



AMHS Bulletin

October 23, 2020

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

October - Islamic Heritage Month

October - 2SLGBTQ+ History Month

October 27 - Rotation 4 Begins

October 29 - Virtual Parents' & Guardians' Night

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 13 - P.A. Day

November 14 - Diwali

Interim Reports

Interim reports were sent to families electronically on October 21, 2020. It has come to our attention that some data did not transfer properly and as a result some students may be missing a level for their period 5 class. We are working to rectify this issue to ensure students and families receive accurate information. Additional information will be sent to families shortly. Thank you for your understanding.

School Start-Up Forms

If you have not yet submitted your 2020-2021 school start-up forms, we ask that you please take a few minutes to do so. All parents/guardians are required to sign off on these documents. Please see the email sent to families by the YRDSB and use the accompanying link to complete the process. The link sent directly to you is personalized for your child. If you do not have this email, please contact the school alexander.mackenzie.hs@yrdsb.ca and we will forward the generic link to you.

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 the [link](#) with our school community:

York Region Public Health Decision Tree Tools

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

School Schedules

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In Person Block 1 (Period 4 - Period 5 beginning Tuesday) Alternate Face to Face and Online Daily 8:30 – 11:00	Period 4 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 5 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 5 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A Online	Period 5 Class Cohort A Face to Face Cohort B Online	Period 5 Class Cohort B Face to Face Cohort A 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 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 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

	Course Rotation for AMHS							
Rotation	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
	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

York Region District School Board Information

Halloween Reminders for Families

This year, Halloween will look different for York Region families. In light of COVID-19 precautions, door-to-door trick-or-treating is **not recommended** by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health for modified Stage 2 areas, including York Region.

The health and safety of our students remains a top priority. For students who wish to celebrate Halloween at school, please keep these reminders in mind:

- When planning costumes that no replica weapons of any kind are allowed.
- Costumes should be respectful of others. Symbols or objects representative of a person's culture or religious beliefs should not be worn as a costume.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, please be aware that:

- Students will not be able to use washrooms to change into costumes.
- No Halloween masks are to be worn and students should only use single use make-up (no sharing of make-up).
- Students who are required to wear PPE face masks (Gr. 4 - 12) must continue to do so
- Costumes should be of simple design (to limit personal items being brought to school), and treats cannot be shared.

For more information on how to stay safe this Halloween and for alternate Halloween activities, please visit York Region Public Health's [website](#).

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

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.

Sankofa Mentoring Program

The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith, and Self-Respect. Please check this [link](#) for the information flyer.

Islamic Heritage Month Events

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

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

Supporting Muslim Students and Families with Hate-Based Trauma

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.

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](#).

International Baccalaureate Programme

Interested in the International Baccalaureate Programme?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is student-centred with a focus on developing intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills for students who live, learn and work in a rapidly changing world. The Programme emphasizes critical, compassionate thinking, community involvement and intercultural understanding. It is founded on international standards and assessment. Students who complete the Programme earn both an Ontario Secondary School Diploma and an IB Diploma.

Please review the following [link](#) for additional information about the IB Programme.

Please see the following IB Information sessions:

Grade 9 IB Information: Overview of IB Diploma Programme

- Date: Tuesday, October 27, 2020
- Time: 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm
- Google meet: meet.google.com/vfv-zgoo-ejs

Grade 10 IB Information: Overview of IB Diploma Programme

- Date: Friday, October 30, 2020
- Time: 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm
- Google meet: meet.google.com/djw-bahq-rkh

Grade 11 IB Information: Mark updates and conversions

- Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2020
- Time: 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm
- Google meet: meet.google.com/ger-khve-xft

Guidance

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. Thank you.

Accelerated OYAP and Apprenticeship College Information Night

Learn about Apprenticeship Pathways and the Accelerated OYAP program. You should attend this information night if:

- You are a grade 12 student who is planning on entering the Skilled Trades;
- You are a grade 10 or 11 student who would like more information on this program to better prepare for this pathway, OR;
- You are the parent/guardian of a grade 10-12 student who is considering a career in the skilled trades.

Additional information can be accessed [here](#).

School Information

Literacy

The following are suggested strategies that can help your child increase their vocabulary. Encourage him/her/their to ask about new words they hear or read. Students learn new words through verbal interactions with others. Find ways to increase conversation time at home. Adults should make a conscious effort to use more complex language in their

conversations with their children. Play word games. Provide books and magazines at home. Virtually visit the local library. Through these experiences, students will gain exposure to new vocabulary words.

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.

Math Contests

The following [letter](#) was sent out yesterday and includes an update about the upcoming Math contests (The Canadian Open Math Contest 2020, Canadian Senior and Intermediate Math Contests, Pascal, Cayley and Fermat).

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.tvo.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.

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**

School Council News

Parents/guardians are invited to attend the next AMHS School Council meeting on **Monday, November 16 at 7:15 p.m.** Due to Public Health guidelines, the meeting will take place virtually. All are welcome to attend!

Minutes

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

School Contact / Website Information

Superintendent - Dianne Hawkins

Phone: (905) 884-4477

cec.central@yrdsb.ca

Trustee/Board Chair - [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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