



Alexander Mackenzie High School School Council

Monday, March 18, 2019

Minutes

Present: Loren Thorburn, Kelly Levson, Ruby Thind, Rhonda Wolfe, Jeff Hollicky SR, Otilia Olteanu, Jay Perri, George Ellinas, Cathy Clarke, Lana Fisher

Regrets: Karl Brumund, Christine LaForge, David Mountain, Gail Harris

Absent: Andrea Kalmin, Sabira Pradhan

Guests: Natasha Bawa

Minutes

1. Student Report (Provided by Cathy Clarke)

- Wellness initiative – gathering data to promote well-being at school

2. Modern Learning Presentation by Natasha Bawa

- Reviewed technology tools used to enhance learning in classrooms
- Breakout EDU Exercise
- Google Read/Write
- Screencastify
- Google Sites/Forms
- Games based learning
- See attached presentation

3. Teacher Report (Cathy Clarke)

- Highlights

- i. New grant available for ECO team through the Green Apple School Program. This will provide fresh fruit for students on Mondays and Fridays
- ii. Course selections have been submitted. Guidance will be reviewing this week and contacting students when needed
- iii. See full report attached

4. Administration Report (*Otilia Olteanu*)

- Administration has started planning for next year school year
 - i. Based on what students have selected for courses, how many classes and staff is required. This will then be sent to board for approval
 - ii. Course selections often change in September/October so timetables/schedules change during school year
- Arts trip on Thursday, March 20th. Ms. Clarke and Mr. Perri will be chaperoning 40+ students to Ottawa and Montreal.
- Interim Report cards being sent home on Tuesday, March 19th
 - i. Memo will be included for Edsby sign up and teacher conference scheduling
 - ii. Scheduling will be available until 3pm, Thursday April 4th
 - iii. School Council Donation Flyer to be included
- AMHS eBulletin now includes more information about the Student Activity Fee, such as how much has been collected, what activities have been supported etc.
- EQAO English (Literacy Test) for Grade 10 taking place on Wednesday, March 27th. This is a modified school day for all other students – treated same as inclement weather day.
- School has a new budget coordinator – looking at the budget and think it will be a good idea to have a fund raising plan to communicate to parents what we are raising money for

5. School Council Business

- Treasurer's Report (*Loren Thorburn*)
 - Board Account school council supplies \$950.00 (*Note: This needs to be spent before the end of the school year*)
 - The Non Board account \$3011.97
- Parent Survey Report – (*Loren Thorburn*)
 - Nothing to report – will incorporate previously discussed comments into the next survey
- PRO Grant workshop- (*Loren Thorburn*)
 - PRO Grant money for next year is still undecided.
 - Look at low cost/free options for next year
 - Ask parents if they work in a field or have experience to do a talk
 - Open spaces – multiple short talks on specific topics
 - Pull responses from the parent survey
 - Timing for PRO grant talk will be November (coordinate with Guidance)
- Fundraising- (*Kelly Levson*)
 - Flyer finalized to showcase committees and benefits to highlight where money is being spent (include “This is a message from School Council” at the top of the flyer)
 - This will go out in March – monitor if there is an increase in donations once the flyer has gone out.

- Discussed printing flyers and making them available during parent/teacher night in classrooms and the school council table.
- Other items - (*Loren Thorburn*)
 - Regional Parent Symposium – April 17th, 2019 @ Sheraton Parkway Hotel
 - If anyone would like to go, please contact Otilia to register by Friday, March 22nd
 - Cell phone ban in classrooms – board has not given any direction on this at the moment, so no changes at the school as of yet
- Requests for participation
 - Anyone on School Council who can help man the School Council table on April 4th, please contact Loren

Approval of minutes

Reminder: In order to conserve paper, hard copies of the minutes and agenda will not be provided at the meeting.

2018-2019 Council Members

Chair: Loren Thorburn
 Secretary: Ruby Thind
 Treasurer: Karl Brumund
 Parent Reps: Gail Harris, Andrea Kalmin,
 Christine LaForge, Kelly Levson,
 David Mountain, Sabira Pradhan

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, November 27th (PRO Grant speaker event)
 Monday, January 21st
 Monday, March 18th
 Tuesday, May 21st



School Council Report March 18, 2019

Arts Mackenzie

On February 13th, Arts Mackenzie welcomed the future grade 9 students to AMHS. Students attended discipline specific sessions before an orientation session to AMHS and course selection.

Dance, Theatre and Visual Arts are excited for their upcoming extended field trip. Students from each discipline will experience their arts discipline at a national level on the Arts Mackenzie extended arts field trip from March 21 to March 24. Follow the departments' social media accounts for trip updates:

Twitter: @AMHSPA @amhsvisa

Instagram: @artsmackenzie @amhs.studio

On March 26th, students from Arts Mackenzie will represent the program at the Town of Richmond Hill Cultural Summit from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

Dance/Theatre

Students in Dance Arts Mackenzie and Theatre Arts Mackenzie are working with a variety of guest arts to prepare for their upcoming performance opportunities. Save the date for the following performance:

- April 17th 7 p.m. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
- May 7th 7 p.m. *Dance Expressions* at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

Music

Last month at the Kiwanis Festival, the Chamber Orchestra received a platinum award and the Symphonic Band received a gold award. The Chamber Choir also performed at Voices for Africa as a fundraiser for the Stephen Lewis Foundation last month..

