



Richmond Hill High School School Council Meeting

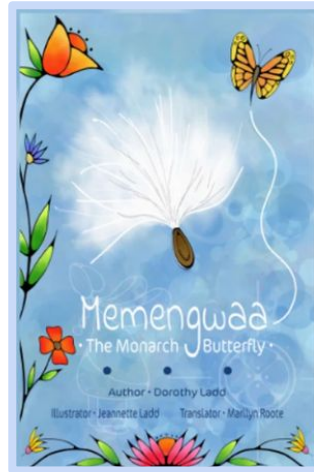
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

7:00 – 8:45 PM

minutes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tiVrFDFPwnzRQUCyQeodfqqGLizanxJUvb4DTllf-ww/edit?usp=sharing>

Land Acknowledgement



[Memengwaa](#)



We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that we are on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island.

To honour this agreement we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.

Agenda



Richmond Hill High School
 School Council Meeting
 Monday September 18, 2023
 7:00 - 8:45 pm
 IN THE LIBRARY

AGENDA

TOPIC	PRESENTER	PROCESS	TIME
Introductions	Administration	Sharing	10
Welcome and Norms	Lei/Mukesh	Sharing	5
Inclusion	Administration	Just like me	5
Student Council		Sharing	5
School Council Dates, Roles & Responsibilities & Nomination	Lei/Mukesh	Election - If you wish to apply for an elected position on school council, please complete the fillable pdf School Council Nomination Form and submit the same via email to debbie.linkewich@yrdsb.ca	30
Administrator and Staff Report	Administration	Sharing	30
Treasurer Report	N/A	N/A	
Board Policies for Review	Lei/Mukesh	http://www.yrdsb.ca/boarddocs/Pages/Policies-for-Comment.aspx	
New Business	All	Parking Lot / Post to Chat	5
Next Meeting	Monday October 16th, 2023		

2022-2023 School Council Members

Co-Chairs: Lei Hong - hongleilisa@gmail.com
 Mukesh Gautam - mukesh@gautam.ca

Secretary: Alifiya Kanchwala - alifiya.kanchwala@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sarah Lee - flowingsarah@yahoo.ca

Voting Members :

Sally Ni - sallyni29@gmail.com
Angela Yau- angelayau8@gmail.com
Xiyi Feng - xiyifeng@hotmail.com
Patricia Wan-Chow-Wah- drwanchowwah@yoursmilecare.ca
Mahta Mirbagheri- mahta.mirbagheri@gmail.com
Christine (Yao) Chen - chenyao@ymail.com
Emma Zhang - emma_danzhang@hotmail.com
Hava Jouharchi - mmehavaj@gmail.com
Angela Spiro- ang.spiro@gmail.com

RHHS School Council Norms

We, the School Council at Richmond Hill High School agree to the following operating norms in an effort to keep our meetings on track and productive.

ORGANIZATION:

- ▶ Agenda to be prepared ahead of time and made available on the school website
- ▶ Draft meeting minutes to be posted on the school website

TIME MANAGEMENT:

- ▶ Arrive on time
- ▶ Start and end on time
- ▶ Follow agenda items and allotted time
- ▶ Stay on topic
- ▶ Complete assigned action plans on time



RHHS School Council Norms

We, the School Council at Richmond Hill High School agree to the following operating norms in an effort to keep our meetings on track and productive.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:

- ▶ Attend regularly
- ▶ Review agenda prior to the meeting
- ▶ Review previous meeting minutes prior to the meeting
- ▶ Contribute ideas to discussions
- ▶ Embrace spirit of volunteering
- ▶ Follow through on commitments
- ▶ Action items follow-up



RHHS School Council Norms

We, the School Council at Richmond Hill High School agree to the following operating norms in an effort to keep our meetings on track and productive.

