



Emily Carr SS e-Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

February 9, 2024

In this Issue:

- School Council Meeting
- University of Waterloo Math Contest
- Student Trustee Elections
- Grad Photo Retake

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception

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Attendance

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Guidance

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emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca

Online

[School website](#)



@emilycarryrdsb

Message from Administration

Please review our newsletter for important updates.

Timetable as of January 8, 2024:

Schedule	Start	End
Period 1 (75 min)	8:00am	9:15am
Homeroom (5 min)	9:15am	9:20am
Travel Time	9:20am	9:25am
Period 2 (75 min)	9:25am	10:40am
Travel Time	10:40am	10:45am
Period 3 Lunch (75 min)	10:45am	12:00pm
Travel Time	12:00pm	12:05pm
Period 4 (75 min)	12:05pm	1:20pm
Travel Time	1:20pm	1:25pm
Period 5 (75 min)	1:25pm	2:40pm

Administration

Principal

[Tanya-Lynn Paul](#)



Vice Principals

[Nadira Lawrence-Selan](#) (A-L)

[Paula Borges](#) (M-Z)

School Council

Ajay Kumar (co-chair)

Andre Tsopeles (co-chair)

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



School News

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school. Please see the attached information sheet.

University of Waterloo Math Contests:

Students in Grades 9 - 11 are invited to write the University of Waterloo's Pascal (Gr. 9), Cayley (Gr. 10), or Fermat (Gr.11) math contest. They will be written **in person at ECSS** on **Wednesday, February 28th**.

Students in Grade 12 are invited to write the University of Waterloo's Euclid math contest. It will be written **in person at ECSS** on **Wednesday April 3rd**.

Participating in a mathematics and computing contest helps students develop invaluable skills, like creative problem-solving and big-picture thinking. Students applying to a program in the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo are strongly encouraged to participate. If they are interested in registering, please have your child join our Google Classroom (Code to Join: 33lenal) and submit their payment on School Cash Online by **Friday February 9th**.

Please email Ms. Ahmed (sobia.ahmed@yrdsb.ca) if you have any questions.

Grad Photo Retake - Attention Grade 12 students!

Edge Imaging will be here to take graduation photos for only **one more day** on **Thursday February 15**. If you haven't taken your grad photos already, this is your **last chance** to do so and be included on the graduation composite.

Please sign up for a grad photo on-line at:

www.bookmygrad.ca, our school code is: **YEC**



Important Dates

Monday, February 19, 2024

- Family Day

Tuesday, February 20

- School Council Meeting @ 7pm

March 11-15, 2024

- March Break

Helpful Links

CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:

[Kids Help Phone](#)
[Report It \(YRDSB\)](#)

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:

[310-COPE](#): 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7

[KidsHelpPhone](#): 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7



School News

Morning Announcements

The time school announcements are made during the school day is changing. Currently announcements are made at the beginning of period 1. It will be shifted to the end of period 1. This will help students be in class on time for **8:00am**. This change will take effect on **Monday, January 8**. In addition this will help to ensure all of our students are able to hear the announcements and not miss important information as sometimes busses are late to the school, and some of our Grade 12 students have period 1 spare.

Hall Passes

In an effort to promote student safety and in consultation with our school council and school community members, we will be implementing a hall pass system. Each teacher will be given a hall pass for their classrooms and students wishing to leave the classroom to use the washroom must have a hall pass. Staff will also be tracking the time that a student leaves the classroom and when they return back to class.

Student Trustee Elections

All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board (central, east, north and west). Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2024-2025 school year. [Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting period.](#)

School Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 20 - 7:00pm Emily Carr Secondary School Library

Centre for Black Excellence

[Here are several events](#) that are taking place within York Region District School Board and our broader community to recognize Black History Month and beyond.



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School News

Winter Weather

With the arrival of winter weather, we wanted to provide some important reminders about the steps we take to keep students safe when severe weather occurs.

School Transportation Cancellations

School transportation (buses and taxis) may be cancelled due to extreme cold or inclement weather. On these days, schools will remain open unless otherwise stated. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon. Any special or hot lunch days and field trips will also be cancelled.

Families should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school on extreme cold or inclement weather days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on those days. For safety reasons, please ensure you let the school know if your child will not be attending school that day.

School Closures

Emergency closures will be considered when conditions may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations or access to the school site (e.g., widespread, prolonged power failures or downed power lines).