Upcoming festivals include:

<i>Group</i>	<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Place</i>
<i>Symphonic Band</i>	<i>Monday, April 1, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 10:30</i> <i>Leave Newmarket 2:15</i>	<i>Newmarket Theatre</i> <i>505 Pickering Crescent</i> <i>Newmarket</i>

<i>Intermediate Band</i>	<i>Tuesday, April 2, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 10:30</i> <i>Leave Newmarket 2:15</i>	<i>Newmarket Theatre</i> <i>505 Pickering Crescent</i> <i>Newmarket</i>
<i>Chamber Choir</i>	<i>Wednesday, April 3, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 8:30</i> <i>Leave Cosmo Music 11:45</i>	<i>Cosmo Music</i> <i>10 Via Renzo Drive</i> <i>Richmond Hill</i>
<i>Concert Band</i>	<i>Thursday, April 4, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 8:15</i> <i>Leave Newmarket 11:45</i>	<i>Newmarket Theatre</i> <i>505 Pickering Crescent</i> <i>Newmarket</i>
<i>Symphonic Orchestra</i>	<i>Friday, April 5, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 10:30</i> <i>Leave Newmarket 2:15</i>	<i>Newmarket Theatre</i> <i>505 Pickering Crescent</i> <i>Newmarket</i>
<i>Beginner Orchestra</i>	<i>Wednesday, April 17, 2019</i> <i>Leave AMHS 11:00</i> <i>Leave Arts Centre 2:15</i>	<i>YCDSB</i> <i>Centre for the Arts</i> <i>525 New Westminster Dr,</i> <i>Thornhill, ON L4J 7X3</i>

The Chamber Choir will also be performing at the Music Alive Gala Concert on April 24th and will be recognized for its “artistic and professional high standard of performance.”

The Music Department is also looking forward to their extended field trip to Halifax from April 30th to May 5th.

Visual Arts

The Visual Arts department is looking forward to the following upcoming events:

- April 11th: ACC is holding a Bob Ross paint event in the art room after school
- May 9th: Graduation Art Show opening at Boynton House at Richmond Green
- May 29th: Art Banquet

Eco Team

Through the “Green Apple School Program” offered by Metro, the school was able to secure a grant. The money is being used to offer fresh fruit to students as a healthy snack on Mondays and Fridays. Fruit will be made available outside of room 147 during the lunch period for students to grab and enjoy. We hope this will encourage students to make healthier food choices.

The school’s Eco Team continues to promote sound ecological practices around the school. GOOS (good on one side) paper is collected, sorted and shipped to our board’s Printing department who creates writing pads for our use. All used ink cartridges are collected and shipped to a board vendor for recycling. We also collect used writing utensils (which include Sharpies, markers, pens, mechanical pencils) so that they too may be recycled. Do you have a

great idea you want to share with the team? Email your ideas to Ms. Romeo at susan.romeo@yrdsb.ca.

English

Students on the AMHS Spoken Word team competed in the annual YRDSB Spoken Word Competition. While they did not move on to the next round, they gained awesome performance experience.

English As A Second Language

The ELL (English Language Learners) Leadership Club will be hosting its annual Nowruz celebration in March and a diversity day celebration of culture and heritage on May 24.

Guidance

Course Selection Update:

Students will receive their course verification sheets on Wednesday, March 20th, in their homeroom classes. These sheets will list all the course options your child has selected for next school year. If all of selections are correct, then students do not need to do anything.

If students wish to make a change, they should cross out the wrong code, and print the correct course code and course name beside the course they do not want. Course descriptions are listed on our website: <https://app.myblueprint.ca/public/courses/yrdsb/mackenzie1>

New Volunteer Opportunity:

A new volunteer opportunity is available at the Richmond Hill Public Library in the summer. More information available on the board outside of guidance.

Hospitality

The Hospitality Club will be having a Bake Sale for parents/guardians during Parent/Guardian Interview Night on April 4th.

Math Department

Math department is busy in preparing students for the upcoming Waterloo Math Contests and IB Math Exams, which is the first time for Alexander Mackenzie.

1) Waterloo Euclid Math Contest - April 3rd

37 Gr. 11 and 12 students will be writing the Euclid Math contest in Periods 1 and 2 on April 3rd. The results of Euclid math contest would be beneficial to students should they decide to apply for the Mathematics related disciplines or Engineering at the University of Waterloo.

2) Canadian Team Math Contest - April 9th

We will be sending a team of 6 students to compete with 25 other teams across Canada at University of Waterloo on that day. The students are very much looking forward to this event since it is our first time participating in the contest.

