



February 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin, full of useful information and upcoming events.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 12, 2020	Interim Report Card Distribution
Monday, March 16 – Friday March 20, 2020	March Break
Tuesday, March 31, 2020	Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Day (OSSLT Day)
Thursday, April 2, 2020	Parent Teacher Interview Evening
Tuesday, April 7, 2020	Waterloo Math Contests
Wednesday, April 15, 2020	(*see item below)
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	Guidance Parent Series 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in AMHS Cafeteria
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	School Council Meeting 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 122

Black History Month Celebration at AMHS

During this year's Black History Month, students and staff created a number of opportunities to showcase and celebrate Black history, culture, and heritage, through a variety of events. Such events included daily morning announcements throughout the month of February, a multi-media (i.e. visual art, music, artifacts and textiles) display in the Main Foyer, and a collection of infographics of Black Canadians of note in the Learning Commons area. The month culminated with a series of grade assemblies this past Monday, February 24, in which Glenn Marais and his Mojo Train band performed music and poetry for our staff and students, supported with a dynamic accompaniment performance by a Spoken Word artist and by students in our AMHS Dance Program. To round out the festivities, our Hospitality students prepared a number of delicious Caribbean lunch options for the day, while students in our Cosmetology program demonstrated their hair-braiding skills for interested students.

A big thanks goes out to all contributing staff and students. Please click on the link below to see some highlights from the celebrations!

<https://youtu.be/YdYl1duL0BY>

From The Literacy Desk

Families are encouraged to continue practicing literacy skills at home with their child(ren). A number of OSSLT test booklets and answer keys are available [here](#).

The Literacy Resource teacher is available each lunch period in Room 149 for support. Your child is welcome to drop by to review the in-class literacy lessons that were previously delivered, or to continue practicing challenging tasks.

You can email any questions you may have to our Literacy Resource Teacher: susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca. Please also follow us on Instagram @AMHSLiteracy.

Parents' Night

Parents' Night for Semester Two is on April 2, 2020, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Alexander Mackenzie High School will be using an online process through EDSBY to facilitate our Parents' Night scheduling of appointments with teachers. EDSBY is a cloud-based platform that will allow families to reserve times to meet with their child(ren)'s teachers. YRDSB, in partnership with EDSBY, has created a secure platform that protects the privacy of information for families.

Families will need an active EDSBY account to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for Parents' Night. You would have received an email from EDSBY on behalf of the York Region District School Board this past week, with instructions on how to confirm an existing (or create a new) EDSBY account. As of **Thursday, March 12** (the distribution day for Interim Reports), the scheduler will open in EDSBY and allow parents/guardians to begin booking appointments.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our Main Office. Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact the subject teacher directly.

Important Timelines

March 12	Interim Reports to be sent home with students. Parents' Night scheduling opens at 9:00 a.m. in EDSBY. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your EDSBY inbox with a notification to your email.
April 2	Interview Scheduler (in EDSBY) closes at 3:00 p.m. Parents' Night, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Guidance Services

We thank all families and students who have called or emailed with questions during our course selection period. We want to remind families that students will have an opportunity to revise their course selections after the March Break. If they are unhappy with their selections or would like to pursue other options, they can amend any part of their course selection at that time.

In the last two weeks, we had the opportunity to speak with many of our students about the importance of doing community work and giving their time to causes or events that inspire them in everyday life. We know that many of our students are increasingly seeking out opportunities in our school and in our community. If your child is looking for a volunteer opportunity in the city of Richmond Hill, we recommend they log onto Richmond Hill Info Community Information and Volunteer Database (<https://www.richmondhill.ca/en/things-to-do/Volunteering.aspx>) create their profile by filling out the online registration form, sign up and attend a mandatory volunteer training. Once they complete their mandatory training volunteer opportunities will be sent directly to their phones and/or emails. They may also scroll through the website for current updates and available opportunities.

