



Markham District High School
 89 Church Street, Markham, ON L3P 2M3
 Email: markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca
 Website: <http://www.markhamdistrict.hs.yrdsb.ca>

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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. 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. Forms are available from the attendance secretary or main office.

REMINDER Secondary Schools do not use Edsby for Attendance

Week of Sept 16-20th, 2024	
Monday Sept 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DECA Information Meeting in room 151 3:00-4:00 pm-Mrs. Webber
Tuesday Sept 17th	
Wednesday Sept 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD in STEM Engineering/Technology Panel in room 151 3:00-4:00 pm-L. Lam and M. Avery Student Athletic Association Meeting in the Library 3:00 - 4:00 pm-J. Morrison
Thursday Sept 19th	
Friday Sept 20th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classics Club-Roman Day Event-Back Field by the portables 3:00-5:45 pm-Mr. McLaren

Message from the Guidance Department

Join our [MDHS Guidance Google Classroom](#) for ALL Guidance Information. Information about volunteer hours, university, college, apprenticeship programs, mental health supports, and much more! **Join:** [g7d6eud](#)

Construction on Church St. Reminder Church Street has been closed east of the school and is an active construction site. This construction will continue for the majority of the school year. Please review the attached notice and traffic plan. Your child's safety is very important to us and we ask that all students and families adhere to the following:

- Please follow all of the signs, including the detour routes. Do not enter the construction area and maintain a safe distance from all active construction equipment.
- All vehicles must access the school from the west side of Church Street (Elm Street). There is no access from Wooten Way and cars will not be permitted to drive through the construction site to get to the school.
- All drop off and pick ups should be at the front of the school. Cars should enter the parking lot using the first entrance and exit through the second entrance. Please do not drive where the pylons have been placed.
- Students biking or walking to school should not travel through the construction site. We have received reports that students are biking near the heavy equipment and this is very dangerous. Please use other roads and walking paths to access the school.
- Students should always use the sidewalks and cross the road at a stop sign. We ask that students using the path west of the school on the north side of Church Street to NOT cross the road in front of traffic. Students will need to walk to Elm Street to cross the road at the stop sign. The sidewalk on the south side of Church Street has now been fully paved and accessible from Elm Street.
- We recognize that the construction will have a significant impact on the traffic on Church Street and in the school parking lot. We thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation during the construction period.



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Mathematics Contests for 2024 - 2025

Contest	Eligible Grades	Contest Date	SchoolCash Deadline	Fee
Canadian Math Society:				
Canada Lynx Math Competition	all	Monday, October 7 2024	Thursday 12th September 2024	\$13
Canadian Open Math Challenge	11 / 12	Wednesday 30th October 2024	Thursday 10th October 2024	\$31
The Center for Education in Mathematics and Computing (University of Waterloo):				
Canadian Senior Math Contest	11 / 12	Wednesday 13th November 2024	Tuesday 15th October 2024	\$15
Canadian Intermediate Math Contest	9 / 10			
Pascal Contest	9	Wednesday 26th February 2025	Thursday 6th February 2025	\$7
Cayley Contest	10			
Fermat Contest	11			
Euclid Contest	11 / 12	Wednesday 2nd April 2025	Monday 3rd March 2025	\$19
Fryer Contest	9	Thursday 3rd April 2025	Monday 3rd March 2025	\$13
Galois Contest	10			
Hypatia Contest	11			

Please register for the contests by making payments on [SchoolCash Online](#). The fees above are set by the contest creators (CMS / CEMC), plus \$1 to cover SchoolCash Online transaction fees. Once the SchoolCash Online deadline has passed, students will be invited to the "MDHS Math Contests 2024-2025" Google Classroom. This portal will be used to provide information about the contests such as date / time / location, and to return results to each student. On days when multiple contests are running, it is possible to register for a contest that is intended for students in higher grades (for example, a Grade 10 student who wishes to write the Fermat instead of the Cayley). If this applies to you, please contact michael.raffoul@yrdsb.ca after making the payment on SchoolCash Online to make arrangements. For more information about the contests, or to access past contests and solutions, please go to:

- Canadian Open Mathematics Challenge: <https://cms.math.ca/competitions/comc/>
- University of Waterloo contests: https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/past_contests.html



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2024-2025 START UP FORMS

- Parents/guardians received an email from YRDSB with important school start-up forms to complete. It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year as they contain important information and permissions. Please click [here](#) for the forms. **You must be logged into your child's GAPPS account to complete the forms.**
- The [Guide to the School Year](#) has been moved online. We encourage families to review this webpage as it includes important information you may need to access throughout the school year. You can use the translation feature on the website to translate this content. It is available at <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/school-year-guide>.

