

The Richmond Hill High School Parent Bulletin

Week of September 9, 2019



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Principal: Debbie Linkewich, debbie.linkewich@yrdsb.ca **Vice-Principals:** Paul Ruytenbeek, paul.ruytenbeek@yrdsb.ca; Daraius Bharucha, daraius.bharucha@yrdsb.ca; Susie Mitchell, susie.mitchell@yrdsb.ca
Superintendent: Liz Davis **Trustee:** Corrie McBain

"Nothing will work unless you do." - Maya Angelou

What's Happening This Week at RHHS

Monday September 9

Student/Parent/Guardian sign off sheets distributed

Tuesday September 10

Wednesday September 11

Safe Schools Classroom Visits

Thursday September 12

Photo Day

Safe Schools Classroom Visits

Friday September 13

Safe Schools Classroom Visits

Magna Hoedown - 9:30 - 1:30 - Montgomery, Hagjoo

Monday September 16

Safe Schools Classroom Visits (if needed)

Heads' Meeting - 3:45 pm (room 1014)

School Council - 7:00 pm (library)

Tuesday September 17

Safe Schools Classroom Visits (if needed)

Wednesday September 18

Thursday September 19

Friday September 20

Student/Parent/Guardian sign off sheets due

Message from Ms Linkewich

Dear Parents/Guardian,

Welcome to Richmond Hill High School. I hope that you had a relaxing summer and are looking forward to the new school year.

This weekly bulletin contains information that will help you to help your child navigate a successful high school career.

We are very proud of the many achievements of our students. Whether our students excel in their academics, through an athletic pursuit or by being a member of a club or committee, it is our wish that each student is able to find an interest at Richmond Hill in order to make a positive contribution to our community. Richmond Hill High School offers a great range of academic experiences in order to engage students in their learning. We offer courses in all subject areas and destinations. In addition, Richmond Hill offers specialized programs in Gifted Education, Advanced Placement, Specialist High Skills Majors in Business Studies, Health & Wellness and Information, Communications Technology, Cooperative Education and Alternative Education.

As a school we continue to understand how our students learn, build strong and positive relationships and create safe environments so that all students will be motivated and engaged in their learning. We have a dedicated staff with a strong commitment to student well-being and achievement, and to create an environment where everyone feels safe, welcome and respected. We work together to achieve the goals that we have established in our School Improvement Plan for Student Achievement. We have used data that has been collected through School Climate Surveys, EQAO results, credit attainment and other sources to develop our goals.

We will continue to develop and implement strategies to help us reach these goals and will continue to monitor and assess our success as the year progresses. We appreciate all of the ways that parents, grandparents, siblings, extended families and friends support our students. Whether you attend a game or concert, help with homework, join our School Council or even spend a few minutes asking “what have you learned in school today?”, we know that all students benefit when they are supported by caring adults both at home and at school.

Welcome to our school community this year. Please do not hesitate to contact me at debbie.linkewich@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ms. Debbie Linkewich, Principal

Important Information:

- We are pleased to share with you the 2019-2020 [Parents' Guide](#)
- **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
- **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.
- **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 (School) 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 (School) www.rhhsstuco.ca (Student Council)

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
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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.