

Emily Carr Secondary School Newsletter



4901 Rutherford Rd, Vaughan, ON L4H 3C2

November 8, 2024

In this Issue:

- School Safety and Community Reminders
- Grade 10 OSSLT and Grade 9 Math EQAO
- Grade 8 Open House
- Semester 1 Final Exams

Retirement Announcement

Mrs. Genova, our Guidance Secretary, is officially retiring on Friday, November 15th. Her contribution and legacy to ECSS is notable through her support in the Guidance Office, Main Office, as well as with all staff, students, and families. We will all miss her tremendously, but wish her the very best on her new adventures!

Grade 8 Open House

Grade 8 Open House - will be held on Thursday, December 5, between 6:00pm-8:00pm. More details to follow.

Grade 9 Math EQAO

Grade 9 Math EQAO will be taking place Wednesday, January 15, 2025 and Thursday, January 16, 2025 for any students taking grade 9 de-streamed Math during semester one.

Semester 1 Final Exams

Semester 1 Final Evaluations will take place on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 to Monday, January 27, 2025. There will be an inclement weather day on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. Please see the attached notice regarding Final Exam Policies and Procedures.

Family Dashboard

The dashboard will give you secure one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education. Please visit the included link: <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/node/4373>

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!

Contact Us

Phone **905-850-5012**

Extensions

Reception

0

Attendance

1

Guidance

3

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](#)

Co-Chair - Andre Tsopelas

Co-Chair - Lisa Rapisardi

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



School News

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), administered by Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), is used to determine whether a student has the literacy skills (reading and writing) required to meet the standard for understanding reading selections and communicating in a variety of writing forms expected by *The Ontario Curriculum* across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. The successful completion of this test is a requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

The OSSLT will be administered during the window of November 18th-November 28. All students are eligible for extra time, a quiet setting, preferential seating and prompting to return to the test.

Your child will be receiving letters denoting which days they will be writing from their homeroom teachers this week. Students will have the opportunity to engage in practice tests with their homeroom teacher next week to prepare for the test. All assessments will be written in the main library. Please reach out to Mr. Gangbar if you have any questions.

Student Mental Health Newsletter

[Digital Wellness and Screen Time Balance](#)

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.

Important Dates

November 15 - PA Day

November 18-20 - Midterm Report Distribution

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

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!

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.

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School News

School Trip to Italy and Greece

As most of you are aware, the History Department will be travelling to Italy and Greece this coming March of 2025! The final day to enroll on the trip is Friday, November 15th, 2024. The students and staff are excited to embark on this historical adventure together.

Below are some key stops on our tour:

Florence

- We start the tour with the Piazza della Signoria and end at the Gates of Paradise

Rome

- Here we will meet a local guide and see the Vatican City up close with a tour of the Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica

Athens

- Ever wonder where Democracy started? We will take a stop to see the Acropolis as well as marvel in the wonders of the Ancient Olympic Stadium

Delphi

- With our local tour guide we will travel to Delphi to see the Temple of Apollo and the Delphi Archaeological Museum

To support the planning of this trip with EF, students will no longer be able to enroll after the **DEADLINE on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 2024.**

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Updates from Guidance

Our school social workers, along with our Guidance team, are hosting a lunch n' learn session entitled ***Stress Management Strategies Workshop for Grade 12 Students***, on Thursday, November 14th during the lunch hour (11:00a.m. - 11:55a.m - location to be determined based on interest). Interested students have been asked to fill in a Google form which was linked in the "All Things Grade 12" Google Classroom. This workshop is amazing and it will help students develop strategies to support them now and in their life after ECSS.

*****SAVE THE DATE!*****

POST-SECONDARY FAIR: PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY NIGHT Pathways to Opportunity is taking place in our cafetorium on Thursday, November 14th from 6:00p.m. - 8:00p.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.

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.

Upcoming **Ontario Universities' Fall 2024 Events** can be viewed [here](#). Registration is required. Connect with [Ontario's Universities](#). This document outlines the various ways students can connect with Ontario universities throughout the entire application process - from starting their research with OUIInfo to applying through the OUAC.

PATHWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY

POSTSECONDARY FAIR

Thursday, November 14, 2024 from 6:00-8:00pm
HOSTED AT EMILY CARR SECONDARY SCHOOL
4901 Rutherford Rd. Woodbridge



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



UNIVERSITY OF
GUELPH
HUMBER

YORK
UNIVERSITÉ
UNIVERSITY



Seneca

 **Georgian**



Western



**Ontario
Tech**
UNIVERSITY



University
of Windsor



Carleton
UNIVERSITY



HUMBER



LiUNA!
LOCAL 183
Feel the Power

**Toronto
Metropolitan
University**



TYNDALE
• UNIVERSITY COLLEGE & SEMINARY •



SOME OF OUR CONFIRMED REPRESENTATIVES

JUMP START YOUR POSTSECONDARY PLANNING

Family Dashboard



Main

Home

Apps

Welcome to the YRDSB Family Dashboard

Home

The dashboard will give you secure one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for you to engage with your child's education.

Register today at family.yrdsb.ca.

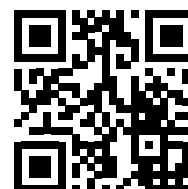
Setting up your account

1. Visit family.yrdsb.ca.
2. Click "No account? Create one" under the email.
3. Enter the email address you have on file at your child's school, and click the Next Button.
4. Check your email, you will receive an email with a one-time code that expires within 30 minutes in order to confirm your identity. Enter that code on the account creation screen.

Once your email has been validated you will be asked to:

1. **Create a password.**
Passwords must be between 8-256 characters and include three of the four following types of characters: lowercase characters; uppercase characters, numbers (0-9); symbols
2. **Enter a Display Name** (your parent/guardian name).
3. **Enter the following information about your child or one of your children for further verification:**
If you use the same email address for your children's schools, all of your children will show in the dashboard once you have registered.
 - a. **Student Number** (is the same number as their GAPPS ID, or is available in EDBSY)
 - b. **Student Birthdate**
 - c. **Student Home Address Postal Code**

For more tips and frequently asked questions, visit www.yrdsb.ca/family-resources and click on the Need Help button for the Family Dashboard.



January 2025 Exam Schedule Information for Students and Families

Please find the **January 2025** calendar for the examination period below. The exam period is determined by the YRDSB/approved by the Ministry of Education; students are expected to be present for all exams.

Here is our January exam schedule below for **students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12:**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
20	21	22	23	24
Regular Instructional Day Credit Rescue Gr 11/12	Regular Instructional Day Credit Rescue Gr 11/12	Period 1 Exam Culminating Activities	Period 2 Exams Culminating Activities	Period 3 Exams Culminating Activities
27	28	29	30	31st
Period 4 Exams Culminating Activities	Inclement Weather Day	Semester Feedback Day: Modified Schedule, students attend half day (students in DD and ASD Community Classes attend full day	Instructional Day and Wrap Up	PA DAY - no students attend school on this date

- **A more detailed exam schedule with course and room numbers will become available by late November**
- **SEVERE WEATHER:** Information regarding bus cancellations, inclement weather, and school closures will be posted on the York Region District School Board website. If an Inclement Weather Day occurs during the scheduled exam period of January 22 to January 27, forcing the cancellation of all exams on a given day, the day for rescheduling those exams will be Tuesday, January 28. Exams will begin at 8:30 a.m.
- **Students in the DD and ASD Community Classes** will attend full days, following their regular schedule during the exam period.

Exam Policies and Procedures:

- **Please review the following exam policies and procedures to support the exam period**

ABSENCES

- Illness and court appearance are the only two valid absences during exams. If you are unable to be present for an exam, you must present a medical certificate or a court order. Failure to do so will result in a mark of zero for the exam and may jeopardize your credit. A court order must be presented prior to the writing of an exam so that alternate arrangements can be made. The medical certificate must be presented to the Vice-Principal as soon as possible, or at the latest, prior to the end of the exam week, so that exams may be rescheduled.

