



AMHS Bulletin

January 15, 2021

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

January - Tamil Heritage Month

In recognition of Tamil Heritage Month, please view the Tamil Heritage Month poster [here](#).

January 27 - International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Daily Attendance Reports

Email notification of the daily attendance report, which notifies parents of student absences/lates resumed on Monday December 7th. If there are any discrepancies with the information you receive, we ask that you contact the teacher directly. The teacher will communicate with the attendance office if corrections need to be made.

Student Attendance

General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the general AMHS email address at alexander.mackenzie.hs@yrdsb.ca or please call the school directly at 905-884-0554.

Visitors to AMHS

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, visitor(s) are not permitted into the school without a pre-arranged appointment. Please contact the school by telephone and we will be happy to assist you.

Before coming to an appointment, please review and adhere to the instructions on the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment poster from York Region Public Health](#) posted at all exterior doors. Come directly to the main office to sign in and obtain a parking pass prior to your scheduled meeting time, and sign out when leaving.

Any visitor(s) experiencing COVID-19 symptoms must remain home. All visitors must sanitize their hands, wear a face covering at all times, and maintain a two-metre physical distance as they enter, move through and exit the building.

Parents/guardians if you need to meet with a staff member please call ahead to book an appointment.

Revised School Screening Checklist

Each day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the [checklist from York Region Public Health](#). This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's revised COVID-19

Screening Tool for Children in Schools and Child Care. Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Self-screening tool

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19 the ministry has asked us to share this [link](#) with our school community.

York Region Public Health Decision Tree Tools

- [Preventing Covid-19 Exposures in the Schools](#)
- [COVID-19 Screening Tool for students and children in school and child care](#)

School Schedules

January 18 - January 22, 2021	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rotation 8 Cohorts A & B Synchronous Online Daily 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Students Exit				
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Student Transportation / Lunch				
Synchronous Online – Block 2 12:30 – 1:20 p.m.	Period 4 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 4 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 4 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 4 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 4 Class Cohorts A & B
Synchronous Online – Block 3 1:20 – 2:10 p.m.	Period 1 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 1 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 1 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 1 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 1 Class Cohorts A & B
Synchronous Online – Block 4 2:10 – 3:00 p.m.	Period 2 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 2 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 2 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 2 Class Cohorts A & B	Period 2 Class Cohorts A & B

	Course Rotation for AMHS							
Rotation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Sept 14 Sept 25	Sept 28 Oct 9	Oct 13 Octo 26	Oct 27 Nov 9	Nov 10 Nov 26	Nov 27 Dec 14	Dec 15 Jan 13	Jan 14 Jan 29
Synchronous Block 1 8:30 -11:00	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 4	Per. 5	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 4	Per. 5
Exit/Travel / Lunch								
Synchronous Block 2 12:30 - 1:20	Per.2	Per. 1	Per. 5	Per. 4	Per. 2	Per. 1	Per. 5	Per. 4
Synchronous Block 3 1:20 - 2:10	Per. 4	Per. 4	Per. 1	Per. 1	Per. 4	Per. 4	Per. 1	Per. 1
Synchronous Block 4 2:10 - 3:00	Per. 5	Per. 5	Per. 2	Per. 2	Per. 5	Per. 5	Per. 2	Per. 2

Guidance

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN) - Scholarship Application Workshop - January 22

Black students and their families are invited to join us for another online edition of the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop on Friday, January 22, 2021 from 7 PM - 9 PM.

The workshop is offered free of charge as the goal is to share our collective knowledge so that Black students and their families can make informed decisions about post-secondary education. Note that the Scholarship Program Coordinator will also be present to answer any questions.

Please share with your friends and family and encourage them to save the date. The online workshop is free but there is limited space available so please register via Eventbrite ASAP: bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary22

Registration via Eventbrite is mandatory in order to participate in this workshop. A Zoom link and further details will be sent to all those who register. For more information or to share accessibility needs, please contact us at info@bfcn.ca or 416-566-2731

Dual Credit

Dual Credit is promoting their Winter 2021 session. We have coordinated to offer virtual information sessions about dual credit programming scheduled by our Regional planning team for all GTA school boards and local colleges on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 from 12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.; and Thursday, January 21, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. -4:00 p.m. Please consult the SHSM Google Classroom or the Guidance Google Classroom for registration details and other information.

Transportation and SHSM Students

A recruitment officer from Centennial College School of Transportation will be offering daily sessions from Monday January 11th to June 19th from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Students can expect to learn about Post-Secondary Programs with Career Options, Apprenticeships, Pathways, Why Consider a Trade, Financial Aid, Student Support Services, Tuition, and much more. Please visit Zoom and use Zoom Webinar ID: 92661724820, passcode: 920905.

Grade 12 Students:

Students are encouraged to keep a copy of the OUAC PIN and password in a safe place for future reference. Should your child not have received an email containing this information, please contact the AMHS Guidance Department at your earliest convenience.

Students are invited to review the slide show information linked in the email concerning how to use the PIN in the OUAC Website and how to set up a student profile, and add University Programs among other things.

Please note: 'While creating your OUAC account, it might ask for a 12-digit student number: add '000' (3 zeros) in front of your 9-digit student number.'

Please feel free to contact your child's counselor for more information regarding the OUAC Application process or any other questions you may have over the next several weeks.

