

MORAINE HILLS HIGHLIGHTS

Moraine Hills Public School (905) 292-0530
The York Region District School Board

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WE THE KIND

Remember to keep visiting our We The Kind website, it is constantly being updated with important information and helpful resources. Click on the link.

The Joy Project

Thank you to everyone who has already contributing to our *Moraine Hills Neighbourhood Art Gallery*. It is wonderful to see our community working together even though we are physically apart. Follow the link above to our **We The Kind** website to see other photos from our neighbourhood gallery. Look under the Special Events tab.

This project will be rolling out across York Region and it all started at Moraine Hills! If you would like to share your art, send your photos to: moraine.hills.ps@yrdsb.ca.

The project will continue throughout February

While on the **We the Kind** website, check out the other information and resources that continue to be posted there.



Upcoming Events:

February 1st

- P.A. Day
- Model Change Survey Available

February 8th

- Model Change Survey Closes

February 8th -16th

- Report Cards Home

February 25th

- Black History Month Virtual Community Event

- *Mrs. Deborah Snow*
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- *Mrs. Caroline Dawn*
Vice-Principal
- *Mrs. Roula DiGiacinto*
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- *Mrs. Monique Singer*
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Co-Chairs
Moraine Hills P.S.
School Council

Message from our Trustee

Dear Families,

I hope that you and your families are healthy and doing well. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their flexibility, patience and perseverance during the school closures. We understand that the pandemic is creating challenges and hardships, and we will continue to prioritize and do our very best to support the well-being, learning and achievement of our students during these difficult times.

There are resources on the Board website that students and families may find helpful, including tips for speaking with your child about COVID-19, support using technology, community and mental health resources and more at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening. One of our [priorities](#) as a Board of Trustees is to Champion Equity and Inclusivity: we aim to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to remove barriers in support of all learners.

Anti-Black Racism

We want each and every one of our students to know that they are valued, welcome, safe and respected in our schools. We know that sadly that is not the reality for some students and that incidents of anti-Black racism continue to occur in our community and our schools. These incidents cause pain, make our students feel unsafe and affect their well-being and achievement. This is not acceptable.

In the coming weeks, we will be sharing information and inviting you to participate in the *Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black affirming learning and working environments* virtual event. During this event we will be unveiling our Anti-Black Racism Strategy, which was developed in coordination with families, students, community partners, educators and members of our senior leadership team. The strategy was developed in response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism, and it will be a critical tool to support positive change in the system and to improve the experiences of Black students and staff.

A series of training sessions, webinars and opportunities for learning will also be made available. Future communication will provide registration options.

I want to thank the members of the Anti-Black Racism Committee for generously giving their time, sharing their difficult experiences and their voice. We are committed to ensuring that this strategy is more than a piece of paper and are committed to doing the work to create more equitable learning environments.

I also want to acknowledge that February is Black History Month, and while we take this opportunity to highlight and celebrate the incredible contributions made by Black Canadians, we will also be looking forward to launching our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy. We will also be continuing our [celebration of Black excellence](#) in our community and I encourage you to take the time to read the stories of some of the inspiring individuals learning and working here in York Region.

We all have a role to play in creating a community that enables everyone in it to thrive, and in doing this work, we will create a more inclusive and positive environment for *all* of our students and families.

Sincerely,

Simon Cui

Trustee

Richmond Hill, Wards 1, 2 and 4

Black History Month— Virtual Community Event Featuring Glenn Marais

Join Us



Feb. 25
7:00 P.M.

We are excited to welcome back the Juno nominated singer and songwriter, Glenn Marais from **Music in Minds**. Glenn has created a series of engaging learning modules which will be available to our students during the Month of February in honour of Black History Month. There are different modules, designed for different age groups. Students will hear from keynote speakers, learn songs and complete lessons and activities that explore the historical context of race relations in Canada and the United States. Glenn will look at change makers from the past and present and how they furthered the cause of equality and equity. Students will learn how we can all apply those lessons to our own lives.

The culminating event will be an evening performance for you to enjoy as a family. Please join us for this virtual community event which will include singing, highlights and stories from Glenn Marais on Thursday, February 25th at 7:00-7:45pm. We will email a Zoom link and details closer to the date. Thank you to the Moraine Hills School Council for sponsoring this event through School Council funds and a Parent Reaching Our Grant!



REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK

February 1, 2021

Dear Families,

Thank you for your ongoing support this school year as we continue to adjust to changing circumstances associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The York Region District School Board is committed to ensuring our students continue to have effective teaching and learning through access to technology, resources and engaging learning experiences and environments.

To further support students and families, the Board will continue to gather parent/guardian and student feedback on learning environments. We want to hear from elementary families and students to better understand best practices and suggestions for student learning and well-being support.

We are using an online tool called Thoughtexchange to invite meaningful feedback from our students and families. Parents and guardians of elementary students are encouraged to support their children in responding to the Thoughtexchange. The current Thoughtexchange asks:

FAMILIES / STUDENTS

What successes have you/your child experienced this school year?

What supports do you feel will increase your/your child's learning and engagement experiences?

Please provide any comments or suggestions you feel may help us when considering the improvement of your/your child's learning experiences

To participate and learn more, please visit the [YRDSB website](#).

This opportunity closes on **February 8 at 11:59 p.m.**

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Please visit www.yrdsb.ca/covid19 for school board information and www.york.ca/coronavirus for public health information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Snow
Principal

Caroline Dawn
Vice-Principal