



# AMHS Bulletin



October 8, 2021

Dear AMHS Families,

This is the Bulletin for the upcoming week. The weekly Bulletin is full of useful information, reminders and upcoming events.

## Upcoming Events

Monday, October 11	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, October 15	Asynchronous Learning Day (No In-Person School)
Monday, October 18	School Council Meeting (Virtual)
Friday, October 22	Interim Reports
Week of October 4 - 8	"Day 2/ Week 2" Schedule
Week of October 12 - 15	"Day 1 / Week 1" Schedule
Week of October 18 - 22	"Day 2/ Week 2" Schedule

## School Schedule and Format – Semester 1

Day 1 (Week 1)	
Period	Times
Homeroom	8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.
Morning Class Day 1, Period 1 (150 min block)	8:35 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.
Lunch	11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Afternoon Class Day 1, Period 2 (150 min block)	12:05 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

Day 2 (Week 2)	
Period	Times
Homeroom	8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.
Morning Class Day 2, Period 1 (150 min block)	8:35 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.
Lunch	11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Afternoon Class Day 2, Period 2 (150 min block)	12:05 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

In adherence with safety measures put into place to reduce the spread of Covid-19, further considerations will guide our school protocols. Please note:

- The school day will begin at 8:30 a.m., and students will not have access to their classrooms until 8:15 a.m.
- Covid-19 self-screening will take place upon entry to the school, each day. **Masks/face coverings must be worn upon entry, and for the duration of the school day, in all parts of the school building.**
- Students are expected to vacate the school building immediately after dismissal at 2:35 p.m..
- Students are advised to complete their online screening at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>, each morning PRIOR to arriving at school, and be prepared to show entry-point staff their verification email.
- **Students who are experiencing symptoms of illness must remain at home**, and follow Public Health guidelines to ensure a safe return to school.

## Asynchronous Learning Day - October 15, 2021

On Friday, October 15, school staff will engage in professional learning on the hybrid model. **On this day, schools will be closed to students on Friday, October 15. Do not send your child to school.** Asynchronous (not live) learning activities will be provided to students in order to support their continued learning, through the online platforms already set up by their classroom teachers.

We thank our AMHS families for your patience and support.

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## Student Handbook - School Policies and Procedures

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As the new school year begins, we want students and their families to be aware of school procedures, Covid-related guidelines, and important policies, expectations, and codes of behaviour. With your child(ren), please read through the [AMHS Student Handbook](#), which outlines all such information. Once you and your child(ren) have read through the Handbook, please be sure to complete and submit the Google Form, linked here <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>, to be accessed through each student's YRDSB Google account. It is **important that these forms are completed in a timely manner - please ensure you have completed one for each child in your family**. For paper copies of the forms, please contact the AMHS Main Office. Thank you for supporting this essential process.

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### Math Competitions

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The Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge (COMC) 2021, for Grade 11 and 12 students, is scheduled to take place on Thursday, October 28, 2021. Students will write the contest in person, at school. Details will follow shortly. Registration for the contest will be available on School Cash Online from Monday, October 4, 2021 to Wednesday, October 13, 2021. The registration deadline is Wednesday, October 13, 2021. For more information, please contact Mr. Wong (email: [benny.wong@yrdsb.ca](mailto:benny.wong@yrdsb.ca)).

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### Daily Covid-19 Screening

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We are very excited to welcome back students in our school buildings, and we appreciate the efforts that all members of our school communities have made to support a safe return for all. Below are some reminders and new information that we have recently received from the provincial government and York Region Public Health.

A new [screening tool](#) for the 2021-2022 school year has been provided by York Region Public Health (please click on Check for Symptoms Daily). This screening tool replaces previous versions and all students and staff must complete the self-screening prior to attending any YRDSB school or facility.

**Secondary students** will have to follow this process:

1. After completing the screening tool, secondary students (or parents/guardians of students who may not be able to complete the form independently) must complete the <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/> or [Secondary School Confirmation Form](#). Upon completion of the form confirming successful screening, students will receive an email. For students who may not be able to complete the self-assessment process independently, parents/guardians are asked to complete it.
2. After receiving this email, students can then attend their school.

