

# The Southwood Source



IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT  
OR LATE PLEASE SUBMIT  
ABSENCE ON EDSBY OR  
CALL: 519-969-3470.

## Southwood Staff

### 2023-2024

JK/SK (EYA)- C. Djelebian

ECE - C. Woschenski

E.A. - F. Sami

JK/SK (EYB)- S. Tessier

ECE - A. Dinham

E.A. - A. Carter

Grade 1 (IA)- A. Mamo

Grade 1/2 (1/2A)- C. Coulter

Grade 2 (2A) - S. Forget

Grade 3 (3A)- Z. Hamadani

Grade 3/4 (3/4A) - M. Pfaff

Grade 4 (4A) - J. Piescic/S. Clark

Grade 5 (5A) - M. Dragicevic

Grade 5 (5B) - A. Noble

Grade 6 (6A) - K. Trudell

Grade 6 (6B)- J. Scherer

Grade 7 (7A) - J. Dunlop

Grade 7 (7B) - M. Cichon

Grade 8 (8A) - D. Chisholm

Grade 8 (8B) - N. Fitzsimmons

LST - D. Edgar

Library/LST - V. MacDonald

GAINS A - A. McKane

DSW - T. Mickle

E.A. - A. Kaur

GAINS B - A. Bonadonna

DSW - A. Quinn

E.A. - A. Parent

GAINS C - S. Lysay

DSW - D. Branch

E.A. - V. Lopez

French - T. Laurendeau

French- S. Ruffolo

Prep Coverage - S. Drouillard

Gains Prep - A. Seibel

ESL Itinerant - B. Beneteau

Integration EA - A. Renaud

CYW - J. Glover

Day Custodian - P. Dawson

Afternoon Custodian - M. Roy

Afternoon Custodian - G. McMullen

Clerk - A. Slade

Secretary - J. Millar

Vice Principal - T. Dugan

Principal - M. Lowes

### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL AND VICE PRINCIPAL ...

Dear Southwood Families,

Time flies when we are having fun! As we approach the end of another fantastic school year, we would like to express our gratitude for your continuous support. June is filled with exciting activities, celebrations, and important reminders. Let's make this last month memorable for our students! We thank you for your support in assisting your children in their learning this school year.

June is a very busy month here at Southwood with teachers wrapping up units of study and putting transition plans into place. Many exciting things are happening within the school. Students are working hard to complete all final assignments and assessments. Our grade three and six classes have completed EQAO. There are a lot of student-centered activities taking place throughout the school such as Welcome to Kindergarten Day and track and field training! We have several fun events to look forward to this month including the year-end assembly, class field trips, Kindergarten picnic, Grade 8 Graduation and trip to Niagara Falls, GAINS picnic, and individual end-of-year classroom celebrations.

Please note the following last days for food sales at school.

Pizza – last day will be Thursday, June 6th. **NO PIZZA THE LAST 3 WEEKS OF SCHOOL.**

Frozen Yogurt – last day will be Friday, June 21st. **NO YOGURT THE LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

Popcorn – last day will be Wednesday, June 19th. **NO POPCORN THE LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

Please send your students with lunch on Thursdays beginning June 13th as there will be no pizza sales provided!

We would like to remind everyone that **Friday, June 7th is a P.D. Day**, therefore, there will be no school for students. The last day of school for students this year is Thursday, June 27th. Report cards will also be going home on June 27th.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart that we announce our departure from Southwood Public School. Beginning in September 2024, Mrs. Lowes will be the principal of King Edward Public School. Mrs. Dugan will be joining Northwood Public School as their Vice Principal. Please welcome Mrs. Tracy Dempsey who is returning to Southwood from Roseville Public School as Principal. Serving as your incoming Vice Principal is Mr. David Crestan from Hetherington Public School.

We thank you for the honour of serving this incredible community. As we reflect upon our incredible journey at Southwood filled with triumphs, celebrations, and countless moments of joy and growth. We are excited for the future, both for ourselves and for the continued success of this school. We will always be cheering you on from afar! Once a Sabre, Always a Sabre!

With heartfelt appreciation and best wishes,

Mrs. Lowes

Mrs. Dugan

Principal

Vice Principal

### School Bell Times

Supervision Begins - 8:00 AM

Instructional Time Begins- 8:15AM

1st Nutrition Break - 9:55 to 10:35

2nd Nutrition Break - 12:15 to 12:55

Dismissal: 2:35PM

Scan this  
QR code to  
access our  
website!



**Promoting Spirit, Strength,  
Success and Kindness!**



## **WELCOME!**

Dear Southwood Public School Family,

I hope this message finds you all well. My name is Tracy Dempsey, and I am thrilled to rejoin Southwood as your Principal. Some of you may remember me from my tenure from September 2021 to February 2022, during which I served as Vice Principal and had the pleasure of working with and getting to know many of you.



I am excited to return to a place that feels like home and to reconnect with a community that has always held a special place in my heart. My return to Southwood is driven by my fond memories of our time together. In addition, I look forward to teaming with Mr. Crestan once again, further serving students and families. We understand that Mrs. Lowes & Mrs. Dugan have left big shoes to fill.

