

# Emily Carr Secondary School Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

October 18, 2024

## In this Issue:

- Updated Student Personal Mobile Device Policy

## Family Night



Family Night will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024 at Emily Carr Secondary School. Please see the attached notice for more details.

## Halloween Reminders

Hallowe'en may bring memories of dress-up parades, costume competitions, and classroom parties for some members of our community and carries a very different meaning for others. It is important for us to recognize that not all families celebrate and participate in Halloween. The reasons for not participating may include cultural beliefs, faith, socioeconomic status, and personal reasons.

The expectation is that costumes follow our board and school's dress code and are to be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's race, culture, ethnicity, or religious beliefs, should not be worn as another person's costume, nor should costumes that caricature social identities through stereotyping.

Reviewing our practices through a critically conscious lens doesn't devalue our personal beliefs or past traditions. Interrogating how things "have always been done" is one of the ways we work to continue our commitment to inclusion.

Should your child wish to wear a costume to school, please discuss the following guidelines:

- No costumes that violate conditions of the ECSS appropriate attire policy
- No Halloween masks are to be worn, we need to see faces to know who is in the school building
- No Weapons and/or replica weapons should not be carried as accessories. Costumes also should not simulate a weapon or promote extreme acts of violence.
- No Costumes insulting to a particular ethnicity, religion or gender.
- No Costumes that promote the use of drugs or alcohol
- limit personal items being brought to school, costumes should be of simple design.

Also, if your child would like to participate, but not wear a costume; wearing orange and black or autumn colours is an option.

## Please Remember:

This is still a school day. Students are advised to bring a change of clothing, in case their costume is deemed inappropriate by teachers or administrators or become distracting to the learning process. We are looking forward to everyone following the guidelines, coming up with creative costumes, and having fun!

## Contact Us

Phone 905-850-5012

Extensions

Reception

0

Attendance

1

Guidance

3

[emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:emily.carr.ss@yrdsb.ca)

## Online

[School website](#)



@emilycarryrdsb

## Administration

Principal

[Tanya-Lynn Paul](#)

Vice Principals

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

[Samuel Gangbar](#) (M-Z)

[School Council](#)

## Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

## Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



## School News

### Personal Mobile Device Policy Update

Please see the attached communication regarding the use of personal mobile devices in the classroom.

### Coyote Pride

As members of our school community, it is important to treat our school with respect and care. Our school property, including washrooms, classrooms, hallways, libraries, and outdoor areas, are vital for a positive learning experience.

Please remind your child(ren) to:

1. **Keep Areas Clean:** Dispose of trash in garbage bins properly and tidy up.
2. **Handle Equipment with Care:** Use school materials and equipment responsibly to ensure they remain in good condition.
3. **Respect Shared Spaces:** Be considerate of others when using common areas such as school washrooms. Our washrooms are shared spaces that need everyone's cooperation to maintain.
4. **Report Issues:** If students notice any damage or need assistance, please report it to a teacher or staff member.

By following these guidelines, we can create a welcoming and safe environment for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation!

### Visitors to Emily Carr Secondary School

All visitors must sign in at the main office before proceeding into the school. Students from other schools or students who used to attend Emily Carr Secondary School are not allowed on school grounds without permission. Likewise, Emily Carr Secondary School students should not be visiting other schools.

### Food Donations

Emily Carr Secondary School is looking for non-perishable food donations (eg. pasta sauce, pasta, canned vegetables) to distribute to families in need throughout the school year. If you are able, please help by dropping off your non-perishable food item donations to the main office. We appreciate your continued support to our school community. A HUGE thank you to all the families who have already contributed!

## Important Dates

October - Islamic Heritage Month,  
Latin Heritage Month, Women's  
History Month

November 1 - Deepavali/Diwali /All  
Saints' Day

November 3-November 9 - Treaties  
Recognition Week

## 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

### Celebrate Muslim Heritage Month

Join York Region District School Board in celebrating Islamic Heritage Month this October at Emily Carr S.S.

Together, we'll honor the rich cultural, historical, and religious contributions of Muslims to society. This celebration is all about fostering equity, inclusion, and community engagement while building a deeper understanding of our diverse society. Please see the attached flyer.

