



Barbara Reid Public School

130 Hoover Park Drive, Stouffville, ON, L4A 1S5

Email: barbara.reid.ps@yrdsb.ca

Website: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/barbarareid.ps>

905-591-3800

September 18th, 2023

How to Reach Us

School Secretary

Vicky Yakubuski

vicky.yakubuski@yrdsb.ca

905-591-3800, ext. 151

Elementary Office

Assistant

Melissa Tomczak

melissa.tomczak@yrdsb.ca

905-591-3800, ext. 150

Vice Principal

Rizwana Kaderdina

rizwana.kaderdina@yrdsb.ca

905-591-3800, ext. 152

Principal

John Bearcroft

john.bearcroft@yrdsb.ca

905-591-3800, ext. 153

Superintendent

Liz Davis

elizabeth.davis@yrdsb.ca

905-895-5155

Trustee

Melanie Wright

melanie.wright@yrdsb.ca

(289) 221-7393

A Message From The Office

There is lots of excitement in the school as extra-curricular activities and field trips get underway, and as we prepare for the Terry Fox Run. We appreciate being part of such a vibrant, energetic school community with enthusiastic students, supportive families, and dedicated staff.

We share our condolences with any families impacted by the floods that took place in Libya last weekend. Please reach out if there is anything we can do to support you/your child.

Important Dates

September 19: Grade 7 Field Trip to Sibbald Point Outdoor Education Centre (Mr. Jones's & Ms. Balakumar's class)

September 19: [Powley Day](#)

September 20: Grade 7 Field Trip to Sibbald Point Outdoor Education Centre (Mr. Wilson's & Ms. Balakumar's class)

September 22: PA Day (no school for students)

September 28: [Yom Kippur](#)

September 26: Grade 8 visit with Team Unbreakable

September 27: Meet the Educator Night (6pm - 7pm)
[Rowan's Law Day](#)

September 28: Grade 8 Trip to Toronto
Grade 8 Information Session for Bill Crothers SS
(7pm - 8:30pm)

September 29: Orange Shirt Day at BRPS

September 30: [Orange Shirt Day](#) across Canada
[National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

October 03: Grade 8 Information Session for Bill Crothers SS
(7pm - 8:30pm)

October 04: [Terry Fox Run](#) (2pm - 3:20pm)

October 10: Cross-Country Area Meet

October 11: School Council Meeting (7pm - 8:30pm)

October 12: Grade 8 Information Session for Milliken Mills HS IB Program (7pm - 8:30pm)

October 12: Cross-Country Area Meet (Alternate Date)

Touchstone Focus

WORDS MATTER

We believe in equity and inclusivity. We accept people for who they are.

Mental Health Tip of the Week

Having a positive attitude may not solve your problems, but makes solving any problem a more pleasant experience.

Thank you to the Mental health and Well-Being Committee for our weekly tips!

Resources

[Special Education Information](#) and [translated versions](#) of important documents can be accessed on the [YRDSB page](#).

[Faith Accommodations](#) can be requested at any time. Please reach out to the school if you need to make a request.

Keeping Our Students Safe

Thank you to all for helping keep our school safe! We greatly appreciate that families are ensuring snack and lunch items are nut-free, peanut-free, and sesame-free, and that Kiss & Ride and Pick-Up/Drop-Off guidelines are followed. Thank you for your cooperation!

This week, as students engaged in active play at recess, they practiced being safe by keeping hands to themselves, their feet on the ground, and attending to their surroundings to avoid trips and falls..

Reminders

School Start-Up Packages: [this page](#) may be helpful with completing the [School Start-Up Forms](#). Please note that pages on the school website can be translated into many different languages to support accessibility.

York Region Public Health is offering vaccines at no cost to Grade 7-8 students. Please review [this message](#) that was sent out last week for more information.

Edsby: For support with Edsby, please see the [Family Welcome Letter](#) and [Edsby Instructions](#).

School News and Events

Cross-Country practice has started! Students are getting active and getting moving!

"Toonies for Terry" are being collected in homeroom classes to raise money for the Terry Fox Foundation. Donations can also be made online. All students will receive ballots and have the opportunity to win a T-shirt - winners will be announced on October 4th, the day of the Terry Fox Run!

Grade 8 Ensemble: Our musically inclined Grade 8 students interested in joining the Ensemble were invited to do so last week.

Basketball Drop-In started on Friday! A great way to get the weekend started!

The BRPS Community Book Share is here! Bring books your family is no longer using to the collection bin at the front of the school until September 25th. On September 27th, during Meet the Educator Night, donated books will be available for BRPS families to browse through and take home at no cost. A great way to give some pre-loved books new homes!