LISTEN:

- ▶ Listen when others are speaking
- ▶ One person talks at a time



RESPECT:

- ▶ Promote a welcoming and friendly environment
- ▶ Everyone's suggestions and opinions are valued and respected
- ▶ Provide opportunity for all voices to be heard
- ▶ Should apply to email discussions and language used in emails

Just Like Me



Stand if the statement applies to you and say “Just Like Me”

- ▶ I am a parent or guardian of a Richmond Hill High School Student
- ▶ Our family has lived in Richmond Hill for more than 10 years
- ▶ We have a family pet
- ▶ I have a child in grade 9
- ▶ I have a child in grade 10
- ▶ I have a child in grade 11
- ▶ I have a child in grade 12
- ▶ I commute more than 30 minutes to my work
- ▶ I commute less than 1 minute because I work from / at home.
- ▶ I speak more than one language
- ▶ This is my first RHHS School Council meeting



RHHS Student Council Report

September 19 - Spirit Day - Twinning
September 21 - Grade Rep Elections
September 27 - Club Fair
September 28 - Photo Day
October 3 - Outdoor Movie Night
October 6 - Spirit Day - Jersey Day

RAIDERS GO

**Sapere
Aude
Raiders!**

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RHHS StuCo



@rhhs_stuco



Website:
rhhsstuco.ca



rhhs_yrdsb



@rhhs_yrdsb



[rhhsllc](https://www.instagram.com/rhhsllc)



@RHHSLearningCo1

School Council Roles & Responsibilities

According to Ministry of Education Regulation 612/00 and Board Policy 262.0, the purpose of school councils is to support improved student learning and an increased sense of shared accountability for public education.

As stated in Board Policy 262.0:

“The Board believes that school councils play an important role in building school, family and community partnerships by providing input into relevant Board and school-level decisions and by encouraging the involvement of all members of the school community in support of student learning.”

School councils are advisory bodies that can make recommendations to the principal or the Board on matters as stated in Board Policy and procedure. Specifically, school councils are responsible for:

- ▶ supporting and promoting parent, family and community engagement in support of student learning
- ▶ participating in the development and implementation of the school improvement plan;
- ▶ communicating with, and providing ongoing advice to, the principal matters pertaining to the school
- ▶ collaborating with the principal to coordinate community resources that support student learning needs



School Councils Board Policy 262.0

School Councils

Purpose:

- ▶ For parents to have greater involvement with their child's education

About School Councils:

- ▶ Improve student achievement and well being and enhance the accountability of the education system
- ▶ Composed of parents, a community member, & school staff (VP, teacher), and school principal (non-voting member)
- ▶ Make recommendations to the Principal & School Boards
- ▶ Are consulted by Principals on matters that affect student learning

Parent involvement is one of the most significant factors contributing to a child's success in school

Responsibilities of Council Members

(Min. of 6, Max. of 15)

- ▶ Regularly attend and participate in Council meetings;
- ▶ Maintain a school-wide perspective on issues;
- ▶ Help to achieve the goals established by the Council;
- ▶ Encourage the participation of all parents and of other people within the school community;
- ▶ Participate in committees and assist with tasks of the committee(s) and of Council as required;
- ▶ Support all Council initiatives

All parents are invited to attend Council meetings as guests of Council and speak to issues, but voting will be restricted to active Council members

Responsibilities of the Chair / Co-Chairs

- ▶ Call school council meetings, prepare the agenda and chair the meetings;
- ▶ Communicate with the school principal, senior Board staff and trustees, as required;
- ▶ Ensure that minutes are recorded, parents are consulted, fundraising meets Board policies, and the bylaws are reviewed annually;
- ▶ Requirements: Strong oral and written communication skills, organizational skills

Responsibilities of the Treasurer



- ▶ Provide Council with updates on balance of available funds
- ▶ Requirements: Strong oral and written communication skills

Responsibilities of the Secretary



- ▶ Take minutes at each meeting
- ▶ Review and edit minutes and forward to one of the chairs
- ▶ Requirements: Strong oral and written communication skills



School Council ELECTION

Staff Report

Sean Pomakov- Subject Head of English

English

Poetry Slam Club - every Wednesday after school (1062)

Spyglass Magazine - every Tuesday after school (1061)

Writing Lab - every Wednesday after school (1061)

Board Games/D&D - every Wednesday after school (1059)

Visual Arts

Art Club - every Wednesday after school (2005)

Animation Club - Dates TBD

Indigenous Artist Deron Douglas - Sept to Dec 2023

One of a Kind Art Show - November 28th

Greenhouse Club

Meets after school every Monday & Friday. Students will be working together in our outdoor garden, weeding, harvesting and doing maintenance. It is a great opportunity for students to receive community hours and get some healthy outdoor time working together in nature