3) Waterloo Fryer, Galois and Hypatia Math Contests - April 10th

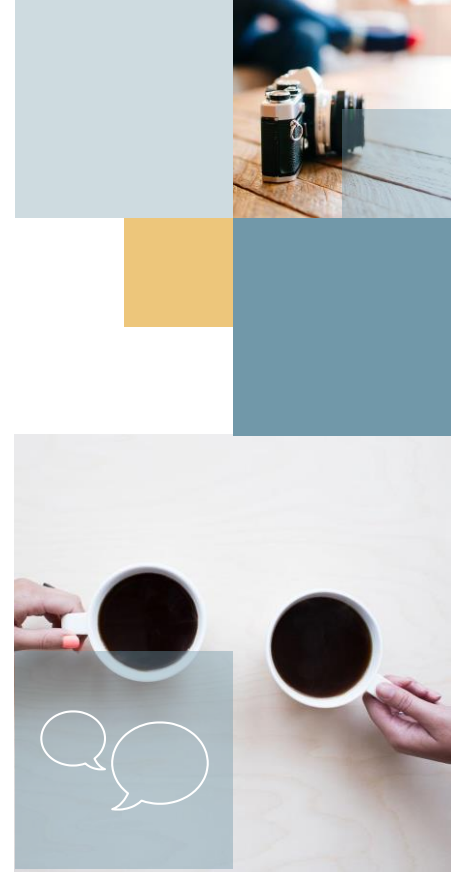
A total of 76 Gr. 9, 10 and 11 students have signed up for the above Math contests. The number of students taking part in these contests is on the rise at Alexander Mackenzie, which reflects the growth of interest in Math among our students.

4) IB Math Standard Level (SL) Exams - May 13th and 14th

We are busy in preparing our first IB cohort to write the IB Math SL exams on May 13 and 14. The exams will be written in school.

Modern Learning @ AMHS

Presented by: Natasha Bawa

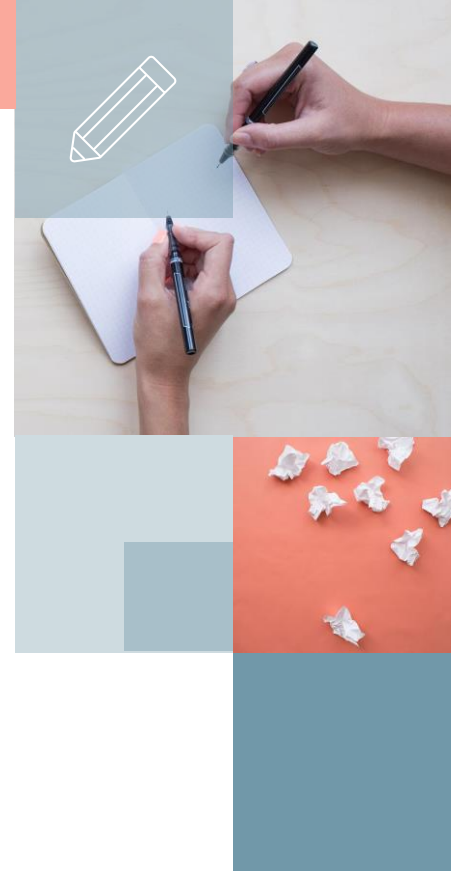


Modern Learning

If we:

- build knowledge and capacity;
- foster deep learning, innovative teaching and sound assessment;
- plan for sustainable and flexible environmental design;
- create collaborative learning communities,

then students will be engaged in authentic, relevant and deep learning that enables them to create, connect, communicate and share their learning with the world and to be future ready.

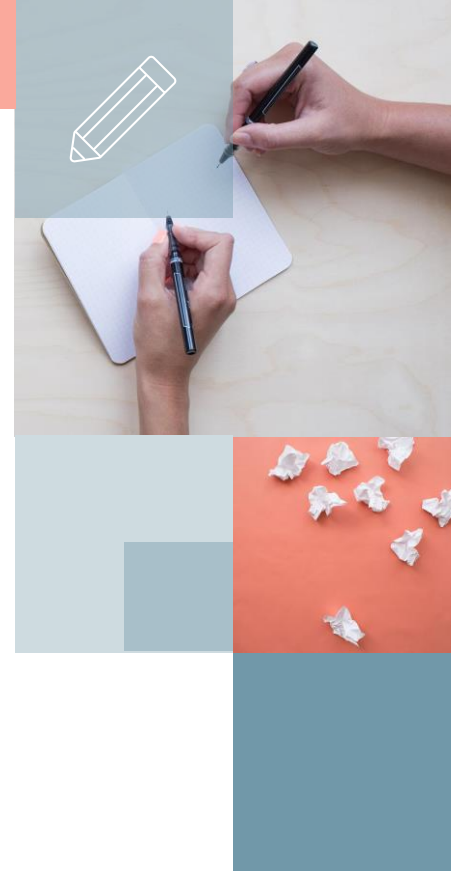


Breakout EDU

Using Google Sites - students explore a variety of content related information to unlock codes on Google Forms.

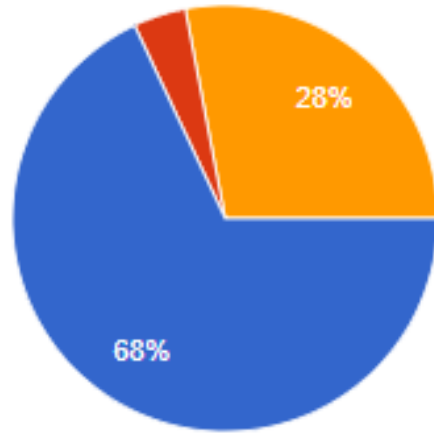
Impact:

- Innovative teaching practice
- Assess students learning and understanding
- Requires students to work collaboratively
- Practice of problem solving and critical thinking
- [Converse Challenge](#) and [Marketing Madness](#)



