



January 26th, 2024

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Greetings AMHS Families,

As we are in our exam block, heading towards the end of the semester. We want to thank all of our students and staff who may be leaving us at the end of semester 1. Your support and efforts of the AMHS community have not gone unnoticed. Additionally, we want to officially welcome Ms. Stephanie Campbell who will be joining the administration team for semester 2. Please see the Admin Changes note below. Take care Mustang community!

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### Important Upcoming Dates

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**Jan 25th - Jan 31st** - Exam period

**Feb 1st** - exam review day

**Feb 2nd** - PA Day

**Feb 5th** - First day of semester 2

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### AMHS Administration Team Changes

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Earlier this week, administrator appointments and transfers were announced. As a result, there will be some changes to the admin team at AMHS beginning in semester two.

Mr. Ishiguro has been appointed as Principal at Dr. Denison Secondary School. We thank Mr. Ishiguro for his ongoing support and commitment to our school and our students.

Ms. Campbell will be joining AMHS as Vice Principal. Ms. Campbell is currently a teacher at Langstaff Secondary School. We look forward to welcoming Ms. Campbell to the school and working with her.

In addition, Ms. Cathy Clarke has been promoted to Vice Principal at Unionville High School. Ms. Clarke has been instrumental in supporting the students, staff and school community in various roles during her time at AMHS. We will miss Ms. Clarke and wish her all the best in her future position.

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### OSSLT Update

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All successful OSSLT results have been shared with students. There are a few remaining unsuccessful results that have yet to be shared with students as we hoped to connect individually with unsuccessful students to determine next steps. The next window to write the OSSLT will take place in April of 2024.

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## AMHS School Council Study Tips

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Please see the following message from our School Council to support your child with study tips: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1urp46aCiDx0GJTHEExmse87lv4qO40S9/view?usp=sharing>

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## Message from our Trustee

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As we start the second semester and second half of the school year, I want to take this opportunity to share some updates about upcoming dates, events and initiatives taking place across our system with you. I also want to thank everyone who contributes to building a strong educational community in York Region District School Board - the students, families, staff members and community partners who come together in support of student learning, achievement and well-being.

February is **Black History Month**. In addition to a number of [events taking place](#) within the school board and local community, the school board is once again Celebrating Black Excellence through its Black Voices campaign. **Black Voices** aims to centre and celebrate the Black members of our YRDSB community and share their voices. For families looking to learn more about school board and community events and programs for Black students and families, you can [subscribe to the Centre for Black Student Excellence mailing list](#) to receive regular updates.

Later this month, we will also recognize the [Lunar New Year](#) and wish all students, staff and community celebrating Lunar New Year a happy and joyful celebration.

While we have seen milder **winter weather** this year, I also want to remind families that we have protocols in place for [severe weather](#) and school transportation cancellation in the case of inclement weather, and want to ensure families are aware. You can find more information on the Board website. We also continue to encourage families to use active school travel all year round, including during the winter months. Early in February, we will be celebrating [Winter Walk Day](#), and be sharing tips as well as the benefits and joys of winter walking.

This month, students in Grades 5-12 will have an opportunity to vote in the [Student Trustee Elections](#). I want to congratulate and thank all of the students in Grade 10 and 11 who applied for this position. Student Trustees play an important role representing student voice at the Board meetings and we greatly value their voice and contributions. Students who are eligible to vote will receive information in their GAPPs accounts about how to vote. This is a great opportunity to participate in the democratic process and to have their say about who will represent their voice in the next school year.

[Kindergarten](#) and [French Immersion](#) registration opened in January for fall 2024. For students looking at **course selection** in secondary school, there are lots of great resources available at

[www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb](http://www.yrdsb.ca/experience-yrdsb) that let students learn more about courses, programs and opportunities that relate to their interests.

You can also stay up-to-date with what's happening around the Board by visiting our [newsroom](#) - some of the latest stories feature schools in our area - or by listening to the Board's award-winning [podcast Tune In YRDSB](#), including recent and upcoming episodes on what to expect in Kindergarten, how Student Trustees represent student voice, Tamil Heritage Month, Hindu Heritage Month and more.

As the governing body of the York Region District School Board, trustees are required to establish an annual **Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP)** to guide system direction for a four year period. The MYSP is a reflection of emergent priorities identified by our educational communities. Over the coming months, we will be conducting extensive consultations with YRDSB students, staff, families and community members to collect input and feedback to develop our revised MYSP. We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for all that you do to partner with us in building a strong publicly funded education system that delivers a high-quality education for your children. You can learn more about my role as a school trustee and [how you can reach me](#) on the Board website [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca).

