



# 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 to the Attendance Office by calling 905-294-1886, option 1 or emailing [markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca). Should your student be absent for 3 or more days, an extended absence form must be signed by each subject teacher, parent/guardian and the Vice-Principal prior to leaving for the absence.

- Exam Schedule and Information has been posted on our website <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markhamdistrict.hs/NewsEvents/Pages/Exam-Schedules.aspx>



## Week of December 16-20th, 2019

<b>Monday, December 16th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locker Cleanout during period 1</li> <li>Grade 9 Gifted Summative, All Day—Ms. Tsang and Mrs. Rass</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, December 17th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graduation Photo Retakes, in the Library—by appointment only</li> <li>The Honourable Dr. Jane Philpott will be guest speaking in our Library-Learning Commons, periods 1 and 2, for select classes—Mr. Hamid</li> <li>Boys Hockey Team to Bill Hogarth, game at 2:30 pm, dismissal at 1:30 pm—Mr. Gasteiger</li> <li>Senior Boys Basketball Team to Markville S.S game at 4:00 pm—Mr. Rass &amp; Mr. Zhang</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, December 18th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>One Day Walk Out by Secondary School Teachers (OSSTF) - school closed to students</b></li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, December 19th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAC Holiday Door Decorating Contest –Final Judging—Mr. Macdonald</li> <li>Girls Hockey Team to Clippers Arena, dismissal at 1:45 pm, game at 3:00 pm—Mr. Howard</li> <li>SAC Holiday Assembly Dress Rehearsal, in the Cafeteria and Drama Room, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm—Mr. Macdonald</li> <li>Boys Hockey Coaches Classic game at Mt. Joy Arena, game at 4:00 pm— Mr. Gasteiger</li> <li>Music Holiday Social, 5:00 pm in the Music Rooms and Cafeteria—Mr. Caswell</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, December 20th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAC Holiday Assembly, 8:10 am–10:50 am in the Cafeteria—Mr. Macdonald</li> <li><b>Wishing everyone a safe, happy and relaxing holiday with family and friends! All the best for a happy and prosperous 2020!</b></li> </ul>



## Week of January 6th-10th, 2020

- Happy New Year and welcome back to school!**

<b>Monday January 6th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Regular schedule of classes resume.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday January 7th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>◆ Significant Faith Day—Christmas (Eastern):</b> With respect for Inclusivity &amp; Equity; there will be no evaluations, club meetings or team practices on these dates</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday January 8th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last Day for Field Trips for Semester 1</li> <li>Grade 11 Drama Show, 7:00—9:00 pm in room 151—Ms. Duncan</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday January 9th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 11 Drama Show, 7:00—9:00 pm in room 151—Ms. Duncan</li> </ul>
<b>Friday January 10th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam Review Outlines shared with students</li> </ul>



## *Messages from Guidance*

### *Scholarship Information*

This issue contains scholarship listings with January-March deadlines as well as updates to scholarships listed in previous newsletters. The scholarships are listed according to application submission deadline. Just a reminder: All scholarships are linked directly to the scholarship's website. Just click on the name of the scholarship.

[http://seekingscholarships.com/issue-26-the-scholarship-report-nov-2019-jan-2020/?mc\\_cid=39fcc63eb3&mc\\_eid=a3d0e6a84e](http://seekingscholarships.com/issue-26-the-scholarship-report-nov-2019-jan-2020/?mc_cid=39fcc63eb3&mc_eid=a3d0e6a84e)

### *Time Table Changes for Semester 2*

Semester 2 changes for grades 9-11 will begin after the holiday break, Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and run until Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

If you are a grade 12 student and would like to make a change for second semester due to post-secondary and grad/or requirements, you can now make an appointment with your guidance counsellor.

### *Attention students in grade 12*

Any grade 12 student who has outstanding community hours is asked to submit all missing hours as soon as possible. If hours still need to be completed, please come to the guidance office or begin looking for volunteer opportunities. The holiday break is coming up and this is a great chance to give back to your community! If you need help, please come to the Guidance office.

