



March 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to this week's Parent Bulletin, full of useful information and upcoming events.

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### Upcoming Events

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Monday, March 16 – Friday March 20, 2020	March Break
Saturday, March 21 – Sunday, April 5, 2020	School Closure
Tuesday, April 7, 2020 Wednesday, April 15, 2020	Waterloo Math Contests (*see item below)
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	Guidance Parent Series 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in AMHS Cafeteria
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	School Council Meeting 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 122

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### Parents' Night

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More information to follow, regarding Parents' Night for Semester Two (\*originally scheduled for April 2, 2020).

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### Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

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More information to follow, regarding the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (\*originally scheduled for March 31, 2020).

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### COVID-19 Updates

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School Closure Bulletin from YRDSB:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Pages/BoardNews/Coronavirus.aspx>

COVID-19 Update Regarding Travel, as of March 9, 2020:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Documents/Information%20for%20School%20Regarding%20Returning%20Travelers.pdf>

Director's Message – Coronavirus Update, as of March 4, 2020:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Pages/BoardNews/Coronavirus.aspx>

York Region Public Health Updates: [www.york.ca/covid19](http://www.york.ca/covid19)

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### Guidance Services

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Students received their Course Verification forms this past Monday, March 9, in their homeroom classes. These sheets list all the course options your child has selected for next school year.

Some important information:

1. We ask students to review their course selection carefully.
  - a. Current Grade 9 and 10 students must choose eight courses for next year.
  - b. Current Grade 11 and 12 students must have completed 24 credits before they are eligible for a spare on their timetable.
  - c. Grade 12 students must have a minimum of three courses per semester.

2. It is very important that students have chosen the correct courses for their post-secondary destination.

Use the following websites to help your child in their research:

- a. [www.Electronicinfo.ca](http://www.Electronicinfo.ca) – University Programs
- b. [www.Ontariocolleges.ca](http://www.Ontariocolleges.ca) – College Programs
- c. [www.Apprenticesearch.com](http://www.Apprenticesearch.com) – Apprenticeships

3. If all of the selections are correct, then students do not need to do anything. We ask them to keep this paper for their records.

4. If students wish to make a change, they should cross out the wrong code, and print the correct course code and course name beside the course they do not want. Course descriptions are listed on our website:

<https://app.myblueprint.ca/public/courses/yrdsb/mackenzie1>

5. **Parents/guardians should sign the form if there are changes**, and return it to the Guidance Office no later than Monday, April 6, 2020.

The **Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program** recruitment is now in full swing now that course selections for next school year is now coming to a close. With that in mind, we encourage any Grade 10 or 11 students to consider applying to the SHSM Program, by going to the online application here:

[bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp](http://bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp)

Below is a list of SHSM events that have taken place recently:

- **Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) Training (Transportation/Business SHSM):**
  - o Wednesday, March 4, 2020
  - o An auto service dealership came to our school with service problems and our students in the Business and Transportation took a novel approach to tackling a service problem and providing a practical solution for their business to implement right away!
- **Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) Training (Health & Wellness and Arts & Culture SHSM):**
  - o Thursday, March 5, 2020
  - o A former educator turned a love for art into a business to help students, adults overcome stress and anxiety. Our SHSM students tackled this entrepreneur's challenge of how to reach students who are in high schools or universities who are suffering from these ailments, and offered solutions so that she reach-out and address their needs in our current environment, where social media plays a huge role in young people's lives.
- **Movie and Film Production (Arts & Culture SHSM)**
  - o March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - o Students had the unique and exciting opportunity to hear from a movie producer who provided them with a unique insight into all facets of the movie and film production industry. Students received a certification in a "Specialized Training in a Technique" used in the film industry based on their work in the interactive segment of this workshop.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Guidance Parent Series: *US/UK Information Evening*

Tuesday, April 21 @ 6:30 p.m. in the AMHS Cafeteria

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education

Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

[Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca) Tel: 905-884-0554 Ext. 422

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## **YRDSB Career Expo**

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Attention ALL female Grade 9 -12 Students - are you still trying to figure out which career path is best for you?

There is a great opportunity for you and your parents to take part in an exciting Career Expo called "Dream York" on Wednesday, May 6 at Le Parc Conference Centre, 8432 Leslie Street, Thornhill. This exciting evening event is a free career expo that will highlight opportunities in a number of careers to better assist young women in making career choices. We hope to see you there with your parents / guardians.

This event will highlight careers in the skilled trades, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), emergency response, entrepreneurship, and in advancing women.

