT DATES

2026-2027

Semester 1

September 8, 2026	First Day of School
October 12, 2026	Thanksgiving Day
October 26, 2026	Professional Development Day
November 11, 2026	Remembrance Day
November 27, 2026	Professional Development Day
December 21, 2026 – January 1, 2027	Winter Break
January 4, 2027	First Day of Class After Winter Break
January 22 – January 28, 2027	First Semester Culminating Activities/Exams
January 29, 2027	Professional Development Day

Semester 2

February 1, 2027	First Day of Semester 2
February 15, 2027	Family Day
March 15-19, 2027	March Break
March 26, 2027	Good Friday
March 29, 2027	Easter Monday
April 30, 2027	Professional Development Day
May 24, 2027	Victoria Day
June 23-29, 2027	Second Semester Culminating Activities/Exams
June 30, 2027	Professional Development Day
(TBD)	Graduation



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COMMUNICATION

The relationship between parents and the school is a key component of student success. Our staff work hard to foster open communication with parents. If you have feedback or concerns about your student's education, we invite you to contact your student's teacher as a first point of contact.

We use a variety of tools to provide families and the community with timely information about the school and activities.

Website: centennial.dsbn.org

Email: cen@dsbn.org

Instagram: wcsscoug

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to be successful in their courses. Students are expected to arrive on time for classes, which means being in class **before** the bell rings.

SAFE ARRIVAL

Our school has an easy method for you to report your student's absences. With Safe Arrival, you can report daily absences and schedule absences by using one of the following:

- Calling the toll-free phone line at 1-866-479-3261
- Logging on to the web portal at www.safearrival.com
- Using your smart phone or tablet, simply download the School Messenger app

We ask you report all absences before bell time for the current day.

To support the safety of our students, if your student is not at school and has not been reported absent, our staff will attempt to reach you and your contacts to confirm their whereabouts.

If a student arrives late to school or needs to leave early, they must sign in/out. It is the responsibility of the student to make up missed work.



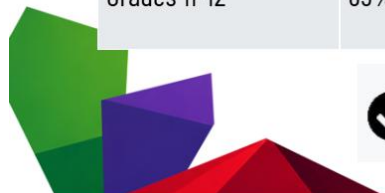
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Please be aware of the new Ministry of Education Guidelines re: Attendance and the inclusion of attendance in your student's mark:

This is more than a grading change - it is an opportunity to strengthen student engagement and belonging.



Grade	Classroom Work	Final Evaluation	Attendance & Participation
Grades 9-10	65%	20%	15%
Grades 11-12	65%	25%	10%



Unexcused absences only
Excused absences never reduce the mark.



VACATIONING STUDENTS

The Ontario Curriculum emphasizes in-class demonstration of skills and knowledge. It may not be possible to reschedule certain elements of course evaluation if missed. Students **should not plan** vacations outside of the statutory holiday periods and are fully responsible for any work missed at school. One week prior to going on vacation, students must complete the **Student Notification of Vacation form** (available in the Attendance Office).

Students must be prepared to:

- Have extra assignments before they leave on vacation
- Have extra assignments upon their return
- Accept that in certain subject areas there may not be the possibility of make-ups or extra assignments.

PICK UP/DROP OFF

Pick up and drop off are some of the busiest times of the day, with many buses, students, and parents in our parking lot. The procedures we have in place are designed to support a safe,



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smooth, and efficient transition for everyone at these critical times. To support student safety, we ask that you:

- Pick up and drop off your student in the front parking lot.
- Please **do not** use the bus lane for pick up or drop off.
- For everyone's safety students should **NOT** be dropped off at the back doors in the staff parking area.

PARKING/SAFE DRIVING

Student parking is located at the front of the school. The back parking lot is reserved for staff. Students are not permitted to park in the back parking lot or at the Niagara Region Community Services building next door to the school. Please ensure that you drive and park with caution and courtesy to ensure your safety and the safety of others. Students who operate their vehicle in an unsafe manner will not be permitted to park in the school parking lot.

SCHOOL ACCESS & VISITORS

Starting in September, the school will have a new secure access.

All doors will be locked from 8:10-10:45 and from 11:30 until the end of the day. Entry to the building will only be available at the front doors through a buzz-in system. All parents/guardians or visitors to the school will need to buzz-in for entry and report directly to the main office.

It is imperative that students are arriving to school on time (before 8:10) and if leaving the property at lunch time they return to school on time for period 3 (11:30).

Visitors must report to the main office upon arrival. The main office staff will assist with contacting the individual. Student visitors are not allowed at the school.

