

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

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

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### Upcoming Events

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October	Islamic Heritage Month
October	2SLGBTQ+ History Month
October 15	Spirit Day
October 17	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
October 29	Virtual Parents'/Guardians' Night
November 14	Diwali

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### Islamic Heritage Month Events

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The Alliance of Educators for Muslim Students (AEMS) invites staff, families, and students to register for the upcoming Islamic Heritage Month events.

[Muslim Athletes, Muslim Activists](#) - Monday's panel discussion is highly recommended for educators seeking to well-being and equity through physical activity and sport.

[Storytelling with Rukhsana Khan](#) - On Tuesday, award-winning author Rukhsana Khan engages with our youngest learners, and models inclusive practice that fosters student voice.

[AEM's Paint Nights](#) – students of all ages are invited to participate in workshops that center student voice and experience.

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### Supporting Muslim Students and Families with Hate-Based Trauma

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The violent threats that forced a GTA mosque to shut its doors out of fear for the lives of its congregation is yet another reminder of the dangers of Islamophobic hate. We are deeply concerned about the violent effect of Islamophobia and while we condemn these violent acts of hate, we are also committed to taking action to support our Muslim students, staff, and community.

Please see resources below:

Resources for Families:

- [Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#)

Culturally Relevant Resources for Emotional Well-Being:

- [Naseeha](#) provides an anonymous, non-judgmental, confidential and toll-free peer support helpline for youth experiencing personal challenges. Naseeha's services are open to all regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, family makeup, social status, income, ability, physical and mental health, and religion.
- [Khalil Center](#) is a psychological and spiritual community wellness center advancing the professional practice

of psychology rooted in Islamic principles. Khalil Center utilizes faith-based approaches rooted in Islamic theological concepts while integrating the science of psychology towards addressing psychological, spiritual and communal health

#### General Supports for Emotional Well-Being:

- [Victim Services of York Region](#) provides crisis counselling and referrals for longer-term support. Advice and support for families and educators on best practices for providing support can be found here.
- [Kids Help Phone](#) provides support for children and youth. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- [310-COPE](#) provides crisis counselling for all. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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### Visitor(s) to AMHS

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To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, visitor(s) are not permitted into the school without a prearranged 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 and 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.

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### Health Care

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#### 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 the link with our school community: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/approved>

#### Public Health Decision Tree Tools

The following resources from York Region Public Health include important COVID-19 self-screening information:

- [Preventing Covid-19 Exposures in the Schools](#)
- [Should my child attend school?](#)

## School Schedule

<b>SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2020- 2021 SEMESTER 1</b>	<b>START</b>	<b>FINISH</b>
BLOCK 1 (in person)	8:30	11:00
EXIT / TRAVEL / LUNCH	11:00	12:30
BLOCK 2 (online)	12:30	1:20
BLOCK 3 (online)	1:20	2:10
BLOCK 4 (online)	2:10	3:00

### Rotation 3 Schedule: Week of October 19 to 23

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
In Person Block 1 (Period 4) Alternate Face to Face and Online Daily 8:30 – 11:00	Period 4 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 4 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 4 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 4 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 4 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online
11:00 – 11:15	Students Exit				
11:15 – 12:30	Period 3 Student Transportation / Lunch				
Synchronous Online – Block 2 (Period 5) 12:30 – 1:20	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
Synchronous Online – Block 3 (Period 1) 1:20 – 2:10	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 4 (Period 2) 2:10 – 3:00	Period 2 Class Cohort A & B	Period 2 Class Cohort A & B	Period 2 Class Cohort A & B	Period 2 Class Cohort A & B	Period 2 Class Cohort A & B