For more information, interested students and their parents can contact the AMHS Guidance Office, or go to [DREAMYORK.EVENTBRITE.CA](http://DREAMYORK.EVENTBRITE.CA) to register. Spots are limited.

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## Upcoming - Waterloo Math Contests

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The University of Waterloo Math Contests - Euclid (for Grade 11 and 12) and Fryer, Galois and Hypatia (for Grade 9, 10 and 11) are scheduled to take place on April 7 and April 15, 2020, respectively.

Registration for the contests is now available on School Cash Online. The registration deadline is Thursday March 12, 2020. For more information, please contact Mr. Wong at [benny.wong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:benny.wong@yrdsb.ca).

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## Final Examinations – Semester Two

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Please be aware of these important dates, indicated below. Parents and students are reminded to not schedule appointments, trips, interviews, etc. that would conflict with scheduled examination dates for Semester Two. Students are required to complete their examinations on the scheduled dates.

Tuesday June 16	Wednesday June 17	Thursday June 18	Friday June 19	Monday June 22	Tuesday June 23	Wednesday June 24	Thurs/Friday June 25 & 26
Grade 12 Period 4 courses only	Period 1 Courses (all grades)	Period 2 Courses (all grades)	Period 3 Courses (all grades)	Period 4 Courses (Gr. 9, 10, 11 only)	Performance -based Exams	Exam Review Day & Graduation Evening	P.A. Days

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## From The Literacy Desk

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Message from the Literacy Desk: With the Spring Break here, I hope students and families have an opportunity to rest. I would like to suggest that students use some time to review their OSSLT Student Workbook together with a parent or guardian. The school website, [rebrand.ly/OSSLT](http://rebrand.ly/OSSLT), includes additional practice work. Please note that students must first sign in to their GAPPS account prior to accessing the site.

Literacy Tip: Talk about everyday topics, encouraging your child to be the 'expert' and use the technical terminology they are learning in school. For example, if learning about the weather in class, your child could tell you about the next day's forecast using words such as precipitation, humidity and isobars.

Please watch this space for updates regarding this year's OSSLT (\*the original test date was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 31, 2020). In the meantime, you are welcome to email questions or inquiries to our Lead Literacy Teacher, Ms. Romeo, at [susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca).

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## School Council News

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### Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 in Room 122  
Guidance Parent Series Presentation from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
School Council Meeting (to follow) from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### Minutes

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

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## Parking and Ticketing

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Ticketing at AMHS began on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. All students and visitors are 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 begin their visit there.

**Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis, and availability cannot be guaranteed.**

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## Dropping-Off and Picking-Up Students

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If you are in the habit of dropping-off or picking-up your child at school, you have probably noticed the high volume of traffic that builds up in the parking lot / driveway loop at the front of the school, facing Major Mackenzie Drive.

In an effort to alleviate the traffic congestion and keep traffic flowing smoothly, we ask that drivers **only turn right** when exiting from the school driveway onto Major Mackenzie Drive, both in the mornings and the afternoons. Thank you.

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## School Notifications

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### School Cash Online

Since September 2015, our school has been accepting online payments through School Cash Online. Payments for school-related expenses such as the Student Activity Fee, field trips, fundraisers, sports teams, yearbook, Graduation, Prom, etc. can be made online with a credit or debit card. Please use the following link to register for this convenient payment method: <https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

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## More Events and Information

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### School Contact/Website Information

**Superintendent-** Michael Cohen

Phone: (905) 884-4477

[cec.central@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cec.central@yrdsb.ca)

**Trustee-**Corrie McBain

(416) 219-7426

[corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca](mailto:corrie.mcbain@yrdsb.ca)

### Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Krista Pummell

Vice-Principal – Yula Nouragas (A-L)

Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)

Telephone: 905-884-0554

Fax: 905-884-4694

### Special Education

Twitter: [@AlexMackSpecEd](https://twitter.com/AlexMackSpecEd)

### Arts Mackenzie

<http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie>

### Arts & Culture:

Instagram: [#amhsartscouncil](https://www.instagram.com/amhsartscouncil)

### Visual Arts Department

Twitter: [@amhsvisa](https://twitter.com/amhsvisa)

Instagram: [#amhs.studio](https://www.instagram.com/amhs.studio)

### Music Department

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

### MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

Twitter: [@Mustangsmove](https://twitter.com/Mustangsmove)

Instagram: [macpheathletics](#)

### **Moderns Department**

French resources for parents and students

Twitter: [@AlexModerns](#)

### **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.*