STUDENT HALL PASSES

In an effort to keep students in class engaged in learning and to reduce the number of students in the hallway, hall passes are required for students leaving a classroom. Progressive discipline may be put in place for students out of class without a hall pass. Senior students with a spare or online class are to be in the library, cafeteria, or student study area across from the cafeteria. They are not to be wandering the halls.

CELL PHONES

As of September 2024, a Provincial Code of Conduct is in place pertaining to the use of cell phones and other mobile devices in schools. DSNB and Welland Centennial have procedures in place to align with the Provincial Code of Conduct.

- Students may not use mobile devices during class time except in circumstances where the teacher provides permission.



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- Cell phones are to be turned off or set to silent mode.
- Cell phones must be away, out of sight.
- Classrooms have cell phone storage areas and students will be required to put their cell phone in the storage area at the request of their teacher.

Refusal to follow the direction of the teacher will result in progressive discipline and may include suspension.

ELEVATOR KEYS

Students unable to use the stairs due to injury or special needs may obtain an elevator key from the Main Office. Failure to return the key will result in payment of its replacement cost.

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL MATERIALS

Students are responsible for the care and return of items borrowed from school including textbooks, musical instruments, team uniforms, and other equipment. Students will be responsible for the cost of replacing missing or damaged items.

SCENT SENSITIVITY

At Centennial we have a number of students and staff who are highly sensitive to scented products. Students are asked to refrain from spraying any products, i.e., perfume, hair spray, body spray, etc., in the hallways. The excessive use of such products can have health effects for some staff and students. We would ask that all students respect the rights of staff and students who are scent sensitive.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

DSBN schools strive to help students develop integrity, a strong work ethic, learning skills and work habits needed for success beyond school. Academic integrity means that students complete their own work, ask the teacher questions if they are unsure, and use proper citations when using another person's work for reference.

Plagiarism is when students claim that schoolwork they have submitted is theirs, even when a part or all of it has been taken from an uncredited source. Use of AI to complete work is not allowed unless approved by the teacher as part of the learning process.

Some examples are:

- Using AI (e.g., ChatGPT) to produce written work
- Copying and pasting from the internet
- Using a sentence word for word without citing the source
- Using diagrams, charts, graphics, without citing the source
- Submitting work by another person and claiming it as your own
- Paraphrasing without citing the source
- Using AI (e.g., ChatGPT) to produce written work



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CONSEQUENCES

Consequences for academic dishonesty are considered on a case-by-case basis. Teachers use their professional judgment in cases of suspected academic dishonesty. Consequences may include one or more of the following:

- Redoing part or all of an assignment
- Completing an alternative assignment
- A loss of marks
- A mark of zero

FCA/EXAMS

Please be aware of the new Ministry Guidelines for Exams for all courses for the 2026-27 school year:

EXAMS

Expansion of Exams: Consistency, Credibility, Readiness

Most Grades 9-12 courses now include a **mandatory** written exam as part of the final mark, which will take place during designated exam periods. (Grade 9 EQAO Math is the exception which continues to take place during designated EQAO window.)

Grades	Classroom Work	Final Evaluations	Attendance & Participation
Grades 9-10	65%	20%	15%
Grades 11-12	65%	25%	10%

GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with your Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) you need 30 credits: 17 Compulsory and 13 Elective. *****NEW requirements for students entering Grade 9 in Sept. 2024 or later.**

- **English:** 4 courses
- **Math:** 3 courses
- **Science:** 2 courses
- **Technology:** 1 course
- **French as a Second Language:** 1 course
- **Canadian Geography:** 1 course
- **Canadian History:** 1 course
- **The Arts:** 1 course
- **Health and Physical Education:** 1 course
- **Civics:** .5
- **Careers:** .5
- **STEM related course group:** 1 course

IN ADDITION, STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE:

New Financial Literacy Component of Career Education Class (must achieve 70% or higher)
40 Hours Community Service (completed over 4 years)



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The provincial literacy requirement – OSSLT
Two courses through online learning

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HOURS

Every student who begins secondary school in Ontario is required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community involvement to receive their diploma. This requirement encourages students to develop an understanding of the various roles they can play in their communities and to help them develop a greater sense of belonging within their communities. Hour Republic is the program used to record and track hours.

Talk to guidance to learn more about eligible activities and opportunities to earn hours.

STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT CENTENNIAL

Guidance Counselling

Ms. Huska, Mrs. Orosz, Madame Stapleton, Mrs. Odreman

For each student, through individual, small, and large group sessions, our goals are to:

- facilitate success in school by recognizing strengths and supporting weaknesses;
- help identify interests, aptitudes, skills and explore diverse opportunities;
- assist in planning/ attaining realistic educational and vocational goals;
- assist in dealing with problems of personal or interpersonal natures.

