

# The Richmond Hill High School Parent Bulletin

## Week of December 9, 2019



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**Superintendent:** Liz Davis **Trustee:** Corrie McBain

*"We are not trapped or locked up in these bones. No, no. We are free to change. And love changes us. And if we can love one another, we can break open the sky." — Walter Mosley, Blue Light*

### What's Happening This Week at RHHS

#### Monday, December 9

French field trip to French Theatre - 8:30 a.m. - D'Angelo  
Sr. Girls' Volleyball home game - 3:30 p.m. - Irving

#### Tuesday, December 10

Lit Blitz (Period 1)

#### Wednesday December 11

SNAP Basketball Tournament - 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Haghjoo/Montgomery/Lachner  
Soulpepper 50 - Toronto - 10:15 a.m. - Mann  
Delmanor Elgin Mills - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Marcantonio  
Jr. Boys' Basketball game @ King City S.S. - 2:50 p.m. Grigorov

#### Thursday, December 12

Lit Blitz (period 1)  
Lula Lounge French field trip - 10:00 a.m. - D'Angelo  
Delmanor Elgin Mills - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Marcantonio  
Model UN - Bayview S.S.- 2:10 p.m. - Chan

#### Friday, December 13

#### Monday, December 16

Last day for Hour of Code  
Ugly Sweater/Pj Day  
Jr. Boys' Basketball game @ RHHS - 3:30 p.m. - Grigorov

#### Tuesday, December 17

Lit Blitz (Period 1)  
Star Search

#### Wednesday December 18

RHHS Clubs' Food Drive  
Sr. Girls' Volleyball game @ St. Theresa of Lisieux C.H.S. - 2:15 p.m. - Irving  
Holiday Serenade @ Richmond Hill Centre of Performing Arts - 7:00 p.m.

#### Thursday, December 19

Cookie Decorating in Main Foyer  
Last Day of Field Trips

#### Friday, December 20

Spirit Day and Candy Grams

## Important Information:

- **School Schedule:** Our daily schedule will be as follows:

8:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.	Anthem and Period 1
10:05 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Morning Announcements
10:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Period 2
11:35 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.	Period 3 (Grade Nine Lunch)
12:55 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.	Period 4 (Grade Ten Lunch)
2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Period 5

- **Trustee Letter:** Please read the letter from our Trustee which is attached at the end of this bulletin.
- **Contact Email Address:** If you have not been receiving emails from the school with a variety of different information, it might be that we do not have your current email address in our system. In that case please call the main office and update your email address with us.
- **Document Requests:** Should a parent/legal guardian require document(s) for a governmental agency (e.g. CRA), regarding their child's enrollment, please print; complete; sign; and *submit in person* the form available at this link through your child's YRDSB Gapp email [LETTER REQUEST](#) . Alternatively a hard copy of the form can be requested from the main office. Email requests are not acceptable. Please note the time-frame for requests to be processed may be up to 48 hours. During holidays and other non-attendance days, the wait time may be extended. Requests will not be fulfilled during Winter Break; March Break; and July/August when the School is closed.
- **Student Devices for 1:1:** If your child is in Grade 9 or 10 please remember to send them with their laptop or tablet when they come to school.
- **Care of Personal Possession and Valuables:** Students at RHHS have been provided with a locker in which to safely store their possessions and valuables. Please remind your child that they should store their valuables and possessions such as cell phones, tablets, etc. in secured lockers when they are not on their person. Leaving valuables in unsupervised spaces such as change rooms, etc. may lead to a loss of these valuables.
- **Allergies/Medical Conditions:** Please inform the school office if your child has a serious or life-threatening allergy or medical condition. Students who have provided information regarding a serious medical condition will receive a medical information form to be completed and returned.
- **Students Signed Out Of Class for medical appointments, etc.:** If your child needs to sign out during the school day please try to ensure that the student has a note from you regarding the same that can be shown to their class teacher which will permit the teacher to allow the student to come to the main office to sign out. This would prevent phone calls from the office into the classroom thereby minimizing disruption to learning activities in the class.
- **Student pickups and dropoffs:** are to occur in the loop on the west side of our school off Yorkland Street. Parents/guardians are **not to drive into the north or south parking lots from 8:30 - 9:00 am and 3:15 - 4:00 pm** during peak traffic times. Please be mindful of students cycling into and out of the parking lot. We appreciate your patience and we encourage our students to walk, cycle or take public transit whenever support to support and maintain our EcoSchools Gold Status
- **RHHS on Social Media:** Did you know that we share information with you about our school and the achievements of our students. You can follow us on the web, Twitter or Instagram
  - TWITTER: [https://twitter.com/rhhs\\_yrdsb?lang=en](https://twitter.com/rhhs_yrdsb?lang=en) (School) [https://twitter.com/rhhs\\_stuco?lang=en](https://twitter.com/rhhs_stuco?lang=en) (Student Council) @RHHSLearningCo1 (Library)
  - INSTAGRAM: rhhs\_yrdsb (School) rhhs\_stuco (Student Council) rhhsllc (Library)
  - WEBSITE: [www.yrdsb.ca/schools/richmondhill.hs/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/richmondhill.hs/Pages/default.aspx) (School) [www.rhhsstuco.ca](http://www.rhhsstuco.ca) (Student Council)

