



# École secondaire Oak Park High School

820 Charleswood Rd. | Winnipeg, MB R3R 1K6 | 204.895.7221  
[www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark)

## September 23rd Message to the Oak Park Community

Hello/Bonjour École secondaire Oak Park High School students and families,

The energy and enthusiasm in the building continues to be outstanding and we are very excited about some of our sports teams competing for the first time in over 16 months. This will include our varsity boys football team hosting St. Paul's on Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

As we return to more regular activities, this is the time of year to remind you of some important Divisional safety and behaviour policies below. Please take the time to have a conversation with your child about these important protocols that are designed to keep our students and community safe. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to one of the administration team. We are here to help!

Best regards,

Troy Scott  
Principal

Tracey Groening  
Vice-Principal

Nicole Girardin  
Vice-Principal

---

## Truth and Reconciliation Week

Earlier this month, the province of Manitoba declared **Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>** as a Day for Truth and Reconciliation, when Manitobans can reflect on the impact of Residential Schools. As part of those observances, Oak Park staff and students will be engaging in reflection and conversations during our Truth and Reconciliation Week from Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>-Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff and students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt as we honour Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. The Oak Park Medicine Wheel Orange Shirts will be available for purchase Monday and Tuesday for \$10 in the forum.

*"Truth and Reconciliation Week is an opportunity for every person in Manitoba to listen and learn from the voices of survivors, elders and knowledge keepers as we walk the path of reconciliation together,"* Stephanie Scott, executive director, NCTR.

## Sporting Event Safety Protocols

Currently, the Division is not allowing spectators at indoor events as various protocols are sorted out for vaccination requirements and how this is managed. We hope to have some resolution in this regard soon. The good news is that spectators are allowed for outdoor events. Please note that Oak Park is hosting at exhibition varsity boys football game against St. Paul's at 5pm on Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. The following safety expectations will be in place:

- As for all school-sanctioned events, the [Pembina Trails Standard of Behavior](#) (scroll down) applies to both student-athletes and our student fans. This includes use/possession of drugs and/or alcohol.



# École secondaire Oak Park High School

820 Charleswood Rd. | Winnipeg, MB R3R 1K6 | 204.895.7221  
[www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark)

- Be a fan, not a fanatic. We want our fans to cheer for our student athletes and keep our chants and signs respectful.
- There will be no bleachers available. Fans can bring blankets/lawn chairs for more comfort.
- Masks are not required outside but are encouraged if sitting close to someone outside of your household.
- While 2m distancing is not required, we would like fans to do their best to space out.
- There is a 500-person maximum for all outdoor events.
- Bringing hand sanitizer is recommended.
- The school is closed to the public.
- Staff supervisors and administration will be in attendance.

## Annual Reminder: Hazing Policy

It is our obligation to remind the Oak Park community about the [Division Policy JICFA: Hazing](#) (scroll down). As quoted in this policy, *“hazing means any action taken or situation that causes, or is reasonably likely to cause, harassment, physical danger or harm, mental or emotional harm, embarrassment, or ridicule, or personal degradation or loss to any student or other persons associated with our schools”*.

Students and community members are encouraged to report any hazing or related initiation activity to school administration immediately. Disciplinary action will be taken including, but not limited to, suspension, suspension/removal from team/group, or expulsion. Conversations regarding this policy will be had between staff supervisors/administration and student-athletes when teams are made to ensure a clear understanding of our expectations in this regard.

## Annual Reminder: Bush Parties

This is our annual community notice/reminder as we believe it takes a village (in this case the Oak Park community) to raise a child. For the last several years, information has been sent home to families regarding outdoor evening events that some students organize on weekends that are **not** sanctioned or affiliated with our school. We are sending this information out again to our community for information purposes with the hope that you will have an open conversation with your child/ren to assist them in making safe and healthy choices.

In the past, around this time of year, some of our senior students plan outdoor weekend evening events often referred to as ‘bush parties’. These events usually happen on Friday nights in September before the snow flies on vacant private property around the Wilkes/McGillivray/Hall/Loudoun/Harstone area south of Oak Park without the owner’s



# École secondaire Oak Park High School

820 Charleswood Rd. | Winnipeg, MB R3R 1K6 | 204.895.7221  
[www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/oakpark)

permission. In the past, there have instances where these parties have gotten out of control and WPS/RCMP were called to ensure safety.

We want our students to be safe, but as these events are outside of school hours, it is up to parents to monitor and contact the authorities if they deem necessary. That said, we encourage and expect any hazing/initiation activities related to a school team/group to be reported to school administration immediately. In these situations, the Divisional Hazing policy above applies.

## Vaccination Clinic Reminder

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority will be hosting a [COVID-19 mRNA vaccine clinic](#) at Oak Park on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Students born on or before December 31, 2009, who have not had or are missing one dose of the vaccine are eligible to attend the clinic from 1:30 PM to 4 PM. This clinic will be available for community walk-in from 4 PM to 6 PM.

## Illness: When to Stay at Home

Shared Health Manitoba has updated their Covid-19 Screening Tool. The Pembina Trails website has created an [infographic](#) to help navigate these guidelines related to close contacts and self-isolation.