As I step back into this role, my primary goal is to build on our past successes and to introduce new initiatives that will benefit our students, parents, and staff. I am committed to fostering an environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. I look forward to working with our dedicated teachers and staff to create innovative and inclusive educational experiences.

I believe that the strength of our community lies in our ability to work together. I encourage open communication and welcome your ideas, feedback, and collaboration as we strive to make Southwood an even better place for our students. Please feel free to reach out to me directly with any thoughts or suggestions.

Thank you for your warm welcome. I am eager to reconnect with each of you and to embark on this exciting journey together. Let's make this year upcoming year memorable and impactful for all.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Tracy Dempsey

Hello Southwood Families,

I'm looking forward to meeting and getting to know the Southwood community as I begin this journey as a Sabre!

As your incoming Vice Principal, I am excited to work alongside each of you to create a supportive, engaging, and enriching environment for our students. This year promises to be filled with numerous opportunities for growth, learning, and fun. I encourage you to reach out with any questions, ideas, or concerns you may have.



Warm regards,  
Mr. David Crestan





## TRACK DAY @ SOUTHWOOD

Our Southwood Track and Field Day was a great success! Students and staff kept busy running, jumping, and throwing all day! Congratulations to all students who participated!

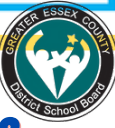


Thank you to the parent and guardian volunteers for cheering us on and helping out at the events! It is always so great to see you at school supporting our students!

Finally, a big thanks to staff for volunteering to coach the track team. The BIGGEST thanks goes to Mr. Trudell for organizing everything! Good luck to all the students who are moving on to the Regional track meet at Riverside High School on Thursday, June 8th!



Follow us on Twitter @SPSSabres



**SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESENTS...  
"A CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY!"**



# Spirit DAY

**On Friday, June 14th, 2024 - the Southwood Student Council invites students and staff to come to school wearing cultural attire that represents their heritage!**



## Welcome to Kindergarten

Do you know a child who will be 4 yrs old by Dec 31st, 2024?



Register them for Southwood's Kindergarten program by completing the online registration form. Then contact our amazing secretary, Ms. Millar to submit all necessary documentation and complete the registration process.

Go to: [Register with GECDSB](#)





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Southwood School Advisory Council is seeking Bingo volunteers to represent and support our school and students! Bingo Volunteers provide a positive customer service experience to Bingo patrons. Monetary funds generated from the Bingos provide our students with additional resources such as:



- Buses for Field trips & Athletic Events
- Supplementing field trip costs
- Guest speakers & presentations
- Kindergarten events
- Grade 8 Graduation
- Classroom events
- Technology & Musical instruments
- Extracurricular activities (i.e., Chess tournaments)
- School uniforms
- and more!



SCAN ME

### Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp: <https://signup.com/go/FGfUpYS>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.
- 3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.

**Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone.**

**Contact Mrs. Virginia MacDonald to volunteer! Email: [virgina.macdonald@publicboard.ca](mailto:virgina.macdonald@publicboard.ca)**

## School Advisory Council

We would like to send a very special thanks to our Southwood School Advisory Council members. You have been an asset to our school community, putting in countless hours to support our school. Thank you for all you do!

Be at the heart of your child's learning.



We would also like to take this opportunity to invite parents and guardians who are interested in being a part of making Southwood a great place for our students, to join the school council.

The School Advisory Council helps to provide our students with new experiences, fresh resources, community growth, and to represent the families for some decisions at school. More information about how to join the school council for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year will be coming September.

## Scent-Free Southwood & GECDSB

**SCENT  
FREE  
ZONE**

Help us keep the air we share  
healthy and fragrance-free

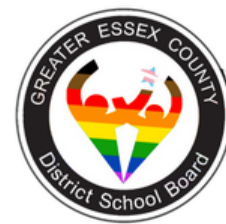
Please be informed that our school is a fragrance/scent aware environment. There are staff members and/or students who could suffer serious adverse reactions and health effects when exposed to even a small amount of fragrance or scents. We are requesting that the community support us in our efforts to promote a scent-aware environment by refraining from wearing fragrances or scented products to school when visiting the school, even if your visit will be short. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and for becoming part of our solution to providing a scent-free and safe environment for all.



# June is



# PRIDE MONTH



Like all schools in the Greater Essex County District School Board, our school is committed to supporting and celebrating the diversity of all students, staff, and families that learn, and work in our community. Southwood Public School is rich with diversity – serving students and families from around the world. It is truly a joyful experience to walk our halls and visit our classrooms as they are filled with students who speak many different languages, celebrate different traditions, and represent different cultures and belief systems. It is truly beautiful to observe the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect that exists each day among our students within this diverse environment.

On Friday, May 31st, 2024 we will be raising the Progressive Pride Flag to represent the beginning of Pride Month. Every school and all other Greater Essex County District School Board locations join us in raising this flag on this day. Flying this flag means that Southwood and the entire Greater Essex County District School Board is committed to supporting and celebrating the diversity of all students, staff, and families that make up our GECDSD community. This reinforces the work that we do throughout the year.