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### ABSENCE POLICY:

**VALID ABSENCES** include illness, bereavement or family emergency.

**AUTHORIZED ABSENCES** include dentist/doctor appointments, driver's test, and court appearances.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES** refer to field trips and school sanctioned events. Students are still considered to be at school.

**EXTENDED ABSENCES** of three days or more require the completion of a "Special Leave" form at least one week in advance of the leave. This form may be obtained from the Main Office. A parent/guardian signature is required. It is the student's responsibility to catch up on all work missed. **DO NOT plan absences or family vacations during culminating and exam periods as the evaluations CANNOT be rescheduled.**

Type of Absence	Parent/Guardian Responsibility
Absent for a Full Day	Phone the school with a valid reason the same day or send a note upon return
Absent for One or More Classes	Phone with valid reason indicating the time of absence or send a note with the student

Leaving Before the End of the Day	Student signs out in attendance office with a note from the parent/guardian
In the Event of an Emergency	Contact the office as soon as possible.

*For safety reasons, students who have signed out must leave the building as they will not be directly supervised*



This reporting feature can be found on our school and Board website. It is meant for 'non-emergency' reporting as it is not monitored 24 hours per day - if a student needs immediate assistance or counseling please contact Kids Help Phone or 911. You are encouraged to discuss incidents of bullying by other students with your family and a trusted member of staff at the school. Completing a report online is not a substitute for having a discussion with the teacher or Principal. Any incidents involving staff members should immediately be communicated to the Principal or Superintendent of the school and are not to be reported online; any staff reports submitted online will be deleted.

We teach our students that character matters. Every day, students exhibit these positive character traits, and we acknowledge these students in many ways. If you witness a student doing something that exhibits extreme acts of courage, initiative, respect, responsibility, empathy, fairness, honesty, optimism or any other outstanding behaviour, please let us know.

## Technology Integration

[A Student Centered Model of Blended Learning](#)

## RHHS Parent Guide

We are pleased to share with you the 2019-2020 [Parents' Guide](#)

