



## Update from the Principal, Alison Currie April 2022

It is difficult to believe that we are ready for Semester 2 final exams. Life at SOC has been packed with activity, and the days have sped by. Let's get to the immediate priorities for students.

In these last weeks of final exams, students are focussing on their final submissions and culminating activities for the semester. These final submissions and the exams are very important for students' final results. **April 7 is the last day for semester work to be submitted.** Teachers and counsellors have been very vocal and supportive of students for these important assignments; please do the same.

- April 5/6 – Those who've registered, write the University of Waterloo's Euclid math contest. Good luck to all on this fabulous challenge.
- April 6 will be SOC's Spring Fling in the afternoon
- April 8 – 12 FINAL EXAMS.

The exam schedules have been posted. Students are reminded to be on time for exams – there's not a minute to be wasted when you're writing an exam. SOC's exam conduct code and requirements are posted in all classrooms.

- Report cards will be issued in the week of April 19; marks will also be available through Edsembli (formerly Maplewood).
- April 15 and 18 are holidays in Canada. Schools and most businesses are closed for this Easter holiday.
- April 19 – Semester 3 begins

Many of our students are looking forward toward the holy month of Ramadan. SOC's school and residence staff are helping with preparations to support students, especially those who will be missing their families at this special time.

After exams, students will receive new SOC email addresses; these will be used for all SOC work and correspondence and will replace the personal emails that students use now. Students will also have access to a number of Microsoft Office applications. We'll keep you posted on progress.

Universities continue to send out offers of admission. Students shouldn't worry, however, if they are still waiting to hear. Many universities don't send offers until May. Please contact [molly.mignault@mysoc.ca](mailto:molly.mignault@mysoc.ca) if you have any questions. Ms. Mignault will be sending out a guidance update later in April.

Congratulations to Maryam Yusuf and Molly Mignault who recently completed a series of exciting meetings in Abuja. We hope many of you had a chance to speak with them while they were there.

### **Final Thoughts:**

As we come to the end of another semester and are ready to begin another, principals and teachers across Canadian schools are sharing their thoughts and experiences. We see some common threads across high schools; some are celebratory, and some are cause for concern.

Many students have continued to learn successfully throughout school closures and remote learning. There are a growing number of students who are delaying submitting their work or missing deadlines; others are having trouble with punctuality in terms of arriving at school or missing entire classes. Some teachers observe that their students aren't focussing on required reading or are attempting to copy work from the internet or other students.

These may be after-effects of the many changes to education over the past two years as we worked through a pandemic which limited onsite learning. We know as well as anyone, how challenging the situation has been for families, students, schools and businesses. We are, however, focused on

helping students move beyond these times; we are focused on ensuring they meet the standards of academic work and personal responsibility that will move them forward to post secondary success.

This is our clear statement to students at Southern Ontario Collegiate; it is time to focus, to work to the best of your ability, and devote the necessary energy and time to delivering your best academic results.

All of us at SOC are grateful to you for being part of students' academic journey with us and for being such strong members of the SOC community. I also want to thank our teachers and support staff for the incredible work they do every day. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time.

Alison Currie, Principal  
Southern Ontario Collegiate

#### **How to reach us at SOC**

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