



AMHS Bulletin

June 11, 2021

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

June - Indigenous History Month

June - Pride Month

June 11 - Applications for Student Council Executive - Interview Positions (Please see School Information section)

June 21 - Indigenous Peoples Day

June 25 - Deadline for summer school registration

Dear families,

We are deeply concerned about the violent effect of Islamophobia and condemn these violent acts of hate. As a school board, we are also committed to continue taking action against Islamophobia and to supporting our students, staff and community. Our actions will continue to include partnering with the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM) and developing and delivering professional learning to all staff aimed at disrupting Islamophobia. This also includes the tracking and monitoring incidents of hate in our Board, including Islamophobia.

If you believe your child requires support from the Board's mental health professionals, please contact your child's school directly.

Below are resources you may use to support conversations and support for your children.

Resources for Families:

- [Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#)

Culturally Relevant Resources for Emotional Well-Being:

- [Naseeha](#) provides an anonymous, non-judgmental, confidential and toll-free peer support helpline for youth experiencing personal challenges. Naseeha's services are open to all regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, family makeup, social status, income, ability, physical and mental health, and religion.
- [Khalil Center](#) is a psychological and spiritual community wellness center advancing the professional practice of psychology rooted in Islamic principles. Khalil Center utilizes faith-based approaches rooted in Islamic theological concepts while integrating the science of psychology towards addressing psychological, spiritual and communal health.

General Supports for Emotional Well-Being:

- Victim Services of York Region provides crisis counselling and referrals for longer-term support. Advice and support for families and educators on best practices for providing support can be found [here](#).
- Kids Help Phone provides support for children and youth. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 310-COPE provides crisis counselling for all. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Dear families,

Community tragedies can be deeply upsetting for both staff and students. Media involvement can surround individuals with upsetting details and images of the event, potentially triggering distressing emotions. It is important to keep in mind that these events are rare. Schools are safe places for children and youth during the school day, and an important place for them to receive support, a calm environment and connection to caring adults/peers.

Communication and collaboration among schools, parents, and communities is important to ensure that students continue to view schools as safe, caring, and supportive environments. Further, how adults react to tragedies can impact the way children and youth respond and their perceptions of safety and well-being.

Families are encouraged to:

- spend time together,
- limit media exposure to the event,
- create time for conversation and checking in,
- validate their child's feelings,
- ask for help as needed, and
- find calm and relaxing activities to do at home.

It is very important to limit exposure to media coverage, particularly for young children. If children or youth are watching the news or accessing information online, parents and caregivers should be available to check in and talk to their children about it.

Families and educators will support children and youth to understand and cope with the impact of death and feelings of loss. Most children and youth are resilient and will cope well with the support and caring of their families, teachers, friends, and other caring adults. However, young children may have particular difficulty understanding and describing their feelings and emotions.

Some tips to help children and youth cope and understand grief and tragedy include:

- If asked by the student(s), provide a developmentally appropriate, clear, and straightforward explanation of the event, without sharing graphic or unnecessary details, (if student wants to know more, they will ask),

- Consider students may have previous experiences of loss or death. While they may not know the people involved in this tragedy, it may remind them of their own experiences of loss,
- Maintain neutrality in the school environment. As much as possible, avoid adding triggers of this event into the school where possible,
- Address unhelpful rumors which may be circulating and to refocus students on facts,
- Support your class to return to normalcy and routine, while maintaining flexibility,
- Let students know it's okay to feel upset or angry about the event,
- Observe and listen to the questions and statements of students about the event, reach out for support if you are concerned,
- Provide various ways for students to express emotion, either through journaling, writing letters, talking, meditation, yoga or music,
- Focus on resiliency as well as the compassion of others.

Please visit the [YRDSB website](#) for resources on speaking to your child after a tragic event. Additional resources are also included below:

National Indian Residential School Crisis Line: 1-866-925-4419 | This line has been set up to provide support, including emotional and crisis referral, for former Residential School students.

Welcome to the Hope for Wellness Helpline – On-Line Chat Counseling Service. Call the toll-free Helpline at 1-855-242-3310, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, **or chat online.** The Hope for Wellness Helpline offers immediate mental health counselling and crisis intervention to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. Phone and chat counselling is available in English and French. On request, phone counselling is also available in: Cree, Ojibway, Inuktitut

Anishnawbe Health Toronto's crisis line 416-891-8606
Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868.

Important Update:
York Region Switching to Provincial COVID-19 Symptom Screening Tool

Effective immediately, York Region Public Health will discontinue the use of the York Region specific COVID-19 screening tool for schools, child care centres and camps and will instead use the provincial screening tool. Please see the [YRPH letter](#) for additional information.

