

Combining the Best of Two Worlds

"Yennadon Elementary offers the opportunity to enhance and extend student learning by embracing technology as a focused tool."

Flexibility, choice, collaborative learning, and knowledge creation are elements of this program. Students will interact with peers and their teachers, utilize the resources of the Internet, and discuss issues online while still being able to retain the personal contact that face-to-face learning allows.

> Offered by Yennadon Elementary for Grades 6 and 7 September 2017 Email: <u>yencyberschool@sd42.ca</u>

General Information

Yennadon Elementary's Cyberschool program was first established in 2003. Yennadon's Cyberschool is taught by Jessica Wilson and Dale MacQuarrie. Each year, approximately fifty-six grade six and seven students make up the cyberschool class. In addition to teaching technical skills, emphasis is placed on developing a positive classroom environment that values inclusion, cooperation, collaboration, respect, and responsibility.

In Yennadon Cyberschool, students are:

- taught time management and work completion strategies
- directed to exemplary online lessons
- given opportunities to learn and refine videography skills
- introduced to basic computer coding
- provided more online learning opportunities
- able to work independently, keep up when they are away, or work at home
- given the opportunity to work under adult supervision at home, initially one day each week, and eventually, two
- using online learning environments to communicate with each other and teachers
- engaged both face-to-face and with interactive technologies in order to complete assignments and projects in class and at home



One -to-One iPad Program

Yennadon Elementary Cyberschool is a participant in the school district's iPad Program. Each student in Cyberschool will receive an iPad to use for the year. **An information meeting is held in September.**

A Cyberstudent Should Have:

- an interest in using technology
- a willingness to learn effective time management skills
- an ability to work independently and cooperatively once instruction has been provided
- supervision from a parent or guardian
- the recommendation of their current grade teacher

A Cyberstudent's Parent/Guardian Must:

- register their child
- be a partner in the learning process
- commit to supervising and supporting their child's learning

Cyber FAQs

Q.1 In order for my child to work at home, do I have to be there? A.1 Yes, students cybering (working online at home) must be supervised by an adult.

Q.2 How many cyberdays (at home days) will there be per week? A.2 After September, one day a week, working towards two days a week when students are ready (usually in November).

Q.3 What day(s) of the week are cyberdays?A.3 Initially Thursdays, and later, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Q.4 What if, on occasion, I cannot provide supervision on a cyberday? **A**.4 The child should attend school that day.

Q.5 Am I required to make a commitment to Cyberschool for the full year?

A.5 Yes, for staffing and class placement purposes, we require a full year commitment.

Q.6 What are the technology requirements for home? A.6 Students will occasionally require a computer (Mac or PC), printer, and internet connection.

Q.7 Will my child be online all day long? A.7 No, students will only be required to be online when researching, participating in the online community, or at pre-arranged times.

Positive Aspects of Yennadon Cyberschool

Participants in the Cyberschool program:

- learn regardless of time or place and gain greater knowledge and understanding of technology
- develop skills in the appropriate use of various tools and applications (e.g. cameras, iPads, computers, Web 2.0)
- benefit from having choices in how, where and when they work and learn
- have opportunities to be enriched by the resources and environment that online learning allows
- have flexibility in training and practice times for students engaged in high level dance, music and sports programs
- can work at their own speed and with fewer distractions on their at-home days
- typically experience increased engagement and motivation because of the program's diverse and alternative delivery methods
- often develop strong time-management and organizational skills, which enables positive and smooth transitions into local high school programs
- learn digital citizenship and internet safety



Transition into the Program

Students begin the school year attending fulltime. A gradual implementation of the hybrid model begins in October when students are at home one day per week and by late fall, they are cybering two days per week and are at school the other three. We plan a careful transition where students will learn:

- basic skills including keyboarding, videography, web browsing, electronic messaging, and word processing
- to use open source applications such as Moodle, Schoology, Wikis, Adobe Voice, Animoto, and Google Apps.
- how to use additional online resources such as Blackboard Collaborative (online conferencing) and YouTube to assist online learning
- how to collaborate both in the classroom and online through inquiry project work, document sharing and online forums
- internet safety and online etiquette
- to use a weekly plan to organize themselves
- trouble shooting skills in order to solve hardware, software and online problems as they arise



Cyberschool Registration

Registration for the Cyberschool program at Yennadon occurs in February/March for the following school year.

Submitted registrations will be date and time stamped. Typically, acceptance to Cyberschool is on a first-come, first-served basis; however, school administration and support services will review all applications before a final decision is made. Confirmation of your child's placement in Cyberschool will be sent out before the end of the current school year you apply.

Please Note: Due to the high retention rate of the two-year program, there are limited spots available for students wishing to enter Cyberschool as a Grade 7 student.