Any grade 12 student planning on applying to University for September 2020, the application deadline is Wednesday, January 15. Please try and get your applications completed over the holidays!

### *Semester 2 Night School and E-learning Night School Registration*

**Night School registration** for 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester is available from January 6, 2020 to February 6th. You must register on myPathwayplanner for any course that is available. Night school courses will take place at Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning (in Richmond Hill) and courses will run from February 13<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup> and run from 6:30 pm - 9:45 pm (3 ¼ hours).

**E-Learning night school registration** for 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester is ongoing and some courses may be full. Courses will begin on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

Please see drop into guidance or speak to your Guidance Counsellor for additional information.

### **Students attending Y.R.D.S.B. Day Schools for night school:**

1. Register on <https://mypathwayplanner.yrdsb.ca/LoginFormIdentityProvider/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fLoginFormIdentityProvider%2fDefault.aspx>
2. **Winter Registration:** January 6, 2020 to February 6, 2020.

## **E-LEARNING NIGHT SCHOOL SEMESTER 2**

### **STUDENT REQUIREMENTS**

#### **BEFORE APPLYING**

Review the [Course Catalog](#), [Important Dates Calendar](#), [FAQs](#), [Policies & Procedures](#), [System Requirements](#), [Student Profile](#), and [Information About the Education Act](#).

#### **EMAIL ADDRESS**

**Applications that include inappropriate email addresses will NOT be processed.**

Include an alternate email address with a different provider on the application.

If your primary email address is with **hotmail**, provide an alternate with **gmail** or another email provider.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

In person attendance for all MANDATORY face-to-face activities at the scheduled date, time and locations required.

No exceptions allowed for MANDATORY events.

#### **TIME COMMITMENT**

Approximately 8 hours of study time per week per course is required.

1 course = 8 hrs/wk approximately      2 courses = 16 hrs/wk approximately

#### **COMPLETE APPLICATION**

COMPLETE applications will be processed on a first come first served basis.

Night School e-Learning is NOT responsible for informing applicants about an incomplete application.

**APPLICATION** <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/programs/Pages/Winter-Registration.aspx>

- You must be enrolled in less than 4 credits in a semester at the day school, may be eligible to take Night School e-Learning at YRDSB.
  - Check with your alpha Guidance Counselor before applying.
- **Note:** Night School e-Learning + Day School credits cannot exceed a total of 8 credits in a school year.

## ***York Support Services Network***

York Support Services Network is a community-based agency that offers a range of case management and community crisis services throughout York Region, to support individuals with a developmental disability and/or a serious mental illness. They offer a variety of events and programs for people with developmental disabilities, their caregivers and people with mental health challenges. Please refer to the website to register for any of their upcoming December and January workshops and counselling sessions. <https://www.yssn.ca/Events#singlemh>

## ***Bus or School Cancellations***

With winter weather already here, we want to share some important reminders for families.

When an **inclement weather** or **extreme cold** or day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) are cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the end of the day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when **emergency winter events** occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations.

Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days are outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important part of the review process.



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## Message from SHSM

There are many exciting opportunities in our SHSM programs in the works for the remainder of this year!

Students should check their gapps email as well as the SHSM bulletin board outside of guidance for many exciting opportunities. Many have already taken place while others will be added.

Students MUST pick up permission forms for field trips in guidance and return them with the appropriate signatures in a timely manner.

**Be mindful** of the return dates listed on the permission forms for our planning purposes.

Students are expected to attend the field trips that they register for unless there are extenuating circumstances.

We have to commit numbers and payment for many of these trips prior to attending and there are often students on a wait list hoping to attend.

