



AMHS Bulletin

November 27, 2020

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

Semester 2 Course Change Request Form

Available: November 30th (8:00 am) - December 4th (4:00 pm)

*please see the Guidance section for additional information

Student Attendance

General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the general AMHS email address at alexander.mackenzie.hs@yrdsb.ca or please call the school directly at 905-884-0554.

Visitors to AMHS

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, visitor(s) are not permitted into the school without a pre-arranged appointment. Please contact the school by telephone and we will be happy to assist you.

Before coming to an appointment, please review and adhere to the instructions on the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment poster from York Region Public Health](#) posted at all exterior doors. Come directly to the main office to sign in and obtain a parking pass prior to your scheduled meeting time, and sign out when leaving.

Any visitor(s) experiencing COVID-19 symptoms must remain home. All visitors must sanitize their hands, wear a face covering at all times, and maintain a two-metre physical distance as they enter, move through and exit the building.

Parents/guardians if you need to meet with a staff member please call ahead to book an appointment.

Revised School Screening Checklist

Each day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the [checklist from York Region Public Health](#). This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's revised COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools and Child Care. Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Self-screening tool

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19 the ministry has asked us to share this [link](#) with our school community.

York Region Public Health Decision Tree Tools

- [Preventing Covid-19 Exposures in the Schools](#)
- [COVID-19 Screening Tool for students and children in school and child care](#)

Message from our Trustee

Dear families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and well. 2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, and the global pandemic has affected individuals and families in different ways.

I want to reassure you that we continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. It continues to be important that we adhere to the health and safety measures in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can learn more about what schools are doing at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

While we have seen cases in some of our schools, we continue to work with public health to respond quickly, identify cohorts that need to self-isolate as a precautionary measure and take all appropriate measures. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their diligence in adhering to the public health recommendations and health and safety measures in place in our schools.

One of our priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to foster well-being and mental health. As a result of the pandemic, many of us are facing changes and new challenges that can take a toll on our mental health. It is more important than ever that we check in on one another and practice self-care. There are [mental health resources for students and families](#) on our Board website that address the unique nature of our current situation. You can also find information about our [Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and the [work we are doing in schools](#) to promote positive mental health and provide support for students.

While there are challenges, we also continue to have so many reasons to feel positive. Our students continue to impress us with their kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, courage and perseverance. Visit us on [YouTube at YRDSBMedia](#) to see just some of these stories.

In the coming weeks and months, many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays, and I wish you all the very best for the season. While we may be celebrating a little differently this year, I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back into our in-person and virtual schools in January.

Sincerely,

Simon Cui
Trustee

School Schedules

November 30 - December 4	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rotation 6 Alternate Face to Face and Online Daily 8:30 – 11:00a.m.	Period 2 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 2 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 2 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 2 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 2 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Students Exit				
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Student Transportation / Lunch				
Synchronous Online – Block 2 12:30 – 1:20 p.m.	Period 1 Class Cohort A & B	Period 1 Class Cohort A & B	Period 1 Class Cohort A & B	Period 1 Class Cohort A & B	Period 1 Class Cohort A & B
Synchronous Online – Block 3 1:20 – 2:10 p.m.	Period 4 Class Cohort A & B	Period 4 Class Cohort A & B	Period 4 Class Cohort A & B	Period 4 Class Cohort A & B	Period 4 Class Cohort A & B
Synchronous Online – Block 4 2:10 – 3:00 p.m.	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B	Period 5 Class Cohort A & B

	Course Rotation for AMHS							
Rotation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Sept 14 Sept 25	Sept 28 Oct 9	Oct 13 Octo 26	Oct 27 Nov 9	Nov 10 Nov 26	Nov 27 Dec 14	Dec 15 Jan 13	Jan 14 Jan 29
In Person Block 1 8:30 -11:00	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 4	Per. 5	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 4	Per. 5
Exit/Travel / Lunch								
Synchronous Block 2 12:30 - 1:20	Per.2	Per. 1	Per. 5	Per. 4	Per. 2	Per. 1	Per. 5	Per. 4
Synchronous Block 3 1:20 - 2:10	Per. 4	Per. 4	Per. 1	Per. 1	Per. 4	Per. 4	Per. 1	Per. 1
Synchronous Block 4 2:10 - 3:00	Per. 5	Per. 5	Per. 2	Per. 2	Per. 5	Per. 5	Per. 2	Per. 2

Guidance

Semester 2 Course Change Request Form

Available: Monday, November 30th (8:00 a.m.) to Friday, December 4th (4:00 p.m.)

