

The Richmond Hill High School Family Bulletin
Week of January 30, 2023



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Principal: Debbie Linkewich, debbie.linkewich@yrdsb.ca **Vice-Principals:** Paul Ruytenbeek, paul.ruytenbeek@yrdsb.ca; Helen Ho, helen.w.ho@yrdsb.ca
 Tamara Gord, Tamara.gord@yrdsb.ca
Superintendent: Erik Khilji **Trustee:** Crystal Yu

“It only takes one person to change your life – you.”

Ruth Casey

What’s Happening This Week at RHHS

This Week	Next Week
<p><u>Monday, January 30</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exams (Period 3) 	<p><u>Monday, February 6</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mark Review Day ● Semester 2 Begins
<p><u>Tuesday, January 31</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exams (Period 4) 	<p><u>Tuesday, February 7</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p><u>Wednesday, February 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exams (Period 5) 	<p><u>Wednesday, February 8</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p><u>Thursday, February 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exams (Period 1) 	<p><u>Thursday, February 9</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semester 1 Report Card Distribution (Tentative) ● Destreaming Family Presentation
<p><u>Friday, February 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● P.A. Day 	<p><u>Friday, February 10</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●

★ **Exam Schedule:**

Please see the exam schedule below for the most up-to-date information.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1oN7nNI4bTjomJFohWBChK6puBuXr1llgx8B0pbY8P8U/edit?usp=sharing>

★ **Exam Absence policy:**

Students are expected to attend all scheduled exams. If a student misses an exam, they will need to speak with their Vice-Principal as soon as possible.

★ **Semester 2 Information:**

- Due to the inclement weather day on Thursday, January 26 the exam review day has been rescheduled to Monday, February 6. This is also the first day of semester 2. A schedule of the day will be shared next week.
- Semester 2 timetables will be sent to student gapps account before the beginning of semester 2.

★ **OSSLT:**

Students who wrote the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test in November/December 2022 can come to the main office after their exams to pick up a copy of their results.

★ **Poverty in York Region:**

All parents and guardians are welcome to attend any or all of the free virtual workshops about poverty, housing rights and resources in York Region.

Tenant Rights to Housing:

Guest Speaker Margaret Flynn with the Canadian Centre for Housing Rights

Wednesday, Feb 8th, 7:00pm-8:30pm

The Impact of Poverty, Intersectionality and Classism on our Students, Parents and Family Engagement:

Presented by Community and Partnership Developers Yvonne Kelly and Pauline Costello

Monday, February 27th 7:00pm - 8:30pm

[Register](#) for any or all three workshops. A virtual link will be provided prior to each event. For more information, please contact Yvonne Kelly yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca

★ **Meet and Greet for Farsi Speaking Families at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.:**

For information on this Meet and Greet, see the flyer below.

- Meet and Greet for Farsi Speaking Families.pdf

★ Raising Confident Competent Children

RAISING CONFIDENT COMPETENT CHILDREN

Let's talk about it!

Kids don't come with an instruction manual! Many familiar parenting problems have very simple solutions that can be applied with some effort and focus. Triple P's easy-to-understand and practical strategies have been shown to help families in all types of situations.



January 31, 2023 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers and community members to attend these virtual sessions!

[Register](#) Today!

This session will focus on how to ensure a safe and engaging environment for children by:

- Encouraging respect and cooperating
- Learning to be independent
- Learning how to develop healthy self-esteem
- Available resources and supports in the community.

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families



This free parent presentation is brought to you in a collaborative partnership with York Region District School Board and York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families.

★ Supporting your Children with Special Needs Information Series Part One - Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder:

This session will be delivered in English, Chinese and Tamil on different dates to help parents, guardians and caregivers learn:

- What is Autism?
- Diagnosis process
- Common characteristics
- At-home strategies
- Resources available in the community

For more information please see the flyer below.

📄 Supporting your Children with Special Needs.pdf

★ **Federal Housing Benefit for Renters Who Qualify:**

The Federal government has introduced a one-time, **\$500 tax-free benefit** for low income renters who:

- Have an Adjusted Family Net Income (AFNI) for 2021 of \$35,000 or less for families, or \$20,000 or less for individuals.
- Spent at least 30% of their adjusted family net income on renting their principal residence in Canada in 2022

To be eligible you do not need to already be receiving other housing benefits.

- **Applications are open until Friday March 31, 2023.**
- For eligibility and additional details please visit:
[One Time Canada Housing Benefit for Renters](#)

★ **Connex Newcomer Youth Program (Virtual):**



**Connex Newcomer Youth Program
(Virtual)**

Begins in March 2023

- ENGLISH LEARNING
- LIFE SKILLS
- BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS
- CONNECTION TO SCHOOL
- CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY
- AND MORE

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Eligibility:

- Refugee Status/ Permanent Resident Status
- Current student of YRDSB
- Newcomer to Canada within the last 5 years
- Must be 14 years of age as of March 1, 2023
- Enrolled or enrolling in grades 9-12

<http://bit.ly/3GBPRE0>

Register Today



★ Career Guidance Workshop for High School Students:



ASSOCIATION OF SRILANKAN GRADUATES OF CANADA
In Partnership with York Region District School Board

Date: Saturday February 11 2023

Time: 9:30 am -1:30 pm

Venue: Milliken Mills HS, Markham, 7522 Kennedy Road

Admission: Free

Looking for information on...

