

# Runnymede CI School Council Newsletter

May 2017



## Dates to Remember

May 1-5	<b>Spirit Week</b>
May 5	<b>Time Capsule Reveal</b>
May 6	<b>Runnymede's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!</b>
May 12	<b>Prom</b>
May 18	<b>Spring Arts Show</b>
May 22	<b>Victoria Day</b> (no classes)
May 25	<b>School Council Potluck Dinner Social (6:30 start)</b>
June 8	<b>Athletic Banquet</b>
June 19	<b>Exams Begin</b>
June 26	<b>Last Day of School</b>
June 29	<b>Commencement 1-3pm</b>
July 3-7	<b>Report Cards Mailed Out</b>

Mid-term reports are out and we are in the home stretch – only two months to go! There are still lots of great things happening at RCI this spring, so keep checking the school website to stay current!

### **Final Council Meetings**

School Council met April 27<sup>th</sup> and we had a great turnout despite the rain! Topics included:

- Ways parents can help with the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on May 6<sup>th</sup> (email [carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca) if you can help!),
- Review and discussion around proposed changes to the 2017/18 calendar on timing of Teacher/Parent interviews and School Council meetings by Mr. Edwards.

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** is our last School Council meeting of the year. Join your fellow parents in a **Potluck Dinner Social** to celebrate a great year for the school and our students!

As always, childcare is available – please email Marlea Burgess at [marlea.burgess@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:marlea.burgess@tdsb.on.ca) two days before the meeting to request.

### **Runnymede Remembers – and Gives Back!**

Did you know that the Runnymede Alumni Group has a **Scholarship Fund** for RCI graduates? At the 90<sup>th</sup> Celebration on May 6<sup>th</sup> there will be a Silent Auction to help keep the Fund going for years to come. If you or a business you know can donate items (or cash) to the Silent Auction, email [carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca) as soon as possible.

## Volunteers Needed!

### **Runnymede's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Celebration** is Saturday, May 6, 2017. This full-day celebration requires lots of volunteers – as we know, many hands make light work! Volunteers are needed especially for:

May 5<sup>th</sup> between 3-5 pm

May 6<sup>th</sup> between 10-11 am (set up) & 5 – 7 pm (clean up)

**Please email Ms. Lovell at [carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:carlotta.lovell@tdsb.on.ca) if you can help!**

Ms. Lovell is also looking for LOTS of student help. Bonus – they will get community hours! Please encourage your student to pop by Room 214 to sign up to help for an hour or two.

**Spring Arts Show** needs parents from 7-8 pm on May 18<sup>th</sup> for the refreshments table. **Contact Ms. Lambert at [andrea.lambert@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:andrea.lambert@tdsb.on.ca) if you can help!**

### **Helping Our Teens Manage Anxiety Presentation**

Over 50 parents turned out for the "Helping Teens Manage Anxiety" presentation on April 20<sup>th</sup>. This was opened to our Ward 7 community and parents from many different schools attended. Bev Miller from MOSAICS Approach provided insight and tools to help parents work with their child and the school. Parents shared stories and strategies while collecting materials from various community groups providing mental wellness help.

This event was funded by a "Parents Reaching Out" Grant awarded to RCI's School Council. Thanks to the many students, staff, and parents that helped make this evening such a success!

### **RCI Students' Mental Wellness Morning**

On Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> RCI students enjoyed a 'Mental Wellness Morning' focusing on ways to help manage daily stressors and maintain their mental health. A special thanks goes to RCI's Wellness PLC (Karen McCrimmon, Ross Murray, Wilma Pidhayny and Julie Ardell) and parent Kimberly de Witte for organizing this event.

Three young adults from Youth Speak shared their stories on navigating high school, classes participated in mindfulness activities, and 18 community groups came together with ways to promote mental wellness. Students learned how exercise, mindfulness, nutrition, music, art are just some of the ways they can put their mind at ease!

### **May is Mental Health Month!**

(Katy Livingstone, Physical Education)

May is Mental Health Month! RAC and the Wellness Club will be bringing awareness to mental health. Every Wednesday will be "Wellness Wednesday" in which students are encouraged to say positive things to others, use as little screen time as possible, turn off their phones before going to sleep, and participate in Yoga. There will be a guest speaker on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Listen out for Mindfulness Minutes, a poster campaign and other initiatives as we bring awareness to this very important cause!