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. However, it is important that families have alternate childcare arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and aftercare programs will not operate if schools are closed.

Communication to Families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance when we may be considering closing school and Board offices. Transportation cancellations or school closures are communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services: www.schoolbuscity.com /1-877-330-3001
- [Board](#) and school website
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

For more information on [severe weather days](#), please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.



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Updates from Guidance

The **ECSS COURSE FAIR** will be taking place during lunch on Tuesday, February 13th in the Main Hallway from 10:45a.m. - 11:15a.m. This is an opportunity for students to connect with course experts to help make informed decisions about their 2024-2025 course selections. *We strongly encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to help prepare for our upcoming course selections and ask parents and guardians to assist with this reminder.

COURSE SELECTIONS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR will open in myBlueprint (MyPathwayPlanner) on **Thursday, February 15th** and will close on **February 23rd, 4:00p.m.** Please see some key points below to assist in your conversations with your child/student:

- Students will participate in a Course Selection assembly the week of February 5th
- Students can begin adding courses to their planner prior to this date but can only begin locking in/submitting courses as early as **Thursday, February 15th**
- This is not a “first come, first served” process - as long as students make their selections prior to the February 23rd, 4:00 p.m. deadline, all requests are treated equally
- ***course selections are not complete/locked in until parent/guardian has approved selections via email (email comes from myBlueprint - parents/guardians should check junk mail folder if they cannot find the email)**

THE GUIDANCE POP-UP SHOP will be available to students for the first 20 minutes of lunch next week, to support course selection questions.

George Brown College is offering their **WINTER WEBINAR SERIES**. Students and families can register for virtual evening sessions on *How to Pay for College & University (OSAP)*, *Discover Apprenticeships & Skilled Trades*, & *Discover George Brown Programs and Pathways*. Click on this [link](#) for more information.



Updates from Guidance

REMINDERS:

SEMESTER 2 REMOTE LEARNING NIGHT SCHOOL registration opened on **December 18th** and is available to students who cannot get the course during the day school program. Synchronous learning will take place on Tuesday and Thursdays from 6:30p.m. - 9:45p.m., beginning on February 15th. Students are to register using MyBlueprint/MyPathway Planner by selecting the "Continuing Education" tab. Students must print and have the sign-off form signed by their parent/guardian and then submit this form to the Guidance Office. Counsellors will only approve courses for students who submit their completed sign-off form. More information is linked [here](#) from the YRDSB website.

College and University Open Houses & Tours: Attending a college and university open house or tour is a great way to find out more about the campus, the programs, and the environment. Each post-secondary institution offers a variety of events throughout the year for secondary school students. We encourage students and families to visit each institution's website to find out more details about in-person and virtual opportunities.

Students and families are invited to review the **Trades Report** and/or participate in an online **Trades and apprenticeship Workshop**. The links and passwords to access this report and workshop have been posted in the grade specific Google Classrooms. The links and passwords are not to be shared.



Community News

Updates from Vaughan Public Libraries

Vaughan Public Libraries is pleased to invite you and your students to *Summer Company Information Sessions for Young Adults*. [Summer Company](#) is a program that prepares students **15 to 29 years old** to start and operate a full-time business over the summer.

Summer Company provides mentorship from Vaughan's business community, along with a pipeline of tools, skills, connections, and resources required to turn goals into reality.

Young entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to get up to **\$3,000** in provincial grant funding to kick-start their business.

Here's how to register for one of the info sessions:

Session 1: **A private session for educators and their students Live on Zoom Tuesday, February 13, 9:45-10:45**. Please register your class [here](#).

Session 2: For everyone at Civic Centre Resource Library and Live on Zoom, **Thursday, February 29, 7:00-8:00**. Please ask students to register [here](#).



Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Challenge for Credit

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school.

<p>WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO CHALLENGE A COURSE FOR CREDIT?</p> <p>★ YRDSB secondary school students who are enrolled in a regular day school program in a secondary school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Students under the age of eighteen need parental approval before applying to challenge for credit for a course.○ Students who have their Principal's approval.	<p>HOW DO I GET STARTED?</p> <p>Your school guidance department will announce the date that applications are available. Follow the instructions of your guidance department. Be sure your application is submitted to your counsellor by March 7, 2024.</p> <p>When you see your counsellor, you will receive information on what documentation is required, how your application will be processed, how your tests and assessment will be conducted, how your results will be reported, appeal procedures, withdrawal policy and contact information.</p>
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The PLAR challenge assessments will take place virtually on July 2, 2024

WHAT COURSES ARE AVAILABLE TO CHALLENGE FOR CREDIT?