All staff and students are also required to wear a face covering upon entry to the school, and throughout the school day, in all parts of the school building. Students experiencing symptoms of illness should remain at home.

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### Guidance Services

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Dear Parents/Guardians: Please encourage your child to join our Guidance Google Classrooms (listed below).

For Students in Grades 9 to 11: **Grade 9-11 Guidance Classroom (2021-2022)** Password: 6ymj3es

For Students in Grade 12 (June 2022 Grads): **Graduating Class of 2022** Password: mqjj3pp

For all students in Grades 9 to 12: **AMHS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Password: orggenu

and **AMHS Peer Tutoring Program** Password: odyb3b7

**Students are to book appointments with their "alpha" Guidance Counselors through TeachAssist.**

Please see below the list of AMHS Guidance Counselors with alpha distribution:

(A-Chan): Adrienne Gurfinkel - [adrienne.gurfinkel@yrdsb.ca](mailto:adrienne.gurfinkel@yrdsb.ca)

(Chang-G): Adele Pantusa - [Adele.Pantusa@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Adele.Pantusa@yrdsb.ca)

(H-Mog): John Petrone - [John.Petrone@yrdsb.ca](mailto:John.Petrone@yrdsb.ca)

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## IB Google Classrooms and Updates

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For IB Students in Grades 9 to 10:  
Grade 9 and 10 IB Class 2021-2022  
Password: hngt4hs

For IB Students in Grade 11:  
Grade 11 IB Class 2021-2022  
Password: fu4feng

For IB Students in Grade 12:  
Grade 12 IB Class 2021-2022  
Password: 5zwdjfg

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## Indigenous Languages and International Languages: Secondary Credit Programs

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We welcome everyone to the 2021-2022 Indigenous Languages and International Languages (ILIL) program year and thank you for your continued support and patience.

Due to the continuance of the pandemic, ILIL classes for Grade 9 to 12 students will take place online, not in the school buildings. Please note that the program delivery model may change from online to face-to-face during the school year depending on circumstances. Teachers will teach live language lessons in real time using Google Classroom to provide both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities during the regularly scheduled language classes. All program updates will be made on our Board ILIL program homepage.

YRDSB Students can register please complete the online [Registration Form](#). Once submitted, a confirmation form will be emailed to the student. The student must then share the form with their Guidance Counsellor and have them email it to [ILIL@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ILIL@yrdsb.ca), in lieu of signatures as the office is closed.

Best regards,  
The Indigenous Languages and International Languages Team  
Phone Number: (905) 884-2046 ext. 242, Email: [ILIL@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ILIL@yrdsb.ca)

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## Visitors to AMHS

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To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, **visitor(s) are not permitted into the school** without a pre-arranged appointment. Parents/guardians must contact the school by telephone or email, and we will be happy to assist you.

Prior to entering the school, review/complete the [self-assessment](#) as per the posted self-screening posters at all entry points. Come directly to the Main Office to complete the visitor sign-in process with the Main Office staff member, which will include responding to the question "Have you completed the self-screening assessment?", 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.**

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## Health Care Forms

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Fillable Health Care forms are now available for families who have children with asthma, seizure disorders, anaphylaxis, diabetes, and/or other prevalent medical conditions. This also applies to children who require the administration of medication at school. These forms can be accessed through the links below, and/or a paper copy can also be requested by contacting the school.

[Health Care Plan](#)  
[Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)  
[Asthma Health Care Plan](#)  
[Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)  
[Epilepsy Plan](#)  
[Self-Administration Of Medication](#)  
[Staff Administration Of Medication](#)

Once you've completed the appropriate Health Care Plan, please return it WITH the appropriate medication to the Main Office with your child. The form and medication can be placed in a sealable bag, with the child's name marked on the bag and left at the office. There will be a 'drop box' to receive Health Care Plans. Families can also return the form using a secure file transfer system as sensitive, private data needs to be protected. Please contact the Main Office for further information and clarification.

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## Student Attendance

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General inquiries and student attendance information can be sent directly to the AMHS attendance email address at [alexandermackenziehs.attendance@yrdsb.ca](mailto:alexandermackenziehs.attendance@yrdsb.ca). You may also call the school Main Office directly at 905-884-0554.

