

Emily Carr Secondary School Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

September 6, 2024

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- School Start Up Packages and Medical Information
- School Safety

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the new school year.

We hope you and your family had an enjoyable and restful summer break.

A new school year represents new opportunities. Our teachers and staff were happy to meet their new students and begin this year's journey with them.

As partners in your child's education and learning, we encourage involvement in the school community through our school council and ongoing communication with your child's teacher.

We will share our weekly newsletter with our families through email and it will also be posted on the school website.

We look forward to a successful school year!

Tanya-Lynn Paul

Principal, Emily Carr Secondary School

Contact Us

Phone **905-850-5012**

Extensions

Reception

Attendance

Guidance

0

1

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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

TBD at School Council Meeting on
September 16 at 7:00pm in the
library

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



School News

2024 - 2025 School Year Schedule:

Period 1	8:00am - 9:15am
Homeroom	9:15am - 9:20am
Period 2	9:25am - 10:40am
Lunch	10:45am - 12:00pm
Period 3	12:05pm - 1:20pm
Period 4	1:25pm - 2:40pm

Homestay Hosts for International Students

We are often asked about how families can become homestay families for International Students who attend ECSS or surrounding schools. There is a need for homestay families in the West area. If you are interested in learning more about the process, please see the links below:

- [Canada Homestay](#)
- [MLI Homestay](#)

The **School Council Meeting** will take place on Monday, September 16 in the Library at Emily Carr Secondary School. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm. Nomination forms can be found in the school start up package, the end of this newsletter or in the main office. Please complete the form and submit to the main office by Friday, September 13, 2024

Important Dates

September 16 - School Council
September 19 - Photo Day
September 27 - PA Day

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

Student Use of Personal Mobile Devices

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 in September 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 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 turned 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.

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School News

Action Required: Start up information

The YRDSB has sent online start-up forms to be completed by families. These forms require your attention. Please review the below forms:

- Start-up permission form
- Student information consent form
- Request for faith accommodations

Action Required: Completion of applicable medical forms

Please ensure that any applicable medical forms are completed for this school year. Please refer to the email sent earlier this week from Emily Carr Secondary School.

Keeping information up to date at ECSS:

Please ensure that you share with the school any changes in your contact information ie. telephone number, home address, email address, emergency contact information and medical information, if applicable.

Caring and Safe Schools:

On Tuesday, September 10, students will be attending the Caring and Safe Schools Grade Assemblies which includes the student code of conduct and school expectations. You can find the information that is covered on the board website [here](#). This information is delivered to students in student friendly language.

School bus information:

Updated school bus information is available at www.schoolbuscity.com

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[Report It \(YRDSB\)](#)

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING: Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:

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or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) -
available 24/7

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School News

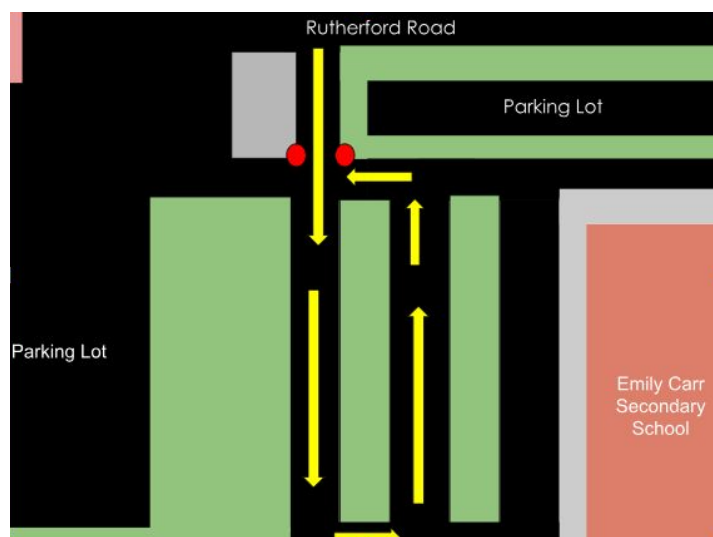
Emergency Preparedness Drills

Throughout the semester we will be participating in Fire Drills, Lockdown Drills, Hold and Secure Drills and Bomb Threat Drills. Staff will share procedures that should be followed with students. These drills help students become familiar with the procedures should something happen at school.

School Safety

In the interest of safely dropping off and picking up your child and to help traffic move smoother, we ask parents not to drop their children off or stop in the wheelchair bus area. Cars stopping in the wheelchair bus area block traffic behind them causing it to be slower for everyone and our wheelchair buses are unable to drop off and/or pick-up our students in a timely manner. In addition, the lanes directly in front of the main entrance are emergency and bus lanes, please do not use these lanes to drop off or pick up your child.

