



# PARENT BULLETIN


Tel: (905)-294-1886  
Email: [markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca) Website:  
<http://www.markhamdistrict.hs.yrdsb.ca>

## ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices by emailing [markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca) or calling 905-294-1886, and selecting option 1.  
**If your child is not attending the face to face class, please let us know if they will be logging on for the afternoon classes.**



**Dec. 14th-Jan. 8th 2021**

Monday, December 14th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #6-2B</li></ul>
Tuesday, December 15st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Rotation #7 Begins 4A</b></li></ul>
Wednesday, December 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-4B</li></ul>
Thursday, December 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-4A</li><li>SAC Holiday Activities</li></ul>
Friday, December 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-4B</li><li>SAC Holiday Activities</li><li>Hanukkah Concludes</li></ul>
Monday, December 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Winter Break Begins-No Classes-School Closed</b></li><li><b>Wishing everyone a safe, happy and relaxing holiday with family and friends!</b></li><li><b>All the best for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2021!</b></li></ul>
January 4th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Happy New Year and welcome back to school!</b></li><li><b>Semester 1 Classes Resume: Rotation #7 Cohorts A&amp;B online</b></li></ul> 
January 5th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-Cohorts A&amp;B online</li></ul>
January 6th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-Cohorts A&amp;B online</li></ul>
January 7th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-Cohorts A&amp;B online</li><li>Significant Faith Day Christmas (Eastern)</li></ul>
January 8th, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rotation #7-Cohorts A&amp;B online</li></ul>

## Message from the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Just a gentle reminder that it is important that students remember to wear their mask at all times while on school property. Students have been doing a wonderful job, but they are reminded that it is just as important for them to keep their mask on while in the building as well as once they are dismissed and outside.

**Our teachers really miss the students!** Please help to encourage your children to turn their cameras on during the afternoon synchronous lessons. It would help to build community, rapport and let everyone get to know each other. Cameras also assist teachers in ensuring that all students are engaged in class and allows them to better gauge the needs of their classes.

## Important Note for 2020-2021 School Year

This year, given the importance of adhering to our health and safety guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19, schools will be closed to students when an inclement weather day is declared and school transportation is cancelled. Please do not send your child to school when an inclement weather day is declared. Please ensure that you take the time to make plans in the event of an inclement weather day school closure. Student learning will continue on inclement weather days when schools are closed to students. To find out if transportation is cancelled, check:

- [Board website](#)
- [@YRDSB](#) Twitter account
- [Student Transportation Services' \(STS\) website](#) or hotline: 1-877-330-3001
- Markham District website
- Radio and TV media outlets

Learn more about inclement weather, and important information for students and parents/**guardians** by visiting the [Severe Weather Conditions webpage](#).

## Message from the Math Department

MDHS has always offered our students the option of writing multiple Math contests throughout the school year, hosted through the University of Waterloo. In the past, we have always been proud to acknowledge many of our students have achieved top ranking in the province and even in the country! This school year, due to the unprecedented nature of the learning environment, we have made the difficult decision to postpone hosting these Math contests in a formal capacity at our school, until we feel it is safe to do so. This, however, does not mean your child is not able to participate in writing the contest. The University of Waterloo Centre for Education and Computing (CEMC), has assured us they will still be running their contests this year and have given the option for students to register for them INDIVIDUALLY rather than through the school. For any student wishing to register to write any of this year's contests, we highly encourage them to do so by visiting the following link: <https://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/registration.html> and click on the button that says "New Individual / Remote Learning / Home School Application". As the year progresses, and should anything change, we will provide additional updates on how we MAY decide to host later contests, such as the Pascal, Cayley and Fermat multiple choice contests. We thank you for your understanding and support and wish all our students who register for any contests, the best of luck! - Mrs. Elliott

## Attention all Female/Non-Binary Math Enthusiasts

One of our very own Grade 11 students here at MDHS was selected to be a coordinator for the very first InteGIRLS Toronto chapter. InteGIRLS is a math competition open to females and non-binary students from grades 6-8 and 9-12. Their very first competition will be taking place on November 21st and prizes will be awarded to the winners. If you or anyone you know may be interested in participating in the competition please visit the link attached, to their website for further information on the competition and registration. Website - <https://linktr.ee/integirls.toronto> -Mrs. Elliott

## Student Athletic Association

Your Student Athletic Association (SAA) encourages everyone to join OFSAA's Virtual Challenges. The first two challenges are due on Dec. 18 (cross country walk/run/wheel & basketball foul shooting). Check school cash online for the Google Classroom code BEFORE you submit the permission form. It's time to get active and win some prizes! For more information check out SAA on Instagram @mdhssaa.



