



November 22, 2019

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

Upcoming Events

November 25 th – 27 th , 2019	Grad Photos
Wednesday, November 27th, 2019 (*please note date change from previous Bulletin)	Semi-Formal Dance (6:00 - 10:30 p.m.)
Friday, November 29 th , 2019	Arts Mackenzie - Applications Due
Friday, November 29 th , 2019	Post Secondary Accessibility Services – Field Trip
Monday, December 9 th , 2019	Lunch and Learn – for Grade 12 Students (*see below)
Thursday, December 12 th , 2019 Friday, December 13 th , 2019	"The Wizard of Oz" Musical Showtime at 7:30 p.m., at the RHCPA

"City Lights" – AMHS Semi-Formal Dance

City Lights will be held on Wednesday, November 27th at Hazleton Manor (99 Peeler Road, Concord).

Students attending may begin to arrive as early as 6:00 p.m. Doors close at 7:00 p.m. **Please note that no access will be granted to students arriving after 7:00 p.m.** unless prior arrangements were made with Ms. Clarke.

The event ends at 10:30 p.m. Students must have made arrangements in advance to be picked up promptly at 10:30 p.m., by a parent or guardian.

Students attending the event should keep the following expectations in mind:

- students are encouraged to wear semi-formal attire to the event
- students will need to show their student card at Registration in order to access the event
- please refrain from bringing bagged items or backpacks to the event
- purses, bags and coats will be checked upon arrival
- coats will not be allowed into the hall and must be checked at the hall's coat check
- students must wear shoes at all times during the event
- students are to abide by the YRDSB Safe Schools behaviour guidelines during the event
- students will NOT have "in-and-out" opportunities once they arrive and have checked-in
- once a student chooses to leave the event, they will not be granted re-entry

Parents and students may direct any questions about this event to Ms. Clarke at catherine.clarke@yrdsb.ca

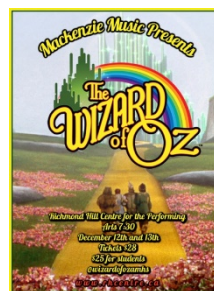
Final Examinations – January 2020

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

Mackenzie Music: The Wizard of Oz

The AMHS Community is invited to join Mackenzie Music for the musical performance of "The Wizard of Oz", December 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m., at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.



Tickets can be purchased through the Richmond Hill Centre website:
www.rhcentre.ca

Special Education - Opportunity

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.

Guidance Services

Here is some food for thought from *People for Education* concerning report cards: What's the first thing you look at? Be honest. It's the grades, isn't it? But there is something just as critical for parents to focus on. Focus on the Learning Skills and Work Habits, which are foundational to academic success - responsibility, organization, independent work, collaboration, initiative, and self-regulation.

Research by neuroscientists and educational psychologists has shown that it is these skills that have the greatest impact on students' ability to succeed, not just in school, but in life. These are also the skills that parents can help build at home. Students whose parents have high expectations and who focus on building strong work habits and a positive attitude are more likely to be successful in school.

The information about your child's learning skills can help you support them in the areas that need improvement. Mid-term report cards, which just came home last week, provide a great opportunity for parents to initiate conversations about school. Review the report card with your child, talk about where they do well and where they may be struggling. Whether your child is struggling or doing very well, connect with your child's teachers via *TeachAssist*, or email.

Gap Year Scholarship (provided by Mobilize Jobs) - \$1,000

Deadline: May 31st, 2020

Winners will be selected in June 2020; payout will occur once the gap year is done and proof of enrolment is supplied. Taking a gap year between high school and college or university has so many benefits. It gives students a chance to mature, to travel, to have new experiences and gain new perspectives. The Mobilize Gap Year Scholarship makes it a little easier to spend time on personal growth – and go back to school with greater energy and motivation.

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.

Upcoming Events

Lunch-n-Learn for Gr. 12 Students - Monday, December 9th, Library Learning Commons

- Supplementary applications (sign up in Guidance)

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education

Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca

Tel: 905-884-0554 Ext. 422

From The Literacy Desk

Our OSSLT Lesson 2 will take place on Monday, November 25, 2019 during all Grade 10 Period 2 classes. It is suggested that you avoid booking important appointments so that you child does not miss the lesson. All Grade 10 students who have missed the lesson - either due to absence, or if they are not in a Grade 10 class during Period 2 - must attend a make-up lesson. All make-up lessons will take place on the Friday following a missed lesson, during the Lunch period, in Room 163.

Your child has a copy of the workbook which includes the schedule. The schedule is also included on the school site rebrand.ly/osslt. Following each lesson, families are encouraged to review the lesson at home with their child.

Our **After School Literacy Program** is offered to all students writing the OSSLT this year. Lessons will take place after school for two consecutive weeks, starting on December 2, 2019. Registration forms can be picked up in the Main Office, and completed and signed permission forms were to be handed in to the Main Office by end of day, November 22, 2019.

You are always welcome to email our Literacy Resource Teacher at susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca. Please also follow us on Instagram @AMHSLiteracy.

Upcoming EQAO Math Assessments

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.

School Council News

Minutes

School Council minutes can be accessed though 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/>

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 – 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

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.