



AHS – ebulletin for Friday, May 17, 2019

Administration

Mr. G. Voumvakis, Principal
Ms. E. Shiffman, Vice-Principal (surname A to L)
Mr. P. Simmons, Vice-Principal (surname M to Z)

Superintendent

[Becky Green](#) (905)884-4477

Trustee

[Bob McRoberts](#)

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
May 16 - 22	Prom Ticket Pickup & Permission Form Drop-off <i>Periods 2-4 in front of the main office</i>
May 20	Victoria Day
May 23	Music Banquet 6pm
May 28	MADD Assembly; Mandatory Attendance for Prom Attendees P2
May 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Athletic Banquet 6pm
May 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">School Council Meeting
June 5	Eid-ul-Fitr
June 6	Prom
June 11	Gr. 12 Recital Night 3-5 @ <i>The Aurora Cultural centre</i>
June 13 – 14	Math EQAO
June 16	Father’s Day
June 17 - 21	Grade 12 Exams <i>Exam Schedule https://bit.ly/2Wz5KCU</i>
June 18	Locker Cleanup during Period 1
June 19 - 25	Exams for Grades 9 – 11 <i>Exam Schedule https://bit.ly/2Wz5KCU</i>
June 25	Graduation at Le Jardin Students to arrive at 6pm, ceremony begins at 7pm
June 26	Exam Review Day
June 27 – 28	PA Day
July 1	Canada Day
July 2	Office Summer Hours Begin <i>Monday -Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm</i>
July 10 – 11	Report Card Pickup
August 26	Regular Office Hours Resume <i>Monday-Friday 8:00 am – 4:15 pm</i>
August 27 – 28	Report Card Pickup

An Important Message from the Director

This is a message to our students, families, community members and staff about a very important issue.

We know there are concerns that students in our communities are experiencing anti-black racism and, sadly, we're seeing some of this hate in our schools as well. This is unacceptable. As a community, and as leaders in the community, we all have a shared responsibility to do more and better for the sake of our youth. This is a call to action for us and the communities we serve - being a bystander is not an option.

At York Region District School Board, we will not tolerate any form of hate or racism. We are committed to responding to and supporting students and families who experience hurtful and hateful acts. Over the last two years, we have been putting in place the infrastructure to support students in these cases. And now, more than ever, there is a need to highlight and make these structures clearly available to students, their families and our staff.

Student and families, if you are experiencing any form of discrimination in your school or community, we want to be sure we are supporting you. Speak to your teacher or trusted caring adult in your school. Help is available. We have staff members in our [Inclusive School and Community Services team](#) trained to support students who have been victims of hate or discrimination. In addition, this team also has strategies to work with the whole school community to reduce and prevent future occurrences of hate.

We know that communication is sometimes a challenge and reports of racism are not escalated. We need to make sure our communication is strengthened and our monitoring of our students is strong. Today, I'm announcing that we're making this process easier and more accessible to all families. We're going to launch an online reporting system available on all school sites and the Board website. The reporting tool will be similar to our bullying reporting tool, but specific for incidents of hate or discrimination. Through this tool, we can make certain that supports and appropriate processes are made available to students and their families. This will also assist in our ongoing tracking of such incidents.

I know that in some cases, families want to resolve concerns they feel are beyond the school level. Over the last two years, I want to remind families that we implemented an in-house, arms-length [Human Rights Commissioner's Office \(HRCO\)](#). The option to outreach to the HRCO is always available to students and parents. Contact information for the HRCO is available on our [website](#).

In addition to the launch of the reporting tool, I am announcing that in the 2019-2020 academic school year, we will be dedicating a full PA Day for training in addressing hate, with a focus on anti-black racism. All staff members in our Board will receive specialized training in this area to improve how we, as a system recognize, address and reduce such incidents in our schools and communities.

I continue to meet with community agency leaders with specific experience, knowledge and resources in dealing with marginalized communities and anti-black racism. I will be asking these leaders to join us in forming a task force with ongoing dialogue on the issues facing our youth and how we can resolve them together.

YRDSB staff members, colleagues, we have a duty to protect our students from harm, and to ensure they feel safe, welcome and respected in our classrooms and learning spaces. If a student reports an incident of hate or discrimination, bullying or name calling to you, tell your supervisor. Reassure and support the student. Connect with their family. We need to ensure there are appropriate consequences for the perpetrators. But, these are our youth, we also have a responsibility to help them understand the implications of their actions.

For all staff, students and community members - if you witness an act of discrimination, hear a racial slur or inappropriate joke, [interrupt the behaviour](#). These microaggressions and inappropriate behaviours all contribute to an environment where our students do not feel safe or valued. It is incumbent upon us to take action. Name the behaviour for what it is - anti-black racism, Islamophobia, homophobia. Teach in the moment, and again, reassure the student who has been victimized and ensure that you tell your supervisor. [Resources](#) on how to deal with these aggressions are available on our Board website for all to access.

I wish that I was able to erase all forms of violence and hate from our society. I don't have such power. What I am able to do is to continue to have a clear focus on championing equity and inclusivity in every single school in our region.

YRDSB is dedicated to creating classrooms where all students experience success; they feel excited to learn and that who they are is celebrated. This is our shared responsibility and I am thankful for your partnership with us and your dedication to this vision.

A [video of this message](#) is also available on the Board's YouTube channel. This message is also available on [Leading Edge](#).

Louise Sirisko

Director of Education
York Region District School Board

June Exams

Please find June's Exam Schedule at <https://bit.ly/2Wz5KCU>

Prom Assembly

We are looking forward to our Grade 12 students and their guests having a wonderful time at this year's prom.

To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all those attending, we wish to remind you that any student arriving to the prom having consumed alcohol will not be admitted. Unfortunately, in the past, this has occurred and students have been required to leave. This is not just a financial loss, but also the loss of a highschool milestone.

This information will be relayed to students at a **mandatory prom assembly** during period 2 on **May 28th, 2019**. Students that miss the assembly for a valid reason must see Mr. Simmons, failing to do so will result in having their ticket revoked and payment refunded.

Accordingly, we ask you to remind your child about this policy, especially if they are attending any pre-prom festivity.

We thank you for your support

Guidance News

Please visit the [Guidance Page on the AHS School Website](#) (May 17, 2019) for further information on:

- **Outstanding Community Involvement Hours (Reminders for Grads Only):** Friday, May 24th is the submission deadline
- OUAC/OCAS reminders: Semester Two midterm mark uploads were transmitted in April.
- Potential Graduates: Please stop in to Guidance to sign-off on your composite photo and graduate information
- Summer School for July 2019: Registration Information
- International and Indigenous Languages Program for September 2019: Registration Information
- Scholarship Information
- Community Involvement Reminders
- Day School e-Learning Courses for February 2020: Registration Information

A Message from ESP

ESP has run a toiletry drive for students and families in our school who are in financial need. If your family could benefit from the drive please contact the main office at 905-727-3107 or send your student to see Ms. Badali or any of the office staff.

Things to Do

Run by AHS Business Students

stuff

BY THE CAF

FUN.

**AURORA
MARKET
PLACE.**

bring
MONEY..
lots of
little
things to
buy

**(MON. TUES.
THURS. FRI.)**
MAY 27-28.
30-31.

DURING PERIOD 3/4

CHEAP
CHEAP