



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

VOLUME 11

Feb 21
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APPOINTMENTS

Students can make appointments online using Teach Assist.

- Have your child log in to their Teach Assist account
- Under the sub-heading “Appointment Bookings”
- Click on the day and time the student wants to have their appointment (if the appointment slot is highlighted in blue). If there are no appointments displayed, then you will have to select another day, as all counsellors have been booked for that day.
- You will see shaded in blue “All open appointments”. Choose the appropriate alpha Guidance counsellor (based on your child’s last name) from the list on the left.
- If the student needs to cancel their appointment for any reason, click “cancel”.

If your child has any trouble making their online appointment, please let us know.

COURSE SELECTIONS

Course selections are now **closed**. Guidance will not be re-opening course planners to make any adjustments to courses.

The next and final opportunity to make changes to your courses for the 2025-26 academic year, will be in the Spring through the course verification process. We will briefly outline the process in an upcoming bulletin.

OUAC/OCAS

The OUAC/OCAS transmissions have successfully gone through. It is the student’s responsibility to report any errors regarding their accounts.

Students who have completed a private school course must submit their report card to ensure our records for your transcript are accurate. Private schools **must** mail report cards in a sealed envelope. We will **not** accept students hand-delivering private school report cards.

Important Upcoming Dates!

February 21

March 10 –14

March 21 –24

Course Selection submission deadline

March Break (School Closed)

Interim report card E-distribution

Please check our guidance website for updates:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markhamdistrict.hs/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

Mental