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## Driving to School - Pick Up and Drop Off Information

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For parents whose children are attending school in the "face to face" learning model, we ask for your help with drop off and pick up procedures that will keep traffic flowing smoothly, and all our children safe. Please ensure that you follow these procedures for dropping off and picking up in the loop at the front of the school (on the South side of the school building, facing Major Mackenzie Drive):

- Upon entry to the driveway (at both pick up and drop off times), please drive up the driveway, and pull over into the first available spot along the curb, to allow your child to disembark / get back into your vehicle safely.
- DO NOT obstruct any of the yellow school buses or taxis that support transportation for our students.
- Please ensure that you DO NOT stop the traffic flow in the driveway route and that you DO NOT pick up or drop off your child in the middle of the driveway. Stopped vehicles must remain over to the side, until ready to depart again.
- **The middle of the driveway is for moving traffic only.** Please respect the traffic flow and DO NOT stop your vehicle in the middle of the driveway.
- At the end of the school day particularly, there is a tendency to experience high traffic congestion in the driveway loop. To alleviate this, we ask that during your exit from the driveway - at the stop sign at Major Mackenzie Drive - you ONLY make a RIGHT-HAND TURN. This will encourage continual flow of exiting traffic, to minimize backlogs and help families depart expediently.

We thank you for working with us in partnership to ensure the safety of all our AMHS students.

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## Parking and Ticketing

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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 Council News

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At Alexander Mackenzie High School, the School Council promotes good communication between parents/guardians and the school's administration, teaching staff and support staff. The meetings provide an opportunity for parents/guardians to contribute their ideas and concerns regarding a variety of issues. It is also a place to receive information on happenings at the school. Information from the School Board and Ministry of Education are also presented here. Parents/guardians are often asked for their input into issues regarding student learning. Our meetings are open to all parents/guardians and are a useful forum for information sharing.

**This year's next School Council Meeting will take place on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7:15 p.m., in a virtual format.**

### MINUTES

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

[School Council Minutes](#)

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## Resources for Families

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## **AMHS Special Education Department**

If you have any questions, please reach out to John Shep, Head of Special Education ([john.shep@yrdsb.ca](mailto:john.shep@yrdsb.ca)).

## **ELL Department**

If your English Language Learner is finding homework challenging, extra help is available every Thursday in Room 158 from 2:35 p.m. to 3:35 p.m. We are also looking for student volunteers who speak a language other than English to help. Please see Mrs. Mansker in Room 156S if you are interested in helping our newest Mustangs!

## **SHSM and Accelerated OYAP Programming**

- If your child is interested in pursuing a career in any one of the following economic sectors (Health and Wellness, Transportation, Business, or Arts and Culture) , we invite them to consider applying to the SHSM Program at AMHS.

For more information on what the SHSM Program has to offer, please visit the following link: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs/DeptPrograms/shsm/Pages/default.aspx>

Registration is now open to Grade 10 and 11 students until October 26th. Register by accessing the link on the information flyer below.

- If your child is interested in pursuing a career in the Skilled Trades, we invite you to have a look at the Accelerated OYAP Information website and our YRDSB OYAP Video to find out more information about the exciting apprenticeship opportunities available through YRDSB and our College and Training Center partners. The Skilled Trades offer excellent employment opportunities, training in state of the art facilities and higher than average career satisfaction.

We are holding our Virtual Open House on Wednesday October 27th, 2021 @ 7:00pm please REGISTER for the event below to find out more about the Skilled Trades. Hope to see you there! [http://www.bit.ly/OYAP\\_OPENHOUSE](http://www.bit.ly/OYAP_OPENHOUSE)

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## **School Contact / Website Information**

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### **Superintendent – Lois Agard**

Phone: (905) 884-4477

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

### **Trustee/Board Chair**

[Simon Cui](#)

### **Alexander Mackenzie High School**

Principal – Krista Pummell

Vice-Principal – Erika Pridie (A-L)

Vice-Principal – Yula Nouragas (M-Z)

Telephone: 905-884-0554

### **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](#)

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.*