



Guidance News

Students can now book a Guidance Appointment through Teach Assist through their phone app or on the desktop version.

There is an upcoming Graduating Grade 12 University Presentation on October 16th, 2019, Period Two in the cafeteria where students will be introduced to the OUAC application and other important information.

There will also be a Graduating Grade 12 College Presentation soon after (we will post the date in advance) where students will be introduced to the college application and other important information.

The MOBYSS bus (mobile youth walk in clinic) will begin visits to our school on Friday, September 27th to provide support and services to our students. MOBYSS provides medical, sexual, and mental health care to youth between 12-25 years of age. Services are confidential and free; the team includes health care from a nurse practitioner, specialized youth mental health worker, and peer support specialist.

See It. Hear It. Report It.

In YRDSB, we are committed to ensure that our schools and workplaces are safe, caring, and inclusive spaces for everyone. This is why we continue to proudly say, diversity is our strength, equity is our commitment and inclusion is our goal. We firmly believe that Equity and Inclusive Education is the foundation for excellence. If you observe an incident of racism, anti-semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, bigotry, or any form of hate, please report it immediately to a teacher, the main office or use the Report IT button at [http:// www.yrdsb.ca/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.yrdsb.ca/Pages/default.aspx)



Important Notice - Allergy Alert

At Vaughan Secondary School there are students and staff with LIFE THREATENING allergies to PEANUT, SCENTS, TREE NUTS, Other NUT PRODUCTS, SEAFOOD, EGG, etc... (e.g. peanut butter, chocolate bars, candies, granola bars). Please refrain from bringing these into the school. Staff and students eating any of these products before coming to school are asked to thoroughly wash their hands because even small traces can cause a fatal reaction. As these are life threatening allergies. Your full co-operation is appreciated.

September 2019

Dear families,

It is important to us that we provide a caring, safe and inclusive environment in our school that supports the academic achievement and well-being of all students. We held a school assembly this week to talk about some of the important elements of a caring and safe school. You may want to have a conversation with your child about what they learned and discussed. Topics covered include:

Positive Behaviour

Students are encouraged to demonstrate positive character attributes (such as empathy, courage and respect for human rights and inclusivity). We also discussed standing up for each other in bullying situations and the importance of reporting incidents of bullying, including:

- Telling a caring adult
- Using the YRDSB's ["Report It Button"](#) (located on our school website)
- Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868)

Student Discipline

We use a progressive discipline approach when inappropriate behaviour occurs. This means we consider a range of options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices. In some cases, suspension or expulsion may be necessary. The Ontario Education Act and our Board Caring and Safe Schools Policy outline the situations in which suspension and expulsion must be considered. These infractions are also outlined in the Guide to the School Year. When inappropriate behaviour occurs, information will be shared with the victim and parents/guardians of the victim to the extent that legislation allows.

Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug-Free Environment

The use of tobacco, electronic products (such as vaping, electronic cigarettes and cigars and related products) and/or student possession of alcohol/illegal and restricted drugs, including cannabis, are prohibited on school property or within 20 metres of school boundaries. This also applies during Board or school-sponsored events and activities. This is in compliance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, which is enforced locally by York Region Community and Health Services and the Tobacco and Smoke-Free Environment Policy and Procedure. A progressive form of discipline, including suspension from school and fines (up to \$5,000), is in place for students who break the law. In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA), exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture and spirituality.

We also discussed the potential harms associated with vaping and e-cigarettes, including that e-cigarettes can contain nicotine, formaldehyde and other harmful chemicals, and are being used to inhale other harmful substances such as marijuana,

weight loss supplements and other drugs. [Partnership for Drug Free Kids also provides a resource on how to talk to your kids about vaping.](#)

Appropriate Use of Technology

Students were reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools.

Students were reminded that threats made online are taken seriously and may have serious consequences, including potential criminal charges. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works closely with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remains our top priority.

For More Information

For more details on each of these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for details and resources for families to continue the conversation.

Thank you for helping us create a safe, respectful and inclusive school community.



Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN),
York Region District School Board (YRDSB) & Alliance of
Educators for Black Students (AEBS) presents a...

Scholarship Application Workshop

& Pathway Planning

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Vaughan Secondary School
1401 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill
(Dufferin & Steeles Avenue)



*An interactive workshop to show students and their parents
how to search, apply and win scholarships and bursaries.
If you are in High School or Grade 7/8 this workshop is for YOU!*

To register - Eventbrite 'BFCN' by Monday, September 23, 2019

For further information contact

Cheryl Yarde at 416-566-2731 or info@bfcn.ca

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bfcn-scholarship-application-workshop-pathway-planning-tickets-72186254029>

FREE EVENT – LIMITED SEATS

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
EVERYONE WELCOME



2019 University of Guelph-Humber Psychathlon

Join us for our 9th annual Psychathlon—a free online quiz designed to test psychology knowledge!

Grade 12 students are welcome to compete for a chance to:

- › Win one of five **\$1,000** awards toward tuition at the University.
- › Be invited, as one of the top 30 participants, to the University for a complimentary brunch, presentations by, and discussions with our psychology faculty and current students.

November 13, 2019

The Psychathlon will take place online at your high school—ask your social science teacher for details!

UNIVERSITY OF
GUELPH
HUMBER

207 Humber College Blvd.
Toronto, ON M9W 5L7
guelphhumber.ca/psychology

September

