

Week of April 17, 2023

Upcoming Dates	
April 18	Yom HaShoah - Holocaust Remembrance Day
April 30	Class Placement Parent Input Form Due
May 5	Every Student Counts Survey (Gr. 4-8)
May 10	School Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
May 15-19	VDPS Wellness Week (more details to follow)
May 17	Discover Kindergarten Event for students starting FDK in 2023
May 24	York Region Public Health Dental Screening and Gr. 7/8 Immunizations (more details to follow)

[VDPS website and Calendar](#)

Lunch Assistants Needed

Are you available from 1:00–2:00 p.m. and interested in working as a lunch assistant? If so, please contact the office for more information.

Parent input form for 2023–2024 School Year

Each year we invite parents to complete a [Class Placement Parent Input Form](#). This form is for Parents/Guardians of children who will be attending Kindergarten to Grade 8 at Viola Desmond P.S. or Grade 3 French Immersion at Romeo Dallaire P.S. for the 2023–24 school year

Input that is received via this form by Sunday, April 30th 2023 will be considered and shared during placement meetings. Please **DO NOT** send messages directly to your child's teacher. **Only** requests submitted via this form will be taken into consideration.

Please note that we DO NOT accept specific teacher requests. Final decisions regarding student placements remain the responsibility of the Principal and the school staff.



Ph: (905) 585-0033 & (647) 749-4316 Email: viola.desmond.ps@yrdsb.ca
Twitter: @ViolaDesmondYR

Ministry mandates on class size may impact class placements into September, as a result, we are unable to share class placement information with families until the first day of school.

Thank you for partnering with us.

PEAC Regional Symposium: Parent Voice Matters!

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 6:50 pm – 9:00 pm

Viola Desmond P.S. is seeking interested parents/community members to attend PEAC Regional Symposium. If you are interested, please email tamar.swerling@yrdsb.ca

Who May Register: Up to 10 school community members who are representative of our diverse parent communities, in particular those who are representative of racialized or marginalized community groups. Invitees may include, but should not be limited to, school council members.

How to Register: Please register by accessing the [PEAC Regional Symposium webpage](#) where you will find the [registration form](#) as well as more information about the PEAC Regional Symposium.

Questions: Questions about the PEAC Regional Symposium may be directed to leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca.

2023 South Asian Heritage Month



2023 South Asian Heritage Month

Educators of Students of South Asian Heritage (ESSAH)
Invites you to engage in the celebration & professional learning around
Affirming South Asian Identities



Randall Public School
50 Randall Ave, Markham, ON L3S 1E2
May 4, 2023 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm


[Register Online by April 30, 2023](#)


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.

For additional information please contact ESSAH Co-Chairs:
asha.rathod@yrdsb.ca, kala.henry@yrdsb.ca, and
rashmee.karnad-jani@yrdsb.ca
Follow us on ESSAH (@ESSAHyr) / Twitter

Who are South Asians? According to the Canadian Encyclopedia, South Asian Canadians trace their origins to South Asia, which encompasses India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Most South Asian Canadians are immigrants or descendants of immigrants from these countries, but immigrants from South Asian communities established during British colonial times also include those from East and South Africa, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Fiji and Mauritius. [Some South Asian Canadians come from Britain, the US and Europe. In the 2016 census, 1,963,330 Canadians reported South Asian origins (1,603,000 single and 360,330 multiple responses)].

That said, the experiences of individual students and their families are so rich and diverse that they cannot be neatly packed into labelled boxes.

The logo for York Region District School Board features a stylized red and black figure in a dynamic pose, with the text 'York Region DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD' below it.

The SATWC logo consists of a purple rectangle. On the left is a white laurel wreath. In the center, the letters 'SATWC' are written in white. On the right, the text 'Curating spaces for connection, growth and learning' is written in white.

To honour South Asian Heritage Month, the York Region District School Board in partnership with [The South Asian and Tamil Women's Collective](#) invites self-identifying South Asian and Tamil, female and gender non-binary, grades 7 to 12 students to attend our **2023 South Asian & Tamil Well-Being Conference**.

Students will participate in a day of culturally responsive, identity affirming mentorship and learning in support of their agency, health and well-being. SHSM

students should note that this conference fulfils the Experiential Learning required for your SHSM certification!

When: Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 8:30am – 2:30 pm

Where: Pierre Elliott Trudeau Secondary School 90 Bur Oak Ave, Markham, ON L6C 2E6

Registration: Students are to register through this [Conference Google Form](#). Students should also bring the completed [consent](#) for filming form to submit at the conference.

Contact: For more information, please contact: nusrat.sacranie@yrdsb.ca or hshah@ccsy.org or sana.aliqureshi@gmail.com or ayesha.syed@yrdsb.ca

Health and Safety

A reminder that families are still asked to use the [School Screening Tool](#) before sending your child(ren) to school each day. We want to help one another stay healthy, so please do not send ill children to school.

School Cash Online

Field trips, yearbooks, fundraisers and some **lunch programs** are paid for by families using School Cash Online. If you already have an account, ensure it is set up to provide you with **notifications** of new items.

If you do not yet have an account, please see the attached information page with instructions for setting up an account.

Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL)

We are continuing to receive calls and emails from families who are not receiving commercial emails (fundraisers, lunch time programming, hot lunch programs). If you wish to receive this information, you **must** [opt in](#).