



# Silver Pines public school

## *A Message from Administration...*

Dear Families,

Based on the information shared Friday afternoon by the Premier, schools will continue to be open for face-to-face learning next week after the long weekend, and the Spring Break will occur for all students April 12th-16th. If technology was borrowed on Thursday as a precaution for a possible school closure, please ensure it is returned to the classroom teacher on Tuesday. We have noted which families have requested technology in case we need to send home technology in the future.

As the numbers of Covid-19 cases are rising in York Region, we do want to take this opportunity to remind families of the importance of physical distancing and face masks. Please take note of the new lockdown protocols administered by the Province. We also want to remind you to properly screen your child everyday before sending them to school. Please take the time to read through each question and determine whether your child can come to school. If you answer YES to any of [these questions](#), DO NOT send your child to school. We all need to work together to ensure a safe and healthy school environment.

We wish you all a safe, healthy and enjoyable long weekend.

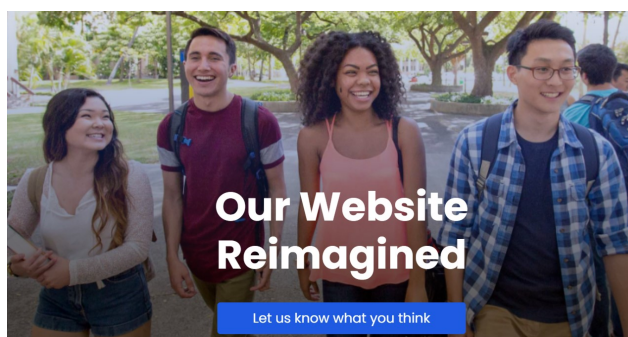
Sincerely,

*Jeff Laughlin & Shauna Small*



**Principal: Jeff Laughlin | 905.508.7303**  
**Vice Principal: Shauna Small | 905.508.7303**  
**Superintendent: Liz Davis | 905.884.4477**  
**Trustee : Simon Cui**  
**<https://twitter.com/silverpinesps>**  
**<http://www.silverpines.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca>**





### Visit our new website

YRDSB has refreshed its Board website to make it easier for families to find the important information they are looking for at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

The new website has been designed to be mobile friendly, translatable, accessible, searchable, easy to navigate and to better reflect York Region District School Board and our community. This includes:

- Built-in translation tool
- Enhanced search capabilities
- Built-in accessibility features to meet accessibility legislation
- Revised navigation based on user testing, website analytics and research

Quick access to six of our most accessed pages, including school calendars and school transportation information.

The new website also includes:

A [Family Resources](#) that provides quick access to online tools like Edsby, Google Classroom and School Cash Online, as well as links to information about translation tools, IT support for families and more. Use the “need help” button to access tips and support in using these tools.

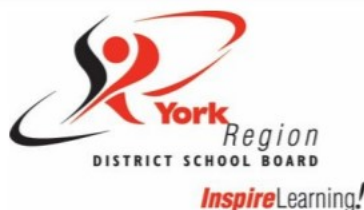
Updated [Online Student Tools](#) pages provide quick access to students to online learning platforms and resources to help with homework. Use the “need help” button to access tips and support in using these tools.

An enhanced [newsroom](#) with access to the latest news, events and videos so you can find out what’s happening around our Board.

Easy access to information about [supports for students](#), [elementary school](#) and [secondary school](#) programs, [adult learning opportunities](#) and more.

Information about COVID-19 and schools, including update information, screening tools and frequently asked questions can still be found at [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

We hope that the website makes it easier for families to find and access the information you are looking for. When you visit the new website, please take the time to share your feedback, so we can continue to ensure our website meets the needs of the community we serve.



## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter April 2021

### Social Connection and the Power of a Listening Ear

A year later, we continue to experience uncertainty with lockdowns and social distancing; we long for social interaction with peers, friends, and families beyond our immediate social circles. This month's newsletter will focus on the importance of maintaining and expanding our social connections by offering a listening ear while following Public Health guidelines.

Restrictions limiting in-person interactions have left many parents and students feeling a sense of isolation, sadness, anxiousness, and frustration, among other feelings. The importance of offering a listening ear could not be more pronounced as many feel disconnected and alone. According to CMHA, 'really listening' is the key to a meaningful connection. Active listening is a part of effective communication skills that can support building a real connection with other people. It can take some getting used to, especially when behind a mask and distanced six feet apart or even behind a virtual screen.