Advanced Placement

Presentation - 8am, Sept 21, Cafeteria

It will cover general information about courses, as well as information about how to register for AP exams

Physical Education

Soccer, Rugby, Volleyball, and Basketball teams are up and running for the Fall season

RASA

Is a club which studies the science of astronomy at RHHS

HOSA

Is a club which trains secondary students to become leaders in the healthcare industry through the acquisition of knowledge, skills training, leadership development, and competition

Duke of Edinburgh Awards Club

Is a club which empowers young people to learn and grow through an informal educational environment in order to give back to their community

TED Ed Club

Is a club that supports students in discovering, researching, exploring, and presenting their big ideas in the form of short, TED-style talks

Criminology Club

Is a club that studies the science of theories explaining the causes of crime and social harms, as well as the criminal justice system and law enforcement



Meet your Admin Team

We want you to...

- ▶ Understand the role and responsibilities of school leaders
- ▶ Feel informed and engaged with our team
- ▶ Work together with us to meet the needs of our students



Our School has...

- ▶ 1630 students in grades 9-12
- ▶ 105 teachers and supported by 16 educational assistants/child youth workers
- ▶ 7 secretaries, 1 library technician, and 1 technology support technician, who support our staff, students, and parents
- ▶ 10 caretakers are responsible for maintaining our building during the day and in the evening and weekends for permit groups (once they return)

The Administration: Principal

I'm your Principal – Debbie Linkewich

I have been a teacher since 1995 and an administrator since 2006

I am proud to have started my teaching career at RHHS as a geography and history teacher - this is my sixth year as principal of RHHS

I am an educator and the school's lead learner. I coach/mentor new administrators and teach the Principal Qualification Program through York U

I have a:

- ▶ Bachelor of Education
- ▶ Honours Bachelor of Arts, Geography and History
- ▶ Specialist in Geography and Special Education
- ▶ Masters of Education. Leadership and Literacy

I belong to two professional organizations: the Ontario College of Teachers and the Ontario Principals' Council

The Administration: Vice Principals

	Tamara Gord	Helen Ho	Paul Ruytenbeek
Teacher since...	2002	2005	1993
Administrator since...	2022	2020	2003
Degrees	<p>Bachelor of Arts Honours, English and History</p> <p>Bachelor of Education</p> <p>Specialist in English, History, Special Education, and Guidance/Career Studies</p>	<p>Bachelor of Science Honours, Biology and Economics</p> <p>Bachelor of Education</p> <p>Specialist in Biology, Business Studies and Cooperative Education</p>	<p>Bachelor of Science, Engineering – Electrical / Applied Math,</p> <p>Bachelor of Education</p> <p>Specialist in Physics and Mathematics</p>

We belong to two professional organizations: the Ontario College of Teachers and the Ontario Principals' Council.

Our School Board



▶ We are part of the York Region DSB

▶ It has 21 Superintendents, and 3 Associate Directors who are the liaisons between the board and schools

▶ The Director of the Board is Bill Cober, a former student, teacher, vice-principal, principal and superintendent he is the Board's CEO

▶ Our Superintendent is Erik Khilji, who was a teacher and a Principal

▶ There are 13 Trustees who are elected by municipal voters

▶ Students are represented by 3 Student Trustees

▶ Our local Trustee is Crystal Yu

▶ The Chair of the Board is Ron Lin

School Councils



Purpose:

- ▶ So parents can have greater involvement with their child's education

Goal

- ▶ Improve student achievement and well being and enhance the accountability of the education system
- ▶ Any parent can be a member
- ▶ Includes: a community member & school staff (P, VP, teacher)
- ▶ All home/school connections are important, whether you belong/attend School Council meetings or not

School Councils:

- ▶ make recommendations to the Principal & School Boards
- ▶ are consulted by Principals on matters that affect student learning
- ▶ make recommendations to the Principal for consideration

Parent involvement is one of the most significant factors contributing to a child's success in school

The Principal is a non-voting member of the School Council

A Day in the Life of a Principal & Vice Principal



While every day is different, our typical day consists of:

