

Runnymede CI School Council Newsletter

May/June 2019

Dates to Remember

May 6 – **Summer School registration**

May 7 – **Assembly (Jeff Martin)**

May 15 – **Spring Arts Night**

May 23 – **Cultural Expressions (Grade 10-12 Visual Art Students) @ Peach Gallery (6:30-9 pm)**

May 25 – **Car Wash for Prom**

May 27 – **School Council Mtg (7-9pm)**

May 29 – **Last Day to buy Prom tickets**

May 31 – **RCI Musical**

June 7 – **Senior Prom**

June 5 – **Parenting Teens Presentation by Dr. Beth Veale (7-9pm - Library)**

June 11 – **Athletic Banquet**

June 11/12 – **EQAO Numeracy (Gr 9)**

June 14 – **Community Fair (5-9pm)**

June 17 – **RCI Fun Day**

June 18 – **Last Day of Classes**

June 19-24 – **Exams**

June 26 – **Staff Appreciation Lunch**

June 27 – **Commencement**

July 3 – **Final Reports Mailed**

Where did the year go? RCI has lots going on in sports, arts, and academics these last two months – read all about it here!

YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL AT WORK

The School Council has been hard at work this year on many endeavours, including:

- Participating in TDSB meetings re: Mountview transition
- Coordinating a Direct Donation campaign to fund a Wish List created by RCI teachers and students (see below)
- Applying for and receiving the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant and holding a Speaker Event specifically for RCI and other community parents
- Coordinating parent involvement with events throughout the year, including Arts Nights, Commencement, and Staff Appreciation Lunch
- Creating a Constitution and By-Laws for the School Council in accordance with TDSB requirements

As we all know, many hands make light work. Consider helping out by attending a Council meeting, volunteering for a need (see next page) or running for Council next year!

SAVE THE DATES

May 27th – School Council Meeting (7 – 9pm)

- **Student, Teacher & Principal Updates**
 - Year-end Events
 - Fundraising Update

June 5th –Bridges & Boundaries: Parenting Teens

Presented by Dr. Beth Veale

7 – 9 pm, RCI Library

Reserve your spot by June 1 by emailing

Khaleel.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca

Sign up for the **Principal's Bulletin and Weekly Update** on the RCI home webpage at www.runnymedecollegiate.com and always be in the know!

Volunteers Needed!

May 15 – Spring Arts Night: lots of areas where help would be appreciated, whether it's selling baked goods or monitoring the silent auction. We also welcome performers if you're so inclined - and your child allows! ☺ Contact Ms. Bylykbashi at janelle.bylykbashi@tdsb.on.ca

RCI's School Musical: do you have a special talent for making sets or sewing costumes? Then help our kids put on the best show of the season! Contact Ms. Bylykbashi at janelle.bylykbashi@tdsb.on.ca

June 27 (1-3pm) – Commencement: 2-3 parents are needed to help distribute water throughout the ceremony. Contact Ms. McCrimmon at karen.mccrimmon@tdsb.on.ca if you can help out

RCI ROBOTICS TEAM 1310 CONQUER WORLDS!

RCI's Robotics Team 1310 bested more than 400 others across North America in the World Competition in Detroit to become World Championship Finalists, bringing home the Silver! They gained strength through the opening rounds of competition, eventually winning the division to move into the playoff round, and stepped up their game to make it to the finals. Read all about their journey on the [TDSB Website](#)



FROM RUSTCO

We are gearing up for RUSTCO elections, plans for the end of year, plans for next year, and a much needed break. RUSTCO would like to thank all parents, teachers, and students for their continued help and support. Stay tuned for Executive Elections on May 21, more Musical Lunches, Exam Study Halls, and our Community Fair on June 14. As always, submit ideas and requests to RUSTCO members or come out to our meetings in room 214 every Wednesday at lunch.

FROM PROM COMMITTEE

Prom is fast approaching, and we are in our final fundraising push before tickets go on sale. Look out for our exciting raffle on May 15 and our car wash taking place on May 25.

Prom tickets will go on sale May 15th and the final day to purchase tickets will be May 29th. Prom takes place on **June 7, 2019 at Panemonte Banquet Hall and Convention Centre**. Doors open at 6 and the evening will end at midnight.

FROM ATHLETICS

Spring Sports are underway with over 90 students participating on our school teams!