The importance of offering a listening ear to understand what a person might be experiencing is a small act that can make a meaningful difference. Leon F. Seltzer Ph.D. explains why feeling understood is essential to our well-being and how it connects us to others, allowing us to feel welcomed.

Included below are some tips to build connection safely by offering a sympathetic ear:

- ◆ Reach out in a manner that feels safe and follows Public Health guidelines i.e., phone call, zoom, text, and other creative ways.
- ◆ • Take the time to let the other person know you are there for them. "I am here for you. I am listening. Tell me what's on your mind..."
- ◆ • Show empathy and understanding by validating what is being said. "I hear you, and it makes sense why you would feel this way."
- ◆ • Acknowledge their feelings.
- ◆ • Be present in the moment with the person.
- ◆ • Listen to understand and take the necessary time to absorb the information.
- ◆ • Ask questions when appropriate. The questions should be curious, open-ended, and ones that do not contain an answer. "Can you tell me more about what that was like for you?"
- ◆ • Pay attention to body language by facing the person to show you are listening.
- ◆ • Avoid advice-giving, interrupting, making assumptions, or judgments.
- ◆ • Let the conversation flow.
- ◆ • Be honest about how much time you can offer to connect.

Following these tips should help you get started on building meaningful connections through the act of listening.

## Empowering Women



Filmed in Canada, Iran, and the United States, *Secrets of the Surface: The Mathematical Vision of Maryam Mirzakhani* examines the life and mathematical work of Maryam Mirzakhani, an Iranian immigrant to the United States who became a superstar in her field. In 2014, she was both the first woman and the first Iranian to be honored by mathematics' highest prize, the Fields Medal.

Mirzakhani's contributions are explained in the film by leading mathematicians and illustrated by animated sequences. Her mathematical colleagues from around the world, as well as former teachers, classmates, and students in Iran today, convey the deep impact of her achievements. The path of her education, success on Iran's Math Olympiad team, and her brilliant work, make Mirzakhani an ideal role model for girls looking toward careers in science and mathematics.

**"It is important that this movie is shown to school girls"**

— Association for Women in Mathematics

**"Beautifully clear descriptions and visualizations"**

— Science News

YEAR  
2020

DIRECTOR  
George Csicsery

RUNTIME  
59 minutes

LANGUAGE  
English

Empower your daughters in the field of math and science.

Share this short film with your children.

<https://watch.eventive.org/argot/play/5ffc8f00453a0d00a3c9bd8f>



## Communication Strategies and Healthy Boundaries

沟通技巧和心理健康界限

溝通技巧和心理健康界限

### Join Our Conversation As We Explore Positive Communication Strategies and Healthy Boundaries

探索积极的交流策略和心理健康界限，邀您加入我们的

探索积极的交流策略和心理健康界限，诚邀您加入我们的讨论

#### Presented by:

Hong Fook Mental Health Association

Family Services York Region

YRDSB Performance Plus Schools - Milliken Mills, Highgate, Unionville Meadows, and  
Wilclay Public Schools,

YRDSB Inclusive School and Community Services

**Date:** April 6th, 2021

**日期：**2021年4月6日

**Time:** 10:00 am – 11:30 am or 7:00pm to 8:30 pm

：上午10:00 – 11:30 或 晚上7:00 - 8:30

時間：上午10:00 – 11:30 或 晚上7:00 - 8:30

#### [Registration](#)

[点这里注册](#)

[點擊這裡報名](#)

**Registration Deadline:** April 3, 2021



# AUTO CONNECT

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACK YOUTH

## Are you driven?

Thursday, April 8, 7-8pm  
Live streamed with Q&A

**RSVP NOW**

There is a world of well-paying career opportunities in the automotive industry.

Hear from industry professionals about their journey, explore career opportunities, and learn about post-secondary pathways and scholarships to help you get there.