### Semester 1 Rotation Schedule

	<b>Course Rotation for AMHS</b>							
<b>Rotation</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
	Sept 14 Sept 25	Sept 28 Oct 9	<b>Oct 13</b> <b>Octo 26</b>	Oct 27 Nov 9	Nov 10 Nov 26	Nov 27 Dec 14	Dec 15 Jan 13	Jan 14 Jan 29
<b>In Person Block1</b> 8:30 -11:00	Per. 1	Per. 2	<b>Per. 4</b>	Per. 5	Per. 1	Per. 2	Per. 4	Per. 5
<b>Exit/Travel / Lunch</b>								
<b>Synchronous Block2</b> 12:30 - 1:20	Per.2	Per. 1	<b>Per. 5</b>	Per. 4	Per. 2	Per. 1	Per. 5	Per. 4
<b>Synchronous Block3</b> 1:20 - 2:10	Per. 4	Per. 4	<b>Per. 1</b>	Per. 1	Per. 4	Per. 4	Per. 1	Per. 1
<b>Synchronous Block4</b> 2:10 - 3:00	Per. 5	Per. 5	<b>Per. 2</b>	Per. 2	Per. 5	Per. 5	Per. 2	Per. 2

### Interim Reports

Interim reports will be distributed virtually on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. Interim reports provide an opportunity to provide parent(s)/guardian(s) and students with important information about the student's progress.

### School Start up Permission Forms

Please contact the school if you did not receive the email, or require a new link to the form.

### Student Attendance

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

### Student Leadership

We are inviting students to apply for AMHS' 2020-2021 Student Council. The application process is in two parts. Students interested in running for President(s), Vice-President(s), and Grade 10, 11 and 12 Representative are invited to submit an application to participate in the elections by October 5. Students interested in interviewing for all additional Student Council positions are asked to apply on October 24th. All information can be found at the Student Council Instagram page (@amac\_stuco) or at [bit.ly/amhselections2020](https://bit.ly/amhselections2020).

### Literacy

Literacy Tip: Look for reading materials related to your family history or culture. As kids get older and begin to think about their own identities, they often become more interested in their backgrounds. This interest can contribute to a healthy sense of pride in their heritage and culture, and reading is a great way for your teen to explore those interests.

### Waterloo Math Contests

The University of Waterloo Canadian Intermediate Math Contest (for Grades 9 and 10) and Canadian Senior Math Contest (for Grades 11 and 12) are scheduled to take place on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. Registration for the contests will be available on School Cash Online from Friday, October 16 to Wednesday, October 28, 2020. The registration deadline is Wednesday, October 28, 2020. For more information, please contact Mr. Wong or email [benny.wong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:benny.wong@yrdsb.ca).

### TVO Mathify

TVO Mathify is a free Ontario math support for Grades 6 to 10 students. It offers live 1:1 confidential tutoring in a log-in secured environment, as well as 24/7 resources that can be accessed at any time. Some brand new features include:

- The interactive whiteboard will be available 24/7.
- Students and tutors will have full audio available to facilitate communication.
- Fully mobile-enabled, including the whiteboard, and the audio.
- Allows for uploading of images from either the camera roll on a mobile device, or the hard drive from a computer.
- Lessons are scaffolded with printable presentation notes, and conclude with a quiz to assess for understanding.
- A handy math glossary with 500+ math definitions, concepts and diagrams TVO resources can be accessed at: <https://www.tv.org/education-tools>

### 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.

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## Guidance

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Please see below for details regarding upcoming virtual information sessions:

**Topic:** Post-secondary information and pathways

Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020- from 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm

For: Graduating Class of 2021

Link to Google meet: [meet.google.com/mpw-pjfk-cqy](https://meet.google.com/mpw-pjfk-cqy)

**Topic:** US/UK application information

Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 from 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm

For: Graduating Class of 2021

Link to Google meet: [meet.google.com/rdo-eanh-dqm](https://meet.google.com/rdo-eanh-dqm)

Students are encourage to join the following Google classrooms to stay connected with the Guidance Department:

- Grade 9-11 Guidance Classroom (password: lckdws2)
- Grade 12-Graduating Class of 2021 (password: s5dxbfn)
- Grade 12 Scholarships for Graduating Students only (password: hltthp5)
- AMHS Volunteer opportunities 2020-2021 (password: orggenu)

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Below is the updated counselor list for semester 1:

Guidance Counselor	Student's Last Name Starting with	Extension	Email
<a href="#">A. Gurfinkel</a>	A to G	442	<a href="mailto:adrienne.gurfinkel@yrdsb.ca">adrienne.gurfinkel@yrdsb.ca</a>
<a href="#">S. Juma</a>	H to Ki	420	<a href="mailto:shirin.juma@yrdsb.ca">shirin.juma@yrdsb.ca</a>
<a href="#">J. Petrone</a>	Kl to R	419	<a href="mailto:john.petrone@yrdsb.ca">john.petrone@yrdsb.ca</a>
<a href="#">N. Reyhani</a> - Interim Department Head and IB Coordinator	S to T	421	<a href="mailto:nazila.reyhani@yrdsb.ca">nazila.reyhani@yrdsb.ca</a>
<a href="#">K. Auyeung</a>	U to Z	422	<a href="mailto:keith.auyeung@yrdsb.ca">keith.auyeung@yrdsb.ca</a>

Information from Guidance will be posted in the respective Google Classrooms. Please join with the code below.

Grade 9 to 11 Guidance Google Classroom - Class Code lckdws2

Grade 12 Guidance Google Classroom - Class Code zjwvzt3

Students will book a guidance appointment through [TeachAssist](#). Detailed instructions have been posted in the Google Classrooms for Guidance or students can follow instructions though this [Link](#).

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## International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

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Please see below for details regarding upcoming virtual IB information sessions:

**Topic:** Creativity, Activity, Service

Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020- from 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm

For: IB Grade 11 students

Link to Google meet: [meet.google.com/vzn-comr-sxk](https://meet.google.com/vzn-comr-sxk)

Students are encourage to join the following Google classrooms to stay connected with the IB Community:

- Grade 9 IB Class of 2024 (password: evn7mpm)
- Grade 10 IB Class of 2023 (password: yhxmf3)
- Grade 11 IB Class of 2022 (password: lb2z5n4)
- Grade 12 IB Class of 2021 (password: je32axf)

### **IB Intake Information:**

Information about IB annual Intake for incoming Grade 9 students for School year 2021-2022 will posted on Alexander Mackenzie's website on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Future sessions for IB:**

IB Diploma overview sessions for Grades 9 and 10 will be coming up in the week of October 26<sup>th</sup>. Please see Parent bulletin for updates.

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## York Region District School Board

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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.

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## Night School

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

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## Adult ESL, LINC & LBS Programs

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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 this [link](#).

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## School Council News

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### **School Council Survey**

Parents/guardians are invited to attend the AMHS School Council meeting on Monday, October 19 at 7:15 p.m. Due to Public Health guidelines, the meeting will take place virtually. Please refer to the [link](#) for the agenda and virtual access information. All are welcome to attend!

## MINUTES

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

[School Council Minutes](#)

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## Community Notifications

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### Trustee By-Election

The City of Richmond Hill will hold a by-election on **Monday, October 19, 2020** to fill the vacant trustee position for [Richmond Hill, Wards 1, 2 and 4](#). Voting in trustee elections is important. The trustee who is elected on October 19 will help make and influence decisions that affect your child's education.

Internet voting is open. For those who would like to vote early and will remain open until **8:00 p.m., October 19**. If you missed the All Candidates Meeting you can visit the YRDSB [website](#) to view a recording of this meeting. Please remember to vote!

### Mackenzie Health

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19 Mackenzie Health is currently only allowing patients and essential visitors to enter the hospital until further notice. This is a reminder that students will not be able to access the food services at Mackenzie Health.

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## School Notifications

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### School Cash Online

Since September 2015 our school has been accepting online payments through School Cash Online. School- related expenses such as field trips, fundraisers, sports teams, yearbook, graduation, prom, Student Activity Fee, etc. payments are 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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## Parking and Ticketing

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Students requesting parking must complete a Parking Application form. The form can be picked-up and dropped off in the main office. Limited parking spaces are available. A lottery will take place if more students request parking than there are spaces available. This semester there will be no charge for student parking privilege.

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.**

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## School Contact / Website Information

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**Superintendent-** Dianne Hawkins

Phone: (905) 884-4477

[cec.central@yrdsb.ca](mailto:cec.central@yrdsb.ca)

**Trustee/Board Chair-**

**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](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)

**Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter**

Follow us on twitter [@AlexMackHS](https://twitter.com/AlexMackHS)

**AMHS Literacy & OSSLT**

[rebrand.ly/OSSLT](http://rebrand.ly/OSSLT)

*If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter, please notify Alexander Mackenzie High School by email.*