Co-Ed Volleyball – Mr. Kalantzakos	Track and Field – Mr. Kotsopoulos, Ms. Kitchen
Girls Slo-Pitch – Mrs. Kotsopoulos	Girls Soccer – Ms. Gervais, Ms. Uhalde
Co-Ed Ultimate Frisbee – Mr. Henderson	Cheer – Ms. Kemp

Runnymede's favourite lunchtime activity has returned with the **RBA (Runnymede Basketball Association)**. Thank you to Mr. Kalantzakos for running this much anticipated and well run lunch time basketball intramural. There are over 60 students on 12 teams that are battling it out in this Spring Madness tournament every Monday and Wednesday!

Right to Play

We have wrapped up another successful year of healthy active living leadership! Our 20 trained Right to Play leaders completed their spring sessions where they run an afterschool play program for elementary students at George Syme CS. This spring also involved a special Meet and Greet with Marcus Stroman of the Toronto Blue Jays right here at Runnymede CI, a day of teamwork and collaboration at the Brickworks and finished with leaders showcasing their talents at the Youth to Youth Symposium. Here, leaders ran a variety of hands on, interactive sessions for over 120 elementary students from over 30 schools across the TDSB.

OFSAA Try Day

A big thank you to OFSAA for their Try Day funding grant allowing us to introduce a new and novel activity for this year - Pickleball! Students have been enjoying this game and provides students with a new and fun opportunity to stay active.

MADD Canada

All Physical Education classes will be involved in the "Weed Out The Risk" presentations provided by MADD Canada over May 16 and 17. These class-based presentations will challenge teens' misconceptions about cannabis and presents the real risks of using cannabis and driving, or being a passenger in a vehicle with an impaired driver, in a non-judgemental manner. The program engages teens in discussion through interactive discussions, games, activities and videos.

Tom Longboat 5K

Please note that the date of the Tom Longboat has been moved to Thursday, June 6 to accommodate all of our participating students. Runnymede celebrates this annual event to mark one of Canada's greatest athletes. All physical education and fitness students participate in this run/walk along the beautiful Humber River trail.

Athletic Banquet

Our much-anticipated Athletic Banquet is a special evening of awards, presentations and dinner to celebrate and recognize over 160 participating athletes on our school teams. This year's Athletic Banquet is taking place on Tuesday June 11.

FROM CANADIAN AND WORLD STUDIES AND HUMANITIES

This semester has been a busy one for students throughout our department. In Equity and Social Justice, students are creating their Social Justice initiatives, and some have already made great change.



A special mention goes out to Aidan Jonah, who started Students Against Public Education Cuts, and is currently working on a rally at Queen's Park on Sunday May 19, 2019. Stay tuned to see what other initiatives these students begin.

FROM GIRLS CLUB

Did you know 1 in 7 Canadian girls have missed school due to not having access to or being able to afford menstrual products? Girls Club, in cooperation with the Period Purse project, is very excited to announce that we will now be stocking all girls and gender-neutral bathrooms with free menstrual products. We know this will have a positive effect on the mental health and well-being of all our female students and are so appreciative of this donation from the Period Purse project to end period poverty at our school. Check out the website at <https://www.theperiodpurse.com/>

Coming up from Girls Club - May 28 is Menstrual Hygiene Day so Girls Club will be marking the occasion with a campaign to help end the stigma around menstruation.



PET THERAPY AT RUNNYMEDE

Thrive is pleased to announce two upcoming pet therapy sessions at Runnymede. Studies show that positive interactions with animals can improve mental health, help develop empathy and simply make people smile. On **Monday May 13th**, Runnymede welcomes back *Pawsitively Pets*, a partner with the TDSB that brings a variety of animals into the school. Come meet and pet bunnies, guinea pigs, parrots, geckos and chinchillas at lunch in the library.



On **Friday June 7th**, **Davis**, our therapy dog from *Therapeutic Paws of Canada* will be making his final visit to Runnymede for the year. Davis and his handler Greg have been to Runnymede twice over the school year and he is now a treasured member of our family. Come sit with our golden retriever for a few minutes at lunch in the library!

