

Summer Bulletin - June 26, 2020

Message from Admin

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 2020 – 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 the postponement of your long-awaited graduation ceremony. We do hope to be able to congratulate each and every one of you, in person, in the fall. Regardless of our current circumstance, we do celebrate you, and we look forward to a Commencement Ceremony with you in the near future. We are excited to see you getting ready to start the next part of your life's adventure, where you will do great things and help change your world for the better.



*To see messages of congratulations to our Graduates from AMHS staff, please click here: <u>https://bit.ly/amhsgradvide02020</u>



To our returning and incoming students, we look forward to seeing you soon. Regardless of how school looks in the fall, you will be an AMHS student, and we will welcome all our Mustangs in September with great anticipation of all the good things you will make happen during your time here. 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. We wish you a safe, healthy and happy summer ahead, full of well-deserved rest and good times with those closest to you. *To see our "Mustang Strong" messages of gratitude to our

*To see our "Mustang Strong" messages of gratitude to our returning students, please click here: https://bit.ly/mustangstrong

An Update for YRDSB Summer School Registrants

York Region District School Board will once again be offering acceleration and credit recovery /reinforcement courses during the summer.

- Acceleration courses: Monday, July 6 until Wednesday, July 29.
- Session 1 for credit recovery/reinforcement courses: Monday, July 6 until Thursday, July 16.
- Session 2 for credit recovery/reinforcement courses: Friday, July 17 until Thursday, July 29.

Each day starts at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 3:33 p.m. School buildings remain closed and the program will be delivered virtually from home. In some cases, course registrations have been moved to another summer school location to accommodate our learners. Students will be contacted if the course they registered in is cancelled. As an alternative, students can check the <u>course offerings</u> the day before the first class.

Before the start of the program, students will receive an introductory email from the site administrators sharing important information about summer school remote learning. The classroom teacher will also email with instructions on how to join the class on the first day. YRDSB students will login with their gapps accounts and Non-YRDSB students will be provided with different instructions that will be sent to the email address provided on their registration form.

Students are responsible for attending regularly scheduled classes and submitting work on a daily basis. There are two 15 minute breaks and a 40 minute lunch. Attendance will be taken.

Maria Maiato

Secondary Summer School Remote Learning Coordinator

Mental Health Support and Tips For Parents Related to Anti-Black Racism

This item supports <u>previous messages</u>, sent out to our parent community by YRDSB. Our Board is taking significant steps to address anti-Black racism and support our students and staff. We have heard from our community partners that families are looking for support and referrals, particularly those that will continue to be available throughout the summer. As such, we have posted information on our website with <u>mental</u> <u>health support</u> and age appropriate <u>resources for families to discuss anti-Black racism</u>. We know there continues to be much work to be done to address anti-Black racism, and we will continue to update the Board's website with more information on resources and actions, including live virtual sessions for Black children and families and partnership opportunities and services offered by Black community organizations.

Community Events and Upcoming Opportunities

YRDSB Summer Programming and Supports for Families

With the cancellation of many in-person programs and camps this summer, we are happy to provide you with a list of on-line opportunities for your children and youth. These are being provided by several of our YRDSB community partner organizations. Please right click on the link below to find a list of summer programs organized by category and age group.

http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/equity/Pages/Summer-Programming.aspx

For information that you might require throughout the summer months, about community resources, financial benefits, food programs and mental health supports, please go to the Novel Coronavirus Update link on the YRDSB website to access additional and up to date information. Please check these links regularly as we will be making weekly updates to available programs and resources. For more information, you can also reach our department by emailing iscs@yrdsb.ca

Citizenship and Adult ESL Classes

For updated information regarding Citizenship Classes during the school closure period, please go to: <u>http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Specialized-Programs-</u> Citizenship.aspx?from=DigestNotification&e=brOKtaMmOU-L4d8mM1Xmeg&at=9

Secondary Report Cards – June 2020

The Ministry of Education has provided direction that all students will receive a report card in June. York Region District School Board will be providing electronic report cards for our students. Our goal is to have all electronic copies of report cards distributed to families by July 3. Families will be notified when their child's electronic report card is ready and instructions for access to the report will be provided in that communication.

During the school closure period, The Ministry of Education indicated that students' marks should not be negatively affected by performance during online learning from home. Therefore, end of year marks can only remain the same or increase based on work completed from April 6 and onward. Teachers have been focused on student learning by providing tasks, projects and culminating activities for assessment and evaluation, and have been recording and communicating the results of all marked work to students. Comments and the evaluation of Learning Skills will reflect work done by students prior to the school closure.

In the case where the teacher does not have sufficient evidence to determine a grade, students may receive a code "I" on the report card. A code "I" is used when, due to extenuating circumstances, there is not enough information to assess or assign a final mark. It is in no way a penalty to the student, nor is it a statement about the student's competence or capacity to learn; it is merely an indication that at this specific point in time, learning could not be validly evaluated for report card purposes.

In the case of courses which started **after** April 6th (e.g., Civics, Careers, new Quadmester/half-credit courses), students who did not engage and/or provide sufficient evidence of learning will be ineligible to earn the credit, and will receive an "l" on the final report.

