



November 15, 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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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)
Monday, November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	School Council Meeting (7:30 – 8:30 p.m.)
November 18 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Grad Photos
Friday, November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2019	IB Assessment Preparation
Saturday, November 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2019	IB Assessment Day
Thursday, November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Semi-Formal Dance (6:30 – 10:30 p.m.)

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### Report Card - Response Form Return

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On Thursday, November 14, 2019, Homeroom Teachers assisted students in beginning the completion of the Response Form portion of the Mid-term Report Card.

Response Forms provide students with an opportunity to reflect on their current academic progress, and to determine goals for achievement that they would like to work towards in the second half of the semester. Parents/guardians are invited to guide their child through the completion of the Response Form, and to then sign in the space indicated.

**Students are to return their completed Response Form (with parent/guardian signature) to their Homeroom (i.e. Period 1) Teacher no later than Monday, November 18, 2019.**

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### Upcoming Math Contest

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The Waterloo Senior and Intermediate Mathematics Contests will take place on **Wednesday, November 20, 2019 in the AMHS Cafeteria from 8:30a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** If you or your child have any questions regarding this opportunity, please contact Mr. Wong, Subject Head of Math.

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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.

The cost for the trip is \$5.00, payable through SchoolCashOnline. Note that registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis, and space is limited.

[Skilled Trades Ontario](#) have updated their website.

### **Upcoming Youth Opportunities**

[NPower Canada's Junior IT Analyst Program](#) returns January 20, 2020. Applications are now open. If you have young adults ages 18-29 looking for an opportunity to start a successful career in tech, have them contact NPower today.

### **SCHOOL COMMUNITY CANNABIS WORKSHOP**



**Cannabis 101** - York Region Public Health's Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction program offers Cannabis 101 workshops for the entire school community.

These 45-60 minute workshops are tailored for parents, teachers and/or administrators. Youth workshops are also available.

TOPICS INCLUDE: What's happening in York Region, Cannabis and Youth, Cannabis: Health Effects and Harms, Cannabis: How to Talk to Youth, Community Supports and Resources.

For more information on the Cannabis101 workshops or how the Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction program can support your school community on related topics such as alcohol, opioids and other drugs, please contact us at:

AccessYork: 1-877-464-9675 ext. 76683 (TTY 1-866-512-6228) Email: [substance@york.ca](mailto:substance@york.ca)  
(Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

### **Vaping Health Risks**

Acknowledging the growing issue of vaping in our schools and the health risks associated with e-cigarettes and vaping, Caring and Safe Schools has developed the [Substance Misuse Webinar: Vaping](#) in collaboration with York Region Public Health. This 12 minute webinar provides valuable information for staff and families about:

- e-cigarettes, also known as vapes
- e-juice and what it is made of
- the safety concerns associated with vaping
- how to discuss this substance with children.

You can watch the Vaping Webinar on our on our YRDSB YouTube Channel. We encourage you to share it with your staff and families. To access the webinar and to support this learning, we have developed a set of Vaping Rollout Materials, including email/newsletter inserts for families and staff, facilitation guides for staff meetings or school council meetings, and additional handouts on vaping and e-cigarettes. Please keep in mind that this webinar is not intended for use with students.

For more details on what you can do to prevent student substance misuse, please visit the YRDSB's [Caring and Safe Schools website](#) and [Vaping and E-Cigarettes](#) subpage for details and resources for staff to continue the conversation with our students and families. If you have any questions or require further resources, please contact [John Shep](#), Caring and Safe Consultant.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **“Financing your Child’s Post-Secondary Education”**

November 18, 6:30-7:15 p.m. - Cafeteria

#### **Applying to Post-Secondary Institutions**

Lunch-n-Learn for all Grade 12 students – November 19

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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## From The Literacy Desk

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Grade 10 students completed Lesson 1 on Monday, November 11 in preparation for this year's OSSLT. Those that missed the lesson were required to attend a make-up lesson on Thursday, November 14. Please ask your child about their learning. You may wish to review the lesson with them using their OSSLT booklet.

Lesson 2 will take place in all Grade 10 classes during Period 2 on November 25. If possible, please do not book any important appointments that day so that your child does not miss the lesson. If you feel that your child would benefit from extra help, please consider registering him or her in our After School Literacy Program. It will run for two consecutive weeks starting December 2 from 3:10 to 4:40 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Main Office. Completed and signed forms must be handed in to the office by November 22, 2019.

Please visit our website [rebrand.ly/osslt](http://rebrand.ly/osslt) for details and practice tests. Your child will need to access the site using their school login credentials. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Ms. Romeo, AMHS's Literacy Resource Teacher, at [susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca).

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## Upcoming EQAO Math Assessments

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In January 2020, Grade 9 students across Ontario will write the provincial Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics. This assessment is conducted by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), an independent agency of the Government of Ontario. It will be administered to all students enrolled in a Grade 9 Applied or Academic Mathematics course in Semester One, and the results of this assessment will comprise 5% of each student's final mark in his / her Math course.

**At Alexander Mackenzie High School, this assessment will be written by students on Wednesday, January 15 and Thursday, January 16, 2020.** The assessment will consist of two test booklets, and students will be given 60 minutes to complete each booklet over the course of two days, during regularly scheduled Math periods.

A general information letter related to this assessment will be sent to the parents/guardians of students currently in Grade 9 Applied and Academic Math courses, on Monday, November 18.

In September 2020, EQAO will send our school a report on your child's achievement on the assessment, and we will send it home at that time.

For more information about EQAO and to view a sample of its assessments, you are encouraged to visit [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com).

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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.

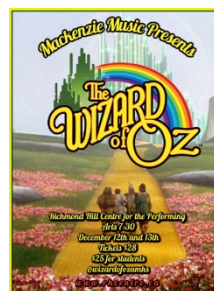
Thursday, January 23  
Friday, January 24  
Monday, January 27  
Tuesday, January 28  
Wednesday, January 29

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## Mackenzie Music: The Wizard of Oz

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The AMHS Community are invited to join Mackenzie Music for "The Wizard of Oz", December 12 and 13 at 7:00 p.m., at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.



Tickets can be purchased through the Richmond Hill Centre website:  
[www.rhcentre.ca](http://www.rhcentre.ca)

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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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The next AMHS School Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on:  
**Monday, November 18, from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., in Room 122.**

### 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.

### 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](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](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.*