



March 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

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

Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 12, 2020	Interim Report Card Distribution
Monday, March 16 – Friday March 20, 2020	March Break
Tuesday, March 31, 2020	Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test Day (OSSLT Day)
Thursday, April 2, 2020	Parent Teacher Interview Evening
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

Parents' Night

Parents' Night for Semester Two is on April 2, 2020, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Alexander Mackenzie High School will be using an online process through EDSBY to facilitate our Parents' Night scheduling of appointments with teachers. EDSBY is a cloud-based platform that will allow families to reserve times to meet with their child(ren)'s teachers. YRDSB, in partnership with EDSBY, has created a secure platform that protects the privacy of information for families.

Families will need an active EDSBY account to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for Parents' Night. You would have received an email from EDSBY on behalf of the York Region District School Board this past week, with instructions on how to confirm an existing (or create a new) EDSBY account. As of **Thursday, March 12** (the distribution day for Interim Reports), the scheduler will open in EDSBY and allow parents/guardians to begin booking appointments.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our Main Office. Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact the subject teacher directly.

Important Timelines

March 12 Interim Reports to be sent home with students.

Parents' Night scheduling opens at 9:00 a.m. in EDSBY. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your EDSBY inbox with a notification to your email.

April 2 Interview Scheduler (in EDSBY) closes at 3:00 p.m.
Parents' Night, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Guidance Services

Spring is in the air and we are one week away from March Break. This would be a great opportunity for students to look into volunteering or researching about their future plans such as programs, pathways or opportunities for career exploration. If you are looking for some amazing opportunities for volunteer and career exploration during the March Break, then visit the following website:

<http://www.yorkinfo.ca/volunteer/>

Please take some time this weekend to look this over with your child and kick start a conversation about opportunities for discovery. Remember – a minimum of 40 hours of community service with a non-profit organization is a requirement of graduation. Check with Guidance first to be sure that an opportunity qualifies.

March Break is also the perfect time for students to focus on applying to scholarships, as March is the month where the greatest amount of scholarships become available to graduating students. With this in mind, *ScholarTree.ca* published the [6 most common mistakes we see in scholarship applications blog](#). Simple errors on scholarship applications cause over 25% of such applications to be disqualified from consideration.

The **Specialist High Skills Major Program** has seen continued growth in Grade 11 students applying to the Program in the Health & Wellness, Business and Arts & Culture. These programs allow students to further their focus on learning in areas that are of interest to them. We have kicked-off another semester of exciting learning opportunities and experiences across all of our SHSM Sectors.

Below please see the SHSM events that have taken place recently:

Auto Show Reach-Ahead (Transportation and Business SHSM):

- Wednesday, February 19, 2020.
- In Toronto, the Canadian International AutoShow provided our students an opportunity to see over 1,000 vehicles from around the world and the latest technology fueling the industry. Students were encouraged to explore careers within the industry and beyond.

SHSM 905 Raptors Career Symposium and Basketball (ALL SHSM Sectors)

- Paramount Fine Foods Centre - February 25, 2020
- Students will have a chance to hear from a variety of professionals working within the sports industry, such as: digital illustrator, social media manager, athletic director, broadcaster and producer, and budget and scouting professional. Students had also opportunity to enjoy a basketball game in the evening.

We are still recruiting Grade 10 or 11 students who are interested in joining the SHSM Program next year. Interested students should apply now at: bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp

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 Tel: 905-884-0554 Ext. 422

Upcoming - Waterloo Math Contests

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.

Final Examinations – Semester Two

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

From The Literacy Desk

Message from the Literacy Desk: Teachers in Grade 10 classes continue to follow the school's OSSLT schedule. Lessons are delivered during scheduled times in order to prepare students to write the test. A copy of the schedule is available on our school's website: rebrand.ly/OSSLT. Please note that you must use your child's GAPPS account in order to access the site.

All Grade 11 and 12 students writing the test were supported during the lunch periods this past week.

Please continue to support your child at home by reviewing their OSSLT Student Workbook. If possible, please have them finish incomplete work for my review. Students can see me during the lunch periods in Room 147.

The test date is Tuesday, March 31, 2020. The school will continue to share details as the day approaches. In the meantime, you are welcome to email me questions or inquiries at susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca.

Graduation 2020 - Update

June is fast approaching, and graduation is just around the corner! All of our potential graduates should have received a personalized letter in their Period 1 class. This letter outlines details of the graduation ceremony along with graduation requirement details. If your student is graduating but did not receive this letter, please have them speak with our Guidance Department or to Mrs. Majnarich in the Main Office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Eco Team Message

Tip from the Eco Team: Be sure to repurpose glass jars by using as leftover containers and bulk storage.

School Council News

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](#)

Parking and Ticketing

Ticketing at AMHS began on Tuesday, September 3rd. 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.

Dropping-Off and Picking-Up Students

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.

School Notifications



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/>

General Information

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

More Events and Information

School Contact/Website Information

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-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

MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

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

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

Moderns Department

French resources for parents and students

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

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter

Follow us on twitter [@AlexMackHS](https://twitter.com/AlexMackHS)

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