



# Cayuga Secondary School

#70 Haldimand Highway 54, Cayuga, ON N0A 1E0

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Principal – Amber Mitchell  
Vice Principal – Colin Miller  
Office Coordinator – Patti Bell

November 9, 2022



## IMPORTANT DATES 2022-2023

|                |                              |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Nov 9          | Term 2 Semester 1 begins     |
| Nov 18         | MID TERM REPORTS             |
| Nov 24         | Grade 8 transition visits    |
| Nov 29         | Grade 8 transition visits    |
| Dec 2          | Picture Re-take Day          |
| Dec 5-8        | GRAD PHOTOS                  |
| Dec 6          | Student Learning Support Day |
| Dec 7          | Grade 8 Parent Info Night    |
| Dec 8          | Semi Formal                  |
| Dec 26 – Jan 6 | CHRISTMAS BREAK              |
| Jan 27 – 31    | EXAM DAYS                    |
| Feb 1-2        | PA DAYS                      |
| Feb 3          | SEMESTER TWO BEGINS          |
| Feb 10         | Semester 1 Final Reports     |
| Feb 14         | Valentine's Day              |
| Feb 20         | FAMILY DAY                   |
| Mar 12         | Daylight Savings Time Change |
| Mar 13 - 17    | SPRING BREAK                 |
| Apr 4          | Student Learning Support Day |
| Apr 7          | GOOD FRIDAY                  |
| Apr 10         | EASTER MONDAY                |
| April 19       | Term 2 Semester 2 begins     |
| Apr 21         | PA Day                       |
| Apr 28         | Mid Term Reports             |
| May 1-5        | Education Week               |
| May 6          | Greenhouse Plant Sale        |
| May 7          | Mother's Day                 |
| May 16         | Student Learning Support Day |
| May 22         | VICTORIA DAY                 |
| June 18        | Father's Day                 |
| June 21        | Indigenous Peoples Day       |
| Jun 26-28      | EXAM DAYS                    |
| Jun 29         | PA DAY                       |
| Jun 30         | Board Designated Holiday     |
| Jul 7          | Final Report Cards           |

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE ~ Mrs. Mitchell

Hello CSS Families. It seems like only a few weeks ago that we were going through the September back-to-school processes. Yet, here we are at the half way mark of Semester 1. So far this year our students have been active in sports, extra-curricular activities, spirit days, the Halloween Haunt, won the High School Challenge at the Caledonia Fair and participated in an insightful Truth and Reconciliation Activity which was highlighted in the Hamilton Spectator. None of this is possible without the dedication of our staff and students. They give hours of their own time to make this happen. THANK YOU! Our 2022 CSS Commencement took place on November 4<sup>th</sup>. It was fantastic to have all of our graduating students and their families back in the building to celebrate in person. It was a beautiful event and we cannot be more proud of our graduates. We will be holding our second Parent Council Meeting in early December (details to come). This is a great way to get involved, know what is happening at CSS and it has been shown that an increased level of parent involvement significantly benefits overall student success. If you are interested in attending, please email me at [amber.mitchell@granderie.ca](mailto:amber.mitchell@granderie.ca) and I will make sure you are included on the invitation. The mid-term report card is a fantastic opportunity to reflect with your child. There is a lot of the course still remaining and now is the time to challenge themselves to achieve at the highest level they can. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to our teachers or administration. We have many opportunities for support and additional help. One such opportunity is our new Homework Help Program (details below in newsletter). We look forward to seeing all achievements that are yet to come.

## VICE-PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE ~ Mr. Miller

First off, I would like to take this opportunity to let you all know how much I have enjoyed joining the CSS school community. Since my start here in September, I have appreciated the warm welcome that has been given to me and value the positive relationships I have already established with families within this community. Having the chance to be back in the school board that I grew up in has truly been a meaningful experience. CSS has been very alive so far this year with many wonderful events, sports, art programs and other extra-curricular activities taking place. I am very thankful to our staff for all the extra hours they put into making our school such a great place for students! At the start of the year, Ms. Mitchell and I visited every grade to review our schools' code of conduct. Our mission statement is simple **"Cayuga Secondary School is a school that promotes [and expects] responsibility and respect in an environment that is safe, inclusive, caring, and accepting in order for our students to be successful, [mentally, physically, academically and socially]"**. We believe that all CSS stakeholders play an important role in making this mission statement come alive each day. As principals, we are committed to ensuring that we hold our students accountable for their actions but also support them as they reflect on the impact that they have on others. With that said, I would like to wish everyone the greatest success as we enter the second half of semester one!

### Our Mission

Together, we build a culture of **learning, well-being** and **belonging** to inspire each learner.

### Our Collective Priorities

#### Learning

We build a culture of **learning** to nurture curiosity and opportunity for each learner.

#### Well-being

We build a culture of **well-being** to support the cognitive, social emotional and physical needs of each learner.

#### Belonging

We build a culture of **belonging** to support an equitable, inclusive and responsive environment for each learner.

