



RICHMOND GREEN SECONDARY SCHOOL – FAMILY BULLETIN

Where Tomorrow Begins

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RGSS INFORMATION – Friday, December 1, 2023



Welcome back to the weekly bulletin to your email.

Earlier this week, you received a [message from our director](#) about the last few weeks and communications challenges. We appreciate your patience during this time. The weekly bulletin was still published on the [school website](#). The bulletins can be found on the News and Events page under [Bulletins](#).

Black Excellence Program

The Black Excellence Program for students has returned for the 2023-2024 school year. The vision of the Black Excellence Program (BEP) is to advance the achievement, well-being, and sense of belonging of Black students in YRDSB schools through responsive programming that affirms identity, builds on their strengths, and enhances access to academic opportunities after high school. Students will have opportunities to learn from each other, experts from diverse fields, and mentors who will uplift, inspire and encourage them. 11 students had the opportunity to join the first Master Class this week. Additional opportunities for students will become available throughout the school year.

[Message from Trustee Liang - December 2023](#)

Student Trustee Applications Now Open

If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB.

Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

Applications can be submitted between November 27 and December 11. The deadline to apply is December 11, 2023 11:59 p.m.

All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board (central, east, north and west). Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2024-2025 school year.

Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting period.

Please see this video for more information: [Roles and Responsibilities Video](#)

Midterm Report Cards

Midterm report cards will be distributed soon. Please note, grade 12 marks will be submitted to OCAS/OUAC on time as per their schedule.

Attendance

Students are expected to be in their scheduled classes each period. If you sign your child out of school, they need to leave school property. This includes the library during school hours, as it is considered to be school property during the school day. Please do not give your child permission without calling and giving the office notice for them to be in the library during the day.

Student Expectations in the Community

We are lucky to have positive relationships with community vendors. Many students enjoy eating lunch at the Costco food court. Costco has asked if students could please:

- purchase their food and leave once done eating
- use debit and credit as preferred payment methods (for speed of transactions)
- stay in the food court only unless entering the store with a membership card

Following these guidelines will ensure students enjoy continued access to the food court.

Graduation Photos

Edge Imaging will be at RGSS to take grad photos beginning Monday, December 11, 2023. Students can book their appointment online at www.bookmygrad.ca. Our school code is: RGS

Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

Richmond Green Library Resources

The Richmond Hill Public Library staff would like to share the following library resources with families. You will be asked to enter your Richmond Green Public Library card information to access the tools:

- G1.ca – Everything you need to prepare for the G1 Driver’s Test, including practice tests. Access here: <https://rhpl.g1.ca/>
- LifeSpeak – A digital wellness platform that curates content around improving your physical and mental health, including expert-led videos on meditation, digital addiction, the impacts of racism on mental health, and many more topics. Access here: https://rhpl.ent.sirsidynix.net/client/en_US/lifespeak
- CreativeBug – This resource offers expert-led award-winning instructional videos on drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, quilting, baking and more. Access here: <https://www.creativebug.com/lib/richmondhill>

Notice From Richmond Green Library

In recent years, we have faced recurring challenges in our library washrooms, including issues such as vaping, eating, and disruptive gathering during school hours. Despite the diligent efforts of both the library and RGSS, it’s hard to maintain continuous monitoring due to limited staff availability.

After a thorough review of the situations, the library and RGSS will start to implement new measures to address these concerns. Effective November 9, 2023, the library will enforce restricted access to the washrooms during school hours.

1. Locking washrooms: Both library washrooms will remain locked during school hours.
2. Key sign-out procedure: Students may obtain a washroom key by leaving their student cards at the service desk. Student cards will be returned upon key return. **Only one student is permitted at a time.**
3. Limited occupancy: A maximum of two users will be allowed to enter the same washroom simultaneously.
4. Reporting disruptions: Any disruptive behaviours observed will be reported to both the library and RGSS administration for appropriate action.

