

St. Josephine Virtual High School



Parent Newsletter: Week of October 20th, 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

A Reminder to check our [announcements](#) found on the [school website](#). As a reminder, here is the [welcome letter sent at the end of August](#).

Virtual Meet the Teacher.

[Click here to view contact information](#) and other resources of your child's classroom teacher.

Letters of Early Intervention and Parent-Teacher Interviews.

[Click here for booking Instructions](#)

On Friday October 17th, letters of Early Intervention will be emailed out. These letters are meant to be a proactive measure to ensure you are aware of any concerns regarding progress to date. As well, on Friday, all parents will have the opportunity to book a parent-teacher interview. Information on how to book interviews will be emailed to all parents on Friday after 3:30 p.m. Parent-teacher Interviews will be held virtually on Thursday October 23rd. That day will also be a day for shortened classes to accommodate interviews beginning at 2:00 p.m.

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[Health](#)

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

Grade 9-12 Schedule Early Dismissal HS P-T interviews

Homeroom	8:45-8:50
Period 1	8:50-9:50
Changeover	9:50-10:00 a.m.
Period 2	10:00-11:00 a.m
Lunch	11:00-11:45
Period 3	11:45-12:45
Changeover	12:45-12:55
Period 4	12:55-1:55

Looking Ahead to Halloween



On October 31st, students are encouraged to dress up for Halloween and show their school spirit. When choosing costumes, it's important to ensure they are culturally sensitive and appropriate. Cultural appropriation—using elements from a culture that is not your own without understanding or respecting it—can lead to discomfort. With creativity, parents can guide their children in selecting thoughtful costumes. By being mindful, we can make sure Halloween remains a fun and inclusive event where all students feel respected and safe.

Take Your Kid to Work Day, Nov. 5, 2023 (Gr.9)



We are pleased to inform you that Wednesday, November 5th is the annual Take Our Kids to Work Day for all Grade 9 students. This event provides Grade 9 students with the opportunity to explore various career paths and gain insights into the working world.

Some parents/guardians may have arrangements with their workplace for student activities. In this case, students should have their parents/guardians notify the school to have them marked absent-approved, or parents might also receive a permission form to fill out from the school.

The remaining students will participate in some form of career exploration activities in class and/or consolidate their learning in their subject area(s). Students who participate in the community will not be responsible for any additional work from school that day.

Reminders and Resources

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

[OCSB AI Website for parents/families](#)

[Parent Checklist](#)

[Family Handbook](#)

[OCSB Parent You-Tube How-To Videos](#)

[Elearn Resources](#)

[August 2025 Welcome Letter](#)

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, 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



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** and media consent 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.

Action Item: Media Consent Form

The OCSB Media Consent Form has been updated for the upcoming school year.

Parents/guardians will now be asked to select one of the following options using the [parent portal](#):

- No consent for sharing images
- Consent to share images for school communication
- Consent for yearbook/class pictures only

Please note: If no form is submitted, it will be considered implied consent for the yearbook and class photos. If you have any concerns or specific requests about your child's image being used, we encourage you to contact the school directly.

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 November 24 at 6:30 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 Resources

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.

Semester 1 Start and Cameras/Engagement Reminder

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.

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

[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 current five year old granddaughter into bed at one time, 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 2025-26 school year!

God bless you on your academic journey.

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

2025-26 School Year Calendar

[Click here](#) to see an electronic copy of the school 2025-26 school year calendar.

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

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