



January 10, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

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

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### Upcoming Events

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<i>Wednesday, January 15 and Thursday, January 16, 2020</i>	<b>Please note CHANGE:</b> The Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment originally scheduled for these dates will not be taking place this semester.
Monday, January 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	Guidance Presentation for Parents AMHS Cafeteria - 6:30 p.m.
Monday, January 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2020	School Council Meeting Room 122 – 7:30 p.m.
Thurs., January 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Wed., January 29, 2020	<b>Examination Week</b> (*Students must attend all exams, as scheduled)

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### Final Examinations – January 2020

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Exam Week is fast approaching! 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.**

Thursday January 23	Friday January 24	Monday January 27	Tuesday January 28	Wednesday January 29	Thursday January 30	Friday January 31
Period 1 Course	Period 2 Course	Period 3 Course	Period 4 Course	Severe Weather Day	Exam Review Day	P.A. Day

Students received the Examination Schedule, as indicated above, this past week in their Homeroom class. Expectations / procedures outlined on this communication include:

- **Examinations and/or other final evaluations will start each day at 9:00 a.m.**
- An official Severe Weather Day will be declared if the school buses for **our** school have been cancelled; if an official Severe Weather Day is declared during the Exam Week, the missed exam / final evaluation will occur on Wednesday, January 29, 2020.
- Students must be present to complete each exam / final evaluation, on its scheduled day and time.

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### Special Education

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Refer to the schedule for Exam Week, above. Note that students with IEPs who require exam accommodations must speak to their classroom teachers and their SERTs in order to facilitate smooth access to applicable assessment accommodations during Exam Week.

#### **IPRCs and Special Education Placements:**

1) Our 2020 IPRC process is underway. Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) are communicating with parents / guardians regarding September 2020 Special Education Placements. Please feel free to communicate with your child's SERT and discuss any concerns or questions.

2) Please ensure you sign the IPRC paperwork that will be sent home with your child in the coming weeks, and return it to your child's SERT as soon as possible.

Please email [sarit.abramovich@yrdsb.ca](mailto:sarit.abramovich@yrdsb.ca) if you have any questions.

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## Guidance Services

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Happy New Year! We hope all our students feel rejuvenated and happy to be back at school. Whether you stayed in the city or travelled, time away from school often gives students a much needed cognitive and emotional break.

We want to let you know that our Course Selection process this year will once again take place through a our interactive online education and career/life planning platform called myBlueprint. **Choosing the right courses is very important – especially because students are prompted to think about their career aspirations and acquire new skills and knowledge through a variety of elective courses that we offer at AMHS.** Course selection is also a good time to have a discussion with your child about how they are most engaged in their learning and where they see themselves a year from now.

Guidance Counsellors recognize that choosing courses may be a stressful process for you and your child, and we are available to answer questions and help in this process. Guidance will also be running an evening presentation for all parents •Book an appointment with a guidance counsellor if you require assistance with your application titled **“Course Selection - Questions & Answers” on Monday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m.,** in the AMHS Cafeteria.

Our master list of courses is available on our website through the link below

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs/guidance/Pages/default.aspx> and our live course calendar can be found by following this link <https://app.myblueprint.ca/public/courses/yrdsb/mackenzie1> We encourage all parents to review courses and our offerings; this can be a great point of conversation with your child. Students will be able to being locking their courses on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

**All course selection for returning high school students must be completed by Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.**

***Students applying to University (OUAC) programming:*** online application should be completed by January 15<sup>th</sup>. *This is an equal consideration date.*

***Students applying to College (OCAS) programming*** should apply before February 1<sup>st</sup>. *This is an equal consideration date.*

***Book an appointment with a guidance counsellor if you require assistance with your application.***

### Upcoming Events

**A presentation for all parents “Course Selection - Questions and Answers”**

Monday January 20, 6:30 p.m. in the AMHS Cafeteria

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education  
Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

[Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca)

Tel: 905 884 0554 Ext. 422

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## Update - Semester 1 EQAO Math Assessments

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**Please note that the EQAO Math Assessment, originally scheduled to be written by Grade 9 Academic and Applied Math students on Wednesday, January 15 and Thursday, January 16, 2020, will NOT be taking place.** A separate communication to families has already been shared by the York Region District School Board, providing additional context for the decision to not administer the assessment.

Students in Grade 9 Academic and Applied Math classes are expected to attend their regular Math classes on those days.

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## From The Literacy Desk

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Please continue to access and view the resources available on our school's OSSLT site: [rebrand.ly/osslt](http://rebrand.ly/osslt). Your child will need to access the site for you using their GAPPs login credentials. **Lesson 4 was delivered this week. It is suggested that you review the learning with your child at home using his/her OSSLT Workbook.**

All eligible students will write the OSSLT on Tuesday, March 31, 2020. Practice at school and at home will support your child's success. Our school site includes videos and practice online materials that students can complete to test their skills.

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

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## YRDSB – Free Adult Non-Credit Programs

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English-as-a-second-language courses for adults are being offered as day, night and weekend offerings, at various locations throughout York Region. For registration and more information, please call 905-731-9557 or 905-305-4122.

Courses for upgrading employment skills are also being offered, through flexible class schedules with individualized support. Learn how to use email, Google Suite, Microsoft Word / Excel / PowerPoint / Outlook, OneNote and more. Math, reading and writing classes are also available. If interested, call 905-731-9557 to book an appointment.



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## 2020 March Break - Youth Engagement Program

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### Who is Suitable for this Program?

- This program is geared to mature students in Grade 9 – Grade 12 who may be interested in Policing or working within a Police service (not mandatory).
- This program is very structured and has a physical fitness component which all participants will be involved in.
- This program is designed to assist students in gaining self-confidence, self-discipline, self-awareness and resiliency.

### Students Must Be:

- Residents of York Region
- Between the ages of 15-18 years old
- Currently in Grade 9 – Grade 12
- Currently attending a York Region Secondary School
- Complete an essay and submit with the application
- All students must have their own transportation to this program – public transit is not an option.

### Our Goal:

- To have a week of learning and to experience a small portion of what the recruitment process may be like when applying to York Regional Police
- To enable you to get to know yourself better, your strengths as well as areas you can enhance
- To have you meet other students with similar goals and form lasting friendships
- To have you interact and work with Officers who will continue to mentor you during this week.

### How to Apply:

- Interested applicants please email [csv@yvp.ca](mailto:csv@yvp.ca) requesting a copy of the application
- Applications must be completed digitally and emailed back to [csv@yvp.ca](mailto:csv@yvp.ca)

### For more information or further questions contact:

Debbie Robinson #5459, Supervisor, Community Safety Village, York Regional Police by email at [csv@yvp.ca](mailto:csv@yvp.ca)

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## School Council News

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### Next Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2020

7:30 – 8:30 p.m., in Room 122

## Minutes

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

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## Parking and Ticketing

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Ticketing at AMHS began on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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.**

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## Dropping-Off and Picking-Up Students

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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.

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## School Notifications

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### 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/>

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## More Events and Information

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### School Contact/Website Information

**Superintendent-** Michael Cohen  
Phone: (905) 884-4477  
[cec.central@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cec.central@yrdsb.ca)

**Trustee-**Corrie McBain  
(416) 219-7426  
[corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca](mailto:corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca)

### Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Otilia Olteanu  
Vice-Principal – Yula Nouragas (A-L)  
Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)  
Telephone: 905-884-0554  
Fax: 905-884-4694

### Special Education

Twitter: [@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](http://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.*