If you drive your child to school, you know that it can be quite busy. You can avoid the morning rush by dropping your child off before 7:45 a.m., carpooling, or encouraging your child to walk or make use of public transit.



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Updates from Guidance

Continuing Education programs for 2024/2025 are now available. This includes Night School and International Language programs. [Hyperlinked](#) is a document with information about the program, the steps students need to take to register through my Blueprint, and important dates. Students are welcome to come by the Guidance Pop-Up Shop for help, if needed.

Students looking to make a **course change request** must meet the outlined criteria and submit their request using the [Google ECSS Course Change Request Form](#). The link to this form was emailed to students' Gapps accounts on August 29th and students must be logged into the GAPPS account to access the form. The Course Change form is currently open and will **close on Monday, September 9th at 3:00p.m.** Only Course change requests that are submitted using the Google form will be addressed - please do not email Counsellors or leave voicemail messages so we can ensure an equitable and fair process for all. As a reminder to students and families, seats in classes are limited and these changes can take some time. We ask everyone to please be patient, continue to follow the assigned schedule, and students should check their Gapps account for updates on their request.

Guidance appointment bookings will begin once all students are fully timetabled and timetable updates are complete. This will most likely begin the third week of September. Students will be able to book appointments through TeachAssist. Instructions on how to make appointments are posted on the Guidance tab of the ECSS website and in myBlueprint under the heading "RESOURCES". Students are welcome to stop by the Guidance Pop-Up Shop outside of room 129 before school or at the beginning of the lunch hour should they require support.

Night School

Night School registration for the Fall session is now open through my Pathway Planner and will close at noon on Monday, September 16. It will re-open on Tuesday, September 17 and students can register in limited courses that show availability up until the second night of classes which is Thursday, September 26.

Please be advised that our traditional in class face-to-face [Night School program](#) (Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:45 pm) will continue to use a *remote* learning delivery model. The program will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous).

The first night of class is Tuesday, September 24, 2024 and the program ends Tuesday, January 21, 2025. To help expedite the registration process, we ask that Guidance Counsellors approve course selections as soon as possible. Students who register prior to Thursday September 19 will receive a Welcome email. **Students with unapproved course requests will not be registered.**

Kindly note course offerings are not guaranteed as they are subject to sufficient enrolment and teacher availability. Should a course be cancelled, YRDSB students will receive an email through their gapps account while non YRDSB students will be contacted by phone. Kindly encourage students to check their gapps account or my Pathway Course Planner and visit our [course offerings](#) to see if their selected course has been cancelled.



Community Updates

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.



The YRDSB has a tool on its website (www.yrdsb.ca) to provide translation of school board information in about 100 languages.

Arabic	لدى مجلس إدارة مدارس منطقة يورك (YRDSB) أداة على موقعه الإلكتروني (www.yrdsb.ca) لترجمة معلومات مجلس إدارة المدارس إلى حوالي 100 لغة.
Farsi	هیئت مدارس منطقه یورک YRDSB ابزاری برای ارائه ترجمه اطلاعات هیئت مدارس را به حدود 100 زبان در وبسایت (www.yrdsb.ca) خود دارد.
Gujarati	YRDSB નું ટૂલ તેઓની વેબસાઇટ (www.yrdsb.ca) પર છે જે આશરે 100 ભાષાઓમાં સ્કૂલ બોર્ડ માહિતીનું ભાષાંતર પૂરું પાડે છે.
Hebrew	באתר האינטרנט של (www.yrdsb.ca) YRDSB קיים כלי המתרגם מידע של מועצת בתי הספר ל-100 שפות.
Korean	YRDSB는 웹사이트(www.yrdsb.ca)에는 교육위원회 정보를 100여개 언어로 번역해주는 도구가 있습니다.
Punjabi	ਸਕੂਲ ਬੋਰਡ ਜਾਨਕਾਰੀ ਦਾ ਆਂਦਾਜ਼ਾ 100 ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਟਰਜ਼ਮ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ YRDSB ਕੋਲ ਅਪਣੀ ਵੈੱਬ ਸਾਈਟ (www.yrdsb.ca) 'ਤੇ ਟੂਲ ਮੌਜੂਦ ਹੈ.
Russian	На веб-сайте YRDSB (www.yrdsb.ca) предусмотрен инструмент для перевода информации Школьного совета примерно на 100 языков.
Simplified Chinese	YRDSB的网站(www.yrdsb.ca)上提供一种翻译工具，可将教育局的信息翻译成大约100种语言。
Tamil	YRDSB அதன் இணையத் தளமாகிய (www.yrdsb.ca) இல் பரபர சாலைச் சபைத் தகவல்களை, சுமார் 100 மொழிகளில் மொழிபெயர்ப்பதற்கான ஒரு கருவியைக் கொண்டுள்ளது.
Traditional Chinese	YRDSB 網站 (www.yrdsb.ca) 上設有一個工具，可將教育局資訊翻譯成約 100 種語言。
Turkish	YRDSB'nin web sitesinde (www.yrdsb.ca) okul yönetim kurulu bilgilerinin yaklaşık 100 dilde çevirisini sağlayan bir araç bulunmaktadır.
Urdu	YRDSB کے پاس اس کی ویب سائٹ (www.yrdsb.ca) پر سکول بورڈ کی معلومات تقریباً 100 زبانوں میں ترجمہ کرنے کی خاطر ایک ٹول موجود ہے۔
Vietnamese	YRDSB có một công cụ trên trang web (www.yrdsb.ca) để cung cấp bản dịch của các thông tin từ hội đồng trường học sang khoảng 100 ngôn ngữ.