- ▶ Ensuring students are adequately supervised
- ▶ Talking with students (formally and informally)
- ▶ Meeting with the staff (teaching and support)
- ▶ Communicating with parents (proactively or follow-ups)
- ▶ Focusing on student achievement, engagement, and safety
- ▶ Responding to Ministry and Board directives and issues
- ▶ Collaborating with other colleagues on school and Board issues
- ▶ Managing facility issues with the lead caretaker
- ▶ Monitoring the safety of the building

Administrator Responsibilities

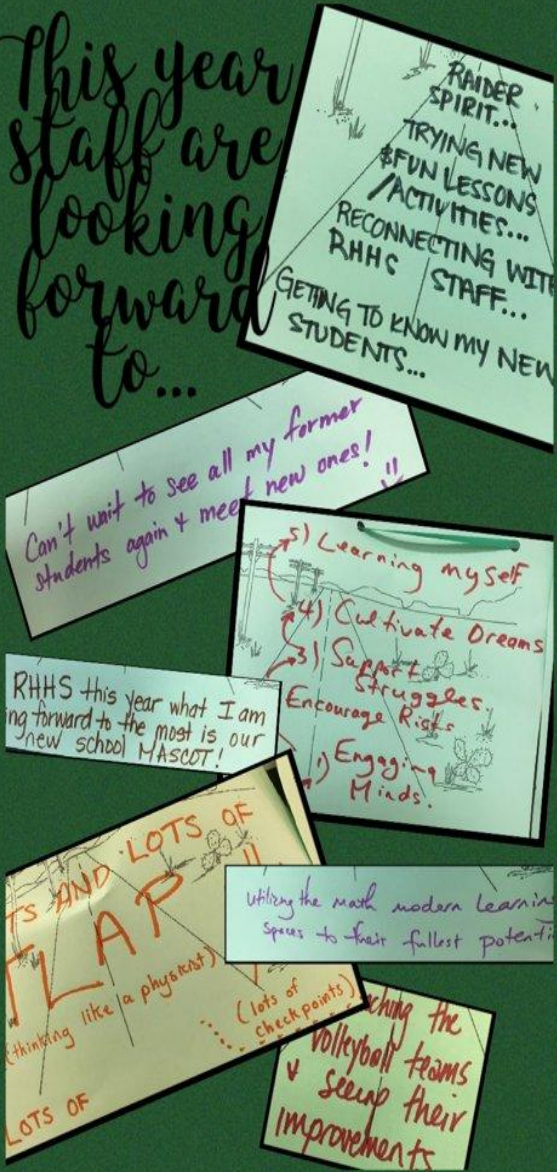
We have many duties and responsibilities under provincial law and school board policies:

- ▶ providing a safe and welcoming learning environment
- ▶ ensuring the curriculum is being delivered and assessed appropriately
- ▶ maintaining relationships with various stakeholders
- ▶ ensuring resources are effectively delegated among students and programs – our budget is over \$250 000
- ▶ implementing the professional learning for staff



Administrator Role

- ▶ Principals and Vice Principals are instructional leaders - that means we assist teachers with planning, implementing and assessing the curriculum (what your child is learning)
- ▶ There are also many managerial and operational aspects of our job that contribute to student achievement such as discipline, attendance, parent communication and scheduling
- ▶ As the school's lead learners, we work with staff to build and sustain a positive learning environment



If You Have a Question



- ▶ If you have a question related to your child (well-being, curriculum, achievement, behaviour, classroom issues) your first contact should be with the teacher
- ▶ If your concerns are unresolved, you can then contact the Vice Principals or myself
- ▶ If you have a school-based question (bus, school grounds, parking lot, class placement) you should contact the Vice Principals or myself
- ▶ It is best to contact us by phone, email or a meeting request

Many Hats

- ▶ While not a doctor or nurse, a police officer, a social worker, a day care supervisor or a mental health professional, as the lead learners we help students in many ways
- ▶ Our staff may deal with many of the people noted above, and more if a student needs assistance beyond our expertise or what the school can directly provide
- ▶ We have training in Emergency Response, Health and Safety, WHMIS, Threat and Risk Assessment, Suicide Intervention
- ▶ We are experts in assessment and evaluation, curriculum development, instruction and differentiation
- ▶ Every day, there are a number of decisions that have to be made, and our response is based on what is best for the entire school

