



# 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 more than 3 days, an extended absence form must be signed by each subject teacher, parent/guardian and the Vice-Principal prior to leaving on vacation.

### Week of September 9th to 13th, 2019

<b>Monday, September 9th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students interested in joining the Tennis Team see Mrs. Kerhoulas in Guidance in the morning (at the latest).</li> <li>Mandatory Swim team meeting in room 229 at 3:00 pm-Mr. Ferrante</li> <li>Jr. Girls Flag Football team tryouts at 3:00 pm.-Mr. Hartslief</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, September 10th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 10 Safe Schools Assembly Period 1</li> <li>Lead club meeting in room 252 at 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 11th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 11 Safe Schools Assembly Period 1</li> <li>Lead club meeting in room 252 at 3:00 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, September 12th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 12 Safe Schools Assembly Period 2</li> <li>Grade 9 Parent Music Information Night, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, September 13th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course Change Deadline Day</li> <li>Grade 10-12 Photo Day—photos will be taken in the gym, please listen to the announcements or your grade and surname</li> <li>Beanstalk Project (Co-op/SHSM workshops), 8:10 am to 2:50 pm in the library</li> <li>OFSAA Sanctioned Sr. Girls Flag Football Tournament (main field) 8:30 am to 4:45 pm</li> </ul>

### Week of September 16th to 20th, 2019

<b>Monday, September 16th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Council Meeting, 7:00 pm in the Library—election of members meeting. All parents/guardians are welcome. Please join us!</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, September 17th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, September 18th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, September 19th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>Friday, September 20th</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>



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## THE EDUCATION CENTRE

60 Wellington Street West  
Box 40, Aurora, Ontario L4G 3H2  
Tel: 905.722.3201 905.895.7216 905.727.3141 416.969.8131  
Automated 905.727.0022 895.7227 722.6255 416.969.7170

Fax: 905.727.1931  
Website: [www.yrbe.edu.on.ca](http://www.yrbe.edu.on.ca)

September 3, 2019

Dear families,

We are so excited to welcome you to the 2019-2020 school year at York Region District School Board. We hope that you are looking forward to a year of learning, growth and discovery. It is important to us that all of our students and families know that they are a valued part of our school community. Each and every child has important and unique contributions to offer and we aim to create learning environments where they feel safe, respected and supported in making those contributions.

It is a privilege to work alongside families to support your children in exploring their interests, learning more about the world around them and reaching their full potential. We are more successful in doing that when there are strong connections between our schools and families, and we hope you will find opportunities to build those important connections throughout the year.

Our work to provide your child with the best possible education is guided by four priorities set out by the Board of Trustees in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership. [Our plans](#) are available on the Board website or you can make a request through your school office.

As part of our commitment to build collaborative relationships, we will continue to keep you informed about our work at the board and important news and events through our website, social media and through your school. We look forward to connecting with you, and wish you a happy, safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,

Louise Sirisko  
Director of Education

Corrie McBain  
Chair of the Board



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## *Message From Our Trustee*

I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families to another school year. As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The [Board of Trustees](#) makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#).

We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

As we start the new school year, I want to highlight the importance of relationships. We want to build and maintain relationships with our families that are built on trust, respect and responsive communication. To support that, I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities, and I encourage you to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website.

In addition, I invite you to share your feedback on our Board policies. Policies govern everything from field trips, school volunteers, equity and inclusive education, student discipline and much more, and we greatly value input from families on these important matters. We regularly post on our website the [policies that are under review](#) and available for comment as well as information about how to share your feedback. I hope you will take a look.

I know school staff are excited to welcome back students, and I look forward to meeting more of our families throughout the upcoming school year. I encourage you to build a relationship with the staff members and community at your school. There are so many [different ways to get involved](#) and support your child's education. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, safe and successful year ahead. -Allan Tam Trustee, Markham Wards 4 and 5

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## *Messages from Guidance*

Semester 1 Night School:  
Night School - Courses Offered

### **Semester One Night School - Fall 2019**

September 24, 2019 to January 30, 2020 Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:45 pm Dr. Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning 36 Regatta Avenue, Richmond Hill, ON L4E 4R1

**Available to YRDSB students who are enrolled in courses worth less than 4 credits in a given semester.**

**Not Night School + Day School credits cannot exceed a total of 8 credits in a school year.**

Classes run on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 pm -9:45 pm (3 1/4 hours)

Students may apply online by visiting the myPathway planner website, after receiving permission from their home school. Students should discuss this with their alpha guidance counselor if interested.

## **Scholarship News**

Grade 12 students interested in obtaining information regarding scholarship opportunities as asked to join the Guidance Moodle at <http://bit.ly/SCHOLARSHIPS2016>

School sponsored scholarships that are available in September include the *Loran*. School Sponsored scholarships that are available in October include *The University of Toronto National Book Award and National Program*.

Please see the first installment of the scholarship report for 2019/2020, this contains important deadlines for upcoming scholarships.

<http://seekingscholarships.com/the-scholarship-report-september-2019-issue-25/>

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## **Timetable Changes**

Students are expected to follow their assigned timetable and attend all classes as scheduled. Students can request a timetable change using the on-line course change request form. Students can access this form by logging into their GAPPS account and using the following link: <http://bit.ly/MDHSCOURSECHANGE> Once students submit the form, a PDF copy will be sent to their email. Please have the student print the form, sign it and have the parent/guardian sign it. Once the student is called to Guidance, they must present this form.