The activity was engaging

25 responses



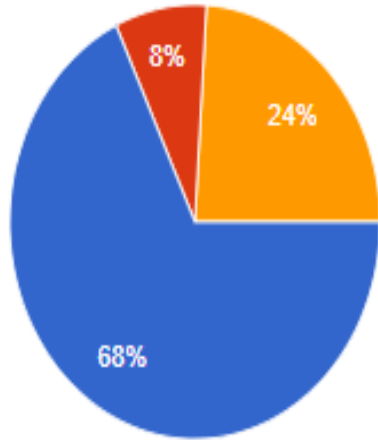
- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral

DRIVE
PASSIVE
DND

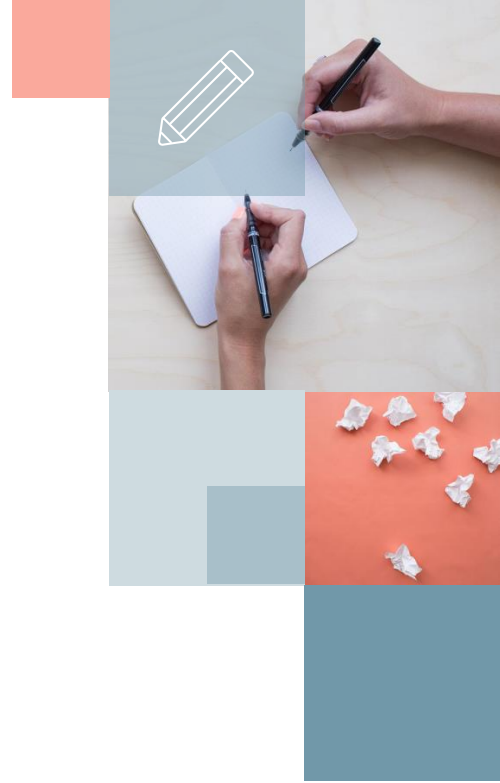


The activity was challenging

25 responses

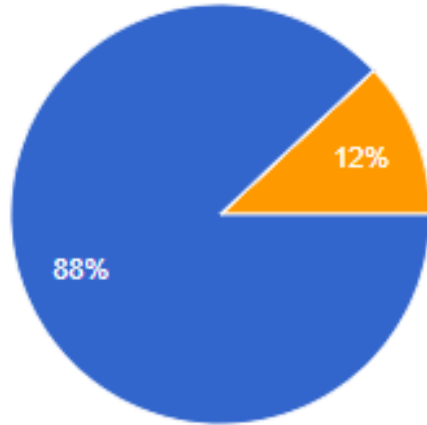


- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral



The activity promoted my critical thinking

25 responses



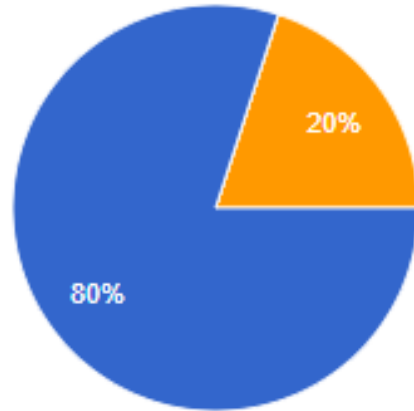
- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral

PASSION
DRIVE

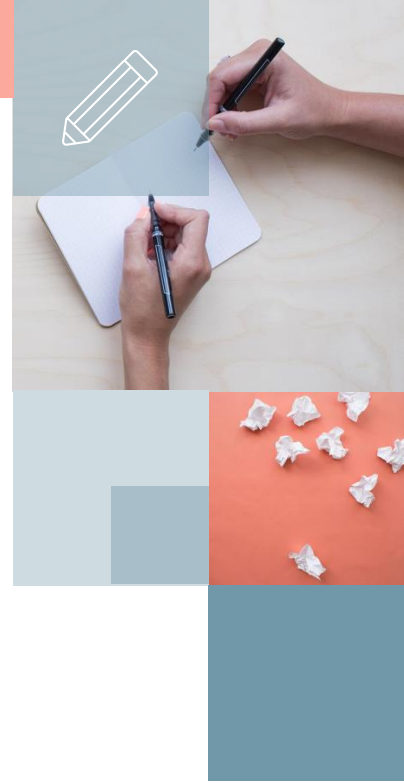


The activity helped further develop my understanding of course material.

25 responses

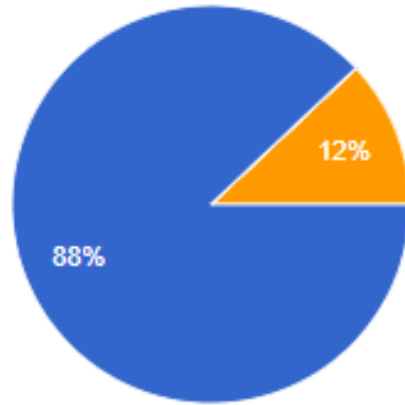


- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral

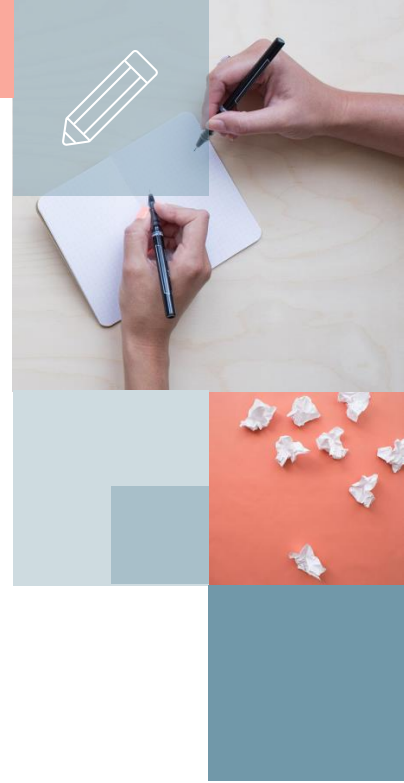


I would benefit from taking part in additional versions of the activity in later units.