What We Want You to Know



- ▶ This work becomes fulfilling when we see the positive impact it has on students
- ▶ Our goal everyday is to teach life lessons and the value of hard and determined work
- ▶ We want to graduate good citizens, not just good students
- ▶ We want to teach students the value of doing the right thing as its own reward
- ▶ We want to ensure our students are resilient and develop skills to be independent adults

Administrator Report

Debbie Linkewich - Principal

- Enrolment
- Staffing
- Building updates
- Extra-curriculars and School Events
- Grad Requirements
- Reminders: A & E policy, Exams, Post-secondary deadlines
- Student Absences

Tamara Gord – Vice Principal

- Family Bulletin
- OSSLT / After-School Literacy
- AP

Helen Ho - Vice Principal

- Grade 9 Spirit Day
- Interim Reports - Oct 17, Student Progress Meeting Oct 26
- Caring and Safe Schools class presentations

Paul Ruytenbeek – Vice Principal

- School and Graduation Photos (Sept 28, starting week of Oct 30)
- Parking and pick-up-drop-off
- COVID procedures
- Health and Safety (Fire Drills, Lockdown Drills, Hold & Secure Drills, Bomb Threat Drills)

Enrolment/Staffing/Building Updates

Enrolment

- ▶ in June 1586 - as of today 1630

Staffing

- ▶ received 5 additional sections for semester I
- ▶ will support our grade 10 and gr 9 math and our English Language Learners
- ▶ hiring will begin at the end of the week
- ▶ some student timetables may be rearranged to support the additional staffing

Building Updates

- ▶ All carpet removed from all areas of the school
- ▶ All areas deep cleaned and waxed
- ▶ Storage areas
- ▶ New uprights on field
- ▶ Planning: new permanent seating in main hallway, modify fencing to improve accessibility, rehang graduation composites
- ▶ Artwork murals in foyers
- ▶ School Archive

Curricular and Extra Curricular Updates

- ▶ New School Programs
 - ▶ Grade 9 de-streamed English course
 - ▶ Grade 11 construction
 - ▶ Grade 12 Physical education leadership
 - ▶ Dance
 - ▶ Vocal Repertoire
- ▶ Cafeteria service to resume

- ▶ Extra Curriculars
 - ▶ on and off school property
 - ▶ Music Concerts back at RHCPA - charity concert
 - ▶ Semi-Formal - tentative date Thursday November 16th
 - ▶ Breakfast program - working on new facility
 - ▶ sports teams return to play on home field
 - ▶ Yearbook has been delivered and distributed

- ▶ **student activity fee - \$50**

Grad Requirements

- ▶ all preCOVID grad requirements have returned
 - ▶ 30 credits
 - ▶ 40 hours community involvement
 - ▶ completion of the OSSLT (literacy test)
-
- ▶ Graduation ceremony is Thursday June 27th @ The Terrace Banquet Centre in Vaughan

A & E policy/Exams

Assessment and Evaluation

- ▶ return to 70% term work and 30% summative
- ▶ 30% could comprise of one or more of the following:
 - ▶ exam
 - ▶ performance
 - ▶ essay
 - ▶ portfolio
 - ▶ summative task
- ▶ Summatives (outside of exams) are due at the end of the semester
- ▶ Culminating Week and Exam preparation one week before exams

Exams

- ▶ some courses will have exams
- ▶ will test mastery of overall expectations
- ▶ over a 5 day period in January(25th-31st) and June (19th-25th)
- ▶ students will have only one exam a day
- ▶ not all courses will have an exam

Post Secondary Dates

- ▶ Pathways Fair at Richmond Green - October 11
- ▶ OUAC Fair - October 21-22 - Metro Toronto Convention Centre
- ▶ Ontario College Fair - Oct 18-19 - Enercare Centre
- ▶ Oct 6- OCAS Mark Transmission
- ▶ Nov 9 - OUAC Mark Transmission
- ▶ Nov 17 - OCAS and OUAC Mark Transmission
- ▶ Feb 16/15 - OCAS and OUAC Mark Transmission
- ▶ Apr 26/25 - OCAS and OUAC Mark Transmission
- ▶ Jul 7 - OCAS and OUAC Mark Transmission
- ▶ Grade 12 Guidance Google Classroom (students must log in)

Student Absences

Absences

- ▶ Parent(s)/guardian(s) to call the school
 - ▶ Parent / guardian to email RHHS
- ▶ If a student is absent for a class a notice will be sent out during the day informing parents/guardians

