

St. Josephine Virtual High School



Parent Newsletter: Week of May 19th 2025

Quick Links

[St. Josephine](#)

[OCSB](#)

[CSPA](#)

[OSTA](#)

Email:

Josephine.Virtual@ocsb.ca

Twitter:

[@Josephineocsb](https://twitter.com/Josephineocsb)

Superintendent

:

[Sean Kelly](#)

Trustee:

[Cindy Simpson](#)

Parent Resource Links

[-OCSB Parent](#)

Principal's Message

Hello

Planning For 2025-26 School Year

An email was recently sent to students and parents currently in grades 8-11 (by age) about next year. [Here is a blank copy of the information letter sent](#) that contains some FAQs.

School Climate Survey

Dear Parents/Guardians, please find a [parent information letter](#) with school climate survey information.

[Complete School Climate Survey \(Parent\)](#) Access Code: **Q69T**

Grad Mass

We will be having our graduation mass on Tuesday June 3rd at St. Augustine Church (Baseline road) at 10:00 a.m. . Even though it is intended for our grade 12 students and parents, everyone from St. Josephine is welcome to attend. No need to RSVP. Light refreshments and snacks will be available afterwards. Thank you to the staff at St. Augustine parish for access to their facilities and to Ms. Abraham for helping to organize

Virtual Meet the Teacher

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[-School](#)
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[Checklist](#)

[Mental Health](#)
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[Resources for](#)
[School Councils](#)

[Ottawa Public](#)
[Health](#)
[Gr. 12](#)
[Information Site](#)
(updated over the
course of the
year)

[Click here for contact information](#) on your child's semester 2 teacher.

Graduation Information

[Click Here to view Information sent to graduates earlier this year.](#)



St. Josephine OSCARS Night

A reminder to [purchase tickets through School Cash Online by May 22nd!](#)



OCSB Summer School Registration is Open

Register between March 24 - June 20th @ 3:00pm

Students will use this link [here](#) for instructions on *how to register*. *Registration is done through Prism*. Here is a [video](#) on how to register.

Please see the [website](#) and summer school flyer [here](#) for information on available courses and how to register.

Contact Ms. Baine (Ashley.Baine@ocsb.ca) with any questions

OCSB Indigenous Education - Summer School Cultural Program

- The OCSB Indigenous Education team hosts a Summer School Cultural Program where Indigenous students can earn credits through land-based, holistic learning opportunities in collaboration with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit community partners. Students, parents, and guardians are invited to [sign up here for more information](#).

Final Assessments – Exams and RSTs – School Year Calendar

Grade 9 - 12 students' examinations and Rich Summative Tasks (RSTs) WILL NOT be rescheduled for holiday or travel convenience, and all appointments should be scheduled so as not to conflict with exams and RSTs. If a medical problem arises, the school must be contacted prior to the exam or RST. Medical certificates might be required to permit alternate arrangements for final examinations in these cases. [Here is a copy of the schedule](#)

Students and Parents/Guardians can refer to the [OCSB website for the Grade 9 - 12 calendar](#). These calendars identify the first and last day of school, PD days, Statutory Holidays, Board Holidays, and High School exams. As a general rule, it is prudent to avoid any planned student absences during the months of January and June as this is when RSTs and exams are scheduled.

Semester 2 Start and Cameras/Engagement Reminder

Semester 2 began on Monday February 3rd.

Below is a reminder about engagement and camera expectations for students. If for some reason, students do not have a working camera on their device, they can be easily purchased at locations such as [Amazon](#) or Best Buy. Below is information which has been shared earlier.

Q. What expectations are there for synchronous learning (i.e. learning via google meet)?

A. Students need to be engaged in the learning process, just as they would be expected to for in-person learning. Daily attendance is taken. Students are expected to attend classes, participate in their virtual class meetings each day as they would for in-person instruction through cameras being on and/or providing feedback to the teacher.