The following [link](#) can be used to submit semester 2 course change requests. Students must use their GAPPS account to access the form. All change requests will be considered subject to availability. If a course change is possible, parents/guardians will then be contacted in order to confirm the course change.

The Guidance Department will contact students for course changes in the following priority:

1. Students in Grade 9 missing a compulsory course, or with a blank period on their timetable.
2. Students in Grade 12 with a blank period on their timetable, or missing a necessary prerequisite for their post secondary destination.
3. Students who have completed a course in Summer School that necessitates a course change.
4. Students missing a compulsory course or with an incomplete timetable (e.g. a blank period for any student in Grade 10, 11, or a student with fewer than 24 credits).

A member of the Guidance department will contact you via email only if a change can be made.

Grade 12 Students:

Students are encouraged to keep a copy of the OUAC PIN and password in a safe place for future reference. Should your child not have received an email containing this information, please contact the AMHS Guidance Department at your earliest convenience.

Students are invited to review the slide show information linked in the email concerning how to use the PIN in the OUAC Website and how to set up a student profile, and add University Programs among other things.

Please note: 'While creating your OUAC account, it might ask for a 12-digit student number: add '000' (3 zeros) in front of your 9-digit student number.'

Please feel free to contact your child's counselor for more information regarding the OUAC Application process or any other questions you may have over the next several weeks.

Please see the following updated Guidance Google classrooms:

Grade 12:

Graduating Class June 2021; Password: zjwvzt3

Grade 12 Scholarships for Graduating Students only; Password: hltthp5

Note to Grade 11 Students: If you would like to learn more about Grade 12 in order to prepare for next year, please join the Grade 12 Google classrooms. However, please be mindful that only Grade 12 students may participate in the nomination for any awards and scholarships that are shared by the Guidance department.

Special Education

AMHS Special Education Department is pleased to announce that we have launched a Resource Support Website for our students and their families. On the site you can find the following:

- a Google Form to connect with your SERT
- Academic Resources
- Mental Health & Well-Being Supports
- Information for Parents/Guardians
- Technology Tool Help

Please check it out - <https://bit.ly/amhsspecial>

School Information

Literacy Strategy of the Month:

To support student success, teachers use a suggested “strategy-of-the-month”. Teachers are asked to consider suitable throughout the month to use it. Parents and guardians are asked to engage in dialogue with their child around how strategy was used in class. The strategy for November is the use of **Anticipation Guides**.

Literacy Tip of the Week:

Discuss the news. Talk to your children about local and national news events that are appropriate for their age. A strong vocabulary is important for oral language, reading and writing skills.

Eco Team

Did you notice the collection box from Diabetes Canada in the parking lot off of Trench Street? Please drop off used clothing rather than throwing them out. These items are put to continued use.

Study Hall

Students who require study hall are to sign up through TeachAssist (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb/>). Sign-up for study hall is done on a weekly basis.

The purpose of lunch and study hall is to provide a space for students who do not have consistent access to broadband Wi-Fi at home, and who are in school for their face-to-face morning class. During lunch and study hall, students will not have face-to-face access to their classroom teachers.

To ensure safety, students who attend study hall for their afternoon online courses will be supervised by a staff member. Supervision will focus on participants’ adherence to Public Health requirements, including sitting 2-meters apart with only those students in their morning face-to-face class.

During study hall, students will need to provide their own technology, including earphones (preferably microphone-enabled earphones) to reduce noise during interactive activities with the online class. Students will also be required to remain at school to eat lunch. Unfortunately, no cafeteria or food delivery services are available at this time.