Signing Out

- ▶ Parent(s)/guardian(s) to call the school
 - ▶ Parent / guardian to email RHHS
- ▶ If you are missing an evaluation, you must speak with the teacher before leaving the school

Extended Absence

- ▶ More than 3 days – contact teachers and complete an Extended Absence form
- ▶ Student must speak to their Vice Principal about the absence prior to leaving

Family Bulletin



Family Bulletin

Home

Weekly Information

School Information for
the Year

Events and Highlights



OSSLT

- ▶ All students in grade 10 will be required to write OSSLT this year.
- ▶ Student in grade 11 or 12 that have not completed the OSSLT will have an opportunity to write this year or take the OLC course.
- ▶ OSSLT Fall dates: November 1-30, 2023.

AP Information Session



- ▶ Student information session on Thursday September 21 at 8:00 am in the Cafeteria
- ▶ The session will include general information about AP and instructions for registering in AP classroom and for AP exams

Grade 9 Spirit Day



- ▶ Over 320 grade 9's attended grade 9 Spirit Day on Sept 13
- ▶ First field trip of the year
- ▶ Students participated in many team building activities and got a chance to meet new friends and meet student mentors.
- ▶ Highlights and photos were shared on the family bulletin

Caring and Safe Schools

Students have been presented a Safe and Caring School Presentation by Administration in every grade

Highlights:

- ▶ **We as a school and School Community look to provide students with a safe, caring and respectful environment for students to learn**
- ▶ **Bullying, Discrimination, Racism will not be accepted and will be addressed**
- ▶ **RHHS is a smoke free school, this includes vaping. Students found vaping in the school will have consequences.**



Interim Reports

- ▶ **October 17 reports go home via students' Gapps accounts**
- ▶ **October 26 progress report meetings**

School Photos/Grad Photos

- ▶ School photos were taken on Sept 28. There will be a photo retake day on Oct 16.
- ▶ Graduation photos will be starting Oct 30. Students will need to book for their graduation photo sitting. Information will be emailed to students once registration for photo slots open.

Health and Safety

- ▶ Families have been emailed forms for any student that have severe medical conditions (asthma, anaphylactic, diabetes, seizure) to ensure school has medical plan as well as medicine for emergency
- ▶ Lock Down, Hold and Secure, Bomb Threat Drills will begin at the end of September.
- ▶ Fire Drill - First one was on Sept 15th