### Black Families Information Session

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us for our monthly virtual meeting, where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools. Please see the attached flyer.

### Treaties Recognition Week

During the week of November 3-9, 2024, we recognize the importance of treaties and bring awareness to the treaty relationships between First Nations, Métis and Inuit and non-Indigenous people throughout the province.

### Student Engagement Fee

Hey Coyotes! There is so much happening at ECSS, and we would like to be able to support our clubs and teams financially, but we need your help! The student engagement fee is a voluntary fee that is used for activities in school life such as orientation programs, leadership programs, student recognition events, student clubs and organizations, sports teams, guest speakers, and other school events. Please consider supporting the school by paying this fee through School Cash Online.

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

### Good Neighbour Relationships

The students of ECSS have a shared responsibility with our community partners to ensure an inviting and clean environment for our neighbours and our community. Students are asked to respect the property and privacy of our neighbours. Although the Al Palladini Community Center, the Pierre Berton Resource Library and the Business establishments at the Plaza are public facilities, they are to be treated as private property by our students. Students are not to loiter in, or near, these establishments. To be inside Al Palladini Community Center, students must have a Community Center membership and they must be participating in community activities. We are proud of our students as they are ECSS ambassadors wherever they go in the community.

## Important Dates

October - Islamic Heritage Month,  
Latin Heritage Month, Women's  
History Month

November 1 - Deepavali/Diwali /All  
Saints' Day

November 1-November 9 -  
Holocaust Education Week

November 3-November 9 - Treaties  
Recognition Week

## Helpful Links

### CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:

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[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



## Updates from Guidance

**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 postsecondary 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.

**Future Black Applicant Day** is designed to provide prospective Black students and their supporters with invaluable insights into academic programs, vibrant campus life, and the boundless opportunities at the University of Toronto. Please refer to this [hyperlink](#) for more information.

### REMINDERS:

**Potential Graduates** are reminded to review the Postsecondary Planning presentation that was shown in class the week of October 2nd and posted in the "All Things Grade 12" Google Classroom on Sept 24th. Students may begin creating their OUAC and OCAS accounts and apply to their desired programs and schedule a guidance appointment should they require support.

Take time to explore the [Aboriginal Post-Secondary Information Program \(APSIP\)](#). Please click [here](#) for dates.

**Study and Go Abroad Fair** - Don't miss this opportunity to start planning your next step in education (at undergraduate or postgraduate level) or to travel abroad. Learn about university and college programs in Canada and abroad, scholarships, and travel, work and volunteer opportunities worldwide! This fair is running on Sunday, October 20th from 1 - 5 pm at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Visit this [hyperlink](#) for more details.

**Scholarship planning** drop-in session is on Wednesday, October 23rd, at 11:00 am - 11:30 am in the Library Presentation room.

**POST-SECONDARY FAIR: PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY NIGHT SAVE THE DATE!** Pathways to Opportunity is taking place in our cafetorium on Thursday, November 14th from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. This is an event where students and their parents/guardians have an opportunity to meet with representatives from various postsecondary institutions in order to learn more about the different programs they offer. Please refer to the flyer below to review some of our confirmed guests.

Dear Secondary School Families,

This letter is to inform you that there have been updates to student use of personal mobile devices in schools, in particular, students must now **store their mobile device out of view**, and power off or set to silent mode during instructional/class time. As you may know, in 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Education introduced a directive modifying the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms. YRDSB already has [Policy and Procedure 194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology](#) and many measures around personal mobile devices in place. The changes you may see will bring alignment with the new Ministry Directive. The following expectations for students' use of personal mobile devices are outlined in the revised [Provincial Code of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#), and the York Region District School Board's Policy #668 Caring and Safe Schools.

A personal mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

### Expectations

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device, how they use it and the consequences of not following the provincial or school board policy.

Students' personal mobile devices must be **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, except under the circumstances outlined below:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator
- for health and medical purposes
- to support special education needs

Students in secondary school can bring a personal mobile device to school, but will be able to use it only during non-instructional time.

