

Adrienne Clarkson News

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Principal: Nadia Russiello

Superintendent: Lois Agard

Vice Principal: Bryan Gerson

Trustee: Cindy Liang

Administrators' Message

Throughout this past month students have been busy engaging in rich and meaningful classroom activities and lessons, and have had a variety of opportunities to demonstrate school spirit, the power of collaboration, and the importance of celebrating our diverse backgrounds.

This month also saw us celebrating the Lunar New Year. Students had an incredible opportunity to experience a lion dance, and the presenters did a tremendous job. The decorations in the front foyer and the upstairs hallway were great examples to welcome the year of the Rabbit.

Congratulations to the families who won prizes from our annual donation drive. Thank you to all of the families who donated. Your donations support many of the initiatives that our school council supports.

A very important reminder: please help your child be successful by being on time and ready to participate in the learning. If your child is eligible for bussing, we strongly encourage him/her to take the bus in the morning. Supervision begins at 7:50 to 8:05 am. If you are dropping your child off, please aim to be at the school by 8:00 am so your child can enter the school with his/her class and not feel rushed. Students should not be dropped off before 7:50 am as there is no supervision until 7:50 am.

We appreciate everything you do at home to support your child's learning!

Your partners in education,

Mme Russiello et M. Gerson

February

- Feb 1** ~ Popcorn Day
- Feb 2** ~ Jr Boys Volleyball Tournament
- Feb 3** ~ PA Day (no school)
- Feb 7** ~ Mr Sub Lunch
- Feb 8** ~ Popcorn Day
- Feb 8** ~ Visions Tribal Dance Gr 4-8
- Feb 10** ~ Pizza Lunch
- Feb 14** ~ Valentine's Day
- Feb 14** ~ Red, White & Pink Day
- Feb 14** ~ Mr Sub Lunch
- Feb 15** ~ Popcorn Day
- Feb 17** ~ Pizza Lunch
- Feb 20** ~ Family Day (no school)
- Feb 21** ~ Term 1 Report Cards go home electronically this week
- Feb 21** ~ Mr Sub Lunch
- Feb 21 - 24** ~ Primary Carnival
- Feb 22** ~ Popcorn Day
- Feb 22** ~ 2A/2C trip - Swan Lake
- Feb 23** ~ 2B, 2/3A, 2/3B Trip - Swan Lake
- Feb 24** ~ Pizza Lunch
- Feb 24** ~ 4A Trip to Swan Lake
- Feb 27** ~ 4B Trip to Swan Lake
- Feb 28** ~ 7A, 7/8A Trip - Swan Lake
- Feb 28** ~ Mr Sub Lunch
- Mar 1** ~ 7B, 7/8B Trip - Swan Lake
- Mar 6** ~ School Council Mtg (7 pm)
- Mar 13-17** ~ March Break



February is Black History Month

Every February, people in Canada are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities. While February is Black history month, we acknowledge that this is a dedicated month of focus but the learning continues all year long.

For more information, see: t.ly/DpPl

Winter Weather & Recess



Students should come dressed appropriately for the weather and for outdoor play. Students can stay warm by wearing layers of loose-fitting clothing, a hat, scarf, jackets, snow pants and mittens or gloves. Students may also want to bring extra pants and socks in case they get wet.

If students are well enough to come to school, they are expected to go outside for recess. Our students benefit from spending time outside and being active. We monitor weather conditions throughout the day. If there are extreme weather conditions, we may consider a shortened or indoor recess.

LUNCH ASSISTANTS ARE NEEDED

Are you able to spare 1 hour of time over our lunch hour? This is a paid position from 11:55 a.m. to 12:55 p.m. Our lunch assistants are invaluable members of our school team as they supervise while students eat, as well as during outdoor recess. Please call the school office if you can help.

Our Grade 3 students will be writing the Mathematics portion of the EQAO assessment and our Grade 6 students will be writing the Reading Writing and Mathematics EQAO assessment later this year. Please do not book appointments or vacations during the period of **Wednesday, May 10, to Wednesday, June 14, 2023**. More information for families will be provided as we approach these dates. Thank you for your cooperation.

Are You Moving?

If you will be moving by September 2023, please let us know as soon as possible.

We are currently projecting our student enrolment for September 2023. These numbers help us hire sufficient staff and support personnel. It is important that we know as soon as possible if your child will not be attending ACPS in September. This does not apply to our Grade 8 students.

Thank you for your assistance in preparing for the new school year. Please call the office with any information at 905-709-3554.



