

MORaine HILLS HIGHLIGHTS

Moraine Hills Public School (905) 252-0530
 The York Region District School Board
 morainehills.ps.yrdsb.ca

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Author Eric Walters Visits Moraine Hills P.S. on March 1st!

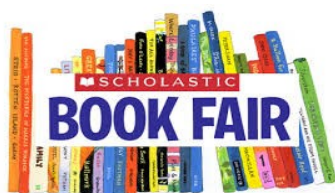
On March 1st, Moraine Hills P.S. had the pleasure of virtually meeting Eric Walters. He shared many of his experiences as a teacher, philanthropist and writer. Students were very engaged by his stories about the different animals he encountered and the many countries he has visited around the world.

Over the past two decades, Eric Walters has published more than 130 books with eight more scheduled in the coming years.

Mr. Walters' novels have been enthusiastically received by children and young adults and critically acclaimed by teachers, reviewers and parents. His novels have won more than 100 awards including eleven separate children's choice awards. He is the only three-time winner of both the *Ontario Library Association* and *Silver Birch Award* and four-time winner of the *Red Maple Award* – where over 250,000 students participate and vote. His latest book *The King of Jam Sandwiches* won the *Governor General Literary Award* and is a *Red Maple Award* nominee.



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Moraine Hills P.S.
School Council



Mark Your Calendars
 The Scholastic Book Fair
 Is Coming to Moraine Hills
 March 28th to April 1st



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Are you Moving?

If you are moving away from the Moraine Hills P.S. area, or if your children will not be returning next year for any reason (other than graduation), please let us know as soon as possible. This information is important to us as we begin organizing classes for next year.



Moraine Hills Junior Dance Team

Dance Team will take place every *Day 5* during our lunch period starting on *Wednesday, March 2*. Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 can sign up and learn energetic dance choreography in different genres of dance (e.g. hip-hop, contemporary, jazz-funk and musical theater)

Popular urban music will be used to complement the movement.



Safety Reminder:

Do not drive through the bus loop while busses are loading/unloading.

Please be aware that there is no stopping/parking in the bus loop which is also our fire route. It must be kept clear at all times (with the exception of school transportation and emergency vehicles).



March Break: Monday, March 14th -Friday, March 18th



Graduation
Thursday, June 23, 2022
Details to Follow



Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration is underway for the 2022-23 school year. Children who turn four or five years old during 2022, live within the school boundary and whose parents/guardians are public school tax supporters will be eligible to register for Kindergarten.

There are several ways you can register for Kindergarten:

- Online** - Families can access the online Kindergarten registration information at www.yrdsb.ca/kindergarten. It is recommended that families use a laptop or a desktop, rather than a mobile device to complete this registration.
- By email** - Families can download the [Elementary School Registration Form](#) at www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten and email the completed form to their school email address. Email addresses can be found on the [school web-site](#).
- By phone** - Families can request support from the school Principal/Vice-Principal to complete the registration form on their behalf by collecting the required information by phone. Families can request an interpreter, if needed, during this phone conversation. Call your local school.
- By mail or appointment**. You can mail completed applications to the school, or request an appointment to drop-off your completed paper application form. Families are asked to follow all school COVID-19 protocols while on site. All permitted visitors must wear a mask.

Please note, at this time, under our [health and safety protocols](#), we cannot accept walk-in registrations. Once you have completed your application, the school will contact you to make an appointment to review and verify the [required documents](#).

Our Kindergarten programs are caring and welcoming where children learn through exploration, play and inquiry. You can learn more at www.yrdsb.ca/Kindergarten. We look forward to welcoming our new students and families to the school.

Please note: students who are currently in Year 1 (Jr.) Kindergarten at Moraine Hills P.S. do not need to register for Year 2 (Sr.) Kindergarten

A Message From Our Trustee

Dear Families,

Thank you for your patience and support as schools closed to students and we moved to remote learning in January for two weeks after the winter break, following direction from the Government of Ontario.

It has been almost two years since the pandemic was declared and schools closed to students for the first time. Since then, we have all experienced significant changes and challenges in the way we live, work and learn. As a school board, we continue to be guided by public health advice and guidelines, our [values](#) as an organization and the goals set out in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#), all of which centre the well-being, learning and achievement of our students. We remain committed to sharing information with you as it becomes available. We also continue to update the Board website with resources and information, at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

On the website, you can also find information about the [Board of Trustees](#), including more about my role as your trustee, committee meeting dates, and information about public participation and how you can attend public board meetings. Following a [review](#) completed earlier this year, trustees approved some changes to [committee structures](#) and [delegation process](#) to create a stronger governance model. As a Board, we are committed to good governance, serving the needs of our community and upholding the values of York Region District School Board.

With winter well underway, I want to remind families that this year [schools will close when an inclement weather day is declared](#). This is as a result of the pandemic and the importance of adhering to public health guidelines.

There is much to look forward to in the months ahead.

This month, students in Grades 5 to 11 will have an opportunity to vote for the students who will represent their voices next school year, during the **student trustee elections**. Student trustees play an important role in our system, including participating in board and committee meeting discussions. The election process also gives students an opportunity to learn more about and participate in the voting process. Learn more at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

Throughout February, we recognize **Black History Month**. In addition to recognizing the contributions of Black Canadians throughout history, we are continuing to Celebrate Black Excellence in our own community. I encourage you to [read or watch the stories of some of the many outstanding individuals in York Region, or nominate someone](#). You may also be interested in some of the episodes available on our [TuneIn YRDSB podcast](#), exploring Black History Month and beyond.

Later in February, our schools will become a sea of pink as we acknowledge **Pink Shirt Day** and stand together against bullying. Learn more about our work to [prevent and address bullying](#) and create [equitable and inclusive learning environments](#).

Family Day and **March Break** are also approaching, and I wish you and your families a healthy, restful and enjoyable break.

As we move closer to the spring and summer months, many families who have children graduating this year are beginning to wonder what **graduation ceremonies** will look like in June. We all want to be able to celebrate this important milestone with our graduating students in person. It is a special occasion, recognizing their years of achievement and hard work. We recognize that it has been deeply disappointing to students, families and staff that we have not been able to hold in-person ceremonies as we have done in the past, as we adhere to health and safety guidelines. School board staff continue to meet regularly with public health and to review provincial guidelines, and as more information becomes available, we will continue to provide you with updates.

In closing, I want to acknowledge that as an education community, although we have faced many challenges and changes in the past few years, we have also seen our community come together in many ways to support our students and one another. I am proud to be part of this community and I want to thank our students, families and staff for the effort and care they have demonstrated.

Simon Cui
Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4