- Career Choices
- University/College Selections
- Scholarship & Grant Applications
- Secondary School Course Selections



To register please use the QR code or [register here](#)

Contact:

Dr. V. Manivannan: 647-949-5205

Suganja Sinnathamby: suganja.sinnathamby@vrdsb.ca

Nageswary Srikumaraguru: nageswary.srikumaraguru@vrdsb.ca

Canadian Tamil Professional Association (CTPA)
Canadian Tamil Medical Association (CTMA)
Sri Lankan Accountants Association of Canada (SAAC)
Educators For Tamil Students Success (YRDSB)

Message from Our Trustee

February 2023

I hope everyone has had a wonderful start to 2023, and enjoyed their winter break.

One of the most important roles of school board trustees is communicating with the public. I hope to use this newsletter as one way to keep you updated on Board news, to communicate my role as trustee and how I can support you, and to answer some of the questions I am often asked as a trustee.

Communicating with the public includes both sharing information and attending events to build relationships with families, but also ensuring I am available to you. If you have questions about Board policies or budget, concerns about your community, ideas and suggestions, or have a question and don't know who to call, please feel free to reach out. I am happy to assist you.

Our Board of Trustees is made up of 12 trustees elected during the municipal election process, and one Indigenous trustee appointed through a separate process. Eight of the 12 elected trustees are new this term, and we are all looking forward to connecting with families and fulfilling our roles to support student achievement and well-being.

What do Trustees Do?

In addition to communicating with the public, we are also responsible for:

Establishing a Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This plan sets out our priorities as a school board and guides our direction and decision making as a system.

Setting policy. Policies govern the operation of our schools and organization, including field trips, school transportation, homework, caring and safe schools and much more. You can find out which policies are up for review in our meeting agendas, or which policies are out for comment on the website. Your participation in this process is important to ensuring our policies are serving our communities and align with our priorities.

Setting an annual budget. I look forward to sharing more information about this process with you in the coming months as we engage in budget consultations.

Participating on Board and Advisory Committees. You can find the dates and agendas for these meetings on the Board website. You are welcome to attend and observe any public Board, Advisory and Board Committee meetings.

Hiring the Director of Education. This process is governed by the Director of Education Selection Policy, and we will keep you updated as this process progresses. In the meantime, I am deeply grateful to Interim Director of Education Scott Yake for his commitment and service.

Advocating for quality public education. I became a school board trustee because I believe in public education. I believe in the potential of each and every one of our students and our responsibility to nurture their learning, growth and achievement. Our decisions as a board are centred on our commitment to deliver the best for our students.

What's Happening in YRDSB

Kindergarten registration opened January 20 for families with children who will start Kindergarten in September 2023.

French Immersion registration is open from January 20-February 6 for students entering Grade 1 in September 2023.

Student trustee elections are currently underway. All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote for the student trustees who will represent them next school year.

In February, we recognize Black History Month, celebrating the contributions of Black people to the fabric of our society. I encourage you to visit the Board's Centre for Black Student Excellence webpage and newsletter to learn more about upcoming events during Black History Month and what's happening in the Board to celebrate Black excellence.

Family Day and the March Break are also approaching and we hope everyone enjoys the break.

There are a number of other events for families coming up and I encourage you to check the Board calendar.

New Schools

One of the other questions I am asked, particularly in growing communities is about new schools or capital projects. I can let you know that in our municipality the following capital projects have received approval:

- Oak Ridges Secondary School(current site for Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning).
Opening date to be determined.

There are many ways you can stay up-to-date with what's happening in our school board. Visit the newsroom or website homepage at www.yrdsb.ca. Listen to our podcast. Follow the Board on Twitter, Instagram or YouTube. Read your school newsletters and emails. I look forward to staying connected with you.

Crystal Yu
Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4

★ Secondary Students COVID Screening:

All school-based staff and secondary students and visitors are required to complete a daily self-assessment screening.

Secondary students to complete on-line self-assessment COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool prior to entering the school on a daily basis.

School Reminders

Daily School Schedule	
Class	Time
Period 1	8:50 – 10:05
Homeroom/Announcements	10:05 – 10:10
Period 2(1st Lunch)	10:15 – 11:30
Period 3 (2nd Lunch) - Grade 9s	11:35 – 12:50
Period 4 (3rdLunch) - Grade 10s	12:55 – 2:10
Period 5	2:15 - 3:30

RHHS School Council	
Upcoming Dates	Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday February 27, 2023 Monday March 20, 2023 Monday May 15, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings will be held in the school library and also virtually. The meeting ID is 294 102 167 612 and the passcode is MLYa4s. Meetings start at 7:00 PM

RHHS on Social Media
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
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.

Click on the "Report It" button above for a direct link to the "Report It" site.

Mental Health Newsletters/Tip Sheets for Parents

[Resources and Newsletter for Mental Health Supports for Parents from YRDSB](#)
