

Tommy Douglas SS e-Newsletter



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

April 21st, 2023

In this issue...

- Senior Drama production
- Every Student Counts Survey
- Summer School Registration open
- Important Graduation Information + Exams
- Extended Absences
- The Student Exchange Program Resumes
- South Asian Heritage Month Event + Parent Workshops
- The Come Up Summer program

Senior Drama Production

You are all invited to the 2023 Senior Production - *Shakespeare's Bachelorette*. Our students have been working tirelessly to put together an amazing production! The details are as follows:

- **Date:** Wednesday, May 3, 2023
- **Time:** 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Titan Theatre, room 169
- **Ticket Price:** \$5 (purchase outside room 169)



About the show:

In this comedic adaptation of Shakespeare's works, we follow Kate as she navigates social constraints, the perils of reality show dating, dipping TV ratings, and all while searching for love. With suitors ranging from troubled princes to cunning fairies, will Kate choose wisely or fall prey to the whims of fate? Enjoy the show and remember "the play's the thing, to catch the rose and wing the ring..."

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the show!

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

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

May 3- Senior Drama Production

May 1-5th - Every Student Counts Survey

June 20-27 Exams

Helpful Links

PUBLIC HEALTH LINKS:
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

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 7:00-8:30 pm. Virtual**

The Student Exchange Program Resumes

The Student Exchange Program, which has been on pause, due to COVID, for the past few years, will resume for the 2023-2024 school year. In cooperation with York Region District School Board, ISE-Ontario will offer students aged 13-17 years old the opportunity to experience several European destinations for an 8 to 12 week period. For more information, please email the York Region contact RosalieSelick@iseontario.on.ca, or visit the [ISE-Ontario website](#) for application guidelines, prices, and other information.

Stay Informed! Sex Trafficking and Youth Exploitation

DID YOU KNOW...?

- Instances of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation are a growing concern for youth and families in York Region
- Would you notice and be aware of it if you saw it?
- What might you do to get help and necessary resources?

In a collaborative partnership with Women's Support Network, the York Region District School Board is hosting a virtual information session about sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. This session will provide awareness and information about:

- What is sex trafficking?
- How to identify signs of someone who may be in the process of being recruited or is already being trafficked?
- Who is at risk?
- Available resources and supports in the school and community

[Register today!](#) **When: May 18, 2023 Session A: 10:00am – 11:30am OR Session B: 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

Preserving our Past Sikh Heritage Month

Please join to commemorate our first Sikh Heritage Month Celebration with YRDSB. Our focus is on Preserving our Past. At this event, the Educators of Students of South Asian Heritage (ESSAH) will provide time and space to highlight and promote Sikh histories, language and identity, and to build unity through community.

- Date: April 29, 2023
- Time: 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Location: Woodbridge College, 71 Bruce St, Woodbridge
- [Registration Online](#) by April 26



School News and Information

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:

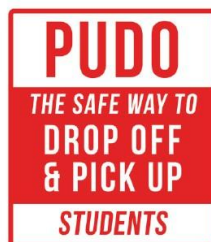
- **Adding signage around school property** to further reinforce safe transportation to and from school.
- **Sharing important daily safety reminders with students and families.** We encourage you to review these reminders and reinforce them with your children.
- **Reminding families about the benefits 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. ‘

SAFETY SIGNS

As part of our participation in the safety campaign, today you will notice some additional signs at the school during pick-up and drop-off. This is part of a one-day campaign to reinforce pedestrian and commuter safety during pick-up and drop-off. The signs will be placed around the main student pedestrian areas of the school. The goal is to educate, remind, and reinforce safe behaviours. Working together, we can help to keep our students safe on their way to and from school.

Below are some of the signs you will notice around the school today.





Racial Literacy Workshop

A Master Class for Black Families & Youth



presented by

THE CENTRE FOR
BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Monday May 8, 2023

5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

@ The Venu Event Space

2800 Highway 7, Woodbridge, ON

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.

Come learn techniques to discuss how anti-Black racism functions in a way that empowers and protects the mental health of Black children by building important racial communication skills that helps reduce racial stress and increase agency.

Dinner is available at no cost. All participants in this FREE workshop must RSVP using the link below.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Note: All YRDSB student participants must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or adult family member.



Dr Howard C. Stevenson

BLACK EXCELLENCE

- 5:00 p.m. Doors open
- 5:15 - 5:30 p.m. Dinner & mingle with community partners
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Interactive workshop



THE COME UP



Navigating Secondary School and Beyond

2023 Summer Program

Program overview

The Come Up summer program is a unique in-person course offered to self-identifying Black students in the York Region District School Board. It also includes guest speakers, field trips, lunch and swag.

Students entering grade 9 will earn a Civics and Careers (GLC20/CHV20) credit.

Students entering Grade 10 will earn a Black History (CHE30) credit. This credit can be used to fulfill the grade 10 compulsory history credit.

Eligibility (must meet all criteria)

- Are you entering Grade 9 or 10 in September 2023?
- Do you self-identify as Black?
- Are you a YRDSB Student?
- Are you interested in earning a high school credit?

Dates

July 5 - July 28, 2023 (Monday-Friday)*

*Attendance is mandatory for the duration of the program.
Please note: Lunch will only be provided on Mondays and Wednesdays.

8:45 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.

Choice of Tommy Douglas SS or Milliken Mills HS

Registration opens April 11, 2023

Register by May 26, 2023



THE COME UP



Virtual Black Parent/Guardian Workshop Series

2023 Summer Program

Is your child a YRDSB student?
Is your child transitioning to Grade 9 or 10?
Is your child registered in the Come Up Program?
Does your child self-identify as Black?

**Join us for a workshop series
on navigating the secondary
school system.**

Session # 1 - Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Understanding the Secondary System
(Structure, Rights, Policies, Attendance, Credit Recovery, IEPs and more)

Session # 2 - Tuesday, July 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Supporting your Child (Mental Health Supports, Tips and Strategies)

Families of all students for the summer school program will receive registration information for the Black Parent/ Guardian Workshop Series via email once student registration is complete.



For more information email: TheComeUP@yrdsb.ca