**The following trips have already been scheduled with many more to come:**

### SEMESTER 1

**January 8, 2020:** Green Industry Trade Show - **CONSTRUCTION, Horticulture & Landscaping, TRANSPORTATION**

### SEMESTER 2

**February 14, 2020:** Beanstalk Project (Customer Service & Leadership Skills) **ALL 6 SECTORS**

**February 24 & 25, 2020:** Standard First Aid/CPR Level C - All SHSM students who still require this certification

**February 26, 2020:** FCAD Day (Faculty of Communication, Art & Design - Seneca at York) - **ARTS & CULTURE**

**February 26, 2020:** Taste of Aviation (Centennial College) - **TRANSPORTATION**

**March 3, 2020:** High Five Training (Principles of Healthy Child Development) - All sectors (Very limited Space)

**March 9, 2020:** Ryerson SciXChange

**April 15, 2020:** ABA Toronto Beauty Show: Health & Wellness **ARTS & CULTURE & HEALTH & WELLNESS**

**April 23, 2020:** Markham Stouffville Hospital P.A.R.T.Y. Program - **HEALTH & WELLNESS & NON PROFIT**

More to come...

Please note that students should consider attending field trips that are most relevant to their sector or that are of particular interest to them. Most opportunities are optional although all students **MUST** complete **Standard First Aid/CPR Level C** training.

**Reminder:** Grade 12 SHSM students to check that you are in a position to earn your Red Seal.

If you are missing a certification, there is still time to earn them.

If you are missing other SHSM requirements (e.g. courses), inquire to see if you are able to complete these requirements.

Some colleges and universities (e.g. Brock, University of Guelph-Humber, McMaster, Niagara etc) offer scholarships to students in SHSM who complete their Red Seal.

### **REGISTRATION FOR SHSM**

For Grade 11 students interested in registering for SHSM for this year (and are now planning to take coop in grade 12 or who took coop this year), feel free to speak to Mr. Weinstein for information.

For Grade 10 students interested in registering for SHSM for next year (and are planning to take coop in grade 11 or grade 12), feel free to speak to Mr. Weinstein for information or visit: <https://www.mdhsco-op.com/> (there is a direct link to SHSM and the application)

To apply to MDHS SHSM programs, use the bit.ly shown below.

1. [bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp](https://bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp)
2. Complete the application and submit
3. Print from your gapps email
4. Obtain parent/guardian signature and return

### **History in the Making**

Join the History Department during the spring of 2020, as they tour France, Belgium & the Netherlands, in commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands. **ONLY 3 SPOTS REMAIN**, so don't miss out.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact either of us here at MDHS, or go to the following website for more information.

[explorica.ca/Morris-6048](http://explorica.ca/Morris-6048)

Ms. Towns  
[kristin.towns@yrdsb.ca](mailto:kristin.towns@yrdsb.ca)

Mr. Morris  
[gregory.morris@yrdsb.ca](mailto:gregory.morris@yrdsb.ca)

Don't forget to buy a

# YEARBOOK

before it's too late...

Go to [yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com](http://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com) to purchase your yearbook today for only **\$45!** Price will raise to \$50 by the new year.

# Music Department

## ***We Scare Hunger Food Drive - Grade 9 Instrumental and Vocal Classes***

Each year the Grade 9 Instrumental and Vocal Classes of Markham District High School reach out to their communities to collect food donations for the Markham Food Bank as part of the Free the Children Initiative - We Scare Hunger. Our initiative is introduced at our annual Music Retreat by our Senior Music Counsellors. Students learn about the Markham Food Bank, about those that are in need of food, and are split up into small groups where they create goals and a plan for collecting donations.

Our students spent the following week starting on Halloween Night collecting food donations from their communities. One of the more popular approaches that our students take is to ask for food donations when they go out “trick-or-treating” instead of candy at the door! While this makes for heavy pillow cases to lug around the neighborhood, it’s helped to make our annual drive a huge success. In addition to asking for donations at the door, students dropped off letters to neighbors, and even got the word out to every house that was visited during a paper route!