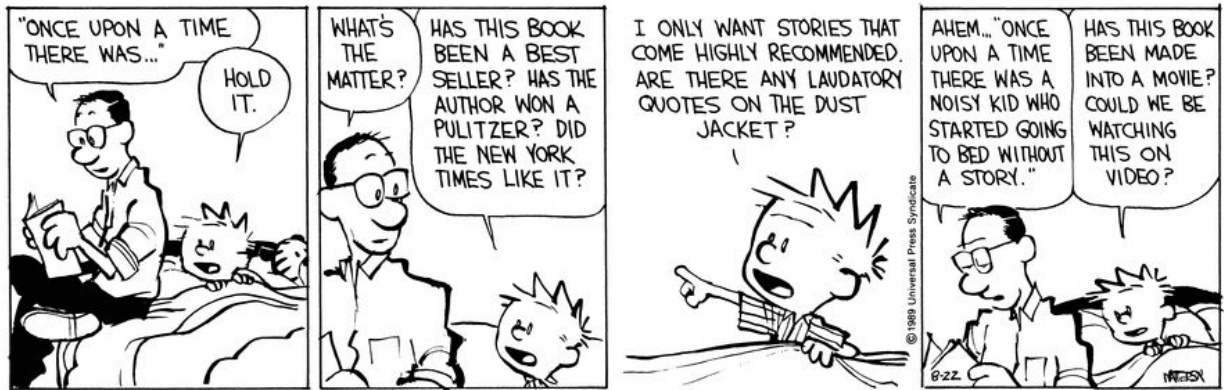
### Holiday Food Drive

Dear Parents/Guardians: Can you please encourage your children to send non- perishable food items to their homerooms for our annual RHHS food drive. All the food items will go to the Richmond Hill Food Bank. If they do not have a homeroom you or the students may come to the front foyer and drop off the food items in the boxes that are placed there for that purpose. Many thanks! RHHS History Council

### Looking for Donations of Fancy Teacups with Saucers, Luncheon Plates, Serving Platters, and Teapots

Do you have fancy china that needs a new lease on life? Donate your mismatched pieces and one offs to the Family Studies department today! Your donation will help support our students as we learn about special occasions and celebrations from around the world and learn about etiquette and manners from various countries and cultures. Our goal is to collect enough fancy teacups, plates, platters and teapots to host a traditional high tea. Please send items to Raquel Amelio in our Family Studies Department. Many Thanks in advance.

## For Your Amusement: **Calvin and Hobbes** by Bill Watterson



### December 2019 – Trustee Greetings for School Newsletters

#### **Message from Our Trustee**

One of our top priorities as a school board is creating an environment that enables our students to focus on learning and be successful. That means creating environments where students are safe and feel safe, where all of our students know that they are welcome and supported, and where they see their identities reflected, valued and celebrated.

#### **Championing Equity and Inclusivity**

Championing Equity and Inclusivity is one of the priorities outlined in the [Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). We are fortunate to live in one of the most diverse regions of Canada, and welcome students, staff and families with a broad range of identities and experiences. There has been much work underway at the Board in the past few months to ensure we are providing all of our students with a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment, including:

Providing [Board-wide training](#) for over 12,000 school staff on anti-Black racism.

- Bringing together over 250 students and staff at our annual [SpeakOut conference](#) for the 2SLGBTQ+ community.
- Acknowledging [Treaties Recognition Week](#), and learning about the importance of treaties and treaty relationships in Canada from First Nations community members.
- Hosting a labour market information night for parents to learn about current and future career opportunities and employment trends.
- Bringing together hundreds of members of the education community for three days of learning focused on Indigenous Education and Equity at our world-renowned [Quest conference](#).

This is in addition to the ongoing work taking place in our schools. It is also important that our families know and feel that they are a valued, respected and important part of our school community. We recently held regional school council forums that brought together school council members from across the region to learn and share together on important topics such as engaging families, vaping and more. It was wonderful to see so many family members there.

The Board of Trustees was also pleased to receive and commit to taking action on the recommendations in response to the Anti-Black Racism, Antisemitism, Classism and Islamophobia community consultations.

#### **Winter Months**

With the winter weather already upon us, I also want to remind families that school transportation may be cancelled on [extreme cold or inclement weather days](#), and there may be rare occasions when emergency

weather conditions result in school closures. To ensure families are aware, last month, we tested a new system to send text messages to families in emergency situations only. Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will also be available on Board and school websites, Board social media channels and local media.

Many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays in the coming weeks and months, and I wish you all the very best for the season. I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back in January.

Corrie McBain

Trustee, Richmond Hill, Wards 1, 2 and 4