



109 Garden Avenue  
Richmond Hill, On, L4C 6M1  
905-889-6266  
Attendance: 905-889-6266 ext: 1



## News Bulletin: October 21– November 1

### Administration

**Principal:**  
Sheri Epstein

**Vice-Principal:**  
Janice Bordonali

**Vice-Principal:**  
Marianne C. Hamilton

### STAY CONNECTED



@langstaffss

### Important Dates:

#### October 21

P.A. Day

#### October 22

7pm Parent Council  
Meeting

#### October 23

Photo re-take Day

#### October 24

6:30pm Parent/  
Guardian Interviews

#### November 1

Diwali

### **A Message from your Administrators**

Dear Langstaff Families and Community Partners,

The fall season is truly upon us and it is wonderful to enjoy the beauty of the autumn colours around us. This is the time of the year when I most appreciate where our school is located. LSS is very lucky to have such lovely outdoor facilities that gives us access to grassy fields and many beautiful trees. I actually have a favourite tree at this time of the year and if you get a chance to walk or drive by I hope you will. There is a spectacular vibrant red tree right at the stop sign at Garden Ave and Hunter's Point. The prettiest fall tree there is!

Big congratulations go out to our Girls Basketball team who have had a great season and played their best, and last, game yesterday. Watching the camaraderie amongst the teammates was a pleasure.

I also want to mention last week's Terry Fox Walk/Run. We were so lucky to have such a beautiful day to go outside as a whole school community and take the time to learn about Terry Fox, walk our track, and raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society. Together we raised just over \$160 for this important cause. These are the moments that make us all proud of what the LSS can accomplish when we work together.

Next week is promising to be a very busy for all of us.

Monday, October 21 is a PA Day. While the students get to enjoy a day to sleep in a little and catch up on homework, the LSS staff will be learning together on a variety of topics from Mental Health Literacy and Equitable Assessment practices.

Tuesday, October 22 is our School Council meeting. This one is a very important one!! Please join us in the library at 7:00 pm when our very own Guidance Dept. will be presenting on post-secondary pathways and how to apply to College and University programs. We know you do not want to miss this.

Wednesday, October 23 is Picture Re-take Day. If for some reason, your child missed our first photo day, or really did not like their picture, please remind him/her to get their picture taken again on this day.

And... most exciting of all; Thursday, October 24 is Parent-Teacher Interview Night. We hope to see everyone in the Cafeteria at 6:30 pm for our meet and greet with all the teachers. This is a perfect chance to come in, put a face to a name, and hear how your children are doing in their courses. There are interview times available for those parents who wish discuss something more privately. Please make sure to sign up through Edsby.

We know that from time to time, you may have a question or two. We invite you to contact the Main Office, as we are more than happy to assist you.

We wish to thank you for your unwavering support and understanding.

Ms. Sheri Epstein  
Principal

**Inspire**Learning!

Langstaff Secondary School

Maturity Through Responsibility

## School Council Meeting

### Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024

### 7:00 pm—8:30 pm— in the Library

Please join us on Monday to learn more about  
**Applying to Colleges and Universities**

How do students apply to College & University?  
 What marks get sent?  
 What is “Early Acceptance”?  
 What scholarships are available?  
 Does it matter where my child attends school?

Our Guest Speaker will be Ms. Angela Ventrice—  
 Guidance Counsellor at Langstaff SS

**We hope that you can join us for this very informative session. Good information for all parents/guardians.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

We hope you able to join us!  
 We look forward to seeing you there!

#BEARS4LIFE



### Music Workshop

We are happy to be hosting two free music ensemble workshops, one each semester, open to all interested students. This is an exciting opportunity for students who love music!

#### Workshop 1: Steel Pan Ensemble

**Dates:** Monday, December 9 to Friday, December 13, 2024

**Time:** Daily during lunch in music room 352

#### Workshop 2: Djembe Drumming Ensemble

**Dates:** Monday, March 24 to Friday, March 28, 2025

**Times:** Daily during lunch in music room 352

The purpose of these workshops is to introduce students to different cultural traditions and customs of music, fostering an appreciation for diversity in musical expression. Through hands-on activities, interactive performances, and discussions, students will explore the historical context, instruments, and unique styles of various cultures. This immersive experience aims to enhance their understanding of global music while encouraging creativity and collaboration among peers. Ultimately, the workshops seek to inspire a lifelong love of music and an awareness of its role in shaping cultural identities.

For the first workshop, focusing on the Steel Pan Ensemble, students will be given an opportunity to play four different types of steel pan instruments (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass). We're excited to have Mr. Randolph Karamath join us as a facilitator. A retired secondary school teacher with the TDSB, Mr. Karamath has pioneered numerous steel band courses across Ontario. He has performed and toured internationally, including in Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, and Europe, with students and at various events. In addition to producing several CDs and documentary DVDs, Mr. Karamath is a highly respected steel pannist and a cornerstone of the steel pan music community.

