



We Strive for the Highest

LAURIER HOTLINE

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School

Home of the Lancers



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

April 2016

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Principal's Message

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to let you know how pleased I am to be the new Principal at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School following Mr. Armstrong's retirement. I have been an educator in this District for almost 27 years. In that time, I have had the privilege to have taught and been an Administrator at various schools within our District. I have taught at Elizabeth Wyn Wood Alternate School, Merivale High School and Sir Wilfrid Laurier. While I was at Sir Wil, I became an Administrative Head and then a Vice Principal. I then moved onto Adult HS as a Vice Principal. Three years later I became Principal of Rideau HS and most recently the Principal of Osgoode Township HS. Like Mr. Armstrong, Sir Wil keeps drawing me back and I have truly enjoyed these past few months here.

It is hard to believe that we are quickly coming to the end of the school year. In a couple of months, students will be writing their exams. Our June examination period takes place over six days. The exams begin on June 20th and finish at the end of the day on June 27th. Students and families are reminded that it is both the school and District policy that exams are to be written at the school during this prescribed exam period. Families are reminded that they must schedule holiday plans outside these dates. Thank you.

Nancy Girozan

A message from Retired Principal, Barry Armstrong

After 31 years working in the OCDSB as a teacher, Vice-Principal then Principal, I decided to retire at the end of January. I am most proud to say that the majority of my career, 19 years, was spent at Sir Wil and that I was able to finish in the school in which I was originally hired as a teacher (i.e. the original Sir Wil on Carson Road).

I have always found Sir Wil to be such an amazing and pleasant place to learn, play and work. Much good has been done by students, staff, parents and generous school volunteers for the benefit of our community and to make lives better for those around us. Your commitment to Lancer spirit has been outstanding, and for that I am most grateful.

To our entire school community, I wish you safe travels, much health and happiness, wherever your dreams take you.

Barry Armstrong

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Books, Internet, and Audiobooks step aside! Here's the real library of knowledge: *People!* Read more about our Human Library on page 2.



NEW Remember, parents and guardians need to inform the school when a student is absent. Even when the school buses are not operating on bad weather days, parents/guardians need to tell the school when a student will be absent. If an absence is not accounted for, our automated attendance system will contact you. There are now two options for parents and guardians to report a student's absence!

Telephone our Attendance Line: 613-834-4500 extension 100 or write to our NEW email address:
Email: swlattendance@ocdsb.ca

To minimize class interruptions, we respectfully request that you avoid calling the office asking to have students called out of class for appointments—send a note in advance with the student, or telephone well in advance, or email swlattendance@ocdsb.ca ! The student needs to complete the sign in or out process in the office as well.

Student Services

College and University Applications

Many students have received offers for the programs to which they applied. **College applicants** must confirm their acceptance of an offer of admission **before May 1st**.

Applicants to Ontario universities do not need to respond to offers of admission **before June 1st**. Students are asked not to panic if they have not received an offer yet. Final university offers do not arrive until the first two weeks of May with May 27th being the latest students can expect to hear.

Students who have questions or concerns about their application are encouraged to see their counsellor and/or consult the OCAS (college) or OUAC (university) websites.

Co-op program

If you are interested in getting real job experience in a field of interest, you should consider participating in the co-op program. For more information on the co-op program and possible placements, you can see any co-op teacher in Guidance or visit <https://goo.gl/M7gfQz>

Summer School

If you wish to take a Reach-Ahead course or need to take a Make-Up course, please visit summerschoolinottawa.com for the complete list of courses offered and locations. Note that students will register through Career Cruising, but must bring in the signed printed form to Guidance to finalize the registration process. Registration began April 4th and ends June 10th.

Science

We are looking forward to the University of Toronto National Biology Contest on April 30th in which 26 students will take part. As well, 10 students will participate in each of the Chem 13 News Chemistry Contest (for Grade 12) on May 14th and the Avogadro Chemistry Contest (for Grade 11) on May 21st.

Mme Panneton-Kus' Grade 10 French Immersion Science and Ms Prôt's Grade 10 Science classes went to Laser Quest on April 10th as part of their unit in Optics. They were able to apply the law of refraction in a very hands-on and fun way. *Learning can be fun!*

GRADUATION



To parents and guardians of graduating students, we remind you that the only official school event marking this milestone is our **Commencement Ceremony on June 30th at 10 am** in our gymnasium.

While there may be a student-run "Grad Committee," it functions as a non-authorized body. Its activities are neither approved nor sanctioned by Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School nor by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board.

Please read the letter on the school website from the principal to parents of graduating students. Students who are involved in any other unsanctioned graduation events are urged to be safe and considerate to themselves and others as they celebrate the end of their years at Sir Wil.

Also, potential graduates are reminded that if they want to cross the stage at Commencement, they must have successfully completed 30 credits, the Ontario literacy test, and 40 hours of community service.

Human Library

In a collaboration between Sir Wilfrid Laurier & Colonel By Secondary School, over 70 professionals and community heroes volunteered their time as "books" to impart their experiences to small groups of students in an effort to "help dispel myths and stereotypes by creating an opportunity for one-on-one conversations between people who may never have met otherwise."

On March 23rd 350 students from both schools "checked out" human books / people with their unique perspectives and experiences. Exchanging insight and inspiration, our students and guests truly enjoyed their half-hour conversations! Some of the community members who volunteered their time for students include:



Law Enforcement: Members of the Tactical Unit, Forensics Specialists, Firefighters

International Studies: Dr. Joel Westheimer, Research Chair in Education

Community Events: Mark Monahan, Director of Bluesfest and CityFolk; LGTBQ Advocacy; Stephen Beckta, Beckta Food and Wine; Theland Kicknosway, Indigenous Advocacy, drummer

Media: Adrian Harewood, Waubgeshig Rice, Dave Brown—CBC

Health: Dr. Jack Kitts, President and CEO Ottawa Hospital; Médecins Sans Frontières; Medical Research; Mental Health

Personal Triumphs: Sir Wil alumni Brendan Gillanders, Fullback Ottawa Red Blacks; Julia Francki, Gee Gees Soccer; Ben Lalonde, Auto Pro

Check out the full list of our brilliant human book biographies as well as our photo gallery at: www.swlcbhumanlibrary.ca

Dates to Remember 2015-2016

Monday, May 23, 2016	Victoria Day Holiday
Wednesday & Thursday, June 8 & 9, 2016	EQAO Grade 9 Math Assessment
Monday, June 20 to Monday, June 27, 2016	Final Examinations
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, June 28, 29, & 30, 2016	Secondary Professional Activity Days
Thursday, June 30, 2016	Commencement and Last Day of School Year