25 responses



- Agree
- Disagree
- Neutral

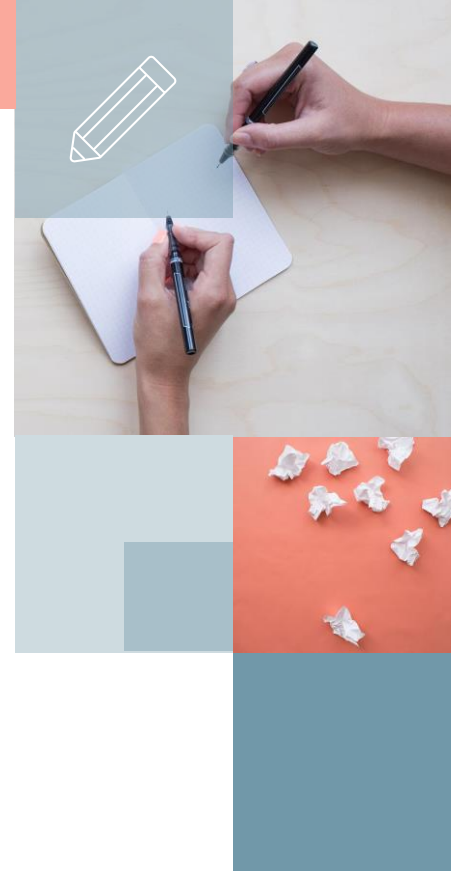


Google Read and Write

- Text annotations
- Highlighting text
- Organizing key terms
- Voice to text recognition
- Audio reading of text

Impact:

- Assists students in developing literacy skills
- Track key ideas and questions
- Reflective and active reading
- Formulating connections
- Analyzing text
- Supports each and every learner -
- ELL Supports



Green= Question
Yellow= Key Terms
Purple= Cause and Effect
Blue= Main Ideas and Points

Bold= Does not make sense
Italics= Connection
Underline=Compare and Contrast

Header

Different first page [Options](#)

As you read the text, complete the following:

1. highlight the most important points and key terms in the reading.
2. Use the 'Add comment' feature, annotate the text.

Ergonomics is the study of the how the physical health of workers is affected by their workplace.

Studies have shown that certain things in the workplace (including temperature, lighting, air, and furniture and equipment design) can affect the speed at which employees work, workers' health, and how often they are absent. Ergonomic design means creating a healthier work area for employees.

When work environments are designed to be ergonomically correct, employees are happier, healthier, produce more work in a shorter period of time, miss fewer days, and quit their jobs less frequently. As a result, businesses can save a lot of money.

When workplaces are not designed ergonomically, they can cause many types of injuries to employees. The most common type of injury is musculoskeletal injuries (MSI). MSI happens when a worker performs the same task over and over, causing stress on nerves, muscles, tendons, or other body parts. The most frequently reported MSI in North America is **carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS)**. CTS occurs when a nerve in the wrist is used over and over with

Furniture

Chairs should have five legs for stability. The height of the seat should be between 37.5 and 52.5 cm (15 and 21 inches) from the floor, and a firm seat back should allow the elbows to be bent at a 90° angle. The seat should be padded for comfort, but firm enough to maintain good posture. A good chair will help the worker's back and circulation remain healthy.

Tables and desks should provide enough space for workers to do their jobs without bumping into one another. There should be enough space under the desk to allow workers to change seating position to avoid leg injuries. The edges of tables and desks should be smooth and rounded to avoid injuries. Also, medium- and light-coloured surfaces help ease eye strain when reading. Surfaces should have a dull finish to reduce glare which hurts the eyes

Computer Hardware

Monitors should have flat screens to reduce eye strain. They should be positioned so that the top of the screen is at eye level, and at a distance of 45 cm to 60 cm (18 to 24 inches) from the face to reduce stress on the eyes and neck. Because monitors attract dust, then send it towards the user's face, they should be cleaned often.

Keyboards should be kept at elbow height and at an angle that causes the fingers to land on the home row at a 90° elbow angle. This prevents strain on the wrists. CTS occurs when these things are not adjusted properly.



Anonymous
Feb 20, 2018

[Resolve](#)

Why are ergonomics important to learn about?



Anonymous
Feb 20, 2018

[Resolve](#)

The chairs that have 4 chairs have enough stability



Anonymous
Feb 20, 2018

[Resolve](#)

The cause of properly built ergonomic chairs



Anonymous
Feb 20, 2018

[Resolve](#)

This cause and effect shows that ergonomics affect the speed of people's

When workplaces are not designed ergonomically, they can cause many types of injuries to employees. The most common type of injury is musculoskeletal injuries (MSI). MSI happens when a worker performs the same task over and over, causing stress on nerves, muscles, tendons, or other body parts. The most frequently reported MSI in North America is carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS). CTS occurs when a nerve in the wrist is used over and over with the wrong equipment. The wrist is then unable to move properly, and the person suffering cannot input data or hold objects in that hand. CTS is often caused by long hours of keying at a computer workstation that is not properly adjusted to the worker's height.