Personal Mobile Devices:

As you may know, in 2024, the Ontario Ministry of Education introduced a directive modifying the use of personal mobile devices in classrooms. YRDSB already has [Policy and Procedure 194.0 - Appropriate Use of Technology](#) and many measures around personal mobile devices in place. The changes you may see in September will bring alignment with the new Ministry Directive. The following expectations for students' use of personal mobile devices are outlined in the revised [Provincial Code of Conduct \(PPM 128\)](#), and the York Region District School Board's Policy #668 Caring and Safe Schools. A personal mobile device is any personal electronic device that can be used to communicate or access the internet, such as a laptop, cellphone, tablet or smart watch.

Expectations

Students are responsible for their personal mobile device, how they use it and the consequences of not following the provincial or school board policy.

Students' personal mobile devices must be powered off or set to silent mode, except under the circumstances outlined below:

- for educational purposes, as directed by an educator
- for health and medical purposes
- to support special education needs

Students in secondary school can bring a personal mobile device to school, but will be able to use it only during non-instructional time.

New Practices at School

If an educator sees a personal mobile device that is not turned off or set to silent mode, even after staff reminders, the student may be required to place their personal mobile device in a storage area in a location designated by the educator for the class or period. Your child may face consequences if they use their personal mobile device inappropriately. Progressive discipline may apply and families may be notified.

Resources:

Families play an important role in teaching children about finding a healthy balance in using technology. You may wish to access the following resources:

- Media Smarts - [Four Tips for Managing Your Kids' Screen Time](#)
- School Mental Health Ontario - [Helping Your Child Manage Digital Technology](#)
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health - [Problem Gambling and Technology Use Treatment Services](#)

For additional information regarding Policy/Program (PPM) 128, please visit the Ministry of Education's [Cellphones and other mobile devices in schools](#) site or the York Region District School Board's website.

Caring and Safe School Assemblies:



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As we start a new school year, it is important to us that we provide a caring, safe, and inclusive environment in our school that supports that academic achievement and well-being of all students. During the past two weeks all grades have attended the Caring and Safe Schools assemblies about the important elements of a caring and safe school. Topics covered include:

Inappropriate Behaviour

Students learned about anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination, and bullying and this will continue throughout the school year. Instances of anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination and bullying are not acceptable and are addressed through progressive discipline. Students have also been reminded about safe school behaviours, including what items must never be brought to school, such as vape products/drug paraphernalia, and weapons (including knives, replica weapons).

Reporting Behaviour

Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying. Students can report incidents by:

- Telling a caring adult;
- Using the YRDSB's "[Report It Button](#)" (Located on our school's website). YRDSB's online Report It button allows students and families to share information about inappropriate behaviour and incidents of hate or discrimination. Please see [this video](#) for additional information);
- Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868).

Mental Health

We stressed to students the importance of connection as we return to school. Students learned about who they can talk to if they need support. Positive mental health is closely tied to each individual's sense of identity and safety. As such, mental health initiatives are aligned with equity and safety in mind, which includes culturally specific supports. YRDSB student mental health services are delivered by Board social work and psychology staff. These services are accessible through the school principal. [Mental health resources for families](#) are also available on the Board website.

Student Discipline

We use a progressive discipline approach for inappropriate behaviour. This means we consider various options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices. In some cases, suspension or expulsion may be necessary. The Ontario Education Act and the Board's Caring and Safe Schools Policy (found on the [Board's Caring and Safe School Page](#)) outline situations where suspension and expulsion must be considered. These infractions are also outlined in the Guide to the School Year. In addition, when inappropriate behaviour occurs, information will be shared with the student(s) who were harmed and the families of the student(s) who were harmed to the extent that legislation allows.

Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology

Students were reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools. This agreement is also included in the [start-up package](#) sent to families.

Students were reminded that online threats and comments are taken seriously and may have consequences. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remain our top priority.

For More Information

For more details on these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for more information and to access family resources to continue these conversations at home. Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.



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