

November 21, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians & Students:

This letter is to inform you that there will be a certified service dog in our school helping one of our staff.

Certified service dogs are trained by a recognized training facility and can assist with many of the routine activities which pose challenges. A person's right to have a certified service dog is protected under the Ontario Human Rights legislation and other laws, as listed in board guidelines.

Students and the school community will be advised on the integration of the certified service dog via announcements and posters around the school. They will be informed as to the proper procedure regarding the certified service dog and that the certified service dog is a 'working' certified service dog and not a pet while at school.

CERTIFIED SERVICE DOG - DOS AND DON'TS!

DO:

- Speak to the owner/handler rather than the dog
- Treat the owner/handler with sensitivity and respect
- Inform the owner/handler if the certified service dog approaches you

DON'T:

- Touch or pet the certified service dog
- Offer food to a certified service dog
- Assume a napping certified service dog is off duty

We anticipate the certified service dog being of benefit to the staff member and we look forward to this new addition to our school and school community.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Should you have any questions, concerns, or considerations for your student please contact me at (905) 945 5416.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sargeant

Principal