



## RICHMOND GREEN SECONDARY SCHOOL – PARENT BULLETIN

*Where Tomorrow Begins*

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### RGSS INFORMATION – Friday, September 8, 2023



#### Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year

We are excited to start a new school year with you. This week, we welcomed many new students to Richmond Green Secondary School, and also welcomed back many returning students. For families new to Richmond Green Secondary School, this weekly bulletin will contain important information, updates and key dates throughout the year.

We also welcome Principal Daraius Bharucha to Richmond Green Secondary School, along with Vice-principal Sayema Chowdhury and returning Vice-principal Sara Gupta. We look forward to working with you this year.

#### Guide to the School Year

The [2023-2024 Guide to the School](#) year is available on the [YRDSB website](#). This site contains information on the York Region District School Board, programs and services. Information on this site can be translated into a number of languages using the “select language” tool at the top right.

#### Engagement Fee

We are proud at Richmond Green to host a vast number of clubs, sports teams and other activities and events for students. The Student Engagement fee supports the operation of these activities for students. The Student Engagement Fee is an optional but recommended fee on [School Cash Online](#). We appreciate your support.

## **School Start Up Forms**

Please see the [YRDSB School Start up Package](#) for important start up forms to be completed online. Translation into a number of languages is available. This information will also be sent to families directly from YRDSB.

## **Grade 9 Blast**

On **Thursday, September 21, 2023** all grade 9 students are invited to participate in **BLAST-Building, Learning, Achieving and Succeeding Together at Green Acres Outdoor Camp.**

The purpose of this full day, outdoor field trip for all grade 9 students is to:

- develop a sense of belonging
- develop leadership skills
- build school spirit
- provide opportunity for students to become better acquainted

**Please if you have not already done so register on SchoolCashOnLine for this event.**

The day will be supported by 35 senior student leaders.

We are looking forward to an amazing day!

## **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](mailto: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.

## **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.**

<a href="#"><u>Anaphylaxis HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with a life threatening allergy.
<a href="#"><u>Asthma HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with asthma.

<a href="#"><u>Epilepsy (Seizure Disorders) HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be complete for all students with a seizure disorder (including epilepsy).
<a href="#"><u>Type 1 Diabetes HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with diabetes.
<a href="#"><u>Health Care Plan (Other)</u></a>	This form 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).

## **Guidance**

### **Course Change Process**

On Tuesday September 5, 2023, an email was sent to all student GAPPs accounts with details about our course change process. The email included a link to a google form to complete the course change request.

Due to very limited space and course availability, timetable change requests will be considered in order of priority. We are aware that some students are missing a course on their timetable. They are our first priority. In the meantime, students have been advised to go the cafeteria if they have a blank on their timetable.

The last day to submit course change requests is **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 AT 4:00 PM**. The link will close at this time.

Guidance counsellors will work on timetable change requests until **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15TH**.

If a change has been made, it will be reflected on Teach Assist the following day. If no change has occurred on Teach Assist by **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023** it means we were unable to accommodate the request.

At this time we ask for your patience. We are working through course change requests as quickly as we can.

Students must follow their existing timetable until a change has been made. **There is NO guarantee that the change can be made.**

Semester 2 timetable changes will be made by appointment only between October 2023-January 2024.

## **School Zones**

Next week, students will see colour-coded zones in different areas of the school. The Green zones are areas where students may sit, collaborate, socialize and eat. Yellow zones will be for collaborating and socializing. Red zones will be for walking through only (e.g, stairwells). This system will allow space for students during lunch and spare periods.

## **Health and Safety Protocols**

The York Region District School board follows the guidelines provided by York Region Public Health.

### **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.

## **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. During the first few days of schools, bus routes are being refined to ensure efficiency and service. More information, including daily late bus reports, can be found at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com).

## **Indigenous and International Languages**

The York Region District School Board offers language learning to elementary students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 and language credit courses to secondary students in Grades 9 to 12. Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

## **PA Day Agenda for September 22**

### **Length: Half Day - AM**

Topic 1: Student Well-being, School Safety, and Violence Prevention

Entity Hosting: All Secondary and Early Start Secondary Schools (except Bill Crothers SS)

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board-based personnel. Facilitated by School Administration.

Description: School teams will engage in compliance training including:

- occupational health & safety;
- student safety and violent incident prevention;
- training on supporting student mental health and well-being; and
- understanding cybersecurity and online privacy.

**Length: Half Day - PM**

Topic 2: Literacy/Mathematics Instructional Strategies

Entity Hosting: All Secondary and Early Start Secondary Schools (except Bill Crothers SS)

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): School Administration

Description: School teams will engage School Improvement planning led by school administrators focusing on:

- high-impact instructional practices to support student improvement in alignment with the curriculum,
- developing resources and learning plans to consolidate foundational knowledge and skills in de-streamed grade 9 courses including English, Mathematics and Science and across the curriculum
- supporting Multi Language Learners (MLL) in our classrooms

Additional professional learning activities for educational assistants, office support staff, and library technicians will be available.

**YRDSB Podcast**

Latest episode: [Transitioning to Secondary School](#)

Students and a staff member discuss strategies and supports to make a smooth transition to secondary school.

**News, Tips and Resources for Families**

Library Cards – students can complete [this form](#) to register for a Richmond Hill Public Library card. Completed forms can be returned to the library or main office.

**Key Dates**

- Photo Day – Monday, September 18, 2023
- Grade 9 BLAST – Thursday, September 21, 2023
- P.A. Day – Friday, September 22, 2023 – **Students do not come to school.**
- Clubs Fair – Tuesday, September 28, 2023 (Lunchtime in the cafeteria)

- Thanksgiving Day – Monday, October 9, 2023
- Pathway Fairs – Monday, October 16, 2023
- Interim Reports Distributed Electronically beginning – Tuesday, October 17, 2023
- P.A. Day – Friday, October 20, 2023 – **Students do not come to school.**