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Français

## Apply for Support for Learners funding

This funding is intended to provide parents and guardians with essential financial support for children and youth during these unprecedented times.

Parents and guardians will receive a one-time payment of \$200 for each child up to age 12, or \$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 with special needs.

Fill out and submit **one application per child** to receive funding. Only one parent or guardian may apply for each child. Each application will be verified, processed and paid separately. This means that if you have more than one child you may not receive payments at the same time.

Payments will be delayed or denied if the information you provide is incomplete or inaccurate. We may contact you to verify the information you are providing through this application.

**The easiest way to receive your payment is through e-transfer.** All you need is access to Internet banking and a valid email address.

You also have the option to receive payment through **direct deposit**. For this option, please have your banking information ready before beginning this application (bank name, branch number and account number).

You will receive an email in 1 to 3 days containing a confirmation number and confirming that we have received your application. Please be sure to check your junk mail for the confirmation email and to also record your application's confirmation number.

**The deadline to apply is January 15, 2021.**

Please use the links below to apply.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-learners>

<https://www.iaccess.gov.on.ca/SupportForLearnersWeb/public/index.xhtml>

*Lisa Harrison*

WORK EXPERIENCE TRANSITION COORDINATOR  
YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
STUDENT SERVICES  
THE CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING  
300 HARRY WALKER PARKWAY SOUTH

### School Council Meetings remaining for the 2020/21 school year

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 (Sub-Committee Meeting)

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Monday, March 22, 2021 (Sub-Committee Meeting)

Monday, April 19, 2021

Monday, May 17, 2021

All meetings are virtual and begin at 7:00 pm, go to meeting information to follow.

MDHS School (Parent) Council [markham.dhs@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:markham.dhs@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)

### York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities (YRAACC)

Sankofa Mentoring Program for youth between the ages of 12 and 18

Bridging the past with the present. Navigating the present into the future.

Mentorship, Leadership, Cultural Experience, Field Trips, Life Skills, Retreats, Self-Awareness, Career Exploration, Academic Support The Sankofa Mentoring Program is rooted in an African Rites of Passage framework that highlights the principles of Unity, Self-Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity, Faith and Self-Respect.

When we meet: **(During physical distancing we will be online on Thursdays for all students)**

Tuesdays at Vaughan Secondary School from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm or

Thursdays at Bur Oak Secondary School from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Food is provided

For more information please contact the program manager at [pgmmgr@yorkregionaacc.ca](mailto:pgmmgr@yorkregionaacc.ca) or call (647) 807-2016.

### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION-WE ARE ONLINE NOW!!!

**During this period of physical distancing due to COVID-19, the program will be delivered online on Thursdays only from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm for all York Region students.**

**The program will continue to offer mentoring, workshops and tutoring.**

**We are also offering laptops and cellphones to students to support their participation.**

## Revised School Screening Checklist

Every day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the [checklist from York Region Public Health](#). This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's [revised COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools and Child Care](#).

Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



### PLEASE COMPLETE BEFORE ENTERING THE SCHOOL

1. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms?\*



**FEVER AND/OR CHILLS**  
(temperature of 37.8°C or greater)



**NEW OR WORSENING COUGH**



**SHORTNESS OF BREATH**



**DECREASE OR LOSS OF SMELL OR TASTE**

#### IF "YES":

- Your child should stay home to isolate
- Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

2. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms?\*



**SORE THROAT OR DIFFICULTY SWALLOWING**



**RUNNY NOSE, OR NASAL CONGESTION**  
(unrelated to seasonal allergies or returning inside from the cold)



**HEADACHE**



**NAUSEA/VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHEA**



**FATIGUE, LETHARGY, MUSCLE ACHES AND/OR MALAISE**

#### IF "YES" TO 1 SYMPTOM:

- Your child should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started
- Your child may return to school/child care if symptom is improving and they feel well enough (no test is needed)
- If the symptom persists or worsens, contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

#### IF "YES" TO 2 OR MORE SYMPTOMS:

- Your child should stay home to isolate
- Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment

3. Has your child travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Has your child been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19?

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Has your child been instructed to stay home and self-isolate?

☐ Yes ☐ No

#### IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO QUESTION 3, 4 OR 5:

Your child must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days from the date of their last travel or the dates of last contact with a case. Follow the advice of York Region Public Health.

\*Children who have an existing health condition identified by a health care provider that gives them the symptoms should not answer YES, unless the symptom is new, different or getting worse. Look for changes from your child's normal symptoms.



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## Parents and Families of our school community

The **Community Partnership Developers (CPD)** provide direct support for students and families through partnerships with community organizations and social service agencies.

