

Tommy Douglas SS e-Newsletter



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

December 12, 2022

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Message from the Principal:

I would like to take this opportunity to speak to families about some of the incidents of vandalism that have been occurring at Tommy Douglas, specifically in our male washrooms and some of our all access washrooms as well.

There have been a number of cases of vandalism reported by staff and students. I want to assure you that the Administration is investigating each case carefully. Police have been called and they are actively investigating as well. Camera footage is also being used to identify those students who may be directly or indirectly involved.

Trashing washrooms, including breaking toilet paper dispensers, soap dispensers, taps, flooding toilets and floors, using toilet paper inappropriately has resulted in thousands of dollars of damage.

Also, when these incidents occur, students cannot use washrooms freely. Students should not have to walk into washrooms and feel unsafe or have to find a washroom that is clean.

I am letting our students and staff know that these incidents are being fully investigated and police are actively investigating along with us.

Staying in classes and engaging in your academics is the best place for all students to be. Please speak to your child about this matter. We have just over two weeks before our break. We want to avoid any further incidents so that our break is as enjoyable as it can be.

If any students have information to share please send one of our Administrators an email or speak to a guidance counsellor.

Thank you for your support and cooperation TDSS.

Ms. Sardone

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)

Paul Simmonds (Pat - Z)

School Council

[Joe Giusto](#)

[Amir Bigloo](#)

Superintendent

[Otilia Olteanu](#)

Trustee

[Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair](#)



School News and Information

Learning Skills -- As a concerted effort to support all students in improving their learning skills and study skills, TDSS is explicitly teaching our students these skills in preparation for final assessments and culminating tasks. Last week we focused on managing our cell phone use when learning or studying. This week all period 3 classes are discussing **organizational skills**. In January, the focus will be study skills. Please support this initiative by discussing the learning at home.

Cell Phone Policy and Reminders – We are asking parents and guardians to help us remind your child of the cell phone policy at school. Our goal is to support academic learning and at times, cell phones are distracting and often the reason students get involved in serious student behavior. Please review the Board policy that can be found in our 'Guide to the School Year' with your child.

Board Policy- Pg. 55 of Guide to the School Year -- *At a minimum cell phones and other personal communication devices must be turned off and kept out of sight during all instructional periods, unless you have clear permission from the principal or the classroom teacher.*

Human Trafficking Presentation

Human Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is a prevalent issue and one of the fastest growing and most lucrative crimes worldwide and it is happening in York Region. It is predatory and devastatingly damaging to victims, survivors, their families and communities. During assemblies this week, presented by Covenant House, students are learning what human trafficking is, signs and indicators, risk factors, and what they can do to help protect themselves and others. Please continue the conversation at home to support student awareness.

Important Dates

December 14

- **Winterlicious -- Drama Evening at 7 pm**

December 21

- **Winter Concert at 4:30 pm**

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

Transfers - By February 3, 2023 families interested in a student transfer must request an electronic [Transfer Request form](#), complete and email the form as indicated below:

YRDSB Grade 8 students request the form from their current elementary school. They complete the form and email it to their current elementary school. The elementary school emails the transfer form to the secondary home school. The EOAA of the elementary school completes the Google form in PowerSchool>Reports>SIS Reports (due to SIS security and privacy restrictions for student records).

YRDSB Secondary school students request and email the completed form to their current secondary school. The ASAS completes the Google form in PowerSchool>Reports>SIS Reports.

Students new to YRDSB for Secondary School request and email the completed form to their YRDSB designated secondary home school (as indicated in [school locator](#)) along with a [registration form](#). The ASAS completes the Google form in SIS Reports.