FROM GUIDANCE

Summer School

- Registration begins on **Monday, May 6, 2019** at 10:00 a.m. and closes at 12:00 p.m. on Friday June 26, 2019
- Register at www.creditprograms.ca
- All classes begin on **Tuesday, July 2, 2019** and conclude on Friday, July 26, 2019.

Summer E-Learning

- Registration opens **April 3rd, 2019**
- Session 1: Tuesday July 2 - July 29th (The exams are on July 25th..Students are not required to be in class after that date)
- Session 2: Thursday July 18 - August 16th (The exams are on August 14th..Students are not required to be in class after that date)
- Register at www.creditprograms.ca

SPRING ARTS NIGHT – MAY 15TH

This year's **RCI Spring Arts Night** will sparkle with a very inspiring twist. We have partnered with CAMH and Laura Landauer to present "One Brave Night" - an Arts Showcase that will feature the amazing talents of our RCI students and special friends and guests of our community to raise funds for a very good cause.

Please join us on **May 15th, 2019 @ 6:30 PM** to enjoy the amazing talents of our RCI students and special guests. This fun filled evening will have activities for the whole family, including:

- Silent auction and art exhibition
- Face painting
- Arts and crafts
- Bake sale
- Popcorn, cotton candy, BBQ and so much more!

Please visit [One Brave Night Donation](#) to donate to this very important cause.

All other proceeds made from our Bake Sale, popcorn/cotton candy and BBQ stands will go directly to our Arts Department. We thank you in advance for all of your support and love.

The "RCI Wellness Warriors" strive to spread the message that #mentalhealthishealth and express passion and creativity to inspire hope for the one in five Canadians who experience mental illness.

CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS EXHIBIT – MAY 23RD

On **Thursday, May 23, 2019 from 6:30-9:00 pm** all are welcome to this special community event taking place at *The Peach Gallery on 722 College St.* Runnymede Collegiate Institute is hosting this evening called "**Cultural Expressions**" which will be filled with soft ambient cultural music, acrylic on canvas pieces and mixed media artwork from our Grade 10-12 students for the community to enjoy.

The students reflected on their connection to a culture of their choosing and portrayed in their masterwork pieces most meaningful to them. There will be dozens of pieces on display so please come out to support our hard-working students and enjoy this wonderful evening of tasty refreshments, beautiful worldly music and visual aspirations of our young artists, who will also be present at this engagement to discuss their work.

OTHER WAYS TO STAY UPDATED

There are many resources for parents on the TDSB and PIAC (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee) websites. Check out the following links:

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward7/>

<http://torontopiac.com/index.html>

Help Support Runnymede Collegiate Institute Students!

What is it?

For the first time, Parent School Council is asking RCI families to make a voluntary, tax-deductible, donation to the school in support of our children's education. Rather than having multiple fundraisers, the Direct Donation campaign allows families to donate **one time** to fund enrichment programs.

Why a Direct Donation campaign?

Basic provincial funding does not cover all of the many needs for upgrading or replacing equipment, or for introducing new, or enhancing current, programs at the school. The Direct Donation fundraising campaign will support these extra requests to help our children move forward faster and be more engaged.

Where will the money go?

All the funds raised will go directly to fulfill the priority list of needs and wants identified by RCI teachers and students (see below). The total of their requests is \$23,000. An update will be provided by the school year end to let you know how much was raised and where the funds were allocated.

How much can I contribute?

There is no minimum or maximum required. Our goal is to raise \$23,000, which would cover the Wish List we received from teachers and students. If each student's family donates just \$45, we will reach this goal!

When do I need to make a donation?

We request that donations be submitted by **Friday, May 24th**, so that we may make decisions on allocations by year-end.

There are two easy ways to donate:

1. Donate Online through **School Cash Online**; or
2. Donate by cheque or cash at the Administration Office in the school from 8 am - 4 pm. Cheques should be made out to: **TDSB**, with the Comment Line stating: **RCI Direct Donation Campaign**. Please include your full name and address on the cheque to receive a tax receipt.

Tax receipts are available upon request for any donation amount.

THANK YOU for supporting Runnymede Collegiate Institute's Direct Donation Campaign! Your donation is an investment in your child's education!

