



## RICHMOND GREEN SECONDARY SCHOOL – FAMILY BULLETIN

*Where Tomorrow Begins*

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### RGSS INFORMATION – Friday, December 8, 2023



#### **BCFN Scholarship Application Workshop**

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB), is providing a free online workshop to show Black students and their families how to search, prepare, and apply for scholarships and bursaries.

Date: December 13, 2023, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

#### **Students Can Now Explore Secondary School Opportunities by Sector**

A new collection of webpages will let students explore [16 different career sectors](#).

Our secondary schools offer courses and programs that let you explore your interests, build skills and gain experience in areas that interest you. You can now [search from 16 different sectors](#) to learn more about:

- career pathways in the fields that interest you
- courses and programs you can take in secondary school that let you gain sector-specific skills, knowledge and experience
- how you can earn certifications, post-secondary credits and job experience while in high school

Find out what courses and programs are available in the fields that interest you at your school. Visit [www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb](http://www2.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb).

## **RGSSMUN A Triple Threat: A Journey of Excellence in Model United Nations**

In the hallowed halls of Richmond Green Secondary School, a group of passionate and dedicated students form the backbone of RGSSMUN, the school's Model United Nations team. With each passing week, this team gathers for their general meetings, fostering an environment that not only welcomes new members but also becomes a hub of intellectual exploration and camaraderie.

In October-December of this year, RGSSMUN achieved a remarkable feat by clinching the **Best Delegation** awards at **THREE** prestigious conferences **CPSSMUN** (Central Peel Secondary School in Peel Region), **SSUNS** (McGill's International Conference) and **Monarch Park Collegiate Institute** (in downtown Toronto). These victories stand as a testament to the team's unwavering commitment to excellence, the pursuit of knowledge, and a shared passion for addressing global issues.

At the **CPSSMUN** conference, RGSSMUN asserted its dominance with an outstanding performance. Six delegates, including **Aryan Rajagopal, Abigail Qian, Aaira Kamal, Daniel Feng, Nicolas Moreno-Ip, and Celine Hsu**, not only represented their assigned countries and roles with finesse but also garnered recognition for their exceptional diplomatic skills. Five of these delegates received the coveted Best Delegate awards, while another received a verbal commendation, showcasing the team's diversity and depth of talent.

The journey continued at the prestigious **SSUNS** conference, the largest Model United Nations conference in Canada and including delegations throughout the United States and Caribbean, hosted annually in Montreal. RGSSMUN stood out among the myriad of participating schools, securing three Best Delegate awards by **Abigail Qian, Ray Jou and Aryan Rajagopal** and ultimately clinching the Best Delegation title. This victory at SSUNS solidified RGSSMUN's reputation as a force to be reckoned with in the world of Model United Nations.

The final triumph this semester was at **MOCRISIS** (Monarch Park Collegiate Institute conference). Here more than 20 of our delegates including 10 novice delegates debated in committees ranging from the Manhattan Project and Constantinople 1453 to HALO and the Magnus Archives. RGSS won 3 best delegate awards by **Nicolas Moreno-Ip, Ray Jou and Aryan Rajagopal**. We also took home 2 honorable mentions by **Aaira Kamal and Abigail Qian**. The final cap on our season was taking home the Best Delegation Award for most outstanding delegation!

Behind these triumphs lies the amazing leadership of **Aaira Kamal**, the president of RGSSMUN, who has played a pivotal role in guiding and inspiring the team. Aaira's dedication, combined with the exceptional skills and commitment of each delegate, has elevated RGSSMUN to new heights.

The success of RGSSMUN this season is incredible and **Ms Morris**, our teacher supervisor, is beyond proud of what we have accomplished. The weekly general meetings at Richmond Green Secondary School every Thursday serve as a breeding ground for intellectual growth and the nurturing of a tight-knit community. New members are not just welcomed; they are embraced into a family that values collaboration, discussion, and learning about the complex global issues that affect our world.

Congratulations to RGSSMUN on this remarkable achievement, and may their journey of excellence continue to inspire future generations of aspiring diplomats next semester!



### [Message from Trustee Liang - December 2023](#)

#### **RGSS is on Instagram!**

Follow @rgssofficial to receive updates on school news, events, student achievement, and more!

#### **TDSB Virtual School Applications for Semester 2**

The York Region District School Board (YRDSB) continues to partner with the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) to allow students interested in attending virtual school the opportunity to register in the TDSB's Secondary Virtual School.

Students who register for TDSB's Secondary Virtual School will:

- be students of the TDSB;
- have access to all learning materials and resources through the TDSB while registered at the
- TDSB Secondary Virtual School;

- return to their home school in the YRDSB if they choose to withdraw from TDSB's Secondary Virtual School, and
- graduate from the TDSB's virtual school if they are in their graduating year.