Message from Our Trustee

I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to 2023, and enjoyed their winter break.

One of the most important roles of school board trustees is **communicating with the public**.

I hope to use this newsletter as one way to keep you updated on Board news, to communicate my role as trustee and how I can support you, and to answer some of the questions I am often asked as a trustee.

Communicating with the public includes both sharing information and attending events to build relationships with families, but also ensuring I am available to you. If you have questions about Board policies or budget, concerns about your community, ideas and suggestions, or have a question and don't know [who to call](#), please feel free to reach out. I am happy to assist you.

Our Board of Trustees is made up of 12 trustees elected during the municipal election process, and one Indigenous trustee appointed through a separate process. Eight of the 12

lected trustees are new this term, and we are all looking forward to connecting with families and fulfilling our roles to support student achievement and well-being.

What do Trustees Do?

In addition to communicating with the public, we are also responsible for:

Establishing a Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This [plan](#) sets out our priorities as a school board and guides our direction and decision making as a system.

Setting policy. [Policies](#) govern the operation of our schools and organization, including field trips, school transportation, homework, caring and safe schools and much more. You can find out which policies are up for review in our [meeting agendas](#), or which [policies are out for comment](#) on the website. Your participation in this process is important to ensuring our policies are serving our communities and align with our priorities.

Setting an annual budget. I look forward to sharing more information about this process with you in the coming months as we engage in [budget](#) consultations.

Participating on Board and Advisory Committees. You can find the dates and agendas for these meetings on the Board website. You are welcome to attend and observe any [public Board, Advisory and Board Committee meetings](#).

Hiring the Director of Education. This process is governed by the [Director of Education Selection Policy](#), and we will keep you updated as this process progresses. In the meantime, I am deeply grateful to Interim Director of Education Scott Yake for his commitment and service.

Advocating for quality public education. I became a school board trustee because I believe in public education. I believe in the potential of each and every one of our students and our responsibility to nurture their learning, growth and achievement. Our decisions as a board are centred on our commitment to deliver the best for our students.

What's Happening in YRDSB?

[Kindergarten](#) registration opened January 20 for families with children who will start Kindergarten in September 2023.

[French Immersion registration](#) is open from January 20-February 6 for students entering Grade 1 in September 2023.

[Student trustee elections](#) are currently underway. All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the student trustees who will represent them next school year.

In February, we recognize Black History Month, celebrating the contributions of Black people to the fabric of our society. I encourage you to visit the Board's [Centre for Black Student Excellence webpage](#) and [newsletter](#) to learn more about upcoming events during Black History Month and what's happening in the Board to celebrate Black excellence.

Family Day and the March Break are also approaching and we hope everyone enjoys the break.

There are a number of other events for families coming up and I encourage you to check the [Board calendar](#).

New Schools

One of the other questions I am asked, particularly in growing communities is about new schools or capital projects. I can let you know that in our municipality the following [capital projects](#) have received approval:










- [Oak Ridges Secondary School](#)(current site for Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning). Opening date to be determined.

There are many ways you can stay up-to-date with what's happening in our school board. Visit the [newsroom](#) or website homepage at www.yrdsb.ca. Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow the Board on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) or [YouTube](#). Read your school newsletters and emails. I look forward to staying connected with you.

Cindy Liang

Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5 and 6

February's Holidays and Observances

 Bahá'í Faith	Feb 7 ~ Mulk Feb 26 ~ Ayyám-i-Há
 Buddhism	Feb 5 ~ Magha (Sangha Day) Feb 15 ~ Nehan-e (Nirvana Day) Feb 16 ~ Nichiren Shonin's Birth date Feb 21 ~ Losar - Tibetan New Year
 Christianity	Feb 21 ~ Shrove Tuesday (W) Feb 22 ~ Ash Wednesday (W) Feb 27 ~ Great Fast begins (E)
 Hinduism	Feb 18 ~ Mahashivaratri
 Indigenous Spirituality	Feb 1 ~ Midwinter Moon (local Oneida)
 Judaism	Feb 5 ~ Eve of Tu B'Shevat Feb 6 ~ Tu B'Shevat
 Islam	Feb 16 ~ Lailat al-Mi'rāj (Night Journey to Heaven) (beginning at sunset to sunset of the next day)
 Shinto	Feb 3 ~ Setsubun-sai
 Wicca	Feb. 2 ~ Imbolc
Other Events This Month	Black History Month (Canada, USA) Feb 21 ~ Family Day