Students who do not maintain regular attendance and/or demonstrate active participation in the learning process, may lose access to the google meet.

Regular Attendance and Participation is necessary for success!

2

What does being Present in class mean?

Being Responsive

Respond to teacher when called on for attendance and **regularly engage throughout the meet** when asked to by your teacher. If you do not respond after the first 5-10 minutes of class you will be removed from the meet and marked absent. It is the student's responsibility to identify to the teacher if they are going to be late or absent and identify when they arrive. If you need help, ask!

Individual Breakout Sessions with Teacher

Camera is to be turned on in individual breakout room with the teacher. This is to support your academic success and to engage in the OBSERVATION and CONVERSATION component of assessment. You need to work with the classroom teacher, just as you would for in-person learning.

Communication

If you need to have a bathroom or brief body break which will take you away from your screen please ensure you send a private chat message to your teacher when you "leave" the class and when you "return". That way you will not be marked absent. This is similar as to what happens during in-person learning.

Use of Class Time

Classwork, assignments, projects, tests etc., etc are only accessible and will only be evaluated if you are **present and participating** in the Google Meet. Regular attendance is a requirement of synchronous virtual learning, similar to in-person learning.

Q: What type of device do I need?

A: Students need to have a working electronic device (chromebook/laptop) with a fully functional camera and microphone to access google meets with their student email account. Students are expected to use these tools in order to be considered fully engaged in class. Students must be prepared to participate and interact with staff and peers.

Students must be logged in and actively participating.

[Click here](#) to see an electronic copy of the school 2024-25 school year calendar

Students and Parents/Guardians can refer to the [OCSB website](#) for the Grade 9 - 12 calendar.

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Below are some other reminders on items that were sent out earlier to help navigate the school year.

[OCSB AI Website for parents/families](#)
[Parent Checklist](#)
[Student Handbook](#)
[OCSB Parent You-Tube How-To Videos](#)
[Elearn Resources](#)
[August 2024 Welcome Letter](#)
[Teacher/Staff Contact Information](#)

Tech use, Sleep and School Attendance

In a world where children are “growing up digital”, it is important to help them learn about healthy digital use so that they are safe and healthy, and so they are able to attend school regularly, on-time, and ready to learn. Parents/ caregivers are especially important in teaching these skills.

Click **[HERE](#)** to access a resource from the OCSB

School Photos: Next Steps

If Parents Have Questions:

Should a parent have any questions or concerns about their proofs, they can contact our support team directly:

- **Phone:** 1-888-416-3343
- **Live Chat/Email Contact:** [Edge Imaging Support](#)

Reminder: Grade 12 Key Dates

Attention Grade 12s!

Please check your email from Ms. Baine for important information and the meet links to join our upcoming presentations.

Friday, October 4, 12:30–1:30 PM: An Algonquin College representative will be visiting us.

Monday, October 7, 12:15–1:30 PM: Ms. Baine will provide an overview of applying to post-secondary institutions, both college and university. A reminder that both [OCAS](#) and [OUAC](#) are now live, and you can begin your application process by creating an account.

Tuesday, October 8, 12:30–1:30 PM: A University of Ottawa representative will be visiting us.

Thursday, October 10: Level UP Evening Open House, 3:00–7:30 PM at the EY Centre. Find out more about a career in the trades. More information can be found [here](#).

Wednesday, October 23: An opportunity to attend a visit and tour of Algonquin College. If you are interested, please email Ms. Baine. A completed permission form will be required to attend.

Saturday, October 26: University of Ottawa Fall Open House. You can register and find more information [here](#). If you register and attend the event, your name will be entered into a draw for a \$2000 scholarship!

myBlueprint Resources

Please take a look through the resources below to better make use of myBlueprint (Accessible through your Student Portal). Contact Ms. Baine if you need any help.

[myBlueprint Guide](#) - Provides a short overview of features and highlights the "Forwards and Backwards" approach to pathway planning in myBlueprint.