**We support students and families with:**

- community outreach and engagement
- nutrition and food supports
- parenting supports and education
- student and parent engagement
- early years and transition to high school
- locating services and/or community resources
- mental health
- basic needs (food, clothing, shelter)

If at any time, you are facing difficulties or challenges, we invite you to contact a member of your **CPD East Area Team** directly.

### Community Partnership Developers (CPD) East Area Team

<b>NAGESWARY SRIKUMARAGURU</b> Specialization (Regional): Tamil Community Email: <a href="mailto:nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca">nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 905-727-0022 Ext. 2449	<b>SHANI BLAKE</b> Specialization (Regional): Performance Plus Schools Email: <a href="mailto:shani.blake@yrdsb.ca">shani.blake@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 416-554-0362
<b>SHARON ZHANG</b> Specialization (Regional): Chinese Community Email: <a href="mailto:sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca">sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 905-884-2046 Ext. 2447	<b>YASMIN MAWANI</b> Specialization (Regional): South Asian Community Email: <a href="mailto:yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca">yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 416-727-8179

We support all students and families of elementary and secondary schools in the Markham area.

## Inclusive School & Community Services Community Partnership Developers (CPD) East Area Team



Through building and maintaining strong collaborative partnerships with school communities, community organizations and social service agencies, the **CPD East Area Team** responds to the emerging needs of your school community.

To ensure that the diverse needs of your school community are met, we deliver equitable and inclusive education practices by providing programs and resources along with direct support for students, parents and staff.

**We support schools, students and families with:**

- extracurricular programs
- community outreach and engagement
- nutrition programs
- parenting supports and education
- student and parent engagement
- early years
- transition to high school
- mental health
- basic needs.

### Community Partnership Developers (CPD) East Area Team:

<b>NAGESWARY SRIKUMARAGURU</b> Specialization (Regional): Tamil Community Email: <a href="mailto:nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca">nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 905-727-0022 Ext. 2449	<b>SHANI BLAKE</b> Specialization (Regional): Performance Plus Schools Email: <a href="mailto:shani.blake@yrdsb.ca">shani.blake@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 416-554-0362
<b>SHARON ZHANG</b> Specialization (Regional): Chinese Community Email: <a href="mailto:sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca">sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 905-884-2046 Ext. 2447	<b>YASMIN MAWANI</b> Specialization (Regional): South Asian Community Email: <a href="mailto:yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca">yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca</a> Phone: 416-727-8179

We support your school community, students and families of all needs and backgrounds in the CEC East area through various community resources and supports. Additionally, we also support all YRDSB schools regionally with our areas of specializations.

We invite you to contact your **CPD East Area Team** directly or through the [ISCS and FNMI Request for Support Form](#).

Uncomfortable going back to school?

Something bothering you?

Need to talk?

# Virtual WALK IN Counselling

Free immediate mental health single session counselling

CALL 647-619-9030  
TO SCHEDULE A  
VIRTUAL (PHONE & VIDEO)  
COUNSELLING SESSION

Offered in Cantonese, Mandarin, English for age 12 to 25



**VIRTUAL**

# **COUNSELLING**

## **How can I have a session?**

Please call 647-619-9030 for more information or to book your session. We will schedule you in for a 45 – 60 minutes phone or video counselling session. We speak Cantonese, Mandarin and English.

## **How long will I have to wait for a session?**

Your session will be scheduled to happen within 5 business days.

## **What platform will be used for video counselling?**

We use OTN (Ontario Telemedicine Network), a private and secure platform used by many health care practitioners in Ontario to communicate with and care for patients, and connect with peers and specialists. We also use Microsoft Teams.

## **What equipment do I need for video counselling?**

A computer, a webcam, and stable internet. Or, a smartphone or tablet with the download of an App. If possible, set up in a private space you feel comfortable to speak openly in.

## **What can I expect if I choose phone counselling?**

You will receive a call from a Clinician named "No Caller ID" at your scheduled time.

## **When can I come to the Walk-In in-person again?**

We are closely following provincial re-opening guidelines. Announcements will be made on our website and social media when in-person service is available again. For now, all services continue to be offered virtually first.

## **What languages will be offered?**

Cantonese, Mandarin and English

## **Who do you offer services to?**

We offer counselling to Asian youth age 12 to 25 living in Toronto and York Region.

## **What are the qualifications of the Clinician?**

Your Clinician is qualified and trained to provide mental health counselling. Your Clinician is registered with their professional College.



**HONG FOOK** 416-493-4242 [www.hongfook.ca](http://www.hongfook.ca)  
MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION



United Way  
Greater Toronto

Canada

Sponsored by  
The Regional Municipality of York  
  
York Region