Crystal Yu, Trustee, Richmond Hill Wards 1, 2 and 4

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## Athletics

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Hello Parents, if your child has purchased their phys. ed uniform for second semester, they come to the phys. ed office and pick up their uniform or they can receive their clothing on the first day of their phys. ed class. If you have not purchased your phys.ed packages, please go onto school cash online to purchase your gym uniform. Students must change into phys. ed attire and we recommend that they wear our school gear. Thank you for your support.



We have ordered extra Mustang Spirit Clothing. If your child is interested in our gear, please have them come by the phys. ed office to inquire about our Mustang clothing. We have lots in stock. They are super comfortable and all proceeds go to help the Athletic Program purchase equipment or help send teams to tournaments. Thank you for always supporting our Mustangs.




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## Guidance Services

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Guidance Counsellor	Alpha last name for students
Ms. Pantusa	A - G
Mr. Petrone	H - M
Mr. Daides	N - V
Ms. Cohen	W - Z

Guidance Secretary: Cathy Zhang

### Guidance Google Classrooms

Grade 9-11 Guidance Classroom (2023-2024)

Guidance & Education Services

Class Code: ugbztay

### AMHS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### GUIDANCE

Class Code: orggenu

#### AMHS Peer Tutoring Program

Class Code: odyb3b7

SHSM: jde7dmp

### Guidance News

Dear parents/guardians,

Students were provided with their semester 2 timetable the first week of January as well as a link to a Google form for any course change requests. The form is now closed and we are working diligently to try and accommodate the requests.

While we understand that this is a stressful time for you and the students, we are asking parents and guardians to refrain from booking appointments or coming in to guidance to check on the progress of the change or to just make a change on the spot. Please keep in mind that this is not an instant change and that we may

not be able to fulfill certain requests since the availability of courses depends on the number of sections provided, class limits and where they are placed. Students will either be emailed or called to guidance to discuss whether the request is possible.  
We will only make **necessary changes and cannot**

- change periods for lunch
- change to be in a specific teacher's class
- change to be in a friend's class

Thank you for understanding,  
The guidance team

### **Black York Region Youth**

The [Black York Region Youth](#) is a youth organization founded with the purpose of combating anti-Black racism, systemic racism, anti-Indigenous hate, and discrimination in all of its forms within York Region and the Greater Toronto Area. They are pleased to host a gala event on February 17. The Black Youth Gala is an event to celebrate their accomplishments. Youth will have the opportunity to receive scholarships for post-secondary. In addition, Black Youth artists and fashion designers will also have the chance to showcase their work in the gallery and the opening performance portion of the event. For full details and to purchase tickets, please visit their [site](#).

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## **Student Attendance**

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General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the AMHS attendance email address at [alexandermackenziehs.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:alexandermackenziehs.attendance@yrdsb.ca).

You may also call the school Main Office directly at 905-884-0554.

If your child is arriving late to school due to an appointment or another reason, please ensure that you confirm their late arrival with a call or email to our attendance office. Thank you.

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## **AMHS Daily Schedule**

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As of September 2023, the schedule for the AMHS school day will be as follows:

<b>TIMES</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>
<b>8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.</b>	<b>HOMEROOM</b>
<b>8:35 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.</b>	<b>Period 1</b>
<b>9:55 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.</b>	<b>Period 2</b>

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Period 3
12:35 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	Period 4
1:55 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.	Period 5

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## School Contact / Website Information

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### Alexander Mackenzie High School

#### Principal – Krista Luks

Telephone: 905-884-0554 ext 407  
krista.luks@yrdsb.ca

#### Vice Principal - Themistocles Drekolias

Telephone: 905-884-0554 ext 405  
themistocles.drekolias@yrdsb.ca

#### Vice Principal - Seiji Ishiguro

Telephone: 905-884-0554 ext 406  
seiji.ishiguro@yrdsb.ca

### IB Google Classroom Codes

Grade 11 IB: [hmfxept](#)

Grade 12 IB: [nn4umuq](#)

### Grade Google Classroom Codes

Grade 9: [hf5itbn](#)

Grade 10: [jv4kffq](#)

Grade 11: [qlinckg](#)

Grade 12: [kwjnulg](#)

### Arts Mackenzie

[www.artsmackenzie.com](http://www.artsmackenzie.com)

### Music Department

[www.amhsmusic.ca](http://www.amhsmusic.ca)

### MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

Twitter: [@Mustangsmove](#)

Instagram: [macpheathletics](#)

**Alexander Mackenzie on Instagram**

@alexmackhs

[YRDSB Parent, Family and Community Engagement \(PEAC\) Newsletter](#)