- [Support Centre](#) has additional guides for students and families
- For quick student introductions, this [video library](#) highlights key features to help students navigate myBlueprint features
- Family videos: the [value of myBlueprint for families](#) and [How to create a family account](#)



An important reminder for parents and students who are taking Elearn courses. Elearn (asynchronous) is different from Synchronous classes (done through google meet). Ensure you check your D2L site (on the student portal) for information related to your elearn course (asynchronous). Keep up with the work. Don't fall behind! Most students in grades 11-12 will have at least one elearn course on their timetable. Some students in grade 10 will have an elearn. A few students in grade 9 will have an elearn course on their timetable.

eLearning Classes -Tips for Success

If you are enrolled in e-learning classes for semester 1 or 2, please see below for some important information.

- Your class teacher is your main point of contact for your online learning class. Contact your teacher immediately if you have questions or concerns, or if you need support. Connect with your class teacher early and regularly throughout your course.
- Stay on track with your online learning course by intentionally scheduling time into every school day.
- Success in online learning requires your active participation in all aspects of the course. Complete all assignments on time and to the best of your ability.
- You are expected to follow the timelines, guidelines, and expectations of the school board hosting the course.

- A slide deck has also been created to support students taking eLearning courses:

□ [Getting Started in eLearning for Students](#)

Other Helpful E-Learning Resources



A message from Ottawa Public Health's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Vera Etches.

Click [HERE](#) (English)

Click [HERE](#) (French)

CSPA: [Register for Upcoming Events](#)

[Click here to view all CSPA meeting dates](#) and locations.

All OCSB Families are welcome to attend our meetings. Be sure to **register** via [EventBrite](#).

Important : Catholic School Council:

We will have our next school Council meeting on **Monday March 24 at 7:00 p.m.**. Anyone interested in running for a Catholic School Council position. Click [here to view the OCSB guide](#) for Catholic School Councils.

[St. Josephine School Council Roles](#)

[St. Josephine School Council Info Sheet](#)



Parent Resource:

This **parent resource** is intended to provide a brief thus *basic understanding* of why worry happens, how it can take control, and how we can help our children and youth to take back that control so they can learn, grow, reach their goals, and as an added bonus, family life can be more peaceful.

Immunization Information

For more information on updating immunization records and OPH immunization clinics, please visit OPH website at www.ParentinginOttawa.ca/immunization

Some

Other Questions and Answers

Q. What is Immunization Surveillance?

A. A review of every child's immunization record by Ottawa Public Health. It Ensures that the information in the Provincial database is up-to-date and meets the Immunization of School Pupils Act and/or Child Care and Early Years Act.

Q. Where can students get their missing vaccines if they don't have a family doctor?

A. OPH and Kids Come First will be offering routine vaccination clinics. Please visit our website at www.ParentinginOttawa.ca/immunization for more details.

Q. How long does it take for OPH to update immunization records submitted online or by fax?

A. It can take up to 5 business days for OPH to update a record.

Q. What should a parent do if there is a discrepancy between what the family doctor has recorded and what OPH says?

A. Inform the parent to contact OPH to verify the status of the immunization record. OPH does not receive automatic updates from health care providers.

[Click Here](#) to view More Information On eligible Service Hours for students

To graduate high school, students must complete 40 hours of volunteer community involvement. Community involvement activities may be done in many places, including charities, not-for-profit organizations, and public sector institutions (including hospitals and libraries). The OCSB has developed a list of community involvement activities that are considered acceptable. Unapproved activities cannot be started until permission has been granted by the school.

TVO Mathify Tutoring Service for Students

[TVO Mathify](#) is an Ontario online tutoring service that is now offering math help for students up to Grade 12. Students will need to register to create an account using their Ontario education number (OEN). The service connects students with a certified Ontario teacher where one-on-one tutoring can occur. The service is publicly funded so there is no cost to families.