### New Practices at School

If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not **stored out of view and powered off or set to silent mode**, even after staff reminders, the student may be required to place their personal mobile device in a storage area in a location designated by the educator for the class or period.

Your child may face consequences if they use their personal mobile device inappropriately. Progressive discipline may apply and families may be notified.

### Resources:

Families play an important role in teaching children about finding a healthy balance in using technology. You may wish to access the following resources:

- Media Smarts - [Four Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time](#)
- School Mental Health Ontario - [Helping Your Child Manage Digital Technology](#)
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - [Problem Gambling and Technology Use Treatment Services](#)

For additional information regarding Policy/Program (PPM) 128, please visit the Ministry of Education's [Cellphones and other mobile devices in schools](#) site or the York Region District School Board's website.



# Get Together Celebrating Islamic Heritage Month

Join York Region District School Board in celebrating Islamic Heritage Month this October! Together, we'll honor the rich cultural, historical, and religious contributions of Muslims to society. This celebration is all about fostering equity, inclusion, and community engagement while building a deeper understanding of our diverse society.

**Date:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Emily Carr Secondary School

**Address:** 4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

Please register

Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

Please register by Sunday, Oct 27, 2024



For more information, please email Inclusive School and Community Services (ISCS): [iscs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:iscs@yrdsb.ca)



Dear Families,

**Interview Night is on Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 6:00-8:00 pm.** You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) and learn more about the classroom. Families can use TeachAssist, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) on Interview Night. All students in our school currently have a TeachAssist account to access information associated with their class assessments.

Families may access appointment bookings on **Tuesday, October 15 to Tuesday, October 22, 2024** through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>. From there, enter in your email address and leave the password blank, to set up a one time access link, or to reset a password that you've created. An email will be sent with a time limited link that will look similar to this:

[teachassist@yrdsb.ca](mailto:teachassist@yrdsb.ca)

To: parent\_email

Click here for your one time access to teachassist

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/live/parents/listReports.php?email=parent&token=serdftyugio678>

Once logged in, parents/guardians will have the option to set up a password. For instructions on how to book an interview through TeachAssist, please click [here](#) or see below. If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office.

If you have any challenges with meeting in-person on Thursday, October 24, 2024 , please contact your child's teacher to make alternative arrangements for another day.

#### **FORMAT OF THE EVENING**

**6:00-6:30 pm** Staff Meet and Greet in the Atrium Lobby

**6:30-8:00 pm** - Parent/Guardian Teacher Meetings

## IMPORTANT TIMELINES: OCTOBER 15-29, 2024

<b>Tuesday, October 15</b> - <b>Tuesday, October 22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Interview Night Scheduler opens at 8:30 a.m. for booking.</b></li><li>● Parents/Guardians will go to the TeachAssist parent portal <a href="https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents">https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents</a> to book their appointment(s).</li><li>● For instructions on how to book an interview through TeachAssist, please click <a href="#">here</a> or see below.</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday, October 16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Interim Reports will be distributed electronically to parents /guardians / 18+ students via the Electronic Distribution Process.</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, October 22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Interview Night Scheduler closes to families at 3:30 pm.</b></li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, Wednesday October 22-23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Teachers send an email to confirm appointment time and interview locations with families.</b></li></ul>
<b>Thursday, October 24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Staff Meet and Greet in the Atrium Lobby <b><u>6:00-6:30 pm</u></b></li><li>● Parent/Guardian Teacher Interviews <b><u>6:30 to 8:00 pm</u></b> in classrooms with the teacher</li><li>● Teacher locations will be posted throughout the school</li></ul>

Your partners in education,

The ECSS Admin Team

# Understanding and Navigating the Education System



*presented by*

**THE CENTRE FOR  
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE**

## **Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session**

**Monday, October 28, 2024  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

Families, parents, caregivers, please join us for our monthly virtual meeting where families with Black children come together to learn about resources and upcoming programs for Black students in both elementary and secondary schools.

### **Agenda:**

- Highlights from our Graduation Coaches
- Information session by YRDSB Social Workers
- Upcoming school programs and events
- Question and answer session



**Please register no later than October 23, 2024.**

**A Zoom meeting link will be sent after registration.**

Let us come together to empower our students and build a stronger community.



