



AMHS Bulletin

Alexander Mackenzie High School
300 Major Mackenzie Drive West, Richmond Hill, ON, L4C3S3
School Website: www.alexandermackenzie.hs.yrdsb.ca
School Email: alexander.mackenzie.hs@yrdsb.ca
Telephone 905-884-0554
Principal: Krista Luks
Vice Principal: Themis Drekolias and Helen Ho

Important Upcoming Dates

- Nov 3-9 - Treaty Recognition Week
- Wednesday Nov 6 - Take our Kids to Work Day/Take Our Grade 8's to High School Day
- Thursday Nov 7 - Term 2 of Semester 1 Begins
- Monday Nov 11 - Remembrance Day Assembly
- Thursday Nov 14 - Semi Formal
- Friday Nov 15 - PA DAY
- Monday November 18 - Midterm Mark e-distribution
- Tuesday November 19 - Honour Roll Afterschool Tea
- Nov 20-23 - OSSLT

School Cash Online

- School Yearbook 2024-2025
- Semi Formal

School News

Remembrance Day Assembly

On November 11, 2024, AMHS will be welcoming Vishnudat Persaud, a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, as a special guest at the school's Remembrance Day Assembly which will be taking place on the morning of Monday, November 11th. Vishnudat joined the Canadian Forces in 1988; he was deployed to Bosnia as part of the NATO Stabilization Force. He will share his personal experiences as a member of the Canadian Forces and what Remembrance Day means to him.

Help us Keep AMHS Clean

Please help us in reminding your child to clean up their garbage after lunch and to use the proper bins available at school.

OSSLT

ONTARIO SECONDARY LITERACY TEST WHAT TO EXPECT

Please note, The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test will be online and taking place at Alexander Mackenzie from November 20-22:

November 20(session A test date)

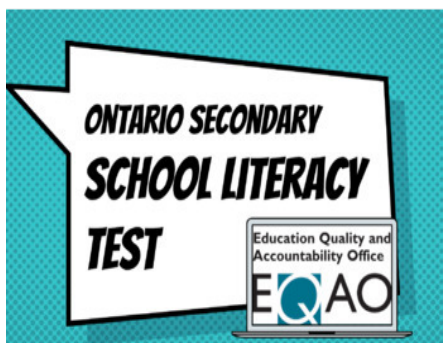
November 21(session B test date)

November 22(m up test date).

Students must write both session A and session B as the OSSLT has 2 parts.

All eligible grade 10s will write as well as any grade 11 and non-graduating grade 12 students who did not participate in or were not successful in the 2023-2024 administration.

If you would like to review additional information and resources, including a **practice test** and **what to expect on the OSSLT**, you may access the following links: [practice test](#), [what to expect](#).



October Highlights from ESL Department

As the ESL department continues to build our skills in research and reporting, students have been practicing their delivery of oral information via presentations on topics which include but are not limited to: the contributions of diverse peoples to Canada's identity, and the Canadian landscape. More emergent learners have been building their vocabulary to better navigate school life and community. A focus on

teen mental health has also been paramount this month, as we take time to play interactive games that review content vocabulary connected to fall holidays (Thanksgiving and Halloween) and use student knowledge to engage in creative writing tasks and or comparative writing assignments.

Community Service Hours for Grade 12

Dear Grade 12 Students and Families,

Please make sure that you have completed your 40 hours of community service. This is a mandatory component for graduation and receiving your OSSD. Forms must be submitted before June.

November 15 PA Day

Dear families,

For your information, here is information about learning that school staff will be participating in on the upcoming PA Day November 15, 2024. As usual, students do not attend school on PA Days. This information is also available on our [Board website](#).

Professional Activity (P.A.) Day - November 15, 2024

All Secondary Schools

Length: 90 min

Topic: Homelessness Awareness

Entity Hosting: All Secondary Schools

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff, facilitated by school administration

Description:

School teams will engage in learning focused on:

- learning that aligns to priorities outlined in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan in supporting student well-being and creating safe and inclusive spaces for learning in schools;
- supporting educators and staff in understanding how to recognize barriers that students face when experiencing homelessness; and
- learning about available resources and best practices to support students experiencing homelessness.

Length: 90 Min

Topic: Fostering Empathy in Emotional Spaces

Entity Hosting: All Secondary Schools

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Online modules developed by Board staff, facilitated by school administration

Description:

School teams will engage in learning focused on:

- developing a shared understanding of empathy in education;
- engaging in a reflective discussion on empathy through curriculum, instruction, and assessment; and
- exploring opportunities to plan on how empathetic approaches can be developed further in practice.

Length: 120 Min

Topic: SIP/Department Planning

Entity Hosting: All Secondary Schools

Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s): Facilitated by school leaders

Description:

School teams will engage in School Improvement planning focused on high-impact instructional practices to support student improvement in alignment with the curriculum.

Guidance

Upcoming Post Secondary Pathway Events

Event	Date	Location
AMHS University Campus Visits	November 13 th	AMHS
Ontario University Information Sessions	November 21st; 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m	https://www.ouevents.ca/
Experience Seneca Days	December 2024 (full day)	Register on SCO

AMHS University Campus Visit Information:

Campus Visit #1:

Campus Tour of University of Waterloo and Laurier on November 13. Students visiting the University of Waterloo campus will have an opportunity to participate in a Problem Solving or Engineering workshop or

enjoy an in-depth Campus tour. At Laurier, students will enjoy a campus tour and a Business Case Study. Students must arrive at AMHS by 7:20 a.m. for bus departure, and will return to AMHS by 4:30 p.m.. Lunch is not included as students can purchase a lunch or bring their own. To register: students must pay on School Cash Online and also register on the November 13th Google Campus Visit Form - <https://forms.gle/mmA3NUU85AgLTDJc6> - by no later than November 10th. The Google Form can also be found on our Guidance Google Classroom. Cost: \$29.50

If you are a SHSM student, please register on School Cash Online under SHSM Campus Tour – Waterloo & Laurier – Nov. 13. This is a free trip for SHSM Students.

Campus Visit #2:

Campus Tour of **McMaster University** on November 13. Students visiting will have an opportunity to experience an Engineering workshop or possibly a Health-Science tour. Students must arrive at AMHS by 8:25 a.m. for bus departure, and will return to AMHS by 3:45 p.m.. Lunch is not included as students can purchase a lunch or bring their own. To register: students must pay on SCO by November 10th. Cost is \$29.50.

If you are a SHSM student, please register on School Cash Online under **SHSM Campus Tour – McMaster – Nov. 13**. This is a free trip for SHSM Students.

Board News



THE CENTRE FOR BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Subscribe to our mailing list.

The Centre for Black Student Excellence is a space committed to the implementation of goals set out in our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy, and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized.

Establishing this mailing list is one of the key commitments outlined in our strategy.

Subscribe to our mailing list to stay up to date on:

- information about school board and community events and programs that would benefit Black students and families with Black children
- updates on Board efforts to dismantle anti-Black racism

Learn more about the ongoing work to dismantle anti-Black racism and support Black student excellence by visiting www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence



If you require further information, please contact
BlackStudentExcellence@yrdsb.ca



Exploring Family, Community & Love: YRDSB Family Day at Toronto Holocaust Museum (Grades 4+)



Right photo by Shay Markowitz for the Toronto Holocaust Museum

TORONTO HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Date: Sunday, November 17th

Time: 1:30pm - 4:00pm

Contact: education@thethm.org

Registration Form: bit.ly/YRDSBFamilyDayTHM

Address: 4588 Bathurst St., Sherman Campus, North York, ON M2R 1W6

This program is open to YRDSB families with children in grades 4-12. Please be aware that this is not a drop-off program and all students participating are to be attended with a parent or guardian.

Join Toronto Holocaust Museum (THM) and York Region District School Board (YRDSB) for a Family Sunday at the Museum. This afternoon at the museum will focus on meaningful learning about the history of the Holocaust and explore themes related to Family and Love. Age-appropriate activities will be featured for families with children in fourth grade and older throughout the Museum and Learning Lab. Activities include, reflective artmaking projects such as creating custom buttons reflecting on love and journal making that explore the themes of family history. Additionally, families can look forward to a special museum tour, with family members of Holocaust survivors who have contributed artifacts featured in the exhibition who will share the importance of these objects to their families. There will also be an opportunity to hear the age-appropriate story of Holocaust survivors' survival and immigration to Canada, with an opportunity to ask questions.

A Career that works for you.

“

We believe that every student can be successful. That drives our work.

We are looking for individuals who share this commitment to student learning well-being, and achievement.

We have ongoing job postings in a variety of positions. Learn more about why YRDSB may be the right place for you.

Meet some of our staff and explore career opportunities. www.yrdsb.ca/careers or scan the QR code.





G.I.V.E!

Get Involved. Volunteer in Education!

2024 Fall Session Cohort 2

Join our workshop series and discover how you can make a difference in your child's education by volunteering in schools. Empower yourself to support our school community and enrich your child's learning experience!

You will learn more about:

- The role of a volunteer
- Transferable skills
- Equity and inclusive education
- Human rights
- Employment readiness
- School information and community resources

We will help you:

- Expand your network
- Effectively communicate with school staff
- Contribute to student learning and parent engagement
- Gain volunteer experience in schools
- Build healthy communities
- Boost professionalism

Location: Main Floor, 50 High Tech Road, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4N7

Dates: November 11 to 15, 2024 (Monday to Friday)

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

All parents/guardians/caregivers are welcome to join this free training program!
Space is limited, please scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/3WWRsxz to register now!



This free information session is organized by York Region District School Board in partnership with Catholic Community Services of York Region. For more information, please contact:

Oksana Majaski
oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca
416-568-2252

Pauline Guo
pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca
905-884-3434 #322

Banafshe Eshragi
Beshragi@ccsyrr.org
437-236-42362

Yun Kim
Ykim@ccsyrr.org
416-625-7386



Important Back-to-School Reminders



All mobile devices, including cellphones, smart watches, and tablets, must be **stored out of view and powered off** or set to **silent mode** during class/instructional time.

Secondary Schools



Student Attendance

General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the AMHS attendance email address at alexandermackenziehs.attendance@yrdsb.ca.

You may also call the school Main Office directly at 905-884-0554.

If your child is arriving late to school due to an appointment or another reason, please ensure that you confirm their late arrival with a call or email to our attendance office. Thank you.
