

MDHS ME to WE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Markham District High School (MDHS) will offer the [MDHS ME to WE Leadership Program](#) for up to 50 students who are interested in enhancing or developing their leadership skills through social justice issues. Markham District High School and the York Region District Board (YRDSB) have partnered with ME to WE to create the MDHS ME to WE Leadership Program that will begin its second year as a pilot project in Canada.

The [MDHS ME to WE Leadership Program](#) is a co-curricular program that will be completed over two years (by the end of grade 10). The program will offer students a wide variety of leadership opportunities, encourage their participation in multiple social justice issues, and help them to build capacity for social change in both their own communities and beyond.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Students will set individual goals for each of the following leadership strands. All goals will be met by the end of Grade 10.
 - ME to WE Initiative Through Active Learning: students will participate in the WE Schools Program and become involved in school wide campaigns.
 - Leadership Skills Development: students will participate in activities that enhance their leadership skills through workshops, readings, speeches, presentations, etc...
 - Social Justice and Global Citizenship: students will learn how to embrace diversity and become socially aware and stronger global citizens.
 - School and Community Leadership: students will become involved in a minimum of two student clubs, teams or extra-curricular activities throughout the program.
 - Personal Passion Project: students will embark on a year-long pursuit of their personal passion through a process of Learning, Action & Reflection recorded in a digital diary
 - Major Action Project: students will explore the international social justice issue of their choice and build an action plan to make a difference globally. Students may choose to use global issue resources covering the five pillars of the Adopt a Village Development Model as well as a major fundraising campaign at school.
 - MDHS offers over 30 different clubs and extra-curricular activities for students. These include, but are not limited to athletics, the Arts, DECA, music leadership, peer mentoring and many other volunteer opportunities.
- ▶ Students will complete 80 hours of service by the end of the program (of which 40 hours may contribute towards the OSSD graduate requirements).
- ▶ Students will become involved in a minimum of two student clubs or extra-curricular activities.
- ▶ Students will be monitored and guided by a staff advisor as well as our program coordinating team.

PROGRAM FOCUS AND FLEXIBILITY

Students may choose the focus of their leadership development, activities, and initiatives from variety of disciplines. A few examples:

- Science: exploring how technology can support international clean water projects; English: the role of the media in impacting social change; Math: their impact of social investments on different communities
- Great speakers covering a wide range of issues related to leadership, personal development, & social justice
- Book seminars to promote a university style learning environment as well as University trips for full day conferences

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Students become empowered leaders with real world leadership skill development and training from Canada's most prominent youth movement – ME to WE
- Program participants will be the first students in Canada to participate in this innovative leadership program, fully endorsed and sponsored by Craig and Marc Kielburger with the support of the entire ME to WE team and the dedicated staff of Markham District High School
- Students will part of a unique partnership with at least two universities, providing opportunities for exposure to post-secondary institutions and learning
- Students will build effective communication skills, develop important team building skills, and become active global citizens and community leaders
- Program participants will be the first recipients of the MDHS ME to WE Leadership Program certificate providing students with a tangible and valuable credential to include in their education portfolio

Information Night – Thursday October 26th (7:00 pm)
All parents & grade 8's are welcome.