We hope these measures will help create a more conducive and respectful environment within our library facilities, and promote a better learning atmosphere for all RGSS students.

School Safety

Please be reminded that all visitors to the school must sign in at the main office and get a visitor tag. This tag should be clearly visible while in the building on business. Students are reminded not to bring guests anywhere on school property (indoors and outdoors) as well as to the library during school hours.

York Region Public Health



Bussing

Bussing is provided to eligible students through Student Transportation Services (STS). STS operates bus routes for students in JK-12 for both the York Region District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board. More information, including daily late bus reports, can be found at www.schoolbuscity.com. Please note, it is important that students ride **only on their designated route**. This is for everyone's safety and security.

Updating Contact Information

If you need to update any contact information (e.g., home or email address, telephone number, etc.,) please email: richmond.green.ss@yrdsb.ca

Kinnect Youth Mentoring Program

Social support network and mentoring program for Black students. Please see [the flyer](#) for more information.

School Start Up Forms

School start up forms were sent to families and students this week. Please see the [Resources and FAQs for families](#) for more information. Secondary students received the following message:

School Start-Up Forms (Message to Secondary Students)

Each year, we ask secondary school students to review important school and Board policies and to indicate that they have reviewed this information. Students are asked to [complete this form](#) online. If you have any questions about the information in the form, please speak with your teacher, principal or vice-principal.

It is important that all students complete and submit these forms as soon as possible at the start of the school year.

Attendance



If your child is going to be absent or away from any of their classes, please contact the Main Office **email is preferred** - richmond.green.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca or by phone 905-780-7858, press option 1. Please let us know your child's student number, full name and grade.

TeachAssist Parent Portal

Students in Secondary School use TeachAssist to view their schedules and ongoing assessment. They can also schedule guidance appointments. Parent/guardians may also register for the TeachAssist Parent Portal. Through this portal, you will be able to view your child(ren)'s marks, and book interviews with teachers for the Interview evenings held each semester (more information on this semester's interview evening will come closer to the date).

To register for the TeachAssist Parent Portal, please visit:

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb/parents/index.php>

You will need to enter the email address you have on file at the school. You will then be sent a one-time email to confirm your registration.

Medical Information

A reminder if your child has a serious medical condition and has not received the medical forms, please fill out the appropriate form(s) below and return to the Main Office. **Please complete new forms each school year.**

<u>Anaphylaxis HEALTH CARE PLAN</u>	This form should be completed for all students with a life threatening allergy.
<u>Asthma HEALTH CARE PLAN</u>	This form should be completed for all students with asthma.
<u>Epilepsy (Seizure Disorders) HEALTH CARE PLAN</u>	This form should be complete for all students with a seizure disorder (including epilepsy).
<u>Type 1 Diabetes HEALTH CARE PLAN</u>	This form should be completed for all students with diabetes.
<u>Health Care Plan (Other)</u>	This from should be completed for all other serious and potentially life threatening health conditions that are not already specifically addressed (Asthma, anaphylactic, diabetes, and seizure health care plans).

COVID Health and Safety Protocols for 2023-2024

York Region Public Health has advised that schools continue to be required to follow the [Ministry's COVID-19: health and safety measures at schools](#).

All students, staff and visitors need to complete the self-screening tool. Students should complete the [COVID-19 self screening tool](#) and follow instructions and next steps. Masks are optional for students, staff and visitors.

Surfaces in the school building will continue to be disinfected and hand sanitizer is available. Appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will continue to be promoted throughout the day.

Key Dates

- Graduation Photos – Monday, December 11, 2023 – Friday, December 22, 2023
- School Council Meeting – Tuesday, December 19, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Winter Break – Monday, December 25, 2023 – Friday, January 5, 2024
- Exams – Semester 1 – Thursday, January 25, 2024 – Wednesday, January 31, 2024
- P.A. Day – Friday, February 2, 2024
- Semester Two begins - Monday, February 5, 2024
- Family Day – Monday, February 19, 2024