Peer Tutoring

Senior level students with a minimum of 75% in the related course may apply to be a peer tutor to assist grade 9 and 10 students in their courses. The Leadership and Peer Support (GPP301) course also develops seniors as classroom helpers or PALS.

Grade 11 Academic Study Period

WCSS does not typically allow spares in Grade 11. However, there are circumstances where students may demonstrate an academic benefit to having a single work period in their Grade 11 year. The following criteria needs to be met for a student to be given consideration:

- 18 credits by the end of Grade 10
- An average of 80% or better in Grade10
- A completed Parental Consent Form
- Principal approval

CO-OP EDUCATION (& O.Y.A.P.) PRE-EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE AND PRE-APPRENTICESHIP

Earn credits by combining on-the-job experiences with in-school studies. Through OYAP, the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, in-school courses and on-site work are credited to apprenticeship hours. Co-op prepares students for the demands of the work world while providing direction and developing self-confidence. The Co-op placement runs for a half day in each semester.

SOCIAL WORKER

- Works with students and parents to provide clinical support for students.
- Liaises with medical/mental health agencies as necessary.



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- Book appointments through the Guidance Office or on the Centennial website.

HEALTH COUNSELLING/SCHOOL NURSE

The school nurse provides personal counselling for specific health needs. Group presentations include nutrition, lifestyle programs, education, communicable disease and immunization program, smoking prevention/cessation, dental health, stress management and injury prevention. www.niagararegion.ca Appointments can be made through the Guidance Secretary.

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE SUPPORT – Room 115

Students who have an Individual Education Plan or need academic support may access the support of a Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT). As often as possible, this support will be provided within the regular classroom setting.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council is a group of students elected by their peers to represent the school. These leaders arrange most school events, including running of assemblies, lunch time activities, games, contests, dances, and coffee houses. Their responsibilities are many: making posters, presenting announcements, filling display cases, and interacting with the student body. Student Council works hard to make the school year a success. Suggestions are always appreciated! School spirit and participation is the only way to make Cougar Country the place to be!

STUDENT MENTORS

Student Mentors are students selected to represent the school and assist with special events such as Grade 8 Open House, Parent-Teacher Interviews, and Graduation. These students are nominated by teachers.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council provides a vital link between the school, parents, and community. The council is made up of dedicated parent volunteers interested in supporting student success. The council meets 4 times throughout the school year and provides feedback and supports programs to improve student achievement.

We encourage you to become involved. Meetings are open to all parents/guardians of Centennial students. If you are interested in attending a meeting or would like more information about the council, please call the school. You may also find more information on our website.



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SPORTS AND CLUBS

These are some of the sports and activities that we have traditionally offered at Welland Centennial Secondary School. Listen to morning announcements to find out how to get involved.

Sports:

Badminton
Baseball
Basketball
Cheerleaders
Cross-Country
Curling
Football
Golf
Hockey
Rowing
Rugby
Soccer
Softball
Swimming
Tennis
Track-and-Field
Ultimate Frisbee
Volleyball
Wrestling

Clubs:

Animation Club	Homework Club
Black Students Association	Manga Club
Cappies	Media Arts
Centennial for Christ	Muslim Student Association
Centennial Music –	Photography
Instrumental Ensembles	Reach for the Top
Vocal Ensembles	Robotics and Programming
Chess Club	Science Club
Coding Club	Ski-Club
Dance Team	Theatre Tech Club
Drama Productions	Weight Room
Environmental Club	Yearbook
Equity Team	



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AWARDS

HONOUR ROLL

DSBN secondary schools value the commitment and hard work of all our students. The honour roll is one way that students can be recognized for their academic accomplishments. Students in all pathways will be considered for the honour roll if they have an average of 80% on their top eight courses for the school year. Grade twelve academic achievement is honoured through graduation awards.

Please note the following:

Summer School:

- **GRADE 9** - Summer school courses taken the summer before and the summer after grade 9 are included.
- **GRADES 10 & 11**- Summer school courses taken the summer after each grade are included.

E-Learning, Night School & Alternative Pathways Program

- all courses included

Cooperative Education (Double Credit)

- weighted according to the number of credits.

Students taking Resource & Student Success Periods

- include when integrated at principal's discretion

Spare in Grade 11

- minimum credits to be adjusted.

