

May 5, 2015



Weekly Focus

We have started the process of planning for next year. We have already hired our first two new teachers and we will be hiring a few more over the next few weeks. Mr. Vlachopoulos is working with a team to build our timetable for next year. Ms. Corneman and her team are putting the finishing touches on our graduation ceremony. In other words spring is upon us and we are starting to wrap up this year and think about next year.

Dates at a Glance

May 8	P.A. DAY
May 18	Victoria Day
May 25	CARRNIVAL
May 28	Prom

Many of our senior students have started to receive acceptances from colleges and universities. We know that although our seniors have many of the traits of young adults they sometimes struggle to stay focused these last few months of high school. Every summer I receive two or three panicked emails from students asking me to change their marks. Students received an acceptance to a program but their marks have dropped and now the acceptance has been revoked.

Most often it is the attendance patterns that change and shortly thereafter marks begin to drop. My answer to these emails is always the same, “unfortunately I am unable to change your marks, I would be happy to meet with you to discuss alternative ways you retake the course and boost your marks.”

Please encourage your children to continue to attend every day and demonstrate the high level of commitment that they have demonstrated throughout their time at ECSS. We know ECSS students who attend every day are poised for success in their future endeavors. We want to ensure all students have a smooth transition from their last semester of high school to their life after high school.

Contact Information

Chair of the Board & Board Trustee,
Anna DeBartolo
416-898-9653
anna.debartolo@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent of Schools,
Becky Green
905-764-6830
becky.green@yrdsb.ca

ECSS
905-850-5012

Principal
Paolo Burzese
paolo.burzese@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
Lisa Weekes
lisa.weekes@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
Michael Vlachopoulos
michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca

Thank you,

Paolo Burzese

GUIDANCE AND CAREER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The **Guidance and Career Education E-Bulletin** can now be found under the Guidance link of the ECSS website.

Traffic Safety

With the coming of better weather and road conditions there is also an increase in student traffic on sidewalks, laneways, and roads. We would like to remind our student pedestrians and student drivers to be alert and to observe the rules of the road. Be Safe Thunderbirds!



School Newsletter Insert

York Region District School Board Student Surveys

In order to provide information for Board and School planning, York Region District School Board students in Grades 5 to 12 will be invited to participate in a school survey. The survey, which is anonymous and confidential, will be conducted from **April 7 to May 15, 2015** and will take place at school. The information from this survey will be used to identify areas to be addressed, monitor progress and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. Aligned with Board priorities, the survey will address topics including equity and inclusion, school safety, learning environment, student well-being and other priorities. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

PISA International Student Assessment

Our school has been selected to participate in the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA). The main purpose of the study is to determine whether youth across 70 countries are acquiring the necessary skills and knowledge to meet the challenges of the future. 42 ECSS students have been randomly selected by the PISA organization to respond to questions related to mathematics, science and reading. Their participation does not affect their school marks or records in any way. Those students who have been selected to participate have been notified. We are excited to have our students represent Ontario and Canada!



Youth Training Programs (Youth 16-24)

GET THE SKILLS EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR



Financial Literacy

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 : 4:00pm- 7:00pm
Knowledge on becoming a smart consumer, understand basic banking systems, credit and debt, and know how to budget and save!

Practical Budgeting and Healthy Cooking

Tuesday, May 5, 2015 : 4:00pm- 7:00pm
Attend workshops that will enhance your knowledge of how to manage a budget to create affordable and healthy meals.

Conflict Resolution Management Training

Saturday, May 16, 2015 : 9:00am – 4:00pm
Understand and practice the necessary and fundamental communication skills that help to promote effective conflict resolution and management.

Diffusing Angry Customers Training

Tuesday, May 26, 2015 : 4:00pm- 7:00pm
Become aware what to do when serving challenging and demanding customers

Team Building Training

Tuesday, May 19 and Thursday, May 21, 2015 : 4:00pm- 7:00pm
Learn the skills that are involved in becoming a team player and supporting your team, as well as steps involved in building a team

First AID/CPR Training

Friday, June 12th and Saturday, June 13 2015 : 9:00am - 4:00pm both days
Receive your First Aid/CPR Certificate by attending these 2 day workshops!

Free YRT bus tickets are provided to participants

Registration:

To register, call Stacey at 905-303-8490
Ext. 151

Location:

9401 Jane Street, Suite 106, Vaughan
ON L6A 4H7

Eligibility to Participate in

Training/Workshops:

Participants must have a low-moderate family income of \$70,000 or less

Please let us know if you require any specific accommodations



For more program information, visit our:

Facebook [facebook.com/vaughan.vchc](https://www.facebook.com/vaughan.vchc)

Web www.vaughanhealthcarehc.com

Blog <http://www.vaughanhealthcarehcblog.com>



Funded through
The Regional Municipality of York



Expert Guest Speaker Series for Parents and Guardians!

Understanding and Managing Academic Stress

Richmond Hill High School and Bayview Secondary School invite parents and guardians in the community to join us for one or both information evenings on supporting students' academic success and well-being.



Bayview Secondary School

Thursday, May 7th, 2015
7:00 – 8:30 pm

Presenters:
CMHA – Canadian Mental Health Association and students



Richmond Hill High School

Thursday, May 14th, 2015
7:00 – 9:00 pm

Presenters:
Michelle Cassidy (YRDSB Mental Health Lead), Youthspeak, and students

- Join us to:
- 1) Identify and understand the signs that suggest students are stressed
 - 2) Learn practical strategies to support and empower students
 - 3) Have your questions answered

Save a seat and RSVP via Google Form - <http://goo.gl/oooUFL>

Please let us know if you need support with translation in the following languages:
Farsi, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean



Raising Resilient Children

Wednesday, May 12, 2015
9:30 - 11:30 pm

One of the most important tasks of parenthood is helping children learn to deal with their emotions. All children experience periods of stress in their lives and need the emotional skills to deal with it. Children's emotional resilience or ability to cope with their feelings, is important to their long-term happiness, wellbeing and success in life. Emotional resilience involves six key skills recognizing and accepting feelings, expressing feelings appropriately, having a positive outlook, developing effective ways of coping being able to deal with negative feelings and being able to manage stressful life events. This tip sheet provides some ideas on how to help children become emotionally resilient.

Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program

Location: **Vaughan Community Health Centre**
9401 Jane Street,
Suite 106, Vaughan ON, L6A 4H7

For more information or to register please call Stacy at 905-303-8490 Ext 151

*"This flyer is available in an alternate format"
If you require any special accommodations please let us know*

Triple P offers adults parenting skills that encourage positive behaviour in children.
Everyone can help, whether you are a parent, coach, neighbour or family member by
using the same positive messages with children.



Raising Confident, Competent Children

Wednesday, June 16, 2015
9:30 - 11:30 pm

The values, skills and behaviour to encourage in children are the choice of every individual parent. However, some core skills are important for everyone. Children are more likely to be confident, succeed at school and get on well with others when they develop certain life skills. These life skills include being respectful and considerate, communicating well with others, thinking positively and having healthy self-esteem, being a good problem solver, and becoming independent and able to do things for themselves. This tip sheet gives some ideas on how to help children learn these important life skills and become confident and competent individuals.

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