



AMHS Bulletin

June 25, 2021

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

June - Indigenous History Month

June - Pride Month

June 28 - Material Retrieval

June 28

- Credit Conferencing and Rescue Day (asynchronous)
- Last day of school

**July 5 - Virtual Graduation Ceremony
(link to be shared)**

Dear Students and Families,

The school year came to an end today, bringing with it a close to what has felt like a long semester interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Mustangs showed great resilience through the remote online learning from home programming which followed, and we could not be prouder of their perseverance and determination in crossing that figurative “finish line” into the summer. We now extend heartfelt wishes to all our students – those graduating from AMHS, as well as those returning and newly arriving to AMHS for September 2021 – for some rest during the summer break, and for good things ahead.

To our graduates, we extend congratulations on reaching this significant milestone, and for all their accomplishments to date. Remember graduates – the end of your high school education represents an ending for sure, but it also brings with it a beginning to all the great things that lie ahead for you as you continue to pursue your interests and passions. This year’s unanticipated, unforeseeable pandemic outbreak has resulted in us not being able to hold an in-person graduation ceremony. A link to the virtual ceremony will be shared with graduates on Monday, July 5. We wish you well as you start the next part of your life’s adventure, where you will do great things and help change your world for the better.

To our returning and incoming students, we look forward to seeing you in September. You have already made it through a prolonged period of remote online learning from home, and stayed “Mustang Strong” all the way through. For this, we are proud of you. Student timetables will be available on Teach Assist one week prior to the start of the school year.

We would also like to share with you that our Vice Principal, George Ellinas, will be leaving AMHS and joining another YRDSB school in September. Please join us in extending well wishes and a sincere thank you to Mr. Ellinas for his many contributions to the AMHS community and for his dedication to student success.

and well-being. We will miss Mr. Ellinas and we know he will be a tremendous asset to his new school.

In September 2021, we welcome back Ms. Yula Nouragas as Vice Principal. We look forward to Ms. Nouragas rejoining the AMHS team.

We wish you a safe, healthy and happy summer ahead, full of well-deserved rest and good times with those closest to you.

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](#).

Credit Conferencing & Rescue Days

Please note that Monday, June 28 is designated as a "Credit Conferencing and Rescue" day. As such, classes will not be scheduled and opportunities and supports will be put in place by teachers to assist students with completing outstanding work. Class attendance will not be taken on this day.

Please reach out to the school or your learner's teachers should you have any questions.

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.

York Region Public Health

York Region Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine

Please view the following [flyer](#) for YRPH age 12+ vaccine information.

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.

Resources for Families

Summer Programs and Supports for Families

Our ISCS Community and Partnership Developer Team has developed an online resource for students and families that features the programming that is being offered over the summer months by our community partner organizations. Also, there are five Community and Partnership Developers that work over the summer months that can be reached to offer support and referrals for community programs/services. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

Positive Parenting

The YRDSB Psychology Department warmly invites you to participate in a series of Positive Parenting webinars. The webinar series is for parents and caregivers who:

- care for a child in JK-grade 3 or grade 4-8
- want to expand their toolbox of effective communication and positive parenting practices

Please see the [flyer](#) for further information.

Taibu Group Counseling and Parent/Caregiver Groups

Taibu is offering psychoeducational groups for parents/caregivers of Black students. For summer services, families are able to self-refer to Taibu. Please view the [linked document](#) for additional information.

York Hills – Here to Help Line

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

Summer Webinars in Collaboration with York Hills

Please review the flyers for additional information, including registration details ([Summer Webinars 1](#), [Summer Webinars 2](#)).

YRDSB Student Mental Health & Addictions Newsletter

Please access the [newsletter](#) here.

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.

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.

Learning Disability Association Parent Conference

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

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.

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.
- [Jewish Family and Child Services](#) is a multi-service agency that strengthens and supports individuals, children, families and communities within the context of Jewish values. Jewish Family and Child Services offers affordable, professional counselling that is confidential and convenient.
- [JVS Toronto](#) offers individual counselling for children, adolescents and adults addressing symptoms related to mental health such as anxiety, depression or anger. They also offer counselling to parents as they strive to provide the best for their children while dealing with their own stressors.

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.

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

School Information

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

Leadership in Social Justice Achievement Award

This year, 12 awards will be presented to graduating Grade 12 students in York Region who have contributed to social justice, equity and human rights in their schools and communities. Award recipients will be recognized at the York Regional Police International Human Rights Day Celebration on Thursday, December 9, 2021. Please see the [flyer](#) for further information.

BFCN Scholarship Applications 2021/2022

Scholarship application due date: July 31, 2021. Please see the [flyer](#) for further information.

BFCN Scholarship Program

BFCN believes that access to education of all forms is important for the continued success and development of youth in our community. Our Scholarship Program is designed to address a few of the gaps and barriers in order to increase access to post-secondary education and support Black students and their families. Please visit the [website](#) for further information.

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 the [application](#) package for further information.

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.

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 Nalayeh 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.

Community Information

Legislative Assembly of Ontario Model Parliament (Virtual)

The Legislative Assembly of Ontario is happy to announce the launch of a NEW Virtual Model Parliament Program. This program will culminate in a 2-day online debate on December 10th and 11th, 2021. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

Nubian Book Club

Each year we have explored aspects of Blackness through reading and discussion. This summer we wish to explore how abolitionist teaching could aid in the quest for Black students to have educational freedom. Our conversations will work to support youth to identify and triumph over barriers while holding systems accountable for change. Please see the [flyer](#) for additional information.

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 Region District School Board Information

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.

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.

Indigenous Languages and International Languages

Indigenous Languages and International Languages is pleased to let you know that registration is now open for 2021-2022 Elementary and Secondary Indigenous Languages and International Languages program. Principals, please share this newsletter insert with your families to let them know about the programs that are being offered for 2021-2022 school year. Due to space limitations, registration will take place on a first come first served basis. For more Information please do not hesitate to email us if you have any questions at international.languages@yrdsb.ca

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 and Family Surveys - Now Available

The 2020-21 YRDSB Student and Family Surveys are now available online between May 26 and June 29.

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.

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.

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

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