Specialized School to Community

- include when integrated at principal's discretion

Students with unusual circumstance

(e.g., Instructional Outreach, Supervised Alternative Learning)

- minimum credits adjusted at principal's discretion

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

- Students are nominated each month by teachers based on their contributions in the classroom or around the school.
- 1 student from each grade is chosen from the nominated students to receive this award



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Welland Centennial Blue, Orange, White Student Achievement Awards 2025-2026

<u>Academics</u>		<u>Athletics</u>		<u>Co-curriculars</u>	
Each Course		Basketball	15	Student Council Executive	20
Above 90%	6	Cheerleading	15	Student Council Representative	15
Above 80%	5	Football	15	Student Trustee Senator	15
Above 70%	4	Volleyball	15	Cats Band	15
		Rowing	15	Concert Band	15
		Rugby	15	Drama Production	15
Course Award Winner		Baseball	10	Dance Team	15
		Soccer	10	Hip-Hop Team	15
Academic Activities		Track and Field	10	Tech Club	10
Peer tutor	5			Theater Tech Club	10
				Vocal Ensemble	10
				Music Ensemble	10
Mentor	5	Badminton	10	Centennial Change Makers	5
ELS Partner	5			Book Club	5
Participant	5	Wrestling	10	Centennial for Christ	5
Winner	5			Debate Club	5
Skills Competitions		Softball	5	Schoolreach	5
Participant	5	Ultimate Frisbee	5	Environmental Club/Roots and Shoots	5
Winner	5			Model Building	5
		Team Manager	5	Photography	5
Science Fair Club		Score Keeper	5	Baking Club	5
Participant	5	Ice Hockey	5	Cappies	5
				Black Students Alliance	5
Winner	5	Ski Club	5	Coding Club	5
				Prom Committee	5
Excellence in Education Award Winner	10	Additional Points:		Muslim Students Association	5
Valedictorian Award Winner	10	OFSAA Qualifier	5	Art Club	5
		CSSRA finalist	5	Holiday Club	5
		SOSSA Qualifier	5	Weight Room	5
Blue Award = 300+ points				Cultural Club	5
Orange Award = 225-299 points				Chill Club	5
White Award = 150-224 points				Other Clubs	TBD



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Frequently Asked Questions - Centennial Routines

- **If you are absent from school?**

Parents must phone the school to inform us of your absence (905-735-6876) or use the Safe Arrival system by phoning 1-866-479-3261 or by logging on to the web portal at www.safearrival.com. A message may be left 24 hours a day. If you are 18, you are responsible for notifying us that you have a valid reason to be excused from school.
- **If you are late for school?**

Sign in at the office. Punctuality is important, as it leads to falling behind in classes and may result in progressive discipline.
- **If you must be excused during the day?**

Go to the Main Office before leaving the school. **(A signed note, email, or phone call from parent/guardian is required)**. If you return the same day, sign-in when you get back. Leaving school without signing in or out is truancy.
- **If you are sent out of class by the teacher?**

Report directly to the Office. You will be required to speak with a VP. Failure to report to the office may result in further consequences.
- **If you feel too ill to stay in class?**

You must ask your teacher to be excused and then report to the office. We will assist in making appropriate arrangements for you.
- **If you have an injury or accident?**

In order to ensure that students are safe and comply with insurance regulations, all injuries must be reported to a teacher. An accident report must be completed A.S.A.P. in the Main Office.
- **If you require emergency medicines (e.g., Epi-pens)**

Students in need of prescribed emergency medicines **must** have them in their possession at **all** times. For emergency reasons, it is strongly recommended that **Anaphylaxis** have an extra epi-pen stored in the main office. We cannot give students Aspirin or Tylenol under any circumstances.
- **If you lose something of value?**

Check Lost and Found in the Caretaker's Office. Inform the Principal or Vice-Principal of your loss. Keep a lock on your locker and your locker combination number **confidential**.

Note: The school is **not** responsible for lost or stolen items. **Do not bring valuables to school.**
- **If you want a visitor to come to school**

Student Visitors are not allowed at school. All other visitors to the school must sign in at the office. Administration reserves the right to limit or refuse visitors to the school.



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- **Where can I drop off my child for school?**
Please use the main entrance for drop off. Students should **NOT** be dropped off in the back staff parking lot for safety reasons. Parents are asked to obey all signs and to park only in the designated areas between the lines.
- **Where can I use the telephone?** There is a courtesy phone in the Guidance Office available only to students who have an emergency and need the phone. Phone calls should **not** be made during class time.
- **If you bring a car to school?**
Students must park only in **the student parking lot (front of school)**. If you drive carelessly in our parking lot, parking privileges will be removed.
- **Now that I am eighteen, can I sign out for any reason?**
Eighteen-year-old students are considered to be adults and can sign out without parent permission. If you sign out without a valid excuse, you could face consequences in your courses or with Administration. Be responsible with this privilege.