Student Attendance

General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the AMHS attendance email address at alexandermackenziehs.attendance@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 or email and we will be happy to assist you.

Prior to entering the school, review/complete the [self-assessment](#) as per the posted self-screening poster. Come directly to the main office to complete the visitor sign-in process with the main office staff member, which will include responding to the question “Have you completed the self-screening assessment?”, 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.

School Schedule During Remote Learning

	Block/Period 1	Block/Period 2	Lunch	Block/Period 3	Block/Period 4
Time	8:30 - 9:45 a.m.	9:50 - 11:05 a.m.	11:05 a.m.-12:25 p.m.	12:25 - 1:40p.m.	1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
	Online	Online		Online	Online
	Cohorts A & B	Cohorts A & B		Cohorts A & B	Cohorts A & B

School Information

Student Council Elections | Update and Call for Submissions for Interview Positions

At AMHS this week we hosted our 2021-2022 Student Council Elections. Thank you to all of the candidates who ran in this year's Student Councils elections.

The results of the election are as follows:

Grade 10 Representative - Umer K
Grade 11 Representative - Esther H
Grade 12 Representative - Danielle G
Vice President - Mekha G
Presidents - Bogdana B and Mira D

There are still additional positions that need to be filled for the 2021-2022 Student Council Executive. We encourage students to visit <http://bit.ly/stucoelections21> to view available positions and submit an application. Applications are due on June 11th. Interviews for these positions will be conducted the week of June 14th.

Questions? Please contact the Student Council Staff Advisor, Ms. Catherine Clarke, at catherine.clarke@yrdsb.ca

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

Guidance

Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association 2021 Scholarship Application

The Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (MACCA) will be awarding scholarships of \$1000 to each selected recipient. Selection is based on the students' involvement and dedication to their community and academic achievements. One outstanding student that excels in these areas and demonstrates that they have gone above and beyond will receive the President's award. Applications are due by Wednesday, June 30, 2021. Please see [application](#) package for further information.

The Black Education Fund (Application deadline: June 18, 2021)

(BEF) was founded in August of 2020 by a group of friends and like-minded community members who wanted to do more than just talk about making change, we wanted to take action. What started out as an initiative to raise \$5000 to support one Black student in Canada, has grown rapidly with donations to date topping \$25,000. We believe breaking down barriers Black students face in accessing education is fundamentally important to overcome anti-Black racism in Canada. Our goal is now to provide some financial support to multiple Black students. The BEF is a 100% volunteer organization registered as a Canadian Non-Profit foundation. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

OSAP Workshop

The Guidance Department will be presenting an OSAP virtual workshop on Wednesday June 16th from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will be explaining the OSAP process, sharing related resources and providing a Q & A session at the end of the presentation. The video link is: <https://meet.google.com/sgy-emoi-duz> Students and parents/guardians are welcome!

Google Takeout for Retiring and Graduating Students

All retiring students from York Region District School Board - whether they are graduating or moving school boards - have the opportunity to download their Google Workspace for Education files as found in their Google Drive. *Due to the size of some Drives and the potential time to create the zip file, it is recommended that steps, as outlined below, not be done on a public/school computer.*

Visit [Google Takeout](#) and login with your YRDSB Google Account.

1. Select the Google Apps and Services you want to export your data and documents from, and select the option to receive the file as a download via email (depending on the size of your Google account, this could take several hours). Use the .zip file option.
2. Once the Google Takeout email arrives, use the links to download your archived data and documents to the personal computer, USB/external drive and/or the personal Google Drive that you wish.
3. You can "unzip" the archives and then upload the data and documents to a new personal Google Account or use the files and documents in Microsoft Office or other applications.

Need More Help? Support resources from Google are available on [how to download your Google data](#).

Summer School

Summer School registration continues until June 25th, 2021. Summer school course offerings are not guaranteed as they are subject to sufficient enrolment, classroom and teacher availability.

Students who have selected a course for the 2021-2022 school year and have registered for the same course at summer school will have the course removed from their AMHS course selection.

Should a student drop a summer school course and need to take this course at AMHS it is the student's responsibility to contact the Guidance Department. Any courses that are selected after the creation of timetables are subject to sufficient course availability.

Registration for Summer School is open from **April 20th until June 25th, 2021.**

Classes will occur online using a synchronous model with asynchronous blocks. The learning platform is Google. YRDSB students will select courses online using myPathwayPlanner.

