



PARENT BULLETIN

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

ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Parents/Guardians are reminded to report all late or absent notices to the Attendance Office by calling 905-294-1886, option 1 or emailing markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca.

Week of Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 2020		Week of Dec. 7-11, 2020	
Monday, November 30th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2B 	Monday, December 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2A
Tuesday, December 1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2A 	Tuesday, December 8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2B
Wednesday, December 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2B Literacy Activity 	Wednesday, December 9th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2A
Thursday, December 3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2A Grade 8 Virtual Open House 6:30 pm-8:30 pm 	Thursday, December 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2B Hanukkah Begins
Friday, December 4th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2B 	Friday, December 11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rotation #6-2A

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.

University of Waterloo Financial Literacy Competition

The University of Waterloo will host the Financial Literacy Competition beginning the week of December 7th, 2020. The competition is open to all grade 9, 10 and 11 students. Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to all participants with cash prizes (\$75 gift card) to the top 20 students in each grade. Grade 12 students who were registered last May (as grade 11 students) but unable to compete will be eligible to write this year. They will also receive a levelled Certificate of Achievement. The top 5 will be recognized with a \$75 gift card as long as there are more than 50 students competing in this category.

The competition is 60 minutes long and includes 60 multiple choice questions. It will be held on Wednesday December 9th and is tentatively scheduled to begin at 3:00 p.m. Students will require the use of technology as the contest will be held online. On-line resources are available to help prepare students prepare for this competition. All students interested in competing require parental approval first.

Please email Mrs. Lovell at christina.lovell@yrdsb.ca for additional information.

High School Ambassador Program (HAP)

The HAP is a Chartered Professional Accountant sponsored initiative. It provides an opportunity for students wishing to pursue a professional accounting designation to build their resume with exclusive contests, conferences and the chance to connect with CPAs.

HAP is free to students and gets them access to the No Limits Conference (will be held virtually this year), CPA Showcase (60 sec., YouTube video contest), CPA InstaChallenge (periodic challenges sponsored by CPA Ontario), Write to Ignite and more. - Mrs. Lovell

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

Message from Our Trustee

Dear families, I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and well. 2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, and the global pandemic has affected individuals and families in different ways.

I want to reassure you that we continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. It continues to be important that we adhere to the health and safety measures in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can learn more about what schools are doing at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

While we have seen cases in some of our schools, we continue to work with public health to respond quickly, identify cohorts that need to self-isolate as a precautionary measure and take all appropriate measures. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their diligence in adhering to the public health recommendations and health and safety measures in place in our schools.

One of our priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to foster well-being and mental health. As a result of the pandemic, many of us are facing changes and new challenges that can take a toll on our mental health. It is more important than ever that we check in on one another and practice self-care. There are [mental health resources for students and families](#) on our Board website that address the unique nature of our current situation. You can also find information about our [Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and the [work we are doing in schools](#) to promote positive mental health and provide support for students.

While there are challenges, we also continue to have so many reasons to feel positive. Our students continue to impress us with their kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, courage and perseverance. Visit us on [YouTube at YRDSBMedia](#) to see just some of these stories.

In the coming weeks and months, many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays, and I wish you all the very best for the season. While we may be celebrating a little differently this year, I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back into our in-person and virtual schools in January. -Allan Tam, Trustee – Markham Wards 4 and 5



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Congratulations to the MDHS Student Leadership Program and our Music Department

"Now, more than ever, vulnerable populations need our support". This was the heading this past week in the Markham Economist & Sun as it documented a series of outreach programs within York Region. As reports continue to come in speaking to the growing needs in our local communities, our student groups answered the call by collecting over 2000lbs of food items that were donated to the Markham Food Bank. Congratulations to our **MDHS Student Leadership Program** (formerly MEtoWE) and our **Music** department for their collaborative efforts in supporting vulnerable populations in our community. The Markham Food Bank celebrates and appreciates your efforts.

Live Chat with Child and Youth Mental Health Professionals presented by Children's Mental Health Ontario

<https://cmho.org/live-chat-with-child-and-youth-mental-health-professionals-by-cmho/>

We know that many families are already struggling with mental health issues – and the upcoming holidays and winter season may be difficult. That's why we have asked two of our child and youth mental health experts to join us for a live chat.

This webinar is for parents and caregivers of children/ youth of all ages who have questions or concerns about their child's mental health relating to the pandemic, holidays and winter.

Who are the child and youth mental health professionals on this chat?

Coach Dave and Coach Nicole work with Lumenus Community Services, part of CMHO's network of child and youth mental health centres across Ontario. Nicole and David work out of the MLSE Launchpad site as Individual and Family Therapists. They provide drop-in, ongoing, and workshops for youth, parents, and community members. The services they provide are for children, youth, and parents who have kids between the ages of 0-29 years old. Services are client-centered, focused on the young person or family strengths, and come from an anti-oppressive lens.

Joining us as our host/moderator is Canada's leading parenting author, Ann Douglas.

Date & Time of the event:

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Webinar Registration: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RVdeEZ1xQieAxi2P30Poow

School Council Meetings for the 2020/21 school year

Monday, November 16, 2020

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.

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 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.

Interested in learning more about CICE?

If you are interested in more CICE Program specific information, or have some questions you would like answered that weren't answered today – this is the session for you!

Please join us via WebEx on Saturday December 5th at 10am using the link below:

<https://georgiancollege.webex.com/meet/molly.zariwny>

If you need assistance or would like a reminder of the session – please email Heather.Harrison@georgiancollege.ca

Experience



Georgian

ACCELERATE
YOUR SUCCESS

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



WALK IN 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

MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION



United Way
Greater Toronto

Canada

Sustained by
The Regional Municipality of York

York Region

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.