



AMHS Bulletin

October 30, 2020

Reminders

Dates at a Glance

October - Islamic Heritage Month

October - 2SLGBTQ+ History Month

November 2 - 6 - Treaties
Recognition Week

November 2 - 9 - Holocaust
Education Week

November 11 - Remembrance Day

November 13 - P.A. Day

November 14 - Diwali

SAVE THE DATE

Alexander Mackenzie High School

Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation Ceremony

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Invitation and Details to Follow



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](#)
- [COVID-19 Screening Tool for students and children in school and child care](#)

School Schedules

November 2 - 6	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In Person Block 1 (Period 5) Alternate Face to Face and Online Daily 8:30 – 11:00	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	Period 5 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 4) 12:30 – 1:20	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 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

Take Our Kids to Work

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is a national initiative that provides grade 9 students with the opportunity to OBSERVE a work environment or ENGAGE in pathways planning for one day. As suggested by the Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report, the Take our Kids to Work program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On Wednesday, November 4, 2020, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., grade 9 students will take part in virtual activities (due to COVID restrictions) that will support them with their pathways planning. Additional information can be found in the [letter](#) that was sent to families of grade 9 students.

Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre in Toronto annually partners with Chapman University's Roger Center for Holocaust Education on a Holocaust Art & Writing Competition for students grades 6 to 12. Students create an artwork or piece of writing inspired by their testimonies of Holocaust survivors and rescuers.

Participating schools may submit a total of three entries (one entry per student) in any combination of the following categories: art, film, poetry, or prose. Registration details and further information can be found [here](#).

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 further information.

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.

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.

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.

Guidance

Grade 9 Students: [Community Involvement Virtual Meeting for Grade 9 Students](#)

We will be hosting a virtual meeting to discuss community service hours, the process, and the opportunities.

When: Tuesday November 3, 2020, 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: Please use this [link](#)

Meeting ID: 914 7991 6317

Passcode: 942639

Grade 12 Students:

All AMHS potential graduates will have received an email to their YRDSB Gapps account by Thursday October 29th containing information regarding OUAC PIN (Personal Identification Number) and other related university application information.

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 counsellor 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.

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](#).

College Fair Next Week

The Ontario College Fair is taking place virtually this year and will be held on:

- November 4th (4 p.m. to 8 p.m.) and November 5th (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) .

The event is free for students! It will have 24 Colleges from across Ontario in attendance.

Topics that will be addressed throughout the fair include:

1. How to Pay for College;
2. How to Apply for College; and
3. College Pathways and Opportunities.

The organizers of this event have designed the fair in such a way that it mirrors the real in-person fair as much as possible. There will be Admissions Officers from each college on hand to answer any question that you or your child may have.

Please use the link below for more event information and for the free registration portal.

Website and Registration: <https://ontariocollegefair.ca/>

Does your child need help with their college application? Please feel free to contact a Guidance Counsellor in our Guidance Department. We are always happy to help!

School Information

Literacy

The following are suggested strategies that can help your child increase their vocabulary. Encourage him/her/there 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.

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.tvos.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:

Twitter: @Mustangsmove

Instagram: macpheathletics

Alexander Mackenzie H.S. On Twitter

Follow us on twitter @AlexMackHS

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