Courses that are offered are as follows:

Acceleration Courses Offered (for students who would like to reach ahead)

Dates: July 7 to July 30

Hours: 8:45 a.m. to 3:33 p.m.

Credit Recovery/Reinforcement Courses (for students who need to recover a credit)

Session 1 (S1): July 7 to July 19

Session 2 (S2): July 20 to July 30

Hours: 8:45 am to 3:33 pm

Please ensure that you have reviewed this information prior to your child's registration and submission on MyBlueprint. Upon submission, the Guidance department will receive an automated message that registration has been completed.

Please Note:

Course offerings are not guaranteed as they are subject to sufficient enrolment and teacher availability.

- CHV2O & GLC2O courses are for both Acceleration and Reinforcement students

If you have any questions regarding summer school registration, please contact your child's Guidance Counselor.

Ms. Gurfinkel --> adrienne.gurfinkel@yrdsb.ca (A-G)

Mr. Auyeung --> Keith.Auyeung@yrdsb.ca (H-Ki)

Mr. Petrone --> John.Petrone@yrdsb.ca (Ki- R)

Ms. Reyhani --> nazila.reyhani@yrdsb.ca (S-Z)

Registration for Day School e-Learning, for semester 2, 2021-2022 is OPEN.

Included below is the course list and documentation support links to register students into a day school e-Learning section. (YRDSB GAPPS login required to access the documentation). Registration will remain open until February 17, 2022.

Course List:

Course Offering	School(s)	Semester
BBB4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Richmond Green SSHodan Nalayah SS	21-22 Semester 2
BOH4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dr. G.W. Williams SSStephen Lewis SS	21-22 Semester 2
CGW4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Newmarket HS	21-22 Semester 2
CHY4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sutton DHS	21-22 Semester 2
CIA4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Woodbridge College	21-22 Semester 2
CLU3M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Langstaff SS	21-22 Semester 2
ENG4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sir William Mulock SS	21-22 Semester 2
ETS4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alexander Mackenzie HS	21-22 Semester 2
HHS4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">King City SS	21-22 Semester 2
HSB4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Keswick HSWestmount CI	21-22 Semester 2
HSC4M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Woodbridge College	21-22 Semester 2
MDM4U	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Middlefield CI	21-22 Semester 2
PPZ3C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maple HS	21-22 Semester 2

Links:

- 1) [Day School e-Learning Registration 2021-22](#): for registration queries and process information
- 2) [Student Course Request Form](#): for internal use at schools
- 3) [Course List](#) available on the board website

Volunteer Opportunity

[Sending Sunshine](#) is a not-for-profit corporation run out of Mississauga, Ontario. Sending Sunshine aims to help reduce the negative effects of social isolation and loneliness among senior citizens in our community by providing them with handwritten cards. It is with the help of people like YOU that Sending Sunshine can help provide a ray of sunshine in the lives of Ontario seniors!

Please speak with a guidance counsellor for more information about this volunteer opportunity.

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.

Community Information

Learning Disability Association Parent Conference

Please view the [invitation](#) to participate in the 2nd Annual Virtual LDA Parent Conference.

Bike Month 2021 (May 31 - June 30).pdf

Bike Month is organized by Smart Commute Central York and Newmarket Chamber of Commerce. There are two ways to participate and win! Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

York Hills – Here to Help Line

Please see the information [flyer](#) for additional information regarding dates, services, and contact information.

Vaughan Public Libraries Reflecting on Racism: A Monthly Lecture Series

Vaughan Public Libraries is offering a monthly lecture series. Please see the information [flyer](#) for registration information.

Thinking of Becoming a Licensed Home Child Care Provider?

Please see the [poster](#) for additional information.

Parenting Workshop

A free solution focused webinar being offered to parents in the York Region community. This is not an endorsement for health professional services or programs provided by the organization. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

Education Interrupted: Parent Engagement for Liberations - Webinar Series

This webinar series will engage parents & caregivers, scholars and community leaders in dialogue to imagine what a meaningful anti-racist model of parent/caregiver engagement could look like. Please see the information [flyer](#) for additional information.

Town of Aurora Inclusion Services

A new weekly virtual social club for teens and young adults in the community looking to connect with peers in an adapted and supported space! Please see the information [flyer](#) for additional information.

Sankofa Storytelling and Poetry

Virtual meetings every Saturday until June 19. Please see the [poster](#) for more details.

The Sankofa Mentoring Program

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith, and Self-Respect. Please see the [poster](#) for more details.

York Region District School Board Information

What families want to know about de-streaming

Please see the [poster](#), [YRDSB website](#), and the [Coalition for Alternatives to Streaming in Education](#) for additional information.