We look forward to seeing you there.

**[Register now.](#)**

If you require further information, please contact  
[BlackStudentExcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:BlackStudentExcellence@yrdsb.ca)

# RESOURCE SHEET

## STUDENT IMMUNIZATION IN YORK REGION SCHOOLS SUPPORTING SCHOOLS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF STUDENTS

### We are here to help

- Questions? Call Immunization Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext.73456

### Links

- [York.ca/GetImmunized](https://york.ca/GetImmunized): Direct parents, guardians or students here to submit records online
- [York.ca/immunizations](https://york.ca/immunizations): Provides more information about student immunizations
- [Ministry of Health](https://www.health.gov.on.ca): For publicly-funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario
- [Immunization of School Pupils Act \(ISPA\)](#): This legislation requires children and adolescents attending primary or secondary school to be appropriately immunized against designated diseases, unless they have a valid exemption.
- [Health Protection and Promotion Act \(HPPA\)](#): This legislation outlines the duties and mandatory health programs of York Region Public Health

### Submission methods

Immunization information can be submitted by:

- Online at Immunization Connect Ontario (ICON) at [yrphu.icon.ehealthontario.ca](https://yrphu.icon.ehealthontario.ca)
- Calling 1-877-464-9675, ext. 73456
- Faxing 1-866-258-2026

**YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH**

1-877-464-9675 ext. 73456  
[york.ca](https://york.ca)



# Focus Groups

## Vaughan Community Spaces Plan

The City of Vaughan has recently launched the development of the **Growing Together: Vaughan Community Spaces Plan (CSP)**. This plan will guide how City-owned community spaces and services are delivered to residents. Parks, recreation and library facilities are essential to Vaughan's high quality of life, and the aim of the CSP is to support strong communities and build a livable city for both current and future generations.

As part of the CSP's engagement program, we are hosting a series of **Deep Dive Focus Groups** to discuss topics such as what's working well in our libraries, parks and recreation facilities, as well as barriers to access, identified gaps, challenges and potential solutions.



Scan the code or visit the link below to see if you're eligible to sign up for one of the **Focus Group Sessions** this November.

[vaughan.ca/CommunitySpaces](https://vaughan.ca/CommunitySpaces)



**Emily Carr Secondary School**  
**Peer Assisted Learning Support**  
**P.A.L.S.**  
**REQUEST FOR STUDENT TUTORING Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Our ECSS Peer Assisted Learning Support Program provides students with a peer tutor that will provide academic support in a specific subject area(s). Support may include reviewing and/or clarifying notes, assisting with test preparation, providing and working through practice questions, or clarifying assignments. P.A.L.S. is available on Mondays and Wednesdays and students are required to commit to a **minimum of ONE** session per week for the semester - either Mondays or Wednesdays.

**I would like to be supported in the following subject(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Check the day(s) you would like to be tutored.**

☐ Mondays 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in room 116

☐ Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in room 116

**Contact Information:**

Home Telephone # (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Cell # (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please return completed forms to the Student Success room 117**

**Important Note:**

***Teacher supervision will be provided during each tutoring session. Students are expected to adhere to YRDSB Information Technology Acceptable Use Agreement and follow the Caring and Safe Schools and School Code of Conduct.***



**Emily Carr Secondary School**  
**Peer Assisted Learning Support**  
**P.A.L.S.**  
**TUTOR Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Our ECSS Peer Assisted Learning Support Program provides students with a peer tutor that will provide academic support in a specific subject area(s). Support may include reviewing and/or clarifying notes, assisting with test preparation, providing and working through practice questions, or clarifying assignments. P.A.L.S. is available on Mondays and Wednesdays and students are required to commit to a **minimum of ONE** session per week for the semester - either Mondays or Wednesdays.

**I would like to provide support/tutoring in the following subject(s):**


**Check the day(s) you will be available to be a tutor.**

- ☐ Mondays     11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in room 116
- ☐ Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in room 116

**Contact Information:**

Home Telephone # (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Cell # (if you have one): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please return completed forms to the Student Success room 117**

**Important Note:**

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