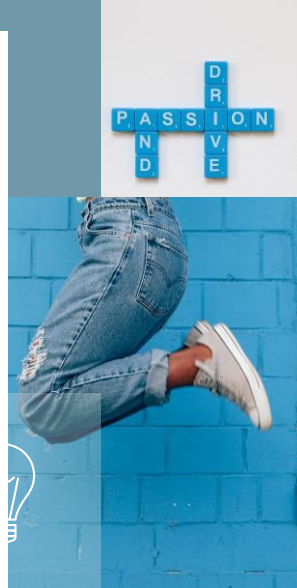
Other illnesses caused by poor ergonomically-designed work areas are eye strain, headaches, tiredness, allergies, backaches, and poor circulation.

Work Environment

The temperature of the workplace should be kept between 15 C and 22 C (62 F and 78 F). Plenty of air circulation (but not drafts from open windows) is important. This reduces the amount of dust and bacteria in the air, keeping workers healthier. Cleanliness is important because workers can develop allergies from exposure to dust, mold, and other particles in the air. Lights should not flicker because this causes eye strain. The colour of workrooms should be neutral and soft. Pure white, very dark, or shiny surfaces can cause tiredness.

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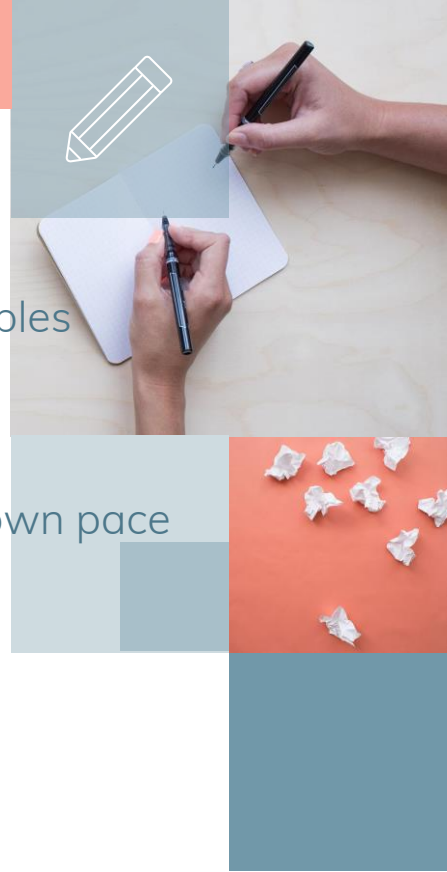


Screencastify

- Recording of lessons, activities, demonstrations and examples

Impact:

- Provides support for students as they can access at their own pace
- Allows students to revisit content, review material.
- Repetition
- Stay motivated for continuous learning
- Example [here](#) 3:14 - 3:43

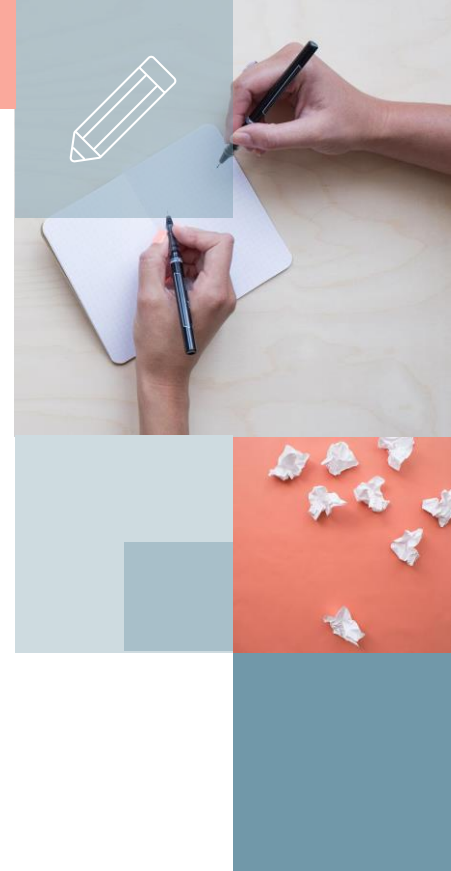


Google Sites

- Provides a platform for equitable access to course material for each and every student

Impact:

- Access to lessons for students who miss a class
- Review material at their own pace
- Stay motivated for continuous improvement
- Allows students to share documents

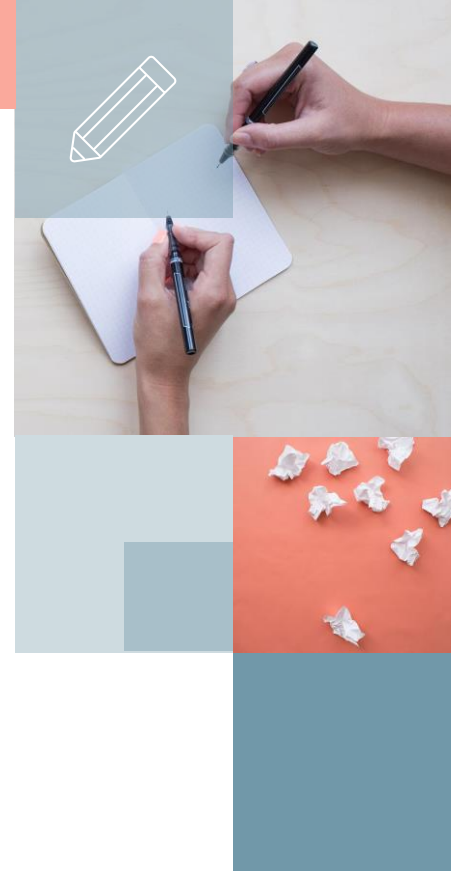


Spreadsheets, Docs, Presentation Software

- Students learn how to use spreadsheets to manage, analyze, represent and interpret data
- Create tables, formulas, graphs
- Create and share engaging presentations
- Develop and improve verbal communication