If you would like to register your child for Virtual School for semester 2, please contact your child's Vice-Principal [sara.gupta@yrdsb.ca](mailto:sara.gupta@yrdsb.ca) (A-L) or [sayema.chowdhury@yrdsb.ca](mailto:sayema.chowdhury@yrdsb.ca) (M-Z) **by Thursday, December 21, 2023.**

## **Messages to Students**

The following two messages will be sent to secondary school student GAPPS email accounts this week:

### **Subject: Invitation to York Region Presidents' Council December General Assembly**

Dear YRDSB Secondary Student,

On behalf of the York Region Presidents' Council (YRPC), the YRDSB's official student senate, we are excited to invite you to our third General Assembly (GA) of the 2023–2024 school year. At our GA, you can provide feedback on important topics that impact you to the board, meet your YRPC executive cabinet, and network with fellow student leaders. All YRDSB high school students – not just student council members, are welcome and encouraged to join us.

At our General Assembly in December, you will have an opportunity to meet the YRPC executive team for the 2023–2024 school year and meet peers from all across the board. You will have a chance to contribute to the discussion surrounding potential changes to be made to the dress code policy.

### **Meeting Details**

Location: Milliken Mills High School (7522 Kennedy Rd, Markham, ON L3R 9S5) or Google Meet

Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**If you cannot attend in person, you may join us virtually.** Google Meet details will be emailed to you on Tuesday.

You can access the registration form [here](#). Please register by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, December 11 to confirm your attendance.

Sincerely,  
YRPC Executive Cabinet  
[yrpc@yrdsb.ca](mailto:yrpc@yrdsb.ca)

**Subject: Deadline extended for student trustee applications to December 18, 2023**

Dear Grade 10 and 11 students,

To maximize student participation in this important process, we have extended the application deadline for student trustees. **Applications will be now accepted until Monday, December 18, 2023, 11:59 p.m.**

If you will be in Grade 11 or 12 next year, you are eligible to apply to become a student trustee. Student trustees:

- Represent the voice of students across York Region District School Board.
- Network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice
- Have the opportunity to get involved at the provincial level.
- Develop valuable skills, experience and connections.

To learn more about the role and how to apply visit [www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees](http://www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees).

All students who submit an application will receive a confirmation email following the deadline.

Four candidates will be selected to run for the two student trustee positions. All students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote.

For more information, please contact [studenttrustee.elections@yrdsb.ca](mailto:studenttrustee.elections@yrdsb.ca)

**Achievement**

Congratulations to School Council Co-Vice Chair Jaclyn Zhang who attended the 14th Annual Portraits of Giving 2023 Finale Dinner / Gala on December 5 as the Richmond Hill Honouree. She says she is grateful for the accomplishment to be recognized and will continue to do her best to support our community. The RGSS community is lucky to have her as a member and we wish her all the best in the future.

**Tune in YRDSB**

This month's episode looks back at Hindu Heritage month. Listen [here](#).

**Midterm Report Cards**

Midterm report cards will be distributed soon. Please note, grade 12 marks will be submitted to OCAS/OUAC on time as per their schedule.

**Attendance**

Students are expected to be in their scheduled classes each period. If you sign your child out of school, they need to leave school property. This includes the library during school hours, as it is considered to be school property during the school day. Please do not give your child

permission without calling and giving the office notice for them to be in the library during the day.

### **Student Expectations in the Community**

We are lucky to have positive relationships with community vendors. Many students enjoy eating lunch at the Costco food court. Costco has asked if students could please:

- purchase their food and leave once done eating
- use debit and credit as preferred payment methods (for speed of transactions)
- stay in the food court only unless entering the store with a membership card

Following these guidelines will ensure students enjoy continued access to the food court.

### **Graduation Photos**

Edge Imaging will be at RGSS to take grad photos beginning Monday, December 11, 2023. Students can book their appointment online at [www.bookmygrad.ca](http://www.bookmygrad.ca). Our school code is: RGS

Please see [this flyer](#) for more information.

### **Richmond Green Library Resources**

***The Richmond Hill Public Library staff would like to share the following library resources with families. You will be asked to enter your Richmond Green Public Library card information to access the tools:***

- G1.ca – Everything you need to prepare for the G1 Driver’s Test, including practice tests. Access here: <https://rhpl.g1.ca/>
- LifeSpeak – A digital wellness platform that curates content around improving your physical and mental health, including expert-led videos on meditation, digital addiction, the impacts of racism on mental health, and many more topics. Access here: [https://rhpl.ent.sirsiidynix.net/client/en\\_US/lifespeak](https://rhpl.ent.sirsiidynix.net/client/en_US/lifespeak)
- CreativeBug – This resource offers expert-led award-winning instructional videos on drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, quilting, baking and more. Access here: <https://www.creativebug.com/lib/richmondhill>

### **Notice From Richmond Green Library**

In recent years, we have faced recurring challenges in our library washrooms, including issues such as vaping, eating, and disruptive gathering during school hours. Despite the diligent efforts of both the library and RGSS, it’s hard to maintain continuous monitoring due to limited staff availability.