Grade 10 – 12 courses offered by YRDSB in regular day school.

WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

A student may begin by gathering and organizing any evidence that demonstrates the knowledge and skills related to the course for challenge. For information on any course information visit the Ministry website www.edu.gov.on.ca and follow the path:

- > English or Français
- > Secondary
- > Secondary Curriculum
- > By Grade
- > Choose a Grade
- > Choose a Subject.

Examples of evidence may include letters of reference from teachers or community leaders, certificates, sample assignments, samples of original work, a portfolio, descriptions of programs, courses or experiences that support your application.

AM I LIKELY TO BE AN ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE?

You also must be able to answer “**NO**” to all of the following questions to be an eligible PLAR Challenge candidate.

- Is the course you want to challenge a grade 9 course; a cooperative education course or a transfer course?
- Have you already earned a credit in this subject in a later grade? (for example you earned a Grade 11 music credit and now you would like to challenge the Grade 10 music course)
- Have you earned a credit in this course at a different level? (for example, you earned an ENG3C credit and now you would like to challenge the ENG3U course)
- Have you been granted/earned equivalency for this course?
- Have you previously failed this course?
- Have you previously earned a credit in English and want to challenge for ESL or ELD? (ESL – English as a Second Language; ELD – English Literacy Development)
- Have you already earned a credit in Français at a French language school and want to challenge a French as a Second Language (FSL) course?

ADDITIONAL CHALLENGE INFORMATION

Appeal Procedure

In cases where there is a disagreement with the decision of the principal about whether a student should challenge for credit, an adult student or the parent of a student who is not an adult may ask the appropriate supervisory officer to review the matter.

Repeating the Challenge

A student may submit an application for challenge for a specific course for a second time after a reasonable interval, if the student can provide reasonable evidence of additional study and experience.

Assessment and Evaluation

Assessment and evaluation strategies will be based on curriculum expectations and achievement charts in the Ontario curriculum policy. They will include formal tests and other assessment strategies with a balance between written work and practical demonstrations that is appropriate for the subject/discipline and that may include written assignments, quizzes, demonstrations, performances, laboratory work, and observation of the student.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from the challenge process prior to the final formal test without a notation on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST). If students have entered the final phase of the challenge process in the summer, and then choose to withdraw from the process, a mark will be entered on the OST (Grade 11 and 12) and on the Cumulative Tracking Record (Grades 10-12).

Final Mark

The student's final percentage grade will be recorded on the student's Ontario Student Transcript (OST) in the same way as achievement in other courses. For challenges of Grade 10 courses, only passing percentage grades will be entered on the OST. For challenges to Grade 11 and 12 courses, both passing and failing percentage grades and withdrawals will be entered on the OST. The teacher will communicate the mark to you once the challenge is complete.

The PLAR challenge assessments will take place virtually on July 2, 2024.



February, 2024

Dear parents/guardians,

As part of a partnership between YRDSB and Renewed Computer Technology (RCT), families with children enrolled in our Board have the opportunity to purchase quality refurbished computers at a reduced cost. Applicants must live in Ontario, have a student enrolled at YRDSB and either receive government assistance payments or qualify as a limited income earner under the limited income cut-off standards*.

Below is a limited income grid for your reference.

Family size	Annual income*
2 people	\$30,286
3 people	\$37,234
4 people	\$45,206
5 people	\$51,272
6 people	\$57,286
7 people +	\$64,381

This year, there are different packages available for purchase. Please reference the [online application page](#) for the current available package offerings. Please note that there are three options for delivery.

1. If you would like for the computer to be delivered directly to your home, there is a \$40 charge for laptops and a \$50 charge for desktops. Families who choose this delivery option will have their order shipped when it is ready, roughly 3 weeks from date of order.
2. If you would like the device shipped to your child's school there is a \$20 delivery charge. If you choose this shipping option, the computer will be delivered to your child's school **after** the end of the promotion period. Please indicate the name of the school on the form when selecting this option.



3. You may choose to pick up the computer from the RCT Mississauga Warehouse, for free, located at **945 Meyerside Drive, Mississauga**. Families who choose this option will have their order ready for pick up roughly 3 weeks after the date of order.