Student (PRINT) _____

Teacher (PRINT) _____

Grade _____

SCHOOL COUNCIL CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM

Please submit this form to the school principal. The deadline for submission is at the start of the school year. Please contact your school for more information.

Please complete Part A or Part B

Part A: I am declaring my candidacy:

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the school council:

I am the parent/guardian of _____ who is currently
(print name of student) registered in Grade _____.

I am an employee of York Region District School Board. Yes No

Name _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone _____

Email: _____

Part B: I am nominating a candidate

I wish to nominate _____ for an elected position as a
parent/guardian representative on the school council.

_____ is the parent/guardian of _____
(print name of nominee) (print name of student)

who is currently registered in Grade _____.

The person I have nominated is an employee of York Region District School Board. Yes No

Name _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone _____

Email: _____

Nominator's

Date

Signature:

Please tell us about the candidate in 4-5 sentences on the back of this form.

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Education Act as amended, and will be used to manage the disclosure of individual personal information. Contact the school principal for more information.

File: ADM-School Councils

Valid for 12 months after date of last use/application

Message from Our Trustee

September 2024

Welcome to the start of the 2024-2025 school year. We are so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning students and families to a new school year.

How Trustees Help

As school board trustees, we have a number of [roles and responsibilities](#), including setting policies and budget and advocating for quality public education. My responsibilities also include communicating with the public. I will continue to keep you informed throughout the school year through these regular newsletters. You can also reach out to me directly. Learn more about [how we can help](#) and [how you can reach me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

You can also stay up-to-date with school board news and events through school communications, social media (X [@YRDSB](#) and [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#)), our [newsroom](#) and Board podcast [TuneIn YRDSB](#).

Our Priorities as a School Board

One of our responsibilities as a Board of Trustees is also setting the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This plan outlines the priorities that will guide our work as a school board for the next several years. We want to thank the many students, family and staff members and community partners who shared feedback in the spring that was used to inform the development of the plan. Some key themes emerged in the feedback that families will see reflected in the plan, including a clear focus on student achievement and well-being. We look forward to sharing more with you very soon.

A New School Year

The start of a new school year is a time of transition - whether your child is starting elementary or secondary school for the first time, entering a new program, moving to a new school or beginning a new grade. The caring, dedicated and professional staff members who work in our system are here to help support your child through this transition. Please feel free to reach out to your child's teachers or the school to speak about your child's transition and the supports that are available.

We also recognize that transitions can take place throughout September. Elementary schools may be required to adjust some classes due to enrollment changes and class size restrictions. In secondary school, schools may also see timetable requests and adjustments in the first few weeks. These are occurrences that happen each fall and schools do their best to be responsive and to minimize the effects of any changes on students.

Partnerships with Families

We value the essential partnership between schools and families and want to ensure that families are aware of the many resources available. Our [family resources page](#), available from the homepage of www.yrdsb.ca, gives you quick access to platforms that we use, tips and information, the [Guide to the School Year](#) and [student learning resources](#). It also includes resources for [newcomers](#), [translation information](#) and much more. We are also working on a dedicated new family portal to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education. To ensure you receive notifications and updates, please

make sure the school has your up-to-date email address. If you are not receiving emails, please contact your school to confirm. More information will be shared in the coming months.

I wish you and your family all the very best for a safe, successful and enjoyable 2024-2025 school year, and look forward to communicating with you in the months ahead.

Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

Trustee, Vaughan Wards 2 and 3