For the second workshop, focusing on the Djembe Drumming Ensemble, students will be given a form of djembe drum where they will be learning the rhythms and stylistic features of West Africa and people of countries like Mali, Guinea, and Senegal.

All of the activities in these workshops are directly connected to overall curriculum expectations in the arts, such as the creative process (A1), music and society (B2), connections beyond the classroom (B4), and characteristics and development of music (C2). Students will be given materials for this workshop on the first day upon arrival, which includes playing mallets, music sheets, and historical information.

**Due to limited spacing, there will only be 30 spots available for each workshop.** Students will be able to sign-up via the Google Form linked to the QR code on the flyers posted around the school or on the following page.

Thank you for your dedication to this wonderful opportunity for students to enhance our school community through music!

#### Mr. Jaime Barrow

*Music, Drama, Family Studies*

Langstaff Secondary School, York Region District School Board

106 Garden Ave | Richmond Hill, ON | L4C 6M1

(905) 889-6266 x 408



# Langstaff S.S.

## Music

### STEEL PAN

### ENSEMBLE WORKSHOP

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 -  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024**

**AT LUNCH (11:10 - 11:50 AM)  
IN ROOM 352**

**GUEST INSTRUCTOR -  
MR. RANDOLPH KARAMATH**



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN-UP  
USING THE GOOGLE FORM!**

**ONLY 30 SPOTS AVAILABLE!**

**FOR MORE INFO, SEE MR. BARROW**

## School News

LANGSTAFF SS

### Important Back-to-School Reminders

As we finish the first few weeks of school, we want to share a few important reminders and updates.

### Contact Information

We ask families to **ensure the school office has the most up-to-date contact information**. This is important in case of emergencies and to ensure you receive important school communications. If your contact information has changed, please contact the school office. This includes phone numbers, addresses and email addresses.

### Family Portal

York Region District School Board is looking forward to launching a family portal later this year. The portal will make it easier for you to access information about your child's education in a secure and accessible way. To access the portal, it will be essential that the school has an updated email address for you. Please contact the school office if you need to update your email address. We look forward to sharing more information about this initiative with you soon.

### School Start-Up Forms

Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB Update with a link to school start-up forms. These forms must be completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain information and permissions.

The forms can be found at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>. Translated versions are also available.

[Tips are available](#) on the Board website if you need additional information on how to log in to the Student GAPPS account to complete the forms. Please note:

- You must sign in to your child's student GAPPS account to complete the form.
- You must complete a separate form for each child attending school. Please ensure you log out of one student account before logging into another. You will not be able to submit the form twice logged into the same student account.
- If you prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact the school office.
- Secondary school students can complete the secondary school student form at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students>. They will also receive the link in their student GAPPS account. Elementary school students do not need to complete these student forms.

### Board Website

Helpful information can be found on the YRDSB website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). A translation tool at the top of each page can translate content into over 80 languages. On the website, you can find information about board programs and student supports, as well as [online tools for students](#), [community supports](#) and [family resources](#) such as [translation information](#) and the [Guide to the School Year](#).



**Attendance Reminder**

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices to the Attendance Office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE by calling: 905-889-6266 ext.: 1

OR

email: [langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:langstaff.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca)

**Student Success Update**

We would like to share with you some exciting news!!! Student Success will be hosting a virtual Volunteer Orientation session put on through the City of Richmond Hill on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> after school.

It will be held in our Library Learning Commons from 2:45pm-4:15pm. Students need to complete this mandatory training session in order to volunteer with the City of Richmond Hill which has a large variety of activities and events to choose from.

The training will be approximately 1.5 hrs. and students will receive 1.5 volunteer hours for actively participating. We will be preparing the permission forms, and we will have them available in student success this Thursday. We will make an announcement as well and post this in the parent newsletter as well as bears business. We will also include this on our google classroom.

Contact us if you have any questions.

Google Classroom Code: 4rjwryf

**Afterschool Programs**

**Numeracy** is an afterschool program to support grade 9 and 10's with their math skills. This program is being run by Ms.Cehade in the student success room-room 132. This will start on Wednesday October 30th. It will run 10 weeks from 2:45-4:15pm on Wednesdays. Permission forms are available in student success, posted on the student success and guidance classroom.

**Credit Success** is an afterschool program that will run weekly on Tuesdays to support all students with completing their coursework. Ms.Idziak will be leading this program starting Tuesday October 29th. It will run 10 weeks from 2:45-4:15pm on Tuesdays. Permission forms are available in student success, posted on the student success and guidance classroom.

# Accessing Your Guidance Team

WELCOME  
TO  
GUIDANCE



## YOUR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Support and promote students' well-being and continuous growth in three areas: personal (student) development, interpersonal development, and career development in order to help them develop resilience and realize their potential (success) as individuals and as valuable members of society.

