



February 12, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Specialist High Skills Major program in Conservation & Sustainability is planning an excursion to the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre in Midland, Ontario to enjoy a day of cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. This activity is under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Cresswell and Ms. McCauley. This will require your son/daughter to leave school property on Friday March 1, 2019 at 8:00am and return at 4:00pm. Transportation is by school bus. There is no cost per student for the excursion. PLEASE NOTE: Students are responsible for being properly prepared to be outside for the majority of the day (an outline of proper clothing is attached). Students not properly prepared will not be permitted to attend. Students must also provide their own litter-less lunch.

The Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre is located on 3,000 acres of wetlands, fen and forest in Midland, Ontario (Near Georgian Bay). The Centre includes an amphibian and reptile display hall, hiking, biking and skiing trails, canoeing and kayaking routes, an observation tower and boardwalks, birds of prey display, education classroom, event facilities, gift shop and naturalists on staff.

The excursion is an extension of the regular school program. Accordingly, expectations regarding student behaviour are the same as those for the regular school day. Specifically, the Board and School Codes of Conduct are in effect and apply to students at all times during the excursion. While we do not anticipate any problems, any serious breach of expected conduct on the part of a student may result in that student being sent home at the expense of the parent and further discipline being imposed.

Student information (parent contact information, medical information, emergency contact numbers) contained in your child's school records will be taken along on the excursion and used only in the event of an emergency. Please ensure that all student information regarding address, phone numbers and relevant medical or health concerns is up-to-date. Please be aware that excursions contain an element of risk and accidents may occur that result in injury and/or loss. It is recommended that you consider these risks and discuss these risks with your child. It is also strongly recommended that your child be a member of a medical insurance plan or that you secure additional medical insurance.

Please note that your son/daughter, if 12 years old or older, must also sign this form to acknowledge their acceptance of the above. We are looking forward to an exciting and educationally meaningful excursion. Please indicate your acceptance of the conditions outlined above by completing and returning to the school the attached school permission form.

Yours truly,

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Ms. Fried, Principal

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Mr. Cresswell, Lead Teacher



February 12, 2019

I/We, parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge receipt of the letter dated February 12, 2019 from the school with respect to the upcoming student excursion to the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre March 1, 2019.

I/We give permission for our son/daughter to participate in the school excursion to the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre in Midland, Ontario and understand that this is a personal, family decision. I/We acknowledge that excursions into the community contain an element or risk, which I/We have discussed with my/our son/daughter.

I/We confirm and acknowledge that as a condition to participation in the excursion I/we must assume all risk associated with the activity. I/We understand that my/our son/daughter should be a member of a medical insurance plan. I/We understand and acknowledge that the Peel District School Board will not be held responsible for any liability or medical expenses, due to an injury sustained by the student during this field excursion/excursion.

I/We grant permission to obtain medical treatment in the event of a medical emergency where attempts to make contact using information provided are not successful.

I/We understand and acknowledge that the Board and School have included cancellation insurance to cover circumstances as outlined in the excursion policy, such as a medical condition or school board ruling. However, I/we understand and acknowledge that neither the Peel District School Board nor the School will accept responsibility for any money not refunded by the excursion service provider should I/we subsequently decide not to permit my/our child to travel on the excursion.

I/We understand that the Peel District School Board's Code of Conduct as well as the name of school's Code of Conduct, are in effect and apply to my/our son/daughter at all times during this excursion.

I/We understand that my/our son/daughter is allowed to carry a cell phone for use in an emergency. Otherwise, the cell phone may not be used for any communication or for taking any photographs unless permission is granted by a staff supervisor. Posting photographs or images on the Internet (including social network sites) without adult permission violates the school's code of conduct.

Please note that your son/daughter, if 12 years old or older, must also sign this form to acknowledge their acceptance of the above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student (if 12 years or older)



## How to Dress for Outdoor Winter Activities

With quick-changing weather, dressing in layers is the safest, most comfortable way to enjoy the outdoors in winter. This gives you the ability to add or remove layers in response to changing conditions.

Keep in mind that dressing for outdoor activities is much different than dressing for home. When you are recreating outdoors your clothes should allow you to move freely and comfortably. If you get sweaty climbing uphill, your clothing should wick the moisture away from your body to keep you dry. Wool, silk and synthetic materials (such as polypropylene) are the best to use for the outdoors. Cotton absorbs moisture from your body and dries slowly.

Beyond base layer, mid layer and outwear, be sure to bring the following gear and accessories to ensure warmth, comfort and preparedness for any adventure.

Use this list as a guideline for preparing for your outdoor winter adventure:

### Base Layer

Midweight long underwear top  
Midweight long underwear bottoms  
Synthetic briefs  
Synthetic sports bra  
Wool or synthetic socks

### Insulation Layer

Fleece jacket or wool sweater  
Fleece pants

### Outer Layer

Waterproof/breathable shell jacket or insulated parka  
Waterproof/breathable pants

### Footwear

When trekking up to a mountain peak or in your own backyard, the shoes or boots you wear while snowshoeing is critical to your comfort. Lightweight, waterproof hiking boots or insulated winter footwear will do the trick for trail walking, day hiking and backcountry adventures.



Beyond base layer, mid layer and outwear, be sure to bring the following gear and accessories to ensure warmth, comfort and preparedness for any adventure.

#### Accessories

Wool or fleece hat to prevent heat loss  
Waterproof gloves/mittens  
Gaiters  
Sunglasses

#### Recreational/Trail Gear

Small day pack  
Water (16 oz/hr)  
Trail snacks  
Adjustable Poles  
Sunscreen  
Camera and/or binoculars