Our goal was to surpass last year’s efforts of 800lbs, and that is exactly what we did this year! We had a tremendous amount of participation and enthusiasm from our students this year! Some students even brought in food on multiple days as they continued to collect. When the week was over, we found ourselves with over 600 food items and just over 850 pounds of food!

Thank you to all of you who helped to make this year a huge success! We couldn’t have helped as many families as we have this year without your help and support of this worthy cause!

Our sincerest appreciation,

*The Students and Staff of the MDHS Music Program*



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## Student Activity Fee – A Message for Parents and Guardians

Your support of the Student Activity Fee is needed for Markham District High School to continue to provide a vast array of opportunities that respond to the diverse interests of our students. We know that parents and guardians of MDHS students appreciate the value of extracurricular activities in building school spirit, fostering a sense of community and support positive mental health and wellbeing within our students.

The Student Activity Fee helps to fund engaging opportunities that occur before school, at lunch and afterschool. Monies collected cover or subsidize costs of events and activities – including those run by the Student Activity Council (SAC) – that build school spirit, promote inclusivity, create memories and enrich the learning experience beyond the classroom and the designated subject curriculum. Our Student Activity Council (in collaboration with Staff Advisors and Administration) manages the allocation of the Student Activity Fees collected at registration.

Here are some examples of how SAC allocates Student Activity Fees (SAF) at MDHS:

### Clubs & Committees:

- To provide start up operational funds for clubs and committees;
- To defray costs of organizing or participating in special events (such as student conferences, competitions, celebrations) related to the club or committee; and
- To support special initiatives that clubs have requested funding for via a written proposal.

### Teams:

- To pay the cost of one tournament per team (students on teams are required to pay the SAF);
- To provide awards/trophies for athletic excellence and sportsmanship at the annual Athletic Banquet;
- To provide funding support for teams that qualify for OFSAA.

### Student Council – Whole School Activities/School Climate Support:

- Grade 9 Welcome Day
- Spirit Week Activities
- Monthly Spirit Theme Days
- Clubs Day
- Conferences
- Prizes/Awards for Bravo Breakfast
- Hallowe'en Activities
- Fall Dance, Semi-Formal and Prom
- Valentine's Day Activities
- May Day Event
- Guest Speakers for Assemblies
- Purchasing items for the Student Body

### Other:

- The Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Classics programs have co-curricular clubs and activities which receive funding from SAC through the SAF.

Please note that even if you choose not to pay the \$45 Student Activity Fee it means that your child will pay higher entrance fees for tickets to school events.

Thank you for your support. We hope that all of our students and their families enjoy a safe and happy summer. We look forward to seeing you in September!

Information of how to use **School Cash Online** can be found on our website <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markhamdistrict.hs/NewsEvents/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>



# Transition Planning Resource Days

Need help understanding the developmental services system and transition planning? Book a free, 1 hour session, with a case manager to discuss and ask important questions related to your situation.

## 2020 Sessions

### Aurora Location (240 Edward St., Unit 3)

Dates	Times
Mon., Jan. 13	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Mon., Apr. 6	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Markham Location (50 McIntosh Dr., Suite 239)

Dates	Times
Mon., Feb. 3	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Mon., May 4	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### Vaughan Location (9401 Jane St., 3rd Floor, Suite 301)

Dates	Times
Mon., Mar. 2	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Mon., Jun. 1	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## We can help you:

- fill out forms and applications (e.g. ODSP, SSAH, Mobility Transit, etc.).
- find resources.
- give you information on adult services and Developmental Services Ontario (DSO).
- financial planning resources.

## How to book an appointment

These sessions are for individuals who have a developmental disability, are in high school or recently graduated from high school, and need help planning for adult services.

**Call: 905-898-6455 or 1-866-257-9776, ext. 2245, or email [cmacdonald@yssn.ca](mailto:cmacdonald@yssn.ca)**



### About us

York Support Services Network offers a range of developmental services and mental health programs throughout York Region and South Simcoe.

[yssn.ca](http://yssn.ca)

### Connect with us!