**Library**  
**(Meghan Thompson, Library)**

The **RCI Library** is currently showcasing many newly purchased books - drop in and pick up a novel, memoir, or comic. Our April displays for *Hispanic & Latin History Month* and *Holocaust Remembrance Day* will soon make way for May's *Asian Heritage Month* and *Children's Mental Health Week*. And as always, a selection of original artwork by RCI students is exhibited in the Library - hope to see you soon!

**Arts News**  
(Andrea Lambert, ACL Arts)

**SPRING ARTS NIGHT** - May 18th at 6:30 pm  
Spring is here and the Arts Department has planned another wonderful concert and art exhibit taking place on May 18th. Students have been rehearsing and working very hard to put on an exciting show for our students, families and friends. Tickets can be purchased at the door the night of the show. See you all there!

**VISUAL ARTS MURALS**

The senior Visual Arts class has been working on two murals and a series of paintings to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our school. Come to our anniversary celebration on May 6th and to the Spring Arts Concert on May 18th to see this work.

**Music Notes**  
(Herbert Gayle, ACL Music)

Ian Ayuso and Travis Bennett played electric guitars in the grand finale show of "**Make Music, Not Mischief**" on April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Mod Club. This annual event is organized by Police Constable: Robert Tajti for TDSB students.

**Queer Straight Alliance Field Trip – Free for First 20 Students!**  
(Caitlin Hewitt-White, English)

The Queer Straight Alliance is going on a field trip on Friday May 26th to attend the **Youth Day of Inside Out: Toronto's LGBTQ+ Film Festival**, at the TIFF Bell Lightbox (350 King Street West). The first 20 students to sign up with Ms. Hewitt-White can attend the field trip. The event is free.



# Runnymede Collegiate Institute

# 90th

Anniversary Reunion  
Saturday, May 6, 2017

11:00 - 12:00

Teachers & Admin reunion

12:00 - 3:00

B.B.Q. - Robotics Display

12:00 - 5:00

Registration- Decade Rooms

3:00 - 4:00

Ceremonies Auditorium

4:00 - 5:00

Socializing (cafeteria)



*no steps backward*

# RCI90

Runnymede C.I. 1927-2017

Welcome to TDSB Connects, an update on news and events from across the Toronto District School Board.

1. **Education Week:** Celebrations will take place across the TDSB between May 1-5. Visit the website to learn more about [happenings each day!](#)
2. **Mental Health and Well-Being Webcast:** Learn about mental health and well-being resources, initiatives and programs that can benefit all TDSB students. Join us for a [webcast](#) on Thursday, May 11 at 7 p.m.
3. **Enhancing Equity Ward Forums:** Join us at an [Enhancing Equity Ward Forum](#). These collaborative working sessions will help develop strategies and an action plan to improve success for each and every student in your school.
4. **School Year Calendar:** The first day of school for the 2017-18 school year is Tuesday, September 5, 2017. Take a look at next year's [School Year Calendar](#) for all of the important dates and holidays.
5. **Bike to School Week:** Let's get rolling! [Bike to School Week](#) at the TDSB kicks off on May 29. Research demonstrates that active school travel helps kids do better in school while getting the exercise they need.
6. **Summer Programs:** Learn more about [summer programs](#) available at the TDSB for children, youth and adults.
7. **STEM Parent Conference:** Interested in broadening your knowledge of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math and learning more about nurturing a passion for STEM in your children? Join and connect with parents at the [STEM Parent Conference](#) on May 13.
8. **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Survey:** If you are a parent/guardian of a current or former TDSB student with special needs, SEAC would like to hear about your experiences and ideas as they make recommendations on how to improve Special Education at the TDSB. Complete the [SEAC Survey](#).
9. **Your TDSB Trustee:** Trustees are important advocates for students and families. Connect with your [local trustee](#) and sign up for their newsletter. Welcome to new Scarborough–Rouge River Trustee [Abdul Hai Patel!](#)
10. **Equity Policy Consultation:** Share your feedback on our [draft Equity Policy](#). Deadline for submissions is May 15, 2017.
11. **Parent and Student Census:** There is still time to complete and submit your [parent census](#) (parents of JK-Grade 6 students). Your voice counts!