**This is a reminder that at Southwood Public School, we must be kind to everyone and accept one another in the ways we are different and ways we are the same. We do not say mean or hurtful things.**

**Discrimination, bullying, and hate of any kind have no place in our school. If you feel hurt or need help or if you hear something that makes you or someone else feel bad at school, please tell an adult. At Southwood, we are kind to one another, we are proud of one another and we are here for one another. Remember that each of you is respected and welcome as you are, and we need you as you are!**

Schools are places of learning and microcosms of society. School climate is definitively linked to how well students learn and how they interact with their peers. Research tells us that 2SLGBTQIA+ students report being harassed at school – both verbally and physically – at twice the rate of other students. We all have an important role to play in helping to create braver spaces and building a sense of belonging for all students. We know that when students feel safe and supported, they have greater success. Working together, we are committed to creating healthy, positive spaces for all.

### Resources for Parents:

Since everyone's family is **UNIQUE**, there are many resources to support your child.

**PFLAG:** <https://pflagcanada.ca/>

**Rainbow Health Ontario:**

<https://www.rainbowhealthontario.ca/service-provider-directory/lgbtq-parenting-network/>

**LGBTQ Parenting Network:** <https://lgbtqpn.ca>

**EGALE (Coming Out):** <https://egale.ca/awareness/what-to-do-when-your-child-comes-out-to-you/>

**The Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity:** <https://ccgsd-ccdgs.org/>

**Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario:**

<https://www.youthhubs.ca/en/sites/windsor-essex/>



# June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3		 Regional Track Meet	 welcome to kindergarten	 No School P.A. Day	8
 Book Sale JUNE 10 - 14	10	11	 Popcorn Day	12	13	14
	 Yogurt Day		 Popcorn Day	 District Track Meet	 Spirit Day - "A Celebration of Culture!"	 Yogurt Day
 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	 CLASS of 2024 Grade 8 Graduation	25	26	 HAPPY LAST DAY of SCHOOL Report Cards go home	27
30	 ENJOY THE SUMMER					28
						29
						30

## June is National Indigenous History Month



June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, an opportunity to learn about the unique cultures, traditions and experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. It's a time to honour the stories, achievements and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, who have lived on this land since time immemorial. We encourage all Canadians to take time to learn more about Indigenous Peoples and to explore our collective past. Knowing and acknowledging the past and its ongoing impacts is the first step towards healing and reconciliation.

For thousands of years, Indigenous languages have named everything that lives and all that connects us. They tell us about nature and its elements, they teach us culture and its voices.

In cooperation with Indigenous organizations, the Government of Canada chose June 21, the summer solstice as National Indigenous Peoples Day. This is a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. For generations, many Indigenous peoples and communities have celebrated their culture and heritage on or near this day due to the significance of the summer solstice as the longest day of the year.



# Litterless Lunch Family Picnic





# Thank you for supporting our School Advisory Council Read-a-thon Fundraiser!



## Southwood Raised

### \$5, 076.50

to purchase art materials, student incentives, technology for the school, gym, playground equipment and much more!

## Top Earners!

1st Place - Sybella (1/2A)

2nd Place - Miguel (3/4A)

3rd Place - David (1/2C)



## Top Classes

## win a Pizza Party!

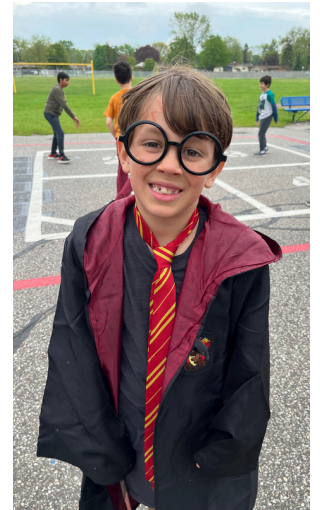
Mrs. Tessier's Early Years

Mrs. Coulter - 1/2A

Ms. Dragicevic - 5A

Mr. Dunlop - 7A

Mrs. Bonadonna - GAINS B







# Spotlight

ON OUR GRADE 7 & 8 TEACHERS!



Grade 7 Teacher  
Mr. Dunlop



Grade 7 Teacher  
Mr. Cichon



Grade 8 Teacher  
Mr. Chisholm



Grade 8 Teacher  
Mr. Fitzsimmons

We are thrilled to shine a spotlight on our outstanding intermediate teachers who continuously go above and beyond to create an exceptional learning environment for our students. Their passion, creativity, and dedication make a profound impact on our school community.

Our grade 7 & 8 teachers bring a wealth of knowledge and innovative teaching strategies to the classroom, making learning both engaging and effective. They foster a supportive atmosphere where students are encouraged to explore, question, and achieve their full potential. Through dynamic lessons, personalized attention, and a genuine commitment to each student's success, our teachers inspire a love of learning that extends beyond the classroom.

We are incredibly grateful for their hard work, enthusiasm, and the positive influence they have on our students' academic and personal growth. Join us in celebrating the incredible contributions of our intermediate teachers, whose dedication makes our school a better place every day!