RCI WISH LIST

Your donation will directly fund these priority requests, identified by RCI teachers and students:

Arts

New printmaking press
Silk screen kit to make tee-shirts

English

Books for the 2 new English classes that are integrating the JETS reading program

Library

12 library computers require updating
New books focused on equity and inclusion

Music

Licensing fee for the school musical production

Technology

8 charging carts for multiple Chrome Books
Replacing 23 old computers

Thrive/Equity and Wellness

Small fridge for Raven's Retreat, to hold water and ice packs, where students have a quiet place to rest, if needed

RCI SPRING ARTS

#ONEBRAVENIGHT

20 19

camh
one brave night
for mental health

PERFORM • SHARE • FUNDRAISE



**MAY 15, 2019 • 6:00PM • OUTDOOR FIELD
RUNNYMEDE CI**

469 Jane Street

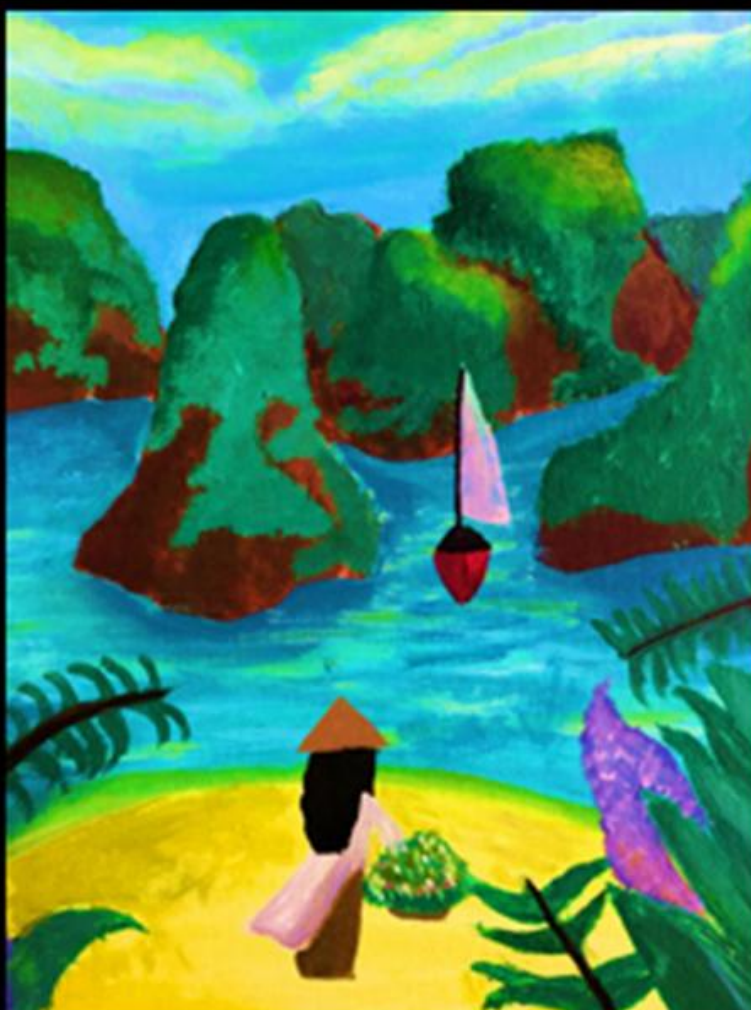


"CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS"

BY

RUNNYMEDE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Thursday, May 23, 2019



OPENING RECEPTION: 6:30pm to 9:00pm
722 COLLEGE STREET, 3RD FLOOR, TORONTO

Sponsored By:

thepeächgallery



@RunnymedeCI

Website: www.runnymedecollegiate.com

Phone: 416 394-3200

BRIDGES & BOUNDARIES

THOUGHTS ON PARENTING TEENS

WEDNESDAY

JUNE

5

7-9 PM

RUNNYMEDE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE



569 Jane Street
(School Library)

Join us for a fun, engaging and thought-provoking session as we explore together the adventure of parenting teens

Dr. Beth Veale is a recently retired school superintendent from the TDSB who enjoys speaking to groups of parents and educators about helping kids thrive. Beth has extensive experience working as a teacher, vice-principal and principal. Paired with a background in special education and guidance, Beth has a deep understanding of effective strategies for supporting teens.

With warmth and humour, Beth shares insights about guiding youth using fair boundaries and relational bridges.

Limited Seating! RSVP No Later than June 1 at khaleel.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca to RESERVE a seat!

Presented by RCI School Council