**This on-line form will be open until Friday, September 13, 2:50pm. Please note students can only submit ONE form.**

No appointments regarding timetables can be made at this time. Timetable change re-quests will NOT be accepted through email or by phone. If your student is having difficulty accessing the form, please ask them to come to the Guidance office and a counsellor will be happy to assist them.

Semester two timetable changes will not be addressed at this time. Announcements will be made in late October regarding this process.

Thank you for your patience during this busy time.

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## **Student Council**

If your son or daughter plans to join a school club or a school team it is important that they pay the Student Activity Fee. Student Council uses this money for a number of different things. We help to subsidize teams by paying a tournament fee or by paying some of the transportation costs. We subsidize clubs to help pay for contest entry fees. The Student Activity Fee also covers such things as guest speakers, leadership opportunities and for the many activities that Student Council runs throughout the year such as Spirit Week, Spirit days, Oktoberfest / Club Day and May Day. Please consider paying the Student Activity Fee, if you have not already done so. To pay the fee just go on to School Cash Online.

If your grade 9 son or daughter is interested in getting involved with Student Council this year we will be holding interviews for Grade 9 Representatives shortly. Application forms will be available online, at [mdhssc.com](http://mdhssc.com) and on the door of the SAC Office, located just opposite the Attendance window.

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## **Message from Yearbook**

Dear Parents/Guardians and students: Yearbooks are on sale on [schoolcashionline.com](http://schoolcashionline.com). This website will be used to order the yearbook online for just \$45.00. Don't miss this chance to buy your yearbook as there will be NO yearbooks to purchase at the end of the year. The last date to purchase a book is December 29th. —Mrs. Howard



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## ***Student Registration Verification Sheet and Policy Agreement Checklist and Consent Form***

Your child was given a Student Registration Verification Sheet on the first day of school. This needs to be verified, signed and returned to their homeroom teacher by Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. If any of the information is incorrect please cross off and write the new information on the form. Even if all the information is correct please sign and return the form.

If your child suffers from Anaphylaxis and requires an Epi-Pen to be kept in the Main Office please have them come to the Main Office to pick up the required forms.

The blue ***Policy Agreement Checklist and Consent Form*** was also give out in homeroom. If your child has first period lunch or spare they can pick this up at the main office with their ***Student Registration Verification Sheet***.

**Both these forms should be returned to their homeroom teacher or the main office by Tuesday September 10th, 2019.**

### ***Message from SHSM***

Welcome to new and returning students from SHSM.

Students are encouraged to check their gapps email as well as the SHSM bulletin board outside of guidance for many exciting opportunities. Some have already been booked for 2019-2020 while many others will be added during the year.

Students MUT pick up permission forms for field trips in guidance and return them with the appropriate signatures in a timely manner. Please be mindful of the return dates listed on the permission forms for planning purposes.

As well, 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 waitlist hoping to attend.

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

- September 13** (Beanstalk Project): All Semester 1 co-op students (and interested SHSM students are welcome) At MDHS (this is a training opportunity)
- September 26 & 27** (Standard First Aid/CPR Level C/AED): At MDHS: (This is required for all SHSM students - if you have already earned these certifications, you must bring proof of these to Mr. Weinstein)
- October 3** (YMCA Cedar Glen): outdoor education centre (earn 2 certifications)
- October 24** (Ontario College Fair): open to all interested students
- October 31** (MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL P.A.R.T.Y. Program) (only 30 spaces available)

Please note that students are NOT expected to attend all field trips but rather the ones that are most relevant to their sector as well as those that are required (e.g. FIRST AID).

A reminder to all Grade 12 SHSM students to check that you are in a position to earn your Red Seal.

If you are missing a certification, time is running out 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) offer scholarships to students in SHSM who complete their Red Seal.

### **REGISTRATION FOR SHSM** (it is not too late for this year).

Grade 11 or 12 students interested in registering for SHSM for this year, 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) or 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

### ***School Bus Information***

For students who ride a school bus, school van or school taxi to school, here is some important information.

If the bus does not arrive to your home or stop at the scheduled time; when the cold weather and snow comes, there may be times the bus will be late. Also on inclement weather days the busses may be cancelled.

Before calling the school, please check **schoolbuscity.com**

For listings of late and cancelled buses.



### ***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. More than half of the spots are already booked, 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)



### ***Terry Fox Run 2019***

Unionville – Markham

Sunday, September 15, 2019

Terry Fox Run Day Details - Unionville

Registration: 9:00 am at Unionville Library

Run Starts: 10:00 am

Opening ceremony and warm-up at 9:40am

Location: Park behind Unionville Library / Unionville Main Street

**Volunteers welcome – Earn your hours**

## 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>

### *NO IDLING in the Parking lot*

This year we will be instituting a new campaign to help our suffering environment and the respiratory health of the MDHS community. While you are in the parking lot dropping off your child or picking them up, **please turn off your car engine** while you wait. Idling tailpipes spew out the same pollutants as moving cars. These pollutants have been linked to serious human illnesses including asthma, heart disease, chronic bronchitis, and cancer. Turning your engine off will prevent pounds of carbon dioxide from being released, which is primary contributor to global warming. Please be