Our grade 12 students have been busy learning about post secondary pathways this fall. All interested grade 12 students had the opportunity to attend an in-person session in the Learning Commons with Guidance to learn all about how to apply to both university and/or college. A few of the key websites to check out for further information about post secondary planning, admission requirements, deadlines and costs are: [ontariocolleges.ca](http://ontariocolleges.ca), [ouac.on.ca](http://ouac.on.ca) and [ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca). Students are always welcome to book an individual appointment with Guidance for additional assistance. Students can also sign up in Guidance for presentations at CSS given by various college and university liaisons. DATES: University applications need to be completed prior to Christmas Break (December 23, 2022). College applications need to be completed by mid-January. On Friday, November 4, the CSS Staff celebrated the achievements of our Graduating Class of 2022 during our evening Commencement Ceremony. Students currently in Grade 10, 11 and 12 who attained Honours last year will be recognized later in the month of November. Appointments to see a public health nurse and our STAR counsellor from Haldimand-Norfolk Women's Services can be made in the Guidance office. Future Grade 9 student/Parent Night is Wed. Dec. 7, 2022 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Grade 8 classes will be travelling to CSS on November 24 or 29 from our feeder schools.

Did you buy a yearbook yet? The 2022-23 yearbook is available through School Cash Online for \$57.75. Yearbooks must be pre-ordered to guarantee a copy. They will be delivered next fall. Any student who wants to help create this book should see Ms. Kononiuk; we meet Thursdays at lunch in room 212. Books from 2021-22 can be picked up in room 212. Email: [Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca](mailto:Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca) with questions.

### Holiday Market

School Cafeteria  
Free Admission  
Tuesday, December 6, 2022  
1:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Vendors (\$25 per table)  
Contact:  
[cayugaholidaymarket@gmail.com](mailto:cayugaholidaymarket@gmail.com)

### CSS Annual Food Drive Nov 21 – Dec 5

Proceeds will go to the Cayuga Food Bank and the most successful homeroom will win the cornucopia of cookies (and other baked goods). Ask your student for details in November!

Photo retakes will take place Fri. Dec 2 in the Learning Commons. A schedule will be provided closer to the date. A final retake date is also scheduled for Mon. Feb 13. Email: [Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca](mailto:Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca) with questions.

### Semi Formal Dinner & Dance December 8<sup>th</sup> (more info to come)

A variety of colourful poinsettias are available via pre-orders through SchoolCash Online. Support Council in this seasonal project! Pickup is December 6, 2022 from 2:00-8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

### Homework Help

After school homework help is available every Tuesday and Thursday until 4:30 in the Learning Commons. This time is also available for group study and any students interested in practicing for the literacy test.

Concert Band and Vocal Ensemble are rehearsing every Wednesday after school until 6:00. Anyone wishing to join can come out to the music room on Wednesdays. We are looking for singers, piano players, guitarists and bass guitarists !!

High School Challenge: this year's team restored the HSC record of wins at the Caledonia Fair. The team won all but one challenge, dominating the competition. Special thanks to Paris Fess for her choreography skills!

Grad photos will be taken December 5-8. Students must book their own appointments online at [bookmygrad.ca](http://bookmygrad.ca). The school code is CSS and their student number is on report and student cards. The site should be live early/mid November. Email: [Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca](mailto:Christine.kononiuk@granderie.ca) with any questions. Grad photo retakes will be available Mon. Feb 13. All photos will be taken in the Learning Commons.

The drama club is busy working on a production called "The Other Room" by Adrienne Blayde. This production will be performed for the school and the community in the CSS gym and will be entered in the National Theatre School drama festival at the Riverside Exhibition Centre in late March.

School Clothing – our online spiritwear clothing store will be open from November 14 to 28, to be delivered to the school before the holidays. Contact Mr. Mann if you wish to purchase as a surprise gift. Follow our Instagram account for the link to the store.

**Weightlifting/Powerlifting Club**  
Information: Students interested in weightlifting are welcome to work out on Mondays at lunch and Wednesdays after school. A Powerlifting Competition will take place on Wed. Dec 7 at Westdale Secondary in Hamilton. Please see Mr. Passfield for more information.

Grade 9 Orientation was a huge success in September, facilitated by the senior student leaders of CSS. The grade 9's experienced a day of learning and skill-building in teamwork, how to cope in high school, and the importance of committing to doing your best. A dance and campfire ended a super day! We are looking forward to seeing what the Class of 2026 will do over the next four years.

The Breakfast Program is offered five days a week at CSS. We greatly appreciate the funding we receive from the Child Nutrition Network.

### Student Council Executive 2022-23

Prime Ministers: Madylin Lord  
Deputy Prime Minister: Nila van Osch  
Secretary: Dewadenyayaks Dale  
Minister of Public Relations: Isabella Harper  
Ministers of Recreation:  
Rylee Battle and Renee Wright-Baylis  
Social Events Coordinators:  
Medea Faulkner and Carly Lord

Student Council members will be making their way to Niagara Falls for a three-day Ontario Student Leadership Conference in November. Speakers and sharing sessions with 2000 student leaders should be a powerful and exciting experience.

Junior and Senior Boys Basketball team tryouts will take place in November. Regular season games start in December and run to February. If we need to put together a single Varsity Team, then it will be composed of approximately 5 juniors and 10 seniors. See Mr. Urie as Coach contact.

The Grade 12 Business Leadership Class has been working diligently on their business ventures that will be operating at the school from Nov. 22 to Jan. 13. The students are creating professional business plans prior to the start-up of their business. Each business will be open for one week and all profits will be donated back to the school and community. Cayuga Secondary School's Business program focuses on authentic and experiential learning to provide students with practical, real-world applications.

Indigenous voices need to be heard at CSS and that's what the Indigenous Student Association is all about. Being involved with CSS community-building activities and representing CSS at the board-level for leadership and senate meetings are part of what we'll be doing. Non-Indigenous friends are welcome to join at the school level. See Mr. Urie and Ms. Kononiuk as staff advisors and contacts.