Impact:

- Practical skills and resources to help students organize, communicate and share information with the world

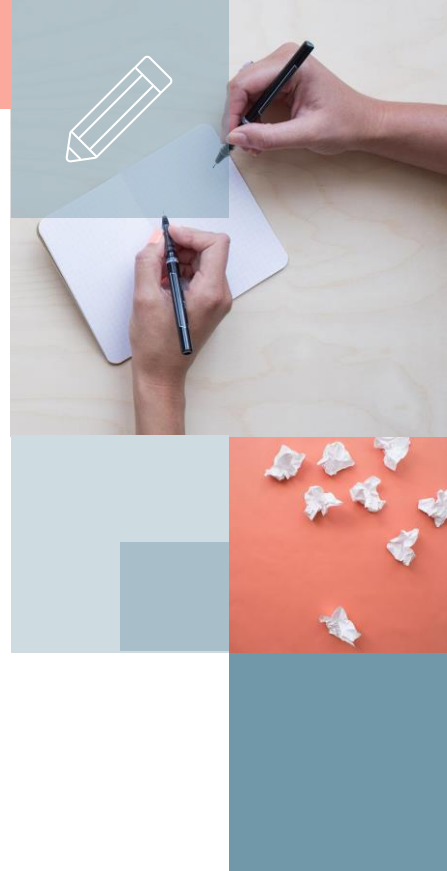


Flexible Learning Environments

- Transition to laptops/Chromebooks for more flexible learning environment
- Promotes further collaboration

Impact:

- Flexible seating environments
- Students are able to use technology to collaborate on shared documents
- Students are accountable for their contributions in group work
- history /tracking of students work

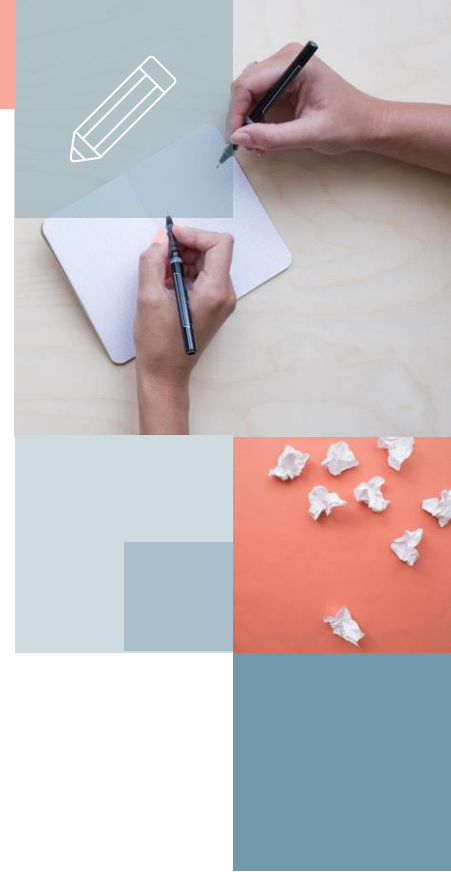


Google Forms

- Gather data regarding students mental health and well being
- Classroom climate
- Hallways - posters, business television, student work
- Activities used in classes -

Impact:

- Elevates students voices in assessments, learning and school environment

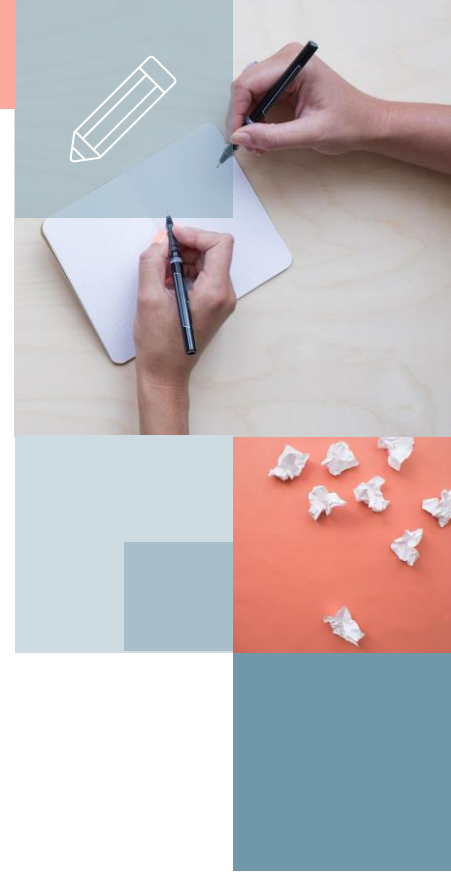


Game Based Learnings

- The Coffee Shop - Interactive Business
- The Stock Market Challenge
- Financial Literacy Simulations
- The Straw Building Activity
- Create an egg distribution channel
- Yoga Sessions
- Blind Taste Test
- Scavenger Hunt

