



Regency Acres P.S.

York Region District School Board



From the Office of Regency Acres

At this time of year we look around us and see so many different celebrations happening. It is so easy for us to get caught up in our own celebration and forget that there are people who are less fortunate than us. During this season of celebration let us remember those who are in greater need than ourselves. If you can, please contribute to our Holiday Food Drive!

December can be a hectic time for many of us. The darker mornings and earlier evenings play a role. When we are stressed, it is good to smile, relax and let go of some of the things that are bothering us. It will go a long way in improving our mood and the mood of those around us. It is a good time to remember all of the good things in our lives. Our school has created some displays to help students see how they can change their thinking when they are feeling stressed. Using our environment to promote positive mental health concepts like a growth mindset and taking responsibility for our actions helps us demonstrate to our students that we are validating the lived experiences and realities of how they are feeling. Our Zones of Regulations boards are used as a tool to help students move through different emotions and provide strategies for how to get to the Green Zone where they are calm, focused and ready to learn or problem solve through a conflict. We know if we want deep learning and skill building to occur, our students need to be provided with rich and engaging learning environments. Our walls and displays help students with this learning. To our displays, follow us on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/regencyacresps/?hl=en> Or search regencyacresps.

To further support our learning as a community, YRDSB Mental Health services December newsletter focus continues to be about the ABCs of Mental Health framework. This month there is a closer look at B-Bridge and C-Connect both at school and at home. To learn more read the newsletter by clicking this [link](#).

With the winter break coming it creates a change of routine. To help your child adjust back to school in the new year, try to maintain regular sleep patterns and healthy eating during the holidays. As well, here are some suggestions for activities you can do with your children to maybe even get them and you away from tech for a bit of time. Aurora Public Library: Visit their website for events <https://www.library.aurora.on.ca/>

Get outside to go for walks or hikes, outdoor skating if the weather permits. If you are looking for indoor activities visit local community centers as many are now offering some in-person services. <https://www.aurora.ca/en/recreation-arts-and-culture/recreation-and-fitness.aspx>

Make some crafts. Google Crafts for kids or try, <https://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/>

As much as we all enjoy some downtime, we know that kids often say I'm bored. Here are some things to do when kids say I'm Bored: <https://www.care.com/c/things-to-do-when-kids-say-im-bored>

For us in school the start of winter break is often a time of transition. This year Mr. Hoben has made the decision to transition to retirement following the winter break. He has been at Regency Acres for 19 years as a child and youth worker. He has touched the lives of so many students, their families and our staff. We want to congratulate him on 45 years of experience. Thank you Mr. Hoben for your hard work shaping, influencing, impacting and supporting the learning, growth and education of children and adults throughout your career. We will miss you. We would like to welcome Ms. Ermeyev who will be joining us full time in January.

To those who celebrate Christmas, Merry Christmas, those who celebrate Chanukah Happy Chanukah, those who celebrate Kwanza, Happy Kwanza. Happy New Year to all. Whatever your plans or celebrations this holiday season, may they be wonderful, safe, relaxing and full of enjoyment.

All the best to you and yours and a safe and happy holiday!



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School Website: <http://regencyacres.yrdsb.ca/>

123 Murray Dr.
Aurora ON L4G 2C7

Trustee:
Bob McRoberts
Phone: (289) 221-4816

Superintendent:
Neil Gunathunge
Phone: (905) 884-4477

Message from Our Trustee

With case counts remaining relatively stable, I want to take this opportunity to thank our students, families and staff members for continuing to adhere to health and safety protocols. Your efforts are appreciated and important to protecting the health and safety of our school community members. As we have since the start of the pandemic, the school board continues to meet regularly with public health and follow their guidance. Families looking for more information or resources on COVID-19 and our schools, including health and safety guidelines, frequently asked questions and mental health resources, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening or York Region's www.york.ca/safeatschool.

