



MARKHAM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

89 Church Street
Markham, ON L3P 2M3

Tel: 905.294.1886
Fax: 905.294.8141

April 30, 2020

Dear Students and Families,

We hope this correspondence finds you, your family and loved ones healthy and safe. We know these are difficult times and we wish to keep you informed regarding courses and our school.

The Ministry of Education has provided direction regarding end of year report cards for both elementary and secondary students. During the school closure period, students' marks should not be negatively affected by performance after March 13. End of year marks can only remain the same or increase based on evidence of learning gathered from April 6 onward. Please note that for Civics and Careers (Term 2) courses, students must engage in learning tasks between April 9 and the end of June; otherwise, students may be required to retake the course.

While this information may be a welcome relief to many students who are experiencing stress with the online format and other pressures in home life, YRDSB is encouraging all students to consider this time as an opportunity to continue their learning in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year. All secondary students will receive a final report card at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Teachers will continue to assign learning tasks, projects and culminating activities that will be marked for the purposes of formative and summative evaluation. Teachers will communicate results of these marked assignments to students. Results will be used by teachers to inform students' final course marks, in cases where it results in the mark improving. Learning Skills and Work Habits will reflect information gathered prior to March 13.

In the next few days, teachers will be communicating students' marks as of March 13. They will continue to provide ongoing updates as work is assessed. It is expected that every student engages in the learning and puts forth their best effort in completing course expectations. If there are extenuating circumstances preventing the completion of course work, please contact the teacher.

Final examinations will not be occurring this year. We will be communicating more about culminating activities in the next few weeks.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. If it is helpful for you to connect with a staff member from the school, please contact a teacher, guidance counsellor or administrator to discuss your questions.

If you have concerns about how your child may be affected by the change to reporting, including possible concerns for their mental health, help is available. Resources and supports related to student mental health can be accessed through [YRDSB COVID-19 Mental Health Resources for Students and Families](#). If you ever have an immediate safety concern for your child, including risk of suicide, please contact your local hospital or emergency services by calling 911 immediately.

We remain deeply committed to supporting our students and families as we continue to navigate the effects of COVID-19 on education. If our school can support your family in any way, we encourage you to connect with us.

On behalf of the MDHS Staff,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Schouten".

Brian Schouten
Principal



MARKHAM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

89 Church Street
Markham, ON L3P 2M3

Tel: 905.294.1886
Fax: 905.294.8141