Impact:

- Elevates student engagement, interest, and innovation
- Promotes collaboration
- Experiential learning





YOUR SKIN GLOWS WITH ROSE

Rosovoya

All Natural Face Masks

Stress-Free Sundays!
Buy 3 masks get 2 free

EVERY SUNDAY DURING
OPERATIONAL HOURS, COME TO
OUR SHOP FOR UP TO 25% OFF ON
YOUR PURCHASE

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Design Software Student Work

ART THERAPY

What are the benefits

Art therapy uses a combination of psychotherapy and the creative process to express thoughts and feelings that would be hard to articulate in another way

IMPROVE SELF MANAGEMENT

Art therapy can help people learn skills to focus, build discipline to live a healthier happier life

ALLEVIATE SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION

Can help build positivity in people's lives and provide something to look forward to daily. It is also proven to help the chemical imbalances in the brain that may lead to depression

IMPROVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Art therapy can help build self-expression and can help develop communication skills and the ability to reach out to others

REDUCE STRESS

Art therapy helps turn the negative energy from the day to day stress and turn it into positive energy and habits

PROVIDE A POSITIVE DISTRACTION

Art therapy can provide a positive distraction while keeping their minds off negative self destructing thoughts

BUILD SELF-ESTEEM

Art therapy helps build the self-esteem and self-awareness needed to handle certain social situations and life challenges people face

FIRST CONCERT BEYONCÉ LEMONADE

Marlins Park - Miami

Beyoncé Tour

04/27/16

Sec: 02 | Row: 05 | Seat: 14

No. 222

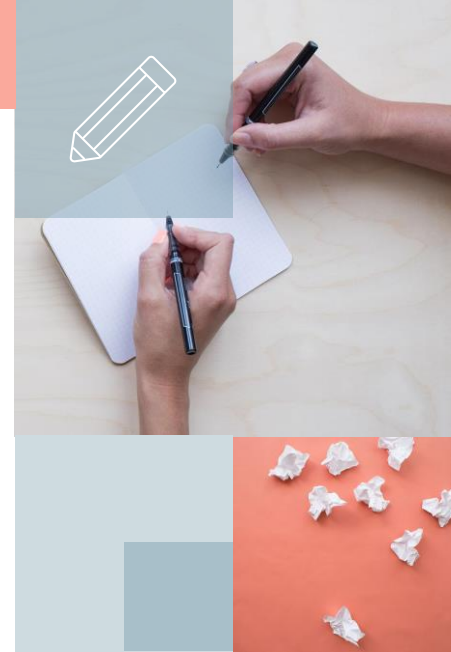


Technological Resources

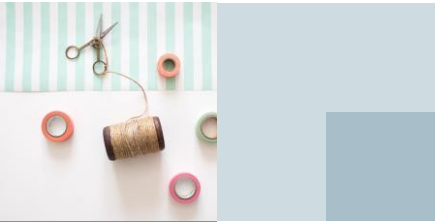
- [Peardeck](#)
- [Padlet](#)
- [Kahoot](#)
- [Canva](#)
- [Slides carnival](#)
- [Remote for slides](#)

Impact:

- The use of technology in our classrooms has fostered equity and inclusivity.
- Promotes greater engagement and participation
- Allows for assessing students learning

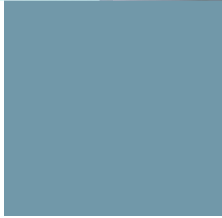


Students choose an option



Thank you!

Questions?





Regional Parent Symposium

The Sheraton Parkway
on
April 17th, 2019



Inspire Learning!

Key Messages for 2019

- The Parent Engagement policy is grounded in a vision of parents that acknowledges their importance both as valued partners and active participants in their children's education
- Research clearly indicates that good schools become better schools when they are strongly connected with parents as parts of the learning community
- Parents have primary influence on their children's attitudes toward school, their learning, and their future success.
- Successful parent engagement strategies must break down barriers that exist for many parents in order to help support parents

(Parent Engagement Policy 2010)

Director's Annual Plan Goal #4



build trust and collaborative relationships with students, families and staff through respectful and responsive communication focused on shared solutions

Director's Annual Plan
Goal #4

Symposium Schedule

Time	Activity
5:00 – 6:00pm	Registration and Dinner
6:00– 6:30pm	Student presentations, Welcome from the Board
6:30 - 6:40pm	Travel Break
6:40 – 7:40pm	Session A
7:40 - 7:50pm	Travel Break
7:50 - 8:50pm	Session B
8:50 - 9:00pm	Travel Break
9:00 - 9:20pm	Surveys

How to Register

- REGISTRATION open
 - March 21 – April 12 2019
- Weekly Summary will have the link to a Google Form
- We will share the link with you so it can be forwarded to your parents
- With the link, parents will be able to register themselves

Parent Selection

- Admin work collaboratively with potential parent participants
- Selection of parents
 - 3 elementary / 5 secondary parents maximum from each school
 - 1 administrator
- Principals, the criteria below can assist in your selection of parent members to attend the conference;
 - Parents who reflect the community (school/school district)
 - **Parents who have been involved/engaged in less traditional ways in the school**
 - **Parents who can reach out to those who have been traditionally marginalized by the education system**
 - Parents who are school council members can also be considered

Questions?

Contact

donna.ford@yrdsb.ca

