

BAYVIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL



E-bulletin Sept 3rd, 2021

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Administration

Ms. A. Higgins Wright, Principal

Ms. K. Irvine, Vice-Principal; Mr. S. Ishiguro, Vice-Principal; Ms. S. Sadacharan, Vice-Principal

Dear families,

We look forward to welcoming back both our remote and in-person learners to school next week. Our school team has been busy preparing to transition and welcome our students. Below is some important information for you for the first day of school for your child who will be learning remotely.

Accessing Online Classrooms

- Students will receive information from their classroom teacher outlining how to access their online classroom.
- Online Learning Platforms - Resources for accessing and using Google Classroom and Brightspace/D2L can be found on the Board website in addition to other family resources and student tools and resources. If your child does not know their GAPS login information, you can contact the school office
- Technology - If your child requires technology to access **remote learning**, please contact the school office.

We appreciate that families have many questions. We will continue to share information with you, and work with you to support your child in transitioning back to school. Additional information is also available on the Board website, including health and safety measures, frequently asked questions and resources at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening. In addition, earlier this week, the Board held a town hall responding to questions submitted by families.

[A recording of the town hall is available.](#)

We look forward to seeing our in-person and remote learners next week.

Bayview Secondary School
Administration

Message from Our Trustee, September 2021

We have many reasons to feel optimistic as we begin the 2021-22 school year. Schools are reopening to in-person learning, vaccination rates continue to increase, and our students can start to resume some of their favourite school activities.

As we return to school, our [reopening plan](#) continues to prioritize the health and safety of students, families and staff members. We are working with public health to ensure we are taking all appropriate measures. For more information on the plan, including health and safety measures, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening. You can also find additional information from York Region Public Health at www.york.ca/safeatschool.

The pandemic and last year's school closures affected students and families in many different ways. This has been a challenging time. Our caring, skilled and dedicated staff members are prepared to prioritize the mental health and well-being of students as they transition back to school, as well as supporting their academic learning and growth. If you are worried about your child, please speak to your child's teacher or principal. You may also find some of the [learning and well-being resources](#) on our website helpful.

Whether your child will be attending school in person or online, we know how important it is that they feel safe, respected and valued. We want every student to feel supported, to take pride in their identities and to know that they matter. Any form of hate or discrimination in our schools is not acceptable. This school year, we will continue to implement the [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#) launched in March to address anti-Black racism in

schools. We also remain committed as a school board to honouring the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#). As an education system, it is imperative that we create learning environments that enable all of our students to feel valued and to be successful.

As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#). We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

The relationship that we have with families is so important, and I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website. You are welcome to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

There are also many other ways you can stay connected with what's happening in the school board. Visit our [newsroom](#). Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow us on [Twitter @YRDSB](#) and on [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#). Watch the latest videos, including news, features and profiles about our schools, students and staff members on our [YouTube channel YRDSBMedia](#).

As we begin another school year, I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

Cindy Liang
Trustee – Richmond Hill Wards 3, 5 and 6

ABC's of Mental Health

Throughout the year, schools will engage with you in open and ongoing dialogue to learn more about your child so we can best support their mental health and well-being.

Responding to the global pandemic has brought many changes, challenges, and new learning for all of us. We understand that mental health is vital. In this effort, YRDSB has developed and will be implementing a series of lessons for students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 that will be delivered by teachers before the end of September in elementary schools and by October 15, 2021 in secondary schools. The lessons focus upon and support student mental health, well-being and learning. While teachers will provide information and activities through the lessons, they will not provide counseling. The lessons were developed by a multidisciplinary team, including YRDSB Mental Health professionals. If students require the support of the YRDSB Mental Health professionals, this support will be available to you and your child. Lessons will be delivered by teachers within a 30-40 minute time frame depending on the grade level. The lessons include activities and information that focus on the ABC's of Mental Health:

- **Acknowledging** feelings and life experiences over the pandemic and how these affect our mental health as individuals and as communities
- **Bridge** (or link to) to personal and community assets and strengths as a way to build mental health and wellness.
- **Connection** with our community and with those around us who can help support mental health and well-being.

School administrators and educators received support in the content and delivery of the lessons. We know they are looking forward to sharing the learning and to get to know your child better as we explore these lessons.

We recognize the important role that families hold in the development and support of your child's well-being. The following resources may help you support your child and their learning at school.

[How to Talk With Your Child When you Feel Concerned They may be Struggling With a Mental Health Problem](#)

This resource offers parents and families helpful tips and suggestion to help support conversations with your child about their mental health

[Tips for Parents and Families to Support Their Child's Wellness as they Return to School](#)

This resource provides some helpful wellness tips parents and families can try at home in preparation for a healthy return to school.

[YRDSB Student Mental Health Supports](#)

This page provides an overview of some of the YRDSB mental health supports available, family mental health newsletters, and partnerships with community mental health agencies.

Please let us know how we can better support your child's mental health and well-being. Feel free to contact your child's teacher or principal. More information will be shared in the future.

Lunch Rooms

Students are welcome to eat lunch in the cafeteria, in our designated "overflow lunch rooms" and in the hallways throughout the school while maintaining a 2 m physical distance between each other. Please note that our Overflow Lunch Rooms have a capacity limit of 14 and are assigned by grade as follows:

Room 52 (Gr.9), Room 53 (Gr.10), Room 54 (Gr.11), Room 84 (Gr.12)

Students are asked to enter the cafeteria through the entrance and exit at the designated doors. The tables in the cafeteria have a capacity of 4 students and are grouped into quadrants by grade. If the grade's quadrant has reached its maximum capacity, the student will be asked to move to the appropriate overflow lunch room.