In November, we held the **school council forums**. I appreciated the opportunity to participate in shared learning with school council representatives on priority topics including the ABCs of mental health and actioning anti-racism practices. Thank you to all of the participants and to all school council members for your partnership. There are so many valuable [ways families help to strengthen our schools and support student learning and achievement](#). We value the partnership that we have with families, and thank you for your ongoing support.

As partners, we want to support you in supporting your child's learning, achievement and well-being. The **Family Resources** page on the Board website provides quick access to online tools such as Google Classroom, School Cash Online, Edsby and more. It also provides links to information to support you in engaging in your child's learning - resources like translation tools, IT support for families and tips on protecting your child's privacy online. It also includes links to other information you may find helpful. Find it at www.yrdsb.ca/familyresources or from the link on the homepage.

Over the past few months, York Region District School Board has been conducting a review of its Trustee Areas. The boundaries of the areas that school board trustees represent change over time. The goal of the **Trustee Determination and Distribution Study** is to ensure fair and equitable representation of all public school supporters. Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultation on the proposed options. The final report will be presented at the Board of Trustees meeting on February 8. You can find more [information about the study and the recommendations on the Board website](#).

The upcoming winter season is a time of celebration for many, and I want to wish you and your families a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. I hope that over the winter break, you find time to rest, relax and rejuvenate and we look forward to welcoming you back in January.

Bob McRoberts—Trustee Aurora and King



Scholastic Book Fair—Online

Mark your calendars! The fun and excitement of a Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school! To adapt to our changing needs, Scholastic has developed a Virtual Book Fair to provide an opportunity for our students and families to experience the joy of reading together.

So save the date! Our Scholastic Virtual Book Fair will take place on

November 29th until December 10th.

When it's time to shop, visit our school's Virtual Book Fair

site using this link:

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5163595>

Before our Fair begins, click the link to:

SAVE it to your **browser**

WATCH videos of popular new **titles**

PREVIEW our Featured **Books**

Watch for news of our Scholastic Virtual Book Fair!

Happy Reading!



Milk Program

We are happy to share that your **MILK PROGRAM** will be offered through **Lunchbox by SchoolCash Online** this year!

Lunchbox is a convenient, online ordering platform featuring local vendors. An ordering calendar has been coordinated for the school community and can be found on your <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/> items page.

The milk ordering calendar is NOW OPEN.

SUNDAYS at NOON (12pm) is the weekly ordering deadline.

• Orders may be placed weekly or in advance, for the full length of the program. The last day that milk will be served is June 20, 2022.



Inclement Weather 2021-2022

As we enter the colder months, we wanted to inform families that similar to last school year, the board has made the decision to **close schools to students when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared.**

This decision has been made in consultation with Public Health to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and support the health and safety of our students, staff members and families. Prior to the pandemic, schools remained open when school transportation was cancelled. This year, given the importance of adhering to our [health and safety guidelines](#), we are unable to guarantee appropriate coverage for students on inclement weather days when school transportation is closed and classes cannot be combined.

Please take the time to make plans in

the event of an inclement weather day school closure. Please note that before and after care programs will not be operating on inclement weather days. For on-site, full-day child care, please confirm with your childcare operator. We recognize that this may be an inconvenience for some families. This decision was not made lightly and made to prioritize the health and safety of students, staff members and families.

All students will be provided with asynchronous learning activities for the day. We recognize that each family's situation is unique. As with inclement weather days in the past, the learning will be optional and supplementary to help students continue learning. New material will not be introduced.

There are rare occasions when school transportation is cancelled due to extreme cold weather and not road conditions, and schools will remain open for students.

Communication to families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance. Our priority continues to be the

safety of our students, staff members and families. If you have any questions, please speak with your school principal.

Transportation cancellations or school closures will also continue to be communicated through:

Student Transportation Services
website: www.schoolbuscity.com

Student Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001

[Board website](#) and school websites
[@YRDSB](#) Twitter account

Radio and TV media outlets

Families who have provided the school with their cell phone will also receive a text message, unless you have opted out of this service. Please contact your school if you have any questions.