Please see the following updated Guidance Google classrooms:

Grade 12:

Graduating Class June 2021; Password: zjwvzt3

Grade 12 Scholarships for Graduating Students only; Password: hltthp5

Note to Grade 11 Students: If you would like to learn more about Grade 12 in order to prepare for next year, please join the Grade 12 Google classrooms. However, please be mindful that only Grade 12 students may participate in the nomination for any awards and scholarships that are shared by the Guidance department.

School Information

OSSLT Support

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) is a requirement for students who wish to graduate with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. As a school, we are taking many steps to assist our students in completing the test successfully. This year's test will take place on April 8th, 2021. One way that we have chosen to assist our students is by offering extra support to reinforce literacy skills in reading and writing.

A number of pre recorded sessions are available to students. These sessions will make a difference in the student's knowledge and confidence related to the various reading and writing tasks they are required to complete on the OSSLT. The pre-recorded sessions are located in the Google Classroom titled "OSSLT Practice".

Literacy Strategy of the Month:

To support student success with the OSSLT, grade 9 and 10 teachers use a suggested "strategy-of-the-month". Teachers are asked to consider suitable times throughout the month to use it. Parents and guardians are asked to engage in dialogue with their child around how the strategy was used in class. The strategy for January is the use of **Inquiry Charts**.

Literacy Tip:

Have fun with words. Increasing vocabulary is one of the most effective ways to improve reading. Learn a new word a day with your child. Do crossword puzzles to help improve vocabulary.

Parking & Ticketing

Students and visitors will be 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 report to the Main Office.) **Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis; availability cannot be guaranteed**

York Region District School Board Information

YRDSB Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

Returning to Virtual Learning after the Winter Break:

As a result of a provincially mandated lockdown due to rising COVID -19 cases across the province, we end the Winter Break with a return to virtual learning. Although this will present a challenge for some and disappointment for others, our focus will be on how to keep one another physically healthy and maintain social connections and mental health while distance learning. This month's edition of our Mental Health newsletter will focus on some suggestions of ways to stay socially connected during this continued time of physical distancing.

Please refer to this [link](#) to view the newsletter in its entirety.

College Information Week for Black Students

The YRDSB Graduation Coaches for Black Students, in partnership with various colleges, are hosting two College Information Nights for Black Students on January 19th and 21st. See [flyer](#) for further information and registration link.

Islamic Heritage Student Art Call for Entry 2020/21

Islamic Heritage Student Art Call for Entry. Theme: Islamic Heritage Month in the Canadian Context with a focus on Muslim Canadians past and present who have made an impact in our country. Deadline: March 1, 2021. See flyer for further details. Please check this [flyer](#) for additional information.

Town of Aurora – John West Scholarship 2021

Leaders of Tomorrow ... The Town of Aurora believes in recognizing our Leaders of Tomorrow, who have made a positive impact in our community and inspire and give us hope for the future. This award honours youth contributions to the advancement and well-being of our community. Please review this [flyer](#) for additional information.

Secondary GSA Google Classroom

Secondary school students who identify as 2SLGBTQI+ and their allies are invited to join a virtual GSA secondary classroom. The classroom will be moderated by our caring and dedicated GSA advisors, who will make sure the space is following ground rules, safe space guidelines and confidentiality. The classroom is now open and accepting student registrations. Students must [register](#) using their YRDSB GAPPS account. The GSA Google classroom will bring the social and educational aspects, and fun of a GSA online. It will include discussion boards, community services and resources, group social sessions and various supports as students need.

Renewed Computer Technology

The York Region District School Board is once again working with Renewed Computer Technology (RCT). RTC is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that empowers learners, educators and not-for-profit organizations with access to affordable, renewed computers to help meet education and career goals.

Please refer to the attached [Renewed Computer Technology flyer](#) to review the available packages.

Online Program Opportunities

As many of our YRDSB community partner organizations continue to offer on-line opportunities for your children and youth, we are happy to provide you with a comprehensive list of these opportunities, including those that are continuing and also new programs and services.

Please visit [2020-2021 Online Program Opportunities for Children, Youth and Families](#) to find a list of programs organized by category and age group. We encourage you to check the link regularly as the Community and Partnership Developer Team will be making regular updates to available programs and resources.

For more information, please contact iscs@yrdsb.ca

Adult ESL, LINC & LBS Programs

YRDSB offers Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) programs for those who want to develop effective language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing for daily life in Canada. We also offer specialized classes in Citizenship and Conversation.

For more information and registration details, please check these links: [English](#), [Farsi](#), [Russian](#), [Tamil](#), [Simplified Chinese](#).

School Council News

Upcoming Meeting

Parents/guardians are invited to attend the next AMHS School Council meeting on Monday, January 18, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. Due to Public Health guidelines, the meeting will take place virtually. All are welcome to attend!

Link to agenda: [AMHS School Council Meeting Agenda - Monday January 18](#)

Minutes

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

School Contact / Website Information

Superintendent - Lois Agard

Phone: (905) 884-4477

cec.central@yrdsb.ca

Trustee - [Simon Cui](#)

Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Krista Pummell

Vice-Principal – Erika Pridie (A-L)

Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)

Telephone: 905-884-0554

Fax: 905-884-4694

Arts Mackenzie

<http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie>

Music Department

www.amhsmusic.ca

AMHS Literacy & OSSLT

rebrand.ly/OSSLT

MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

Twitter: @Mustangsmove

Instagram: macpheathletics

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter

Follow us on twitter @AlexMackHS

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