LATE ARRIVAL

- If you arrive up to 30 minutes late, you should go directly to your exam room. You will only be given the remaining time for the exam. If you arrive more than 30 minutes late, you should go to the Main Office to speak to a Vice-Principal.

EXAM WEEK

- During exam week, you are required to be at school only when you are scheduled to write an exam or culminating activities. To see your teacher for extra help, you must book an appointment in advance. Students may study quietly in the library, or in small groups in the cafeteria. Students are not permitted to be in the halls, or to go to their locker when exams are being written. The cafeteria server will be closed during exams.

EXTRA HELP

- Students seeking extra help must book an appointment with their teacher(s) in advance. As students are not permitted to be in the halls during exam times, appointments should be scheduled outside of exam hours.

DURING AN EXAM

- Textbooks to be returned should be placed on your desk. Other books, pencil cases, jackets, bags, notebooks, etc. are not allowed in the exam room.
- Electronic dictionaries, cell phones and other electronic devices (i.e. watches that connect to phones) are not to be used during an exam. Cell phones must be shut off and out of sight during exams.
- Students may not communicate or share resources with any other students once an exam has begun.
- Students must remain in the exam room for the entire duration of the exam.

EXTRA TIME

- Students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Multi Language Learners (MLL) who have the accommodation of extra time, may continue their exams with their teacher or be escorted to the provisions room (room 116). Arrangements must be made in advance with the Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) for any student with an IEP who wishes to begin their exam in the provisions room.

Understanding and Navigating the Education System



presented by

**THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE**

Families of YRDSB Black Students Monthly Information Session

**Monday, November 25, 2024
7:30 - 8:30 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
- Presentation by YRDSB administrators and families on school engagement opportunities
- Upcoming school programs and events
- Question and answer session

Please register no later than November 20, 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

Post-Secondary Transition Information Night



November 26, 2024
6:00-7:00pm



Virtual Presentation

The Regional Assessment and Resource Centre (RARC) promotes equity and access for students with neurodevelopmental disorders in post-secondary education, by providing evidence-based services and supports to students, practitioners, and educators across Ontario. Our vision is to enable students with neurodevelopmental disabilities to thrive in post-secondary education.

In this presentation, we will discuss programming, accommodations, and supports that equip secondary students with disabilities with the necessary knowledge and skills to access post-secondary education. Presenters will highlight the important role of transition planning to help students feel more confident and prepared to meet educational challenges. The role of assessment and appropriate determination and implementation of accommodations will also be central to the discussion. This training is appropriate for grade 11 and 12 students with learning disabilities, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and/or Mental Health Disorders, parents/guardians, and resource teachers. There is no fee or registration required for this event.



Objectives:

- 1 Identify the skills required to successfully transition to post-secondary education and the resources available to teach your students these skills.
- 2 Appreciate the differences between rights and responsibilities of a student at the various levels of education.
- 3 Recognize how assessment can be used as part of transition planning and the determination of appropriate accommodations.

Join via Microsoft Teams:
<https://tinyurl.com/42pde9dr>

Meeting ID: 278 204 256 553
Passcode: bEjZix



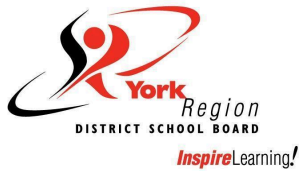
rarc.transitions@queensu.ca



www.queensu.ca/rarc



613-533-6311



SEAS Social Evening

Networking Event

Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) welcomes you to join us at our first Networking Event of 2024-2025 at Bill Crothers Secondary School. Bring your favourite Asian snack to share (*optional*) as we connect about our experiences as educators supporting East Asian students. We look forward to seeing you all.

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024

Bill Crothers Secondary School

44 Main Street Unionville

4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Please [REGISTER HERE](#) by Tuesday, November 19th, 2024.

For additional inquiries: joanne.tang@yrdsb.ca or wentao.wu@yrdsb.ca

SEAS is a group of educators and supporters who are committed to responding to the lived experiences of East Asian students by advocating for their improved achievement and well-being through equitable practices. Building relationships with students, families, educators, community members and partners is also a focus of our work.