*-Ontario School Counsellors' Association*

**Contact Information: Please note the Guidance Counselors below**

Ms. A. Ventrice,  
[angela.ventrice@yrdsb.ca](mailto:angela.ventrice@yrdsb.ca)  
Alpha A-M

Ms. A. Sitt  
[alice.sitt@yrdsb.ca](mailto:alice.sitt@yrdsb.ca)  
Alpha N-Z

Mrs. L. Rico, *Guidance Secretary*  
[lina.rico@yrdsb.ca](mailto:lina.rico@yrdsb.ca)



**Stay Connected and in the "Loop":** Continue to stay up to date by following us on Instagram and LSS Guidance & Success Google Classroom.

**Instagram:** @lssguidance

**Google Classroom:** <https://classroom.google.com/c/NjcxOTQwNzYzNDFa?cjc=4rjwryf>



**Guidance Appointments** can be made in person by coming to guidance. There is a red binder on a standing desk in the Guidance Office. Students can book with their respective counsellor, by alpha last name. The appointments are made available every Monday morning for the week.



### 2024-2025 Post Secondary Events to Advertise Across the Board

Post Secondary Events	Date	Time	Location
<a href="#">Ontario Universities Fair</a>	October 5 October 6	9:30 am to 5 pm, daily	Metro Toronto Convention Centre, South Building
<a href="#">Ontario Colleges</a>	October 16 October 17	5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Enercare Centre Exhibition Place, Hall B Toronto
<a href="#">Level Up- Apprenticeship Fair</a>	TBA	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">Ontario Skills Competition</a>	First Tuesday of May	TBD	TBD
School(s) Hosting	Date	Time	Location
Pierre Elliott Trudeau	September 26, 2024	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Pierre Elliott Trudeau S.S.
Bur Oak Secondary School	September 19, 2024 September 24, 2024	5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.	Bur Oak Secondary School
Aurora, Carter, G.W. Williams & King	October 28, 2024	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	St. Max
Richmond Green, Bayview, Alexander Mackenzie Richmond Hill & Langstaff	October 16, 2024	5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Richmond Hill H. S.
Dr. Denison, Huron Heights, Mulock, Newmarket & Sacred Heart	October 10, 2024	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Sacred Heart Catholic HS
Thornhill	September 24, 2024	1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Thornhill S.S.
Stouffville DSS, Markham District, Bill Hogarth	November 7, 2024	6:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.	Stouffville D.S.S.
Bill Crothers, Markville & Unionville	November 14, 2024	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Bill Crothers S.S.
Hodan Nalayeh, Maple, Stephen Lewis, & Westmount	October 17, 2024	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Westmount CI
Keswick, Sutton DHS and Our Lady of the Lake	November 7, 2024	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Keswick H.S.
Middlefield & Milliken Mills	November 15, 2023	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Middlefield C.I.
Emily Carr, Tommy Douglas & Woodbridge College	November 14, 2024	6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Emily Carr S.S.



## Board News



Dear Families,

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 \$25 charge for laptops and a \$35 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. 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 September 12, 2024 – November 22, 2024 with delivery to schools taking place in December.

## Board News



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 September 12, 2024 – November 22, 2024 with delivery to schools taking place in December.

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](mailto:Aoliver@rcto.ca)) and for inquiries related to support from YRDSB, please contact Yvonne Kelly ([yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca](mailto:yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca))

Sincerely,

Sheri Epstein  
Principal

# 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:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** H G Bernard Public School

**Address:** 245 Bernard Ave, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1E1

Open to all YRDSB students, families, and staff

Please register by Thursday, Oct 24, 2024

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

Please register



Scan to volunteer





# G.I.V.E!

## Get Involved. Volunteer in Education!

### 2024 Fall Session Cohort 2

Join our workshop series and discover how you can make a difference in your child's education by volunteering in schools. Empower yourself to support our school community and enrich your child's learning experience!

#### You will learn more about:

- The role of a volunteer
- Transferable skills
- Equity and inclusive education
- Human rights
- Employment readiness
- School information and community resources

#### We will help you:

- Expand your network
- Effectively communicate with school staff
- Contribute to student learning and parent engagement
- Gain volunteer experience in schools
- Build healthy communities
- Boost professionalism

**Location: Main Floor, 50 High Tech Road, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4N7**

**Dates: November 11 to 15, 2024 (Monday to Friday)**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

All parents/guardians/caregivers are welcome to join this free training program!  
Space is limited, please scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/3WWRsxz](https://bit.ly/3WWRsxz) to register now!



This free information session is organized by York Region District School Board in partnership with Catholic Community Services of York Region. For more information, please contact:

Oksana Majaski  
[oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca](mailto:oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca)  
416-568-2252

Pauline Guo  
[pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca)  
905-884-3434 #322

Banafshe Eshgragi  
[Beshragi@ccsyr.org](mailto:Beshragi@ccsyr.org)  
437-236-42362

Yun Kim  
[Ykim@ccsyr.org](mailto:Ykim@ccsyr.org)  
416-625-7386



# 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)