### AGENDA



Keynote - future of auto industry and the need for diversity and inclusion (15 minutes)  
**Dan Ramana, President and CEO, Hyundai Canada**



Educational pathways - general information on pathways through post-secondary to careers in automotive (5 minutes)  
**Joe Lauzon, Marketing Officer, ABSO@GeorgianCollege**



Auto industry overview - overview of main industry sectors and opportunities that are lesser known (10 minutes)  
**Omar Dicks, Chief Economist, Canadian Automobile Dealers Association**



Panel of industry professionals - guided panel and Q&A for panelist representing the different sectors of the auto industry (30 minutes)  
**Joyce Tshimale (Moderator) District Customer Experience Manager, Hyundai Canada**

### PANELISTS



**Jennifer Oliseguale**  
Corporate Special Events, Public Relations at Toyota Canada Inc.



**Emiliana Void**  
National Operations Manager, Cox Automotive Canada



**Nial Bostewain**  
General Manager, Drive Auto Group

Presented by:

**AUTOMOTIVE  
BUSINESS SCHOOL  
of Canada**  
- EST. 1995 -

**ACCELERATE  
AUTO**

YRDSB families register here: <http://bit.ly/YRDSBAutoConnectReg>

# Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation & Prevention Month



## Added Event

**1** Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month (Canada)

In Canada, April is Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month and is an opportunity to reflect on the root causes of these tragedies, so that we may prevent them from happening again.

## When is Genocide against the Tutsi Memorial Day?

On April 7th, Rwanda memorialises victims of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. Unlike other official holidays in Rwanda, this holiday is always observed on the same date, even if it falls on a weekend.

Also known as Kwibuka ('To Remember'), this day marks the beginning of the national mourning period.

HOLOCAUST  
REMEMBRANCE DAY

IN MEMORY OF **6** MILLION  
JEWS



Judaism

**7** Eve of Yom HaShoah

Observance begins at sundown.

**8** Yom HaShoah

Held in memory of the six million Jews who died as victims of Nazi atrocities (World War II).

A Virtual Cross-Canada [Yom HaShoah Commemoration](#) will be available on April 8th, 7:00pm.

**1915**

*Armenian Genocide*



In memory of 1.5 million victims







### Judaism

**3** Seventh Day of Pesah  
(Last observed day for Reform Jews.)  
Pesah commemorates the departure of the Israelites from Egypt. It is the first of the three major festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are Shavuot and Sukkot).

In Israel and among Reform Jews, Pesah is celebrated for seven days: eve + the first day + the seventh (last) day are non-working. For Orthodox and Conservative Jews outside Israel, Pesah is celebrated for eight days: eve + first and second days + seventh (second last) and eighth (last) days are non-working.



### Buddhism

**8** Buddha's Birth date  
Anniversary of the historical Buddha's birth. (Mahāyāna) (Japan, North America)



### Judaism

**4** Eighth (Last) Day of Pesah  
(Last observed day for Orthodox and Conservative Jews.) Pesah commemorates the departure of the Israelites from Egypt. It is the first of the three major festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are Shavuot and Sukkot).

For Orthodox and Conservative Jews outside Israel, Pesah is celebrated for eight days: eve + first and second days + seventh (second last) and eighth (last) days are non-working. (Note: In Israel and among Reform Jews, Pesah is celebrated for seven days: eve + the first day + the seventh (last) day are non-working.)



### Bahá'í Faith

**8** Jalál  
Jalál (Glory) is the second Bahá'í month.



### Indigenous Spirituality

**1** Thundering Moon (local Oneida)  
Thunder renews the earth in the spring and keeps the big dangerous animals (e.g. dinosaurs, snakes) underground. Also thunder controls the wind so it does not get too strong and destroy homes...as told by Oneida of the Thames Elders.



# Diversity is our Strength!



### Christianity

**1** Maundy (Holy) Thursday (W)  
Celebrates the institution of the Lord's Supper by Jesus.



### Christianity

**2** Holy (Good) Friday (W)  
Commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ, i.e., his submission to death by crucifixion.



### Christianity

**3** Holy Saturday (W)  
The final day of Lent, of Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum - Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It is a day of vigil in preparation for Easter. The day culminates with the Easter Vigil in many Churches during which the Easter Candle, the Light of Christ, leads a congregation through song and prayer to celebrate the Resurrection.



### Christianity

**4** Easter (W)  
Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus. It initiates the fifty-day period culminating in Pentecost.



### Christianity

**5** Easter Monday (W)

## Happy Easter!