For more information on inclement weather days, please visit www.yrdsb.ca.



Happy Holidays

Regency Food Drive—December 1st-13th

Regency Acres P.S. is proud to be running a food drive this holiday season. The food drive will run from December 1st to December 13th.

In order to be COVID-19 safe, we are asking that students and families drop off non-perishable food items in the bins located outside the front door. You can stop by on your way to school.

The most needed items this year are:
Grains - oatmeal, high-fiber cereal, brown rice, and whole grain pasta.
Protein - canned salmon or tuna, peanut butter, canned or dried beans/lentils.
Canned fruits and vegetables and Baby Foods.



School Board Policy Regarding the Clearing of Snow and Ice

What are the main snow/ice clearance responsibilities that are to be undertaken by Caretaking staff?

The main responsibility of Caretakers is to maintain sidewalks, stairs, ramps, and entrance ways that are not serviced by contractors, as well as any defined paths or patches to accommodate students with mobility issues and/or general safety.

Maintenance by Caretakers includes snow blowing and/or shoveling, as well as the distribution of an "ice melt product or sand.

Caretakers can use "ice melt and/or pickled sand to address small ice covered areas on paths around the school. Caretakers must not use "ice melt and/or pickled sand on any grassed areas.

Will the pavement area be cleared this winter?

YES. The board's contractors will be clearing snow from the Tarmac this winter. This decision is made by plant services and is reviewed every year.

Can Caretaking staff be asked to salt or sand an entire paved playground area?

No. Salting of this magnitude creates a number of environmental concerns. Sand, when tracked into the building, acts as an abrasive on floors and can do significant damage

Please also note that if a path is cleared from The Town of Aurora Park land that leads to our school the school does not maintain the upkeep of it. If you are using this path to get to school please use with care.



Other Information

Parent Engagement Panel Discussion (In Tamil Session)

தமிழில் பெற்றோருடன் ஓர் கலந்துரையாடல்

• **Course Selection for Grade 9**

9 ஆம் வகுப்புக்கான பாடத் தேர்வு

• **Destreaming of Grade 9 Math**

புதிய **Academic, Applied** நீக்கப்பட்ட தரம் 9க்கான கணிதம்

Hosted by

Educators for Tamil Student Success and Inclusive School and Community Services

யோக் பிராந்திய பாடசாலை வாரியத்தின் தமிழ் மாணவர்கள்

வெற்றிக்கான அமைப்பும்,

யோக் பிராந்திய பாடசாலை சமூக சேவைகளுடன் இணைந்து நடாத்தும்

பயிற்சிப்பட்டறை

Date / திகதி: **December 8, 2021**

Time / மாலை : 6:30 - 8:00 pm வரை

Registration பதிவு செய்ய இணைப்பு இங்கே

If you have any questions please contact:

உங்களுக்கு ஏதாவது கேள்விகள் இருந்தால்

Nageswary Srikumaraguru/ Community Partnership Developer,

Inclusive School and Community Services (YRDSB)

nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca



Traffic Safety in our School Zone

We understand that the increase of construction in the area has caused some frazzled mornings in recent days. However, during the construction and always, we need to keep our students, staff and families safe. Please follow these guidelines:

Walk to school as much as possible

Use the Kiss and Ride correctly

- enter from the north on Murray Dr. (Senior Centre Side)

-travel south in the kiss and ride by pulling forward as much as possible (even when no one is in front of you)

-exit the Kiss and Ride at the south side (by St. Joe's) and travel south on Murray Dr.

-Do NOT make U Turns to enter or exit the Kiss and Ride, it is very unsafe

-drive slowly and follow the direction of traffic and staff supervising





Community Information

shutterstock.com - 529417228



From October 9 to
mid March, 2022

Free winter clothing for families in need

Opens Saturday October 9th, 2021

10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

1145 Nicholson Road, Unit #1, Newmarket

(Ninja Prints store)

Please wear a mask!