If your child is looking for a Summer Exchange Program consider the Youth Ambassador Program. For more information, <https://www.worldlearning.org/program/youth-ambassadors-program/>

Upcoming Events:

Guidance Parent Series: *US/UK Information Evening*
Tuesday, April 21 @ 6:30 p.m. in the AMHS Cafeteria

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education
Alexander Mackenzie H.S.
Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca Tel: 905-884-0554 Ext. 422

Final Examinations – Semester Two

Please be aware of these important dates, indicated below. Parents and students are reminded to not schedule appointments, trips, interviews, etc. that would conflict with scheduled examination dates for Semester Two. Students are required to complete their examinations on the scheduled dates.

Tuesday June 16	Wednesday June 17	Thursday June 18	Friday June 19	Monday June 22	Tuesday June 23	Wednesday June 24	Thurs/Friday June 25 & 26
Grade 12 Period 4 courses only	Period 1 Courses (all grades)	Period 2 Courses (all grades)	Period 3 Courses (all grades)	Period 4 Courses (Gr. 9, 10, 11 only)	Performance -based Exams	Exam Review Day & Graduation Evening	P.A. Days

Upcoming - Waterloo Math Contests

The University of Waterloo Math Contests - Euclid (for Grade 11 and 12) and Fryer, Galois and Hypatia (for Grade 9, 10 and 11) are scheduled to take place on April 7 and April 15, 2020, respectively.

Registration for the contests is now available on School Cash Online. The registration deadline is Thursday March 12, 2020. For more information, please contact Mr. Wong at benny.wong@yrdsb.ca.

School Council News

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 in Room 122
Guidance Parent Series Presentation from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
School Council Meeting (to follow) from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Minutes

School Council minutes can be accessed through the AMHS school website by clicking on the link below:
[School Council Minutes](#)

Parking and Ticketing

Ticketing at AMHS began on Tuesday, September 3rd. All students and visitors are required to display a valid parking permit in their vehicle at all times in order to park on school property. Any vehicle parked on AMHS property without a valid parking permit will be subject to ticketing. It is your responsibility to ensure that a valid parking permit is clearly visible to our parking enforcement officers. Be sure to request a parking pass when you sign in at the Main Office - all visitors to the school must begin their visit there.

Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis, and availability cannot be guaranteed.

Dropping-Off and Picking-Up Students

If you are in the habit of dropping-off or picking-up your child at school, you have probably noticed the high volume of traffic that builds up in the parking lot / driveway loop at the front of the school, facing Major Mackenzie Drive.

In an effort to alleviate the traffic congestion and keep traffic flowing smoothly, we ask that drivers **only turn right** when exiting from the school driveway onto Major Mackenzie Drive, both in the mornings and the afternoons. Thank you.

School Notifications



School Cash Online

Since September 2015, our school has been accepting online payments through School Cash Online. Payments for school-related expenses such as the Student Activity Fee, field trips, fundraisers, sports teams, yearbook, Graduation, Prom, etc. can be made online with a credit or debit card. Please use the following link to register for this convenient payment method: <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

More Events and Information

School Contact/Website Information

Superintendent- Michael Cohen

Phone: (905) 884-4477

cec.central@yrdsb.ca

Trustee-Corrie McBain

(416) 219-7426

corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca

Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Krista Pummell

Vice-Principal – Yula Nouragas (A-L)

Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)

Telephone: 905-884-0554

Fax: 905-884-4694

Special Education

Twitter: [@AlexMackSpecEd](https://twitter.com/AlexMackSpecEd)

Arts Mackenzie

<http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie>

Arts & Culture:

Instagram: [#amhsartscouncil](https://www.instagram.com/amhsartscouncil)

Visual Arts Department

Twitter: [@amhsvisa](https://twitter.com/amhsvisa)

Instagram: [#amhs.studio](https://www.instagram.com/amhs.studio)

Music Department

www.amhsmusic.ca

MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

Twitter: [@Mustangsmove](https://twitter.com/Mustangsmove)

Instagram: [macpheathletics](https://www.instagram.com/macpheathletics)

Moderns Department

French resources for parents and students

Twitter: [@AlexModerns](https://twitter.com/AlexModerns)

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter

Follow us on twitter [@AlexMackHS](https://twitter.com/AlexMackHS)

If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter please notify Alexander Mackenzie High School by email.