Where a student receives an "I" on the final report card, a credit will not be granted. The course with the "I" will not appear on the student's official Ontario Student Transcript. School staff, in consultation with the parents and the student, will determine program options, including credit recovery and retaking the credit to meet the expectations and earn credit. **Note:** please disregard the Median column on this report card, as the use of the "I" may result in some inaccuracies in calculations.

Accessing Your Child's June Report Card

Please be advised that a copy of your child's Provincial Report Card for Semester Two will be electronically available **as of July 3, 2020**, for viewing through your child's YRDSB Google account. If you or your child do not know the password to login to their Google account, please contact the school office, or complete the request form for Report Card assistance using this link: <u>https://forms.gle/CaTkehZVKCVxKrSf7</u>

We remain committed to supporting our students and families as we continue to navigate the effects of COVID-19 on education. If your school can support your family in any way, we encourage you to connect directly with teachers, a guidance counsellor, vice-principal or principal.

BFCN Scholarship Opportunities

Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association (Macca) Scholarship–due date of Friday, June 26, 2020 <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vK8WdznqhgRiU-dcX2Inh_4oqXrCfVTRbf46_IFVkO8/edit</u>

United Achievers' Club 2020 Scholarship Application – due date of Monday, June 29, 2020 <u>https://www.unitedachieversclub.com/</u>

Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) Annual Scholarship Awards Program – due date of Wednesday, July 15, 2020 <u>https://jcaontario.org/scholarship/</u>

Donald Willard Moore Scholarship – George Brown College https://www.georgebrown.ca/apply/financial-aid/awards-and-scholarships/types-of-awards/college-wide

Dear parents / guardians,

It has been a great pleasure and a privilege to have met and worked with so many students and families over this past year. All our office staff and our counsellors wish our students a happy and a safe summer break! To our graduating class and families, we extend wishes for the best of luck in their future endeavors. We ask that you stay connected. To our returning students and families, we look forward to welcoming you back in September 2020! Below is some information that continues to be current as we move into the summer weeks. Have a great summer!

The Guidance Department

GAPPS Accounts of Graduates

This is a reminder that for students who are graduating this year, graduates' GAPPS/Google school accounts will be deactivated at the end of July. To save your information, please see the links below that outline how you can transfer all of your GAPPS files to a personal account. Resources: - Download files: <u>https://takeout.google.com</u> - Transfer your Gmail and Drive with Google Takeout For Schools: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBXet3by4SU</u>

Secondary School Credit Programs – International Languages

The Credit International and Indigenous Languages program, offering 15 different languages, is available to students from Grades 9 to 12. Registration is now open for the <u>upcoming 2020-2021 school course</u> <u>offerings</u>, and closes on September 9, 2020. For more Information, or if you have any questions, please email <u>international.languages@yrdsb.ca</u>

Summer School Information

Over the last two weeks we have received an abundance of emails regarding summer school confirmation. Please be assured that as long as you have emailed our Guidance Department with your child's summer school confirmation, their summer school registration is confirmed. Unless their course is cancelled or moved to a different virtual school location, they may not hear anything from a summer school representative until July 2nd (for E-learning Summer School) or July 6th (for Online Secondary Summer School).

Dual Credit Courses

Registration for Semester One, 2020-2021 Dual Credits is now open! This year, due to the current situation, our school board has been able to confirm that dual credits will be delivered on-line with a possible hybrid model (some in school/college components) to be offered later in the school year.

The target audience for a Dual Credit course is comprised of Senior YRDSB students who would like to continue their post-secondary studies at a college or in an apprenticeship. If you are interested in a Dual Credit course, connect with our Guidance Department. Course offerings, scheduling details and more information can be found in this flyer: <u>bit.ly/DCflyer2020</u>

Visit www.bit.ly/YRDSBdualcreditapp to apply for your Dual Credit course.

YouthSpeak Workshops

Supportive resources and opportunities for workshops for youth and families can be found here: <u>https://yrdsb.sharepoint.com/sites/COVID-</u> 19/Confidential%20Communications/YouthSpeak%20Workshops.pdf

School Council

Minutes

School Council minutes can be accessed through the AMHS school website by clicking on the link below: <u>School Council Minutes</u>

School Contact Information

School Website Information http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs/Pages/default.aspx

Superintendent- Michael Cohen Phone: (905) 884-4477 cec.central@yrdsb.ca Trustee-Corrie McBain (416) 219-7426 corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca

Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Krista Pummell Vice-Principals – Yula Nouragas (A-L), George Ellinas (M-Z) Telephone: 905–884–0554

Special Education Twitter: @AlexMackSpecEd Arts Mackenzie http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie

Arts & Culture: Instagram: <u>#amhsartscouncil</u> Visual Arts Department Twitter: <u>@amhsvisa</u> Instagram: <u>#amhs.studio</u>

Music Department www.amhsmusic.ca Moderns Department Twitter: @AlexModerns

MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us: Twitter: <u>@Mustangsmove</u> Instagram: <u>macpheathletics</u>

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter Follow us on twitter @AlexMackHS

All Parent Bulletins are posted to the school website (*see web address, linked above).

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