

# Tommy Douglas SS e-Newsletter



4020 Major Mackenzie Drive West, Woodbridge, ON L4H 4E9

April 14th, 2023

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### **OSSLT Assessment on April 19:**

Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). Students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 who have not yet completed or were not successful last semester will write on **April 19th**. Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the online test and its platform through EQAO's online practice test. For more information about EQAO and to view the entire practice test, you are encouraged to visit EQAO's website

[www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)

### **Proposed School Year Calendar 2023-2024:**

The proposed YRDSB 2023-2024 school year calendars have been sent to the Ministry for review and approval. These calendars may be accessed on the YRDSB website at:

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/school-year-calendar>

Please note: Calendars are not official until they receive formal Ministry approval which is expected in late May 2023

### **Every Student Counts Survey**

York Region District School Board will be engaging all students in the [Every Student Counts Survey](#). Students at TDSS will be completing the 20 minute online survey in their **period 1 class**.

- Monday May 1st: Grade 9
- Tuesday May 2nd: Grade 10
- Wednesday May 3rd: Grade 11
- Thursday May 4th: Grade 12

The survey is being conducted to better understand our student population and school communities and will also be available in multiple languages.

## Contact Us

Phone 289.342.0001

Extensions

Reception 0

Attendance 1

Guidance 3

[tommy.douglas.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:tommy.douglas.ss@yrdsb.ca)

## Online

[School website](#)

 TDSS\_YRDSB

 @tommydouglassmainoffice

## Administration

Principal

[Sandra Sardone](#)

Vice Principals

Antonietta Grieco (A - G)

Elizabeth Sloan (H - PAS)

Vera Katyshev (Pat - Z)

## School Council

[Joe Giusto](#)

[Amir Bigloo](#)

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

## Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



## School News and Information

### Summer School Registration Is Now Open On MyBlue Print

Summer school registration is open on MyBlue Print. If you are interested in learning more about summer school including method of deliver, timelines etc. please see attached links.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/summer-learning-opportunities/secondary-summer-school/2023>

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/summer-learning-opportunities>

Registration is completed on MyBlue Print by clicking on the Continuing Education tab found on the left hand side of the screen and by following the prompts.

### INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS



#### Grad Packages are Available for Purchase

The grad package is ready for purchase. Please go to School Cash Online to pay for your child's package. The package includes their gown, stole, hat and the cost of the graduation venue. This year the cost is \$75. **This year's Graduation Ceremony will take place at The Terrace Banquet Hall, 680 Creditstone Rd, Concord. on June 27, 2023.** We ask that families purchase their child's grad package order as soon as possible.

#### Grad Sweaters

Grad sweaters are now available for purchase on [School Cash Online](#).

#### AEBS 2023 Scholarships for Black Students Graduating from York Region District School Board High Schools

Students should [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the 2023 scholarships and to apply. (Having problems accessing the information? Search using Google Chrome.) Students are required to sign into their YRDSB Google Accounts to access the application form. The deadline to apply is Monday, May 22nd, 2023 before 11:55 p.m.

### Important Dates

**April 11- Summer School registration opens**

**April 19th - OSSLT Test**

**May 1-5th - Every Student Counts Survey**

**June 20-27 Exams**

### Helpful Links

**PUBLIC HEALTH LINKS:**  
[york.ca/safeatschool](http://york.ca/safeatschool)

**CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:**  
[Kids Help Phone](#)  
[Report It \(YRDSB\)](#)

**SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:**  
Crisis Mental Health Supports for Students:  
[310-COPE](#): 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7  
[KidsHelpPhone](#): 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7



## School News and Information

### Exams and Culminating Assessments

**Please Note that the first day of grade 12 exams will be on June 20**

**DO NOT** make plans for travel, appointments, etc. during the exam period (**June 20-27**) students are required to write ALL exams at the scheduled time. Failure to report for an examination may result in a mark of "0". If a student is absent from an exam for medical reasons, documentation is required. Illness or emergencies will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Please note that students missing exams for reasons approved by the administration will be required to write all missed exams at the earliest possible date.

