ELMIRA DISTRICT SECONDARY SCHOOL

THE LANCER MONTHLY BRIEF

November 2026

Welcome to November, Lancers!

October flew by in a blur of school spirit, athletic achievements, and hands-on learning. It was wonderful seeing so many families connect with staff during Meet the Teacher Night, and our student energy has been off the charts—from the high-stakes excitement of Battle of the Barns to the inspiring experiences at the Canadian Student Leadership Conference. Our fall sports teams have represented us with pride across field hockey, cross country, basketball, and volleyball, while our co-curriculars are hitting their stride following recent Robotics learning excursions and the DECA Business Symposium. As we turn the page to November, we celebrate these fantastic milestones and maintain our focus on continuous academic progress, with midterm report cards right around the corner.



UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

- *Wednesday, November 4 – Grade 9 "Take Our Kids to Work" Day*
- *Wednesday, November 4 – Junior Football Game Buyout*
- *Wednesday, November 11 – Remembrance Day*
- *Thursday, November 12 – Assessment & Evaluation Day (No classes)*
- *Tuesday, November 17 – Thursday, November 19 – Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)*
  - *For Grade 10 students currently enrolled in Semester 1 English and eligible senior students*
- *Wednesday, December 2 – Grade 8 Information Night*
- *Wednesday, December 9 – Coffee House (EDSS Library, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM)*

UPDATES FROM OUR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

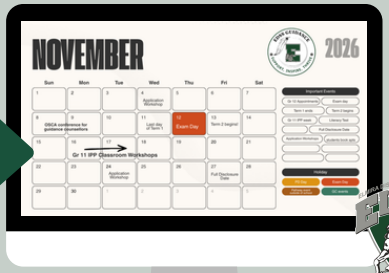
Grade 11 IPP Workshops (Individual Pathway Planning)

- During the week of November 16th, Grade 11 students will participate in IPP classroom workshops. These important sessions help students plan their post-secondary pathways and understand key requirements as they prepare for Grade 12.

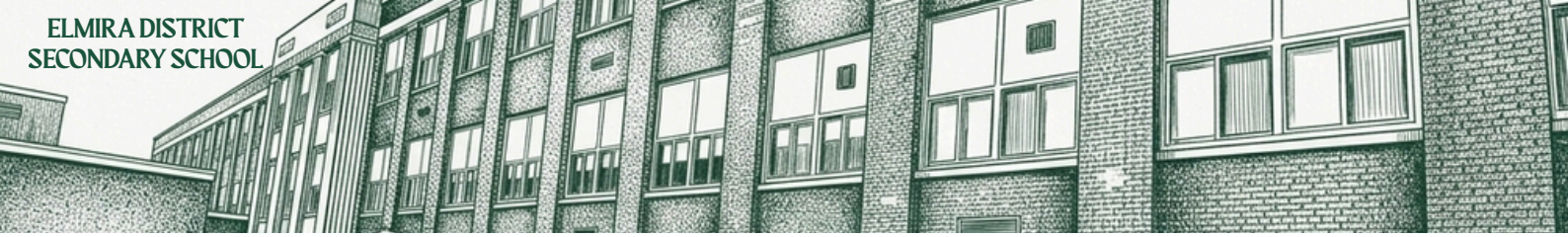
Upcoming November Lunchtime Workshops:

- November 4th: OSAP Workshop
- November 24th: Scholarship & Bursary Workshop

Visit the EDSS website for the 2026/27 Guidance calendar of events!



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OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS...

Hands-on learning in action! Our Grade 9 Science students headed to Camp Heidelberg to conduct a pond study, analyzing local ecosystem health up close.



ONTARIO DECA

Our Senior DECA members attended an exciting Fall Learning Symposium with Ms. Jardim and Ms. Roes. DECA is an extracurricular for those interested in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management.





Waterloo-Oxford hosted a packed crowd for Battle of the Barns under the lights! It was a spectacular night for our football program, with the Junior team securing a 32-21 win and the Senior team delivering a dominant 51-7 victory. With those wins, both teams keep their undefeated WCSSAA records intact.

On October 20th, our Guidance Counselors and Leadership program co-hosted a successful Post-Secondary Fair for students, caregivers, and institution representatives. Engaging activities designed by the Leadership team encouraged students to actively connect with representatives as they explored their future college and university pathways.





Students in our Construction class recently applied their building skills to a real-world fence project in the community.

On October 23rd and 28th, Green Industries, Environmental Science, and Environment/Agriculture SHSM students participated in hands-on field trips to WLU, The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada, and Shuh Orchards. These experiences allowed students to analyze Grand River water health and explore sustainable farming and humane animal care in real-world settings.



Overcast skies couldn't dampen the spirits of our Grade 12s as they gathered bright and early on the football field for Senior Sunrise! Wrapped in cozy blankets with hot drinks in hand, the class of 2027 embraced the cloudy morning together to pause, connect, and celebrate the start of their final chapter at EDSS.