COVID 19 protocols in effect

Contact-Newmarket North Lions Club—905-895-1441

northnewmarketlions@yahoo.ca

OR

Newmarket Lions Club— 905-252-3203

info@newmarketlionsclub.com



Student Mental Health and Addictions—The ABCs of Mental Health



A focus upon Bridge & Connection In this Newsletter, we continue our focus on the ABCs of Mental Health framework with a closer look at B-Bridge and C- Connect both at school and at home. https://www2.yrdsb.ca/search?search_api_fulltext=abc+mental+health&type=All

Acknowledge, Bridge and Connect are interrelated and work one with the other. Acknowledge helps us center and validate the lived experiences and realities of students, staff and families. In our previous Newsletter, we noted that acknowledging lived experiences and realities is the beginning, but is not enough. In this effort, Bridge and Connection aid us in creating learning environments where growth and healing can occur. As we continue to navigate COVID-19, these are important now more than ever.

B- Bridge Bridging centers on the fact that your children/our students, staff and families possess personal, cultural and community assets and strengths. When we all learn about these assets and strengths, we can better build meaningful and affirming connections and enhance growth, healing, and shape student/family support opportunities. When we Bridge, we honour and value varying ways of knowing, being and doing in the world. Children and families are seen as the experts in their lives. Their interests, assets, unique beliefs, traditions, experiences and strengths are valued, respected and reflected in the learning environment. Beyond this, when we Bridge, we affirm that families and communities are essential and valuable allies.

C- Connect encourages us to build connections based on the strengths, assets and interests shared by our students, staff and families. Establishing positive connections is vital and fundamental to the experience of mattering and belonging. This is equally important both at school and at home. Caring is at the core of forming positive connections and relationships. We consider the difference between "caring for" and "caring about." Geneva Gay invites us to consider, "while 'caring about' conveys feelings of concern for one's state of being, 'caring for' is active engagement in doing something to positively affect it." Caring for encompasses a combination of concern, compassion, commitment, responsibility, and action. When we engage in the action of caring for one another, the outcome is a sense of mattering and belonging. It tells our children /students, staff and families that:

I belong here

I matter here

I am valued here

I am cared for here

Connection and relationships must be cultivated, and care must be actioned. By this, we mean relationships require attention, intention, and ongoing effort. Care must be seen and felt.

We invite you to consider and do One Small Thing that demonstrates caring for someone.

"A simple call to a friend brightens someone's day - it's a small thing."

-YRDSB Student.

YRDSB Mental Health acknowledges the importance of cultivating positive relationships and building community not only with students and staff but with families and community members. We understand that to best support students and strengthen our school board's mental health supports; we must listen, learn from, and collaborate with families and community members. In this effort, we have created a feedback form as a starting point to hear your voice as parents and caregivers and learn how we can shape and improve supports and resources that enhance students' mental health and wellbeing.

We look forward to creating pathways for caring connections and meaningful relationships with parents, caregivers, and families. Share your voice by using this feedback form, and let's pave the path forward together. What are students saying about the ABCs of Mental Health? Have a look at this Video To learn more about the ABC Framework & lesson series, please visit YRDSB ABCs We invite you to consider the following free seminar focused on Connection:

Getting Teenagers Connected - Help your teenager develop good, supportive friendships. You'll learn ways to build their confidence, encourage social skills, help them to plan and meet commitments and encourage them to take care of others. [Click here to register.](#)

The link below is dedicated to supporting student mental health. Resources for students, parents/guardians, and community resources are listed.

Please consider taking some time to familiarize yourself with the Mental Health and Community Supports. Continue to check out the YRDSB website for updated information as well as the Twitter accounts @YRDSB and @YRDSB_SS.