OCSB Math at Home

Information from Ottawa Public Health.

[Click here to view information for your child in grade 7](#) (or any other grade) needs to be immunized or vaccinated this school year.

Any question on Immunizations or Vaccinations should be directed to [Ottawa Public Health](#) at (613) 580-6744

OCSB Spiritual Theme.



Welcome Message from Our Trustee (Ms. Cindy Simpson)



Dear St. Josephine Community

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to another school year. While tucking my four year old granddaughter into bed a few nights ago she seemed unsettled and I asked her if there was anything bothering her. She said “I’m worried that when I go to my new school I won’t be able to open my lunch container”. Although, perhaps a small worry, that was easily resolved, students of all ages often face anxiety over the start of a new school year. I encourage you to have a chat prior to the start of the year so that

worries can be addressed either by you or school staff so that a transition into the new year goes smoothly. As vice-chair of the board of trustees, and your trustee, I remain committed to providing our students with quality education and a positive school experience.

In my role as your school trustee I act as your liaison with the school board. As such I am available to you to help navigate challenges that can not be resolved at the school level. You can contact me at 613-878-0237 or at Cindy.Simpson@ocsb.ca.

I hope to meet you at a school event in the near future. If present, don't hesitate to come and introduce yourself and your family - as a former principal and now your trustee, I find joy in meeting the children, youth and families in our schools.

Best wishes on a very memorable and successful 2024-2025 school year!

God bless you on your academic journey.

Cindy Desclouds-Simpson
Vice Chair, Trustee Zone 10 and Virtual Schools
OCSB

2024-25 School Year Calendar

[Click here](#) to see an electronic copy of the school 2024-25 school year calendar.

[JVH Exam Information January 2025.](#)

[JVH Exam Information June 2025](#)

Math Extra Help

Free Online Math Extra Help Available. [Click Here for More Information](#). When registering, You're OEN # can be found on any report card and make sure you select Ottawa Catholic School Board


Some Reminders for the 1st few weeks of school

1. Students are encouraged to check [MyStudentInfo](#) to view their timetable. Some student timetables might change as we make any changes to our master schedule. Here is a [video for students to review using mystudentinfo](#).
2. Parents and students are reminded to review the **checklist** that was sent out in the [welcome newsletter](#) that included some other useful reminders.
3. Parents are asked to review the **Family Handbook** that reviews some procedures and guidelines around St. Josephine (e.g. attendance).
4. Parents are asked to review and sign the **Responsible Use of Tech Form** and **Student Verification Form** that is found on the parent portal. There are two options on how to do this:

Option 1: [Here is a video to review how to sign the form](#) using the [parent portal](#).

Option 2: **_Via Student Accounts/Student Portal**

Student Portal process:

#ocsbHowTo  Signing Responsible Use of Technology Form and Others Using Student Portal -For P...

Step 1

- Log into your child's Google account (specific to each child), access their respective student portal
 - On a Chromebook, log into the device with their account.

Step 2

On a PC/Mac, using the Chrome Browser, access a child's respective [Chrome Profile](#).

- Then, visit the [Student Portal K-6](#), [Student Portal 7-12](#)
- Click on "Form Portal" (top left)

Step 3

- Click on the "Electronic Device Responsible use agreement" (ALL)

Step 4

- Fill in the respective demographic data for your child (student number will be automatically filled in),
- **Choose Grade, then respective school.**
- Review the required field, with your child,
- Sign the form,

- Submit.

School Cash Online

If there are any type of fees to be paid (e.g. sports teams, etc., etc), all payments are to be done using School Cash Online. Please [click here on how to sign](#) up for School Cash Online if you have not yet done so. PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions during the registration process or while shopping online, please contact the school or the friendly Parent Help Desk by calling 1-866-961-1803 or by e-mailing parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com

Thank You.

Michael Raso

Principal St. Josephine Virtual Achievement Academy