Parking & Ticketing

Students and visitors will be 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 report to the Main Office.) **Parking is on a first-come, first-served basis; availability cannot be guaranteed**

York Region District School Board Information

Inclement Weather Day School Closures

This week the YRDSB communicated to families that when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled schools will be closed to students. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared. We are unable to guarantee appropriate coverage for students on inclement weather days when school transportation is closed and classes cannot be combined. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an inclement weather day school closure.

There are rare occasions when school transportation is cancelled due to extreme cold weather and not road conditions, and schools will remain open for students.

Student learning will continue:

- Students attending secondary school in person will shift to virtual learning for all of their classes for the day.
- Secondary virtual schools will operate as normal.

Communication to families:

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. The YRDSB will do its best to notify families in advance. Our priority continues to be the safety of our students, staff members and families.

Transportation cancellations or school closures will also continue to be communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services website: www.schoolbuscity.com
- Student Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- [Board website](#) and school websites
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

Please contact us if you have any questions.

For more information on inclement weather days, please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.

Introduction to Robotics and Coding Tools

ALL YRDSB parents/guardians are invited to please join the York Region District School Board's Pathways team on December 8, 2020 to learn about a few of the tools being used to teach your children about computational thinking and robotics. Hear from board educators about how you can continue to support your child's learning at home. Please review this [link](#) for additional information.

Parents for Children's Mental Health (PMCH)

PMCH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. A virtual meeting about ADHD will be held on Monday, December 14 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Please review this [link](#) for additional information.

K.A.L.V.I. - Student Leadership Training Series

Are you a high school student who wants to enhance and learn new skills to become a future leader? Review the flyer for information on K.A.L.V.I. - Student Leadership Training Series beginning November 13. For additional information, please check [here](#).

Interpreters and Translators Training Session - December 10, 2020

Inclusive School and Community Services will be hosting a virtual information and training session for potential interpreter and translator candidates on December 10, 2020 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm.

If you or someone you know are interested in this opportunity, please [register](#) by December 3, 2020.

Renewed Computer Technology

The York Region District School Board is once again working with Renewed Computer Technology (RCT). RTC is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that empowers learners, educators and not-for-profit organizations with access to affordable, renewed computers to help meet education and career goals.

Please refer to the attached [Renewed Computer Technology flyer](#) to review the available packages.

Online Program Opportunities

As many of our YRDSB community partner organizations continue to offer on-line opportunities for your children and youth, we are happy to provide you with a comprehensive list of these opportunities, including those that are continuing and also new programs and services.

Please visit [2020-2021 Online Program Opportunities for Children, Youth and Families](#) to find a list of programs organized by category and age group. We encourage you to check the link regularly as the Community and Partnership Developer Team will be making regular updates to available programs and resources.

For more information, please contact iscs@yrdsb.ca

Night School

The Fall Night School program (remote learning) registration is now open. The virtual class registration information and course offerings can be found [here](#).

Adult ESL, LINC & LBS Programs

YRDSB offers Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) programs for those who want to develop effective language skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing for daily life in Canada. We also offer specialized classes in Citizenship and Conversation.

For more information and registration details, please check these links: [English](#), [Farsi](#), [Russian](#), [Tamil](#), [Simplified Chinese](#).

School Council News

Minutes

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

School Contact / Website Information

Superintendent - Lois Agard

Phone: (905) 884-4477

cec.central@yrdsb.ca

Trustee - [Simon Cui](#)

Alexander Mackenzie High School

Principal – Krista Pummell

Vice-Principal – Erika Pridie (A-L)

Vice-Principal – George Ellinas (M-Z)

Telephone: 905-884-0554

Fax: 905-884-4694

Arts Mackenzie

<http://bit.ly/ARTSMackenzie>

Music Department

www.amhsmusic.ca

AMHS Literacy & OSSLT

rebrand.ly/OSSLT

MAC Health, Physical Education & Athletics

For information about our programs, please follow us:

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