



November 1, 2019

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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Tuesday, November 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Pathway Evening – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Take Our Kids to Work Day (*All Grade 9 Students)
Wednesday, November 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Post-Secondary Trips (all day, for Grade 12 students only)
Thursday, November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Mid-Term Report Card Distribution
Monday, November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Report Card - Response Forms Due
Monday, November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Guidance Series – 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. (Hosted in AMHS Cafeteria – see below)
November 18 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Grad Photos

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### Guidance Services

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A very important day is coming up for all our Grade 9 students across the country. On November 6, 2019, students all across Ontario will have the opportunity to go to work with their parents, grandparents, an older sibling, a neighbor, a relative or a trusted friend. It is an annual program that was launched in 1994. *Take Our Kids to Work* is the most recognized career readiness program in Canada with more than 200,000 students visiting workplaces every year. The event supports career exploration and career readiness among Canadian public school students. Experiencing a “day in the life” of a professional within a workplace allows students to explore the world of work and help them make informed educational decisions.

If you require assistance in finding a place for your child or if your workplace is hosting an event where you can take an extra child, please let us know. Many of our International students, or students new to the country, may be in need of a placement and we would appreciate your support.

Did you know that the Guidance Department has a “**Suggestion/Comment**” box to capture student voice anonymously and at their convenience? At AMHS, we believe that the emphasis on Student Voice supports a culture of positive relationship within the entire school community.

### Upcoming Events

#### **Post-Secondary Trips for Grade 12/Graduating Students**

November 6, all day – sign up is through School Cash Online

**Applying to Universities and Colleges:** Lunch N Learn for Grade 12 Students - November 18, 2019

**Financing your Child's Post-Secondary Education** - November 18, from 6:30 - 7:15 p.m.

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education  
Alexander Mackenzie H.S.  
[Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca)  
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## Health and Safety Tips to Support Youth and Parents

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### Drug Prevention Tips for Parents

Many parents and school administrators want to actively prevent teenage drug and alcohol use and abuse. Parents, you are the first line of defense when it comes to prevention. According to experts, parents should be aware of their child's friends, ensure that their child is involved in age-appropriate activities, frequently revisit home-based conversations on drugs and alcohol use, and remain in contact with the school, especially if you notice a change in your child's demeanor. Parents, make it a habit of getting and staying informed. The following are a series of websites to help you and your child as you continue your discussion on drug prevention: [Drug Free Canada.org](http://DrugFreeCanada.org), [Government of Canada – Health, CAMH](http://GovernmentofCanada-Health.CAMH).

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## Special Education - Opportunity

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### Post-Secondary Accessibility Services - Field Trip

On Friday, November 29, Grade 12 graduating students with IEPs will be visiting Sheridan College and University of Toronto (UTM) – Mississauga Campus. They will attend seminars organized by the Financial Aid and Accessibility Services offices. They will be provided with crucial information regarding how to access services at **ANY** post-secondary institutions such as various accommodations, OSAP, scholarships and other services. They will also learn how to apply for funding to obtain a new psychological assessment required for post-secondary. Details will follow as the date approaches.

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## Final Examinations – January 2020

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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.

Thursday, January 23  
Friday, January 24  
Monday, January 27  
Tuesday, January 28  
Wednesday, January 29

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## Student Insurance

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Although the Board takes every precaution to provide a safe learning environment, student accidents can and do happen. Often when they do, not all medical, dental or other related expenses may be covered by OHIP or group insurance plans.

While the Board does not provide student accident insurance, it has arranged voluntary insurance plans through Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada's insuremykids® program. These plans are available to families of all students attending the York Region District School Board. It is recommended that families consider purchasing a student accident insurance plan.

Inquiries from parents/guardians may be directed to [www.insuremykids.com](http://www.insuremykids.com).

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## School Council News

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### 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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## Community Event for Parents – Labour Market Information

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This event is hosted by our Board concerning Labour Market Information in York Region, on the evening of Thursday, November 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (approximately). As dinner is included, registration is required for this event.

There is no cost for this event where guests are invited to hear from a keynote speaker, and to then attend a variety of workshops featuring a panel of professionals from various industries, colleges, universities and other fields.

Please see the link below for more details:

<https://bwww.yrdsb.ca/services/cis/Documents/Communications/YorkRegionLabourMarketInformaitonNightFlyer.pdf>

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## School Notifications

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### Canadian Math Contest

The Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) 2019 will take place on Thursday, November 7, 2019 in the AMHS Cafeteria from 8:00am – 11:00am. We wish good luck to all students who have elected to participate in the contest.



### 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 – Otilia Olteanu

Vice-Principal – Yula Nouragas (A-L)  
Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)  
Telephone: 905-884-0554  
Fax: 905-884-4694

### **Special Education**

Twitter: [@AlexMackSpecEd](#)

### **Arts Mackenzie**

<http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie>

### **Arts & Culture:**

Instagram: [#amhsartscouncil](#)

### **Visual Arts Department**

Twitter: [@amhsvisa](#)

Instagram: [#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](#)

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.*