After a thorough review of the situations, the library and RGSS will start to implement new measures to address these concerns. Effective November 9, 2023, the library will enforce restricted access to the washrooms during school hours.

1. Locking washrooms: Both library washrooms will remain locked during school hours.
2. Key sign-out procedure: Students may obtain a washroom key by leaving their student cards at the service desk. Student cards will be returned upon key return. **Only one student is permitted at a time.**
3. Limited occupancy: A maximum of two users will be allowed to enter the same washroom simultaneously.
4. Reporting disruptions: Any disruptive behaviours observed will be reported to both the library and RGSS administration for appropriate action.

We hope these measures will help create a more conducive and respectful environment within our library facilities, and promote a better learning atmosphere for all RGSS students.

### **School Safety**

Please be reminded that all visitors to the school must sign in at the main office and get a visitor tag. This tag should be clearly visible while in the building on business. Students are reminded not to bring guests anywhere on school property (indoors and outdoors) as well as to the library during school hours.

### **York Region Public Health**



**HEY PARENTS!** **KEEP YOUR KIDS HEALTHY AND IN SCHOOL**

**Are your child's immunizations up to date?**  
It's your responsibility to tell York Region Public Health, not your doctor's.

Update online now!  
[york.ca/GetImmunized](https://york.ca/GetImmunized)

York Region

The poster features a photograph of three diverse children smiling. The background is light blue with a dark blue header and footer. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner.

### **Bussing**

Bussing is provided to eligible students through Student Transportation Services (STS). STS operates bus routes for students in JK-12 for both the York Region District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board. More information, including daily late bus reports, can be

found at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com). Please note, it is important that students ride **only on their designated route**. This is for everyone's safety and security.

### Updating Contact Information

If you need to update any contact information (e.g., home or email address, telephone number, etc.,) please email: [richmond.green.ss@yrdsb.ca](mailto:richmond.green.ss@yrdsb.ca)

### Kinnect Youth Mentoring Program

Social support network and mentoring program for Black students. Please see [the flyer](#) for more information.

### School Start Up Forms

School start up forms were sent to families and students this week. Please see the [Resources and FAQs for families](#) for more information. Secondary students received the following message:

#### **School Start-Up Forms (Message to Secondary Students)**

Each year, we ask secondary school students to review important school and Board policies and to indicate that they have reviewed this information. Students are asked to [complete this form](#) online. If you have any questions about the information in the form, please speak with your teacher, principal or vice-principal.

It is important that all students complete and submit these forms as soon as possible at the start of the school year.

### Attendance



If your child is going to be absent or away from any of their classes, please contact the Main Office **email is preferred** - [richmond.green.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:richmond.green.ss.attendance@yrdsb.ca) or by phone 905-780-7858, press option 1. Please let us know your child's student number, full name and grade.

### TeachAssist Parent Portal

Students in Secondary School use TeachAssist to view their schedules and ongoing assessment. They can also schedule guidance appointments. Parent/guardians may also register for the TeachAssist Parent Portal. Through this portal, you will be able to view your child(ren)'s marks, and book interviews with teachers for the Interview evenings held each semester (more information on this semester's interview evening will come closer to the date).

To register for the TeachAssist Parent Portal, please visit:

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb/parents/index.php>

You will need to enter the email address you have on file at the school. You will then be sent a one-time email to confirm your registration.

### **Medical Information**

A reminder if your child has a serious medical condition and has not received the medical forms, please fill out the appropriate form(s) below and return to the Main Office. **Please complete new forms each school year.**

<a href="#"><u>Anaphylaxis HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with a life threatening allergy.
<a href="#"><u>Asthma HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with asthma.
<a href="#"><u>Epilepsy (Seizure Disorders) HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be complete for all students with a seizure disorder (including epilepsy).
<a href="#"><u>Type 1 Diabetes HEALTH CARE PLAN</u></a>	This form should be completed for all students with diabetes.
<a href="#"><u>Health Care Plan (Other)</u></a>	This from should be completed for all other serious and potentially life threatening health conditions that are not already specifically addressed (Asthma, anaphylactic, diabetes, and seizure health care plans).

### **COVID Health and Safety Protocols for 2023-2024**

York Region Public Health has advised that schools continue to be required to follow the [Ministry's COVID-19: health and safety measures at schools](#).

All students, staff and visitors need to complete the self-screening tool. Students should complete the [COVID-19 self screening tool](#) and follow instructions and next steps. Masks are optional for students, staff and visitors.

Surfaces in the school building will continue to be disinfected and hand sanitizer is available. Appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will continue to be promoted throughout the day.

**Key Dates**

- Graduation Photos – Monday, December 11, 2023 – Friday, December 22, 2023
- School Council Meeting – Tuesday, December 19, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- Winter Break – Monday, December 25, 2023 – Friday, January 5, 2024
- Exams – Semester 1 – Thursday, January 25, 2024 – Wednesday, January 31, 2024
- P.A. Day – Friday, February 2, 2024
- Semester Two begins - Monday, February 5, 2024
- Family Day – Monday, February 19, 2024