Transitions Dates

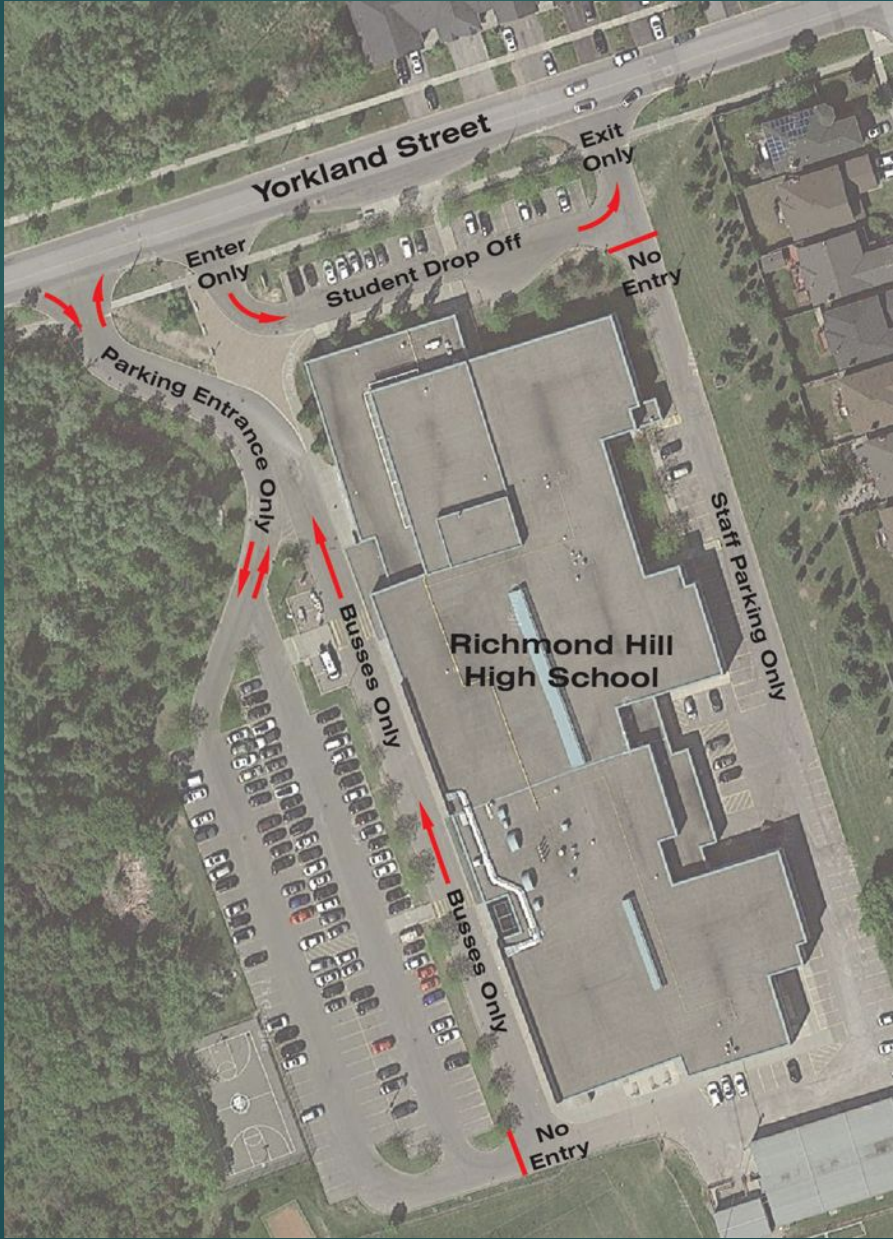


- ▶ Grade 9 and 10 Spirit Day - Oct 6
- ▶ Grade 8 Visits - Nov 3
- ▶ Grade 8 Open House - Dec 2

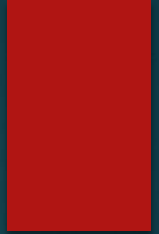
Community Hours

- ▶ Students graduating 2021-2022 must complete 20 hours of community involvement hour.
- ▶ The following activities will be deemed eligible for all secondary students for their community involvement activities in the 2021-22 school year:
 - ▶ Activities that take place during the time allotted for the instructional program on a school day (e.g., walking a younger neighbour or sibling to and from school, helping younger siblings with their homework)
 - ▶ Activities that include up to 10 hours of paid work, with the requirement to complete a reflection exercise indicating how their work contributed to service for others (e.g., grocery work during the pandemic)
 - ▶ Activities that consist of duties normally performed in the home (e.g., students could help an elderly relative with errands, provide after-school care for a sibling)
- ▶ Community involvement graduation requirement of 40 hours will be restored in 2022-2023

Parking Lot Flow Diagram



Treasurer Report



Responsibilities of the Sub-Committee Chairs

- ▶ Facilitate sub-committee discussions
- ▶ Organize sub-committee tasks and delegate responsibilities
- ▶ Follow up with sub-committee members as needed
- ▶ Liaison with school council chair and/or administration as needed
- ▶ Share sub-committee updates at council meetings as needed

RHHS Sub-Committees



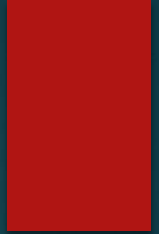
School Council Award

- ▶ A graduating student of RHHS for outstanding leadership, excellent school spirit, excellent character attributes, and contribution to both RHHS and external communities

Focus Presentations / Parent Engagement

- ▶ Mental health, balanced lifestyle, technology, course selection, relationships, addictions, etc.

New Business



RHHS School Council Meeting Dates



Monday September 18, 2023

Monday October 16, 2023

Monday November 20, 2023

Tuesday February 20, 2024

Monday March 18, 2024

Tuesday May 21, 2024

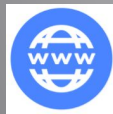
QUESTIONS?



debbie.linkewich@yrdsb.ca



[@D_Linkewich](https://twitter.com/D_Linkewich)



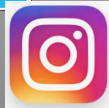
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