International Languages (IL) Fall Program- Credit Courses 2021-2022

Students can earn credits while learning a language. International Languages offers over 15 languages for students in Grades 9 to 12. Level 3 language credit courses can even be counted towards college and university acceptance.

Please see our credit course offerings on our website: [IL Credit Program](#)

Registration for YRDSB Students

The course offerings and sites are available on [My Pathway Planner](#) login page. Students can register through My Pathway Planner from June until September 10th. For assistance, view the [My Pathway Planner Tip Sheet](#). Print a copy of the sign-off sheet and obtain parent/guardian signature before submitting the registration form on the first day of classes at the selected language site.

If you do not have the opportunity to register through 'My Pathway Planner' before September 13th, 2021. After **September 13th**, please complete the [online registration form](#) and submit it to the selected language site on the day of registration. Start dates are available in the [International Languages Credit Course Brochure 2021-2022](#). Thank you again for your interest in our programs. Please do not hesitate to e-mail us if you have any questions: international.languages@yrdsb.ca.

YRDSB Student Mental Health & Addictions Newsletter

Please access the [newsletter](#) here.

Engaging in Conversations With Our Children About Anti-Asian Racism

Families are provided an opportunity to learn more about Anti-Asian racism. Session includes dialogues and strategies for guardians/parents to advocate for and support their children. June 17th, 7:00-8:30p.m. Please see the flyers for further information ([Mandarin](#), [English](#)).

York Region Tamil Students' Association (YRTSA)

YRTSA is looking for students that are interested in planning and connecting their schools to our events as we move forward. If you are interested, please complete the Google Form found in the [poster](#).

YRDSB Student and Family Surveys - Now Available

The 2020-21 YRDSB Student and Family Surveys are now available online between May 26 and June 18.

These surveys will provide the Board and our schools with valuable information about the experiences of students and families. Results will be used to guide Board and school planning to support student achievement and well-being.

Students and families have received a link to their respective surveys by email. If you do not want your child(ren) to participate in this survey, but missed the deadline on May 24, 2021 to opt your child(ren) out of receiving the link to the surveys, please advise your child(ren) to not participate. Families who do not want to participate in the Family Survey may disregard the email invitation.

The Family Survey is available online in:

Arabic	Farsi	Hebrew	Russian	Urdu
Chinese (simplified)	English	Korean	Tamil	Vietnamese
Chinese (traditional)	Gujarati	Punjabi	Turkish	

As our first partners in education, we value parent/guardian input and encourage parents/guardians to complete the survey. The information provided will be anonymous, considered confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Please contact research.services@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or visit the [Board website](#) to learn more.

York Region District School Board Seeks Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee Members

York Region District School Board is accepting applications for membership on the Board's Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee (PEAC). Parents/guardians interested in serving as a member of PEAC are asked to submit an electronic application by June 15, 2021. Please see [letter](#) for additional information.

Finding Adler: Jewish Musicians and China's Classical Music

This presentation highlights connections and bonds between different peoples in times of suffering through acceptance, tolerance, compassion, understanding and giving back. Presented in English and Mandarin. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

2021 Summer Learning Programs Available

During the month of July, YRDSB continues to offer credit and non-credit summer school program opportunities for elementary, secondary and adult students. Traditional in-class face-to-face summer programs will move to a remote learning delivery model. Registration is now open for the following programs:

Elementary Credit and Non-Credit Programs:

- Elementary Summer School (Grades 6 - 8 non credit reinforcement)
- Grade 8 Reach Ahead

Secondary Credit Programs:

- Online-Learning
- Remote Learning

Adult Learning Programs:

- Adult Literacy and Basic Skills
- English as a Second Language
- Citizenship Classes

For more information about summer learning programs and registration please visit www.yrdsb.ca and follow us on Twitter @YRDSB.

YRDSB Secondary Summer School Programs

Remote learning is being offered this summer in place of traditional face-to-face summer school as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Remote learning classes will occur in a virtual environment using a synchronous model. Registration for Secondary Summer School programs is now open to YRDSB students through MyPathwayPlanner. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

211 – Services for Families

Do you need help finding food, housing, financial assistance, mental health support, employment support, support for seniors, winter clothing and/or shelter? For information and referral to government, health, community and social services, call 2-1-1, search 211Central.ca, text 21166, live-chat at 211Ontario.ca/chat or email gethelp@211Ontario.ca. 211 is free, confidential and available 24/7 in 150+ languages to connect you to local community supports. Learn more about the services they offer in this one-page fact sheet. Please use this [link](#) for more information.

School Council News

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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