Parents and legal guardians may apply for one computer per student, with a limit of two per household. Please see below for a full list of device specifications.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an online application at <https://www.jotform.com/210054491659255> using the group code on the attached program flyer. The application period is from February 1, 2024 – March 15, 2024 with delivery to schools taking place in April.

Please note - There are sections in the RCT Online Application that are no longer applicable:

- Requirement of Proof or Documentation of Income
- Requirement to participate in training prior to receiving your computer/laptop

The Section on Course of Study can pertain to elementary or secondary. If you do not have access to a computer or the Internet, please contact the administration team at your school for assistance.

For inquiries related to the RCT application process, devices and delivery, please contact Alexander Oliver (Aoliver@rcto.ca) and for inquiries related to support from YRDSB, please contact Yvonne Kelly (yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca)

For more information, including complete application and payment instructions, please refer to the attached program flyer and checklist.

Sincerely,

Ms. R. Reid - Principal

Do you need a computer?

Renewed Computer Technology (RCT) is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that empowers learners, educators and not-for-profit organizations with increased access to information and communications technology (ICT), skill development and learning opportunities, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Working with **York Region District School Board** we are offering affordable, renewed computer packages.



1. Open camera on phone
2. Hold camera up to QR code above
3. Click link that appears on your screen

You can apply for this program if you are:

A resident of Ontario and you are an individual with limited income.

Parents or legal guardians may apply on behalf of a child or youth under the age of 18.

We offer 1 computer, per family, with a limit of 2 per household per year.

For more information, please contact:

Alexander Oliver
RCT Community Engagement Lead
AOliver@rcto.ca

All systems include our
STANDARD 1 YEAR DEPOT WARRANTY

*batteries not covered by warranty

We have Desktop Packages from \$75.00 to \$160.00.
Plus \$50.00 to ship the computer to your home.



You get - a desktop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software, monitor, keyboard and mouse

We have Laptop Packages from \$140.00 to \$250.00.
Plus \$40.00 to ship the computer to your home.



You get - a laptop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software

*Computers may not appear exactly as shown

Application Check-List



You can begin to apply for a computer on: February 1st, 2024

Application deadline: March 15th, 2024

Group Name: YRDSB | **Group Code:** G-YRDSB24

1. Open camera on phone
2. Hold camera up to QR code above
3. Click link that appears on your screen

How to fill out your application

Scan QR code OR access application using the link your organization provided

Section A

Group Name: YRDSB

Group Code: G-YRDSB24

Name of School: *Please enter the name of the student's school*

Section B

This section does not apply to you.

Section C

I would like to pick up my computer in Mississauga RCT Warehouse (\$0.00 Shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a laptop, please ship my computer to my home (\$40.00 shipping fee)

OR

I would like to order a desktop, please ship my computer to my home (\$50.00 shipping fee)

OR

I am part of the York Region District School Board Group order (\$20.00)

Section D

Pick your computer package and method of payment.

Our partner organization will need proof of eligibility (one of the following) before you can apply for a computer.

Proof of Financial Status (one of the following)

- Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment (most recent)
- Ontario Works Statement (Social Assistance)
- OSAP Statement of Funding
- Refugee Payment Received from government
- Letter from school supporting the application
- EI Benefit Statement
- ODSP (Disability Benefits)
- Second Career

Payment

You will have the following online payment options when completing your order:

- Credit/Debit Card
- Money Order or Certified Cheque
- A Third Party will be Paying (Ex. Ontario Works)

Certified Cheques should be made to: Renewed Computer Technology

The applicant's name must be added in the memo field. When you come to pick up your computer, please bring a government photo ID.



York Region District School Board UBUNTU HEALING CIRCLE Winter/Spring 2024



A virtual healing circle for Black identified students across YRDSB to join together in an inclusive affinity space, focused on supporting emotional well-being. This space is one that has been created to promote healing, wellness and resilience for Black identified students.

The group will be facilitated by members of the School Social Work Team. Students in grades 7-12 are invited to attend and participation will occur virtually.

Grades Served: Grade 7 to Grade 12 students from schools across YRDSB

Modality: Virtual offering

Language of Service: Services will be offered in English.

Total sessions: 8 sessions

Date: Wednesday, February 28th, 2024

Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm (Weekly)

For more information, or to sign up: Please ask your Teacher, Guidance Counsellor, SERT, Student Success Teacher, Principal, or Vice Principal to contact either: Melanie Beckford, RSW or Tracy Thomas-Elleston, RSW at the following email address: communitycareteam@yrdsb.ca