Thank you to Ms. Anderson, Ms. Perfetti, Ms. K. Taylor, Ms. St. Louis, Ms. Rai, Ms. Sawyer, Mr. Murray, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Glashan for facilitating these opportunities.

BRPS Photo Gallery



Kindergarten students play together outdoors



Students participate in the Terry Fox Assembly

From the Board



Grade 7 and 8 students who identify as Muslim are invited to join the [Nur Muslim Mentorship Program](#). Students in this program will have the opportunity to build relationships with other Muslim-identifying students and staff throughout the YRDSB through facilitated sessions. Interested students can apply [here](#) until October 12, 2023.



The Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter is brought to families by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel. The [September 2023](#) edition is now available.



Indigenous Education: Students' Perspectives

This [podcast episode](#) sheds light on the diverse experiences of Indigenous students in the education system, emphasizing the importance of representation and understanding within the York Region District School Board. Indigenous student trustees' Holly and Lily's stories offer listeners a valuable perspective on the ongoing journey toward inclusive and equitable Indigenous education in Ontario.

From the Community

Please click on the embedded links for more on the following events, information, and resources.

Supports for 2SLGBTQIA+ Students

- [LGBT National Hotline](#) - 1-888-843-4564
- [Trans Lifeline](#) - 1-877-330-6366
- [LGBT Youthline](#) - 1-888-687-9688
- [Hope for Wellness Helpline](#) (for Indigenous People) - 1-855-242-3310



Shared from YRDSB Special Education Resource Team

Humber College virtual [open house](#) for Community Integration through Co-operative Education (CICE) program

JOIN US to learn more about the Humber CICE Program.
We will be speaking about:

- What is the CICE Program?
- Supports provided in the CICE Program
- Admissions Process for Fall 2023

Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 7:00 PM ET ON ZOOM

JOIN US to learn more about the Humber CICE Program.
We will be speaking about:

- What is the CICE Program?
- Supports provided in the CICE Program
- Admissions Process for Fall 2023



Shared from the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation

Community members are invited to join the Chippewas of Georgina Island's 2023 Pow Wow on September 23, 2023

Please review the protocols for attendance:

- Do your research before you attend. Pow wows are fun events, but they are also sacred. Learn about the history and significance of pow wows.
- Listen to the MC and follow their instructions. They will guide you on protocol.
- Be respectful at the event.
- Ask before taking photos. There are some times that should not be photographed.
- Pets are not permitted to attend. This community event is also alcohol and drug-free.
- Do not touch a dancer's regalia. It is not a costume.
- Bring your own chair. Do not sit in someone else's chair, or a seat reserved for someone else.
- Remember that you are a guest. Have fun and ask questions.

FREE




LET'S DESTIGMATIZE BLACK MENTAL HEALTH

How culture and community can enhance our mental well-being.

GUEST SPEAKER: MICHAEL BOWE,MSW

Date: Saturday, September 23rd, 2023

Time: 11 am - 2 pm

Location: York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families, 13209 Leslie St, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1N2

Intersection: Leslie Rd. and 19th Ave.

Click to Register: <https://DestigmatizeBlackMentalHealth.eventbrite.ca>

Caribbean Lunch will be served

Funded by: 



Shared from the [York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities](#)

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lets-destigmatize-black-mental-health-tickets-715029902687?aff=oddtcreator>

Let's Destigmatize Black Mental Health: How culture and community can enhance our mental well-being

Guest Speaker: Michael Bowe

Join us for a vibrant, interactive adult-adult learning experience through the use of visual and audio aids. During this workshop, you will connect to the community by:

1. Cultural communal ways of being and doing have we forgotten/discarded that we need to reach back and fetch
2. The proven power of communal healing and love, the value of self-compassion
3. How can we learn from our cultural inheritance and great creators/architects present or past

Date: Saturday, September 23rd, 2023, Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Register [Here](#)

FREE




Sankofa Mentoring Cultural Identity Programs





Sankofa Mentoring Program Grades 7-12

Sankofa Identity Program Grades 4-6

Storytelling Program Grades 4-6

The Sankofa Mentoring Program provides Black students in grades 4 to 12 with a powerful African-centered curriculum founded on the Ngori Saba principles. Students can participate in various activities such as cultural games, drumming, creating storybooks for children, field trips, listening to guest speakers, learning about Black Heroes and Sheroes, as well as studying African languages. This program allows students to explore their racial and cultural identity, enhance their self-esteem, develop critical thinking skills, engage in self-reflection, foster teamwork, and promote the building of a stronger community. The program is available both online and in-person and includes tutoring/homework help for students registered in the program. Additionally, we offer programs for parents to encourage their engagement. Embark on a life-changing adventure by becoming a part of our community.



Scan for more information:



647-425-5700

gmpr@sankofamentoring.ca

<https://yssaac.ca/>

Shared from the [York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities](#)

"A people without the knowledge of their history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots"

The York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities (YRAACC) is starting the school year by relaunching its [Sankofa Mentoring Programs](#). Our aims are to improve the self-esteem and self-efficacy of Black students by providing them with education about their cultural identity. We are looking forward to connecting you and your child(ren) to our Sankofa Village

[Registration is now open.](#)

YSSI

YOUTH SCHOOL SUCCESS INITIATIVE



Youth School Success Initiative (YSSI) is an ethnic-specific collaborative made up of 7 York and Toronto based agencies working together to empower the educational and holistic success of Black youth in York and Toronto regions. YSSI will develop a wrap-around program that best meets the needs of identified Black youth in the York Region and Toronto District School Boards.

MACCA

Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association

Mental Health Education and Support

Theme: Mental health and wellness component

MACCA vision is to focus on African positive identity formation, Rites of passage as a foundation for mental wellness, and supporting children in developing a positive sense of self.

Children will have a better understanding of the various influences on their identity formation and will feel more confident in their identity as a person of African descent and can use this foundation to confidently address various issues.

To provide parents and caregivers tools that will allow them to be more intentional in supporting their children's development of a positive sense of self.

Contact: www.naccacommunity.ca | Email: info@naccacommunity.ca | Phone: 905-781-6222

Outcomes to overall program

- Increased understanding of what mental health is
- Increased understanding of what mental wellness is
- Increased understanding of what positive identity is and how it is formed
- Increased understanding of the 7 principles of Kwanzaa

Shared from the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association ([NACCA](#))

Youth School Success Initiative (YSSI) for Black Youth

The YSSI program curriculum focuses on supporting Black youth with academics and exercising confidence in their cultural identity in order to ensure a holistically excellent learning experience, and motivation toward high school.

The theme focuses on African Positive Identity formation, Rites of Passage as a foundation of Mental Wellness, development of a positive sense of self and tools for caregivers to aid in supporting their child(ren) development.

The Outcome is for each participant to have an increased understanding of mental health and wellness, positive identity and the 7 principles of Kwanzaa.

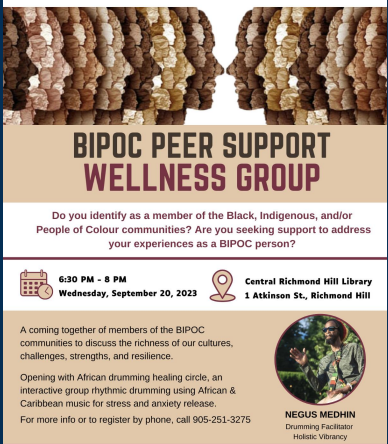
Registration link: [YSSI - MACCA \(macca1987.com\)](https://www.naccacommunity.ca)



Shared from the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association ([NACCA](#))

The Network of Therapists provides quality mental health supports to members of the Black Community. Services address a wide variety of issues ranging from trauma (sexual, physical and trauma related to immigration), depression, anxiety, worry, grief and stress, including societal stressors relating to the Social Determinants of Health (racism, poverty, housing, employment, family issues, etc.). Counselling support is offered in diverse areas such as Black men’s mental health, caregiver support for parenting children and youth, seniors, wellness support for members of the Black 2SLGBTQ+ community, to name a few.

To learn more, click [HERE](#)



Shared from the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association ([NACCA](#))

Krasman Centre introduces BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Colour) Peer Support Wellness Group. A coming together of members of the BIPOC communities, for opportunities to discuss the richness of our cultures, challenges, strengths, and resilience, despite the state of our current societal environment. This group will be guided by the core values of peer support.

Eligibility:

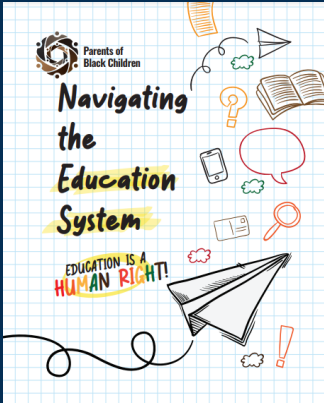
- Must identify as a member of the BIPOC communities
- Must be an adult aged 16 years or older

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Time: 6:30pm – 8pm ET

Where: In-person at Richmond Hill Central Public Library (1 Atkinson Street, Richmond Hill ON L4C 0H5)

Register [HERE](#)



Shared from Parents of Black Children ([PoBC](#))

This [guide](#) supports parents of Black children in navigating the education system. For further information, support, and resources, contact the Parents of Black Children (PoBC) group on their [website](#).