



October 25, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

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

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 29 th , 2019	Grade 8 Open House – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 5 th , 2019	Pathway Evening – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 6 th , 2019	Take Our Kids to Work Day (*All Grade 9 Students – see item on Page 2)
Wednesday, November 6 th , 2019	Post-Secondary Trips (all day, for Grade 12 students only)
Thursday, November 14 th , 2019	Mid-Term Report Card Distribution

Guidance Services

This week, Guidance counsellors ran a **Lunch-n-Learn** session for Grade 12 students with a focus on taking initial steps in planning their post-secondary applications. The lunch time session was focused on seven factors that are important for students to consider when choosing their “ideal” school/program. We plan to continue with the Grade 12 Lunch-n-Learn sessions every third Monday of each month. It is our hope that these sessions will help alleviate concerns, confusion and anxiousness with respect to available post-secondary choices. Next week, on October 29, we will also be running two detailed assemblies for all Grade 12 students applying to colleges and universities (*see below).

Our **Pathway Evening** is scheduled for November 5, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Pathway Evening is a joint venture between four different high schools in the area. This is a great opportunity for you and your child to gather information directly from college and university representatives. I highly recommend all Grade 11 and 12 parents come to this evening! In addition, on November 6, we are running **Post-Secondary Trips** for all our Grade 12 students to various colleges and universities. This is an exciting opportunity for students to visit various campuses, see their facilities and connect with the students and faculty. Please encourage your child to sign up for one of the trips through School Cash Online.

Did you know that the Guidance Department has a “**Suggestion/Comment**” box to capture student voice anonymously and at their convenience? Similar to the Town Halls, which we ran a few weeks ago, this box is an opportunity for students to continue to offer their input/insights/suggestions. At AMHS, we believe that the emphasis on Student Voice supports a culture of positive relationship within the entire school community.

Upcoming Events

Student Life Expo

October 27, 255 Front Street West

Post-Secondary Trips for Grade 12/Graduating Students

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

AMHS - College Application Assembly - October 29, in Period 2

AMHS - University Application Assembly – October 29, in Period 1

Lana Fisher, Head of Guidance and Career Education

Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

Lana.fisher@yrdsb.ca

Tel: 905-884-0554 Ext. 422

Halloween Safety

For many years, AMHS has celebrated **Hallowe'en**. This year, we will continue the tradition. Students will have many student-led activities, through various councils, to opt into that day. These will largely be situated in the Main Foyer and the Cafeteria.

Students may also choose to celebrate in costume, but are required to adhere to the following expectations:

- In compliance with YRDSB's Safe, Caring and Supportive Schools Policy #668.0., **costumes MUST NOT include weapons or replica weapons - toy guns, knives, axes, swords, etc. of any kind – are strictly prohibited.**
- **No MASKS** may be worn. Any article of clothing or face-painting that conceals one's face is prohibited.
- In keeping with our Appropriate Attire Policy, students must ensure that their costume is not offensive in any way, or too revealing.

We ask that parents check-in with their children in these regards, to help keep Hallowe'en at AMHS safe and fun for all.

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

Take Our Kids To Work Day – Last Call!

Thank you to all those families that completed the ***Take Our Kids to Work*** permission form. The event takes place on Wednesday, November 6, 2019. **All forms were due in to Grade 9 Homeroom Teachers today, October 25.**

On this day, students will attend the workplace of any family member, friend or neighbour for the day. As such, there will be no Grade 9 classes held on November 6 – all Grade 9 students are expected to participate.

If a student does not have a workplace they can attend, the school remains available to students. They will use the time to complete school work in the library. If this is the case with your child, please indicate this on the form.

If you are aware of an anticipated absence (eg. medical appointment), please indicate this on the form and hand it in.

If you have questions, please email Ms. Romeo at susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca.

Student Insurance

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.

School Council News

Minutes

School Council minutes can be accessed through the school website by clicking the attached link:
[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.

Community Event for Parents – Labour Market Information

This event is hosted by our Board concerning Labour Market Information in York Region, on the evening of 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>

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.