### Extended Absences

Regular attendance is closely connected to academic success and we expect that students will attend school every day except in the case of illness. However, we understand that there may be circumstances when it is necessary for students to be away from school for family or personal reasons. Extended vacations are not considered necessary. If a student will be absent for an extended period of time he/she must consult with their teachers, **at least two weeks** prior to the absence to

- Understand the potential impact of the extended absence on learning;
- Identify missed learning goals and assessments;
- Create a plan to complete missed work identified by the teacher. The student is responsible for catching up on all missed work during their absence;
- Schedule a time to complete/submit missed assessments upon return.
- Sign off on the plan- students are responsible for picking up an Extended Absence Form from the main office at least 2 weeks prior to an anticipated extended absence from school.
- ***A meeting with an Administrator may be scheduled if the absence is expected to interfere with the successful completion of a course.***

Absences longer than 15 consecutive days require additional documentation and procedures in accordance with Board Procedure #NP 681.0. Failure to follow these procedures will lead to a student being removed from the school's register. In these circumstances, please speak directly to an administrator prior to completion of this form.

### South Asian Heritage Month Event - May 4, 2023 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm.

All YRDSB parents are invited to to network, share and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of South Asian Heritage. This event is an opportunity for all educators and parents to network, share and learn about ways to affirm and create positive spaces for students of South Asian Heritage. Please join us for an evening of connecting through storytelling, music, information and resource sharing. This is an opportunity to amplify South Asian student, educator and parent voices. Light refreshments will be served. [Register Here](#) by April 30th



### School News and Information

#### The Centre for Black Student Excellence invites you for a Racial Literacy Workshop

Families of YRDSB students who self-identify as Black are invited to gather together for a master class in racial literacy for resolving racial encounters with the internationally renowned psychologist and author, Dr. Howard Stevenson.

Monday May 8, 2023 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. @ The Venu Event Space 2800 Highway 7, Woodbridge, ON [Sign up Here](#)

#### Know Your Rights Online Workshop: Muslim Students and Families

In this session, students and families will learn about their legal rights and responsibilities within schools. Participants will be provided with tools and resources that will support them throughout their child's school experience, allowing them to feel more confident and empowered. [Register for Event](#) Tuesday, May 16, 2023 7:00-8:30p.m. Virtual

#### Active School Travel Safety Campaign Week - Communication Series

Our school is participating in its second Active School Travel Safety Pilot Program. As a reminder, the goals of the pilot are to:

- improve drop-off and pick-up safety
- improve motorist behaviour
- raise awareness about alternative modes of transportation to and from school

**We all play an important role in helping to create safe school zones and supporting student safety and well-being.**

As part of the pilot, we are participating in a safety campaign this week. As part of the campaign, we are:

- **Adding signage around school property** to further reinforce safe transportation to and from school.
- **Sharing important daily safety reminders with students and families.** We encourage you to review these reminders and reinforce them with your children.
- **Reminding families about the benefits of active school travel**, including reducing traffic congestion in school zones.

Thank you for your participation and support as we work together to support student well-being and school zone safety.

**Below are some of the signs and markings you may see around your school community.**







# ACTIVE SCHOOL TRAVEL SAFETY CAMPAIGN COMMUNICATION SERIES "KEEPING OUR SCHOOL ZONE SAFE"

We all play an important role in helping to create safe school zones and supporting student safety and well-being.

## **If you choose to drive, when dropping off and picking up your child, remember:**

- If using the designated kiss and ride, follow all markings in the loop.
- Do not exit your vehicle in the loop and follow all posted signage.
- Have your child enter/ exit vehicle from the passenger side.
- Consider parking away from the school and walking your child to school, or if they are old enough allow them to walk the last couple of blocks alone.
- Obey the crossing guard and posted parking signs and road markings.
- Stop for school buses and be aware of children running in front of or behind buses.
- Reduce your speed.
- Be alert and ready to stop at all times.
- Ensure you make a full stop at all stop signs.
- Wait for students to complete their crossing before proceeding.



## **If you are walking, when dropping off and picking up your child remember to:**

- Walk on available sidewalks.
- Always cross at an intersection or crosswalk.
- Obey crossing guards.
- Stop before stepping onto the road.
- Be visible and indicate your intention to cross.
- Look and listen for traffic in all directions.
- When one is available, push the cross button. Wait until you see the pedestrian walk signal.
- Keep an eye out for turning vehicles and cars reversing on driveways.
- Walk - do not run, do not cycle and do not skateboard - across the road.
- Cross only when the road is clear.
- Pay attention to your surroundings, do not use devices while crossing the road.



### School News and Information

#### The Black Student Association Mural Project

The Black Student Association at Tommy Douglas Secondary School participated in a mural project with artist Wayne Moore. The purpose of this project is to create a piece of artwork that will represent the students in the BSA, and live on as a legacy for years to come. [Video of project here](#)



#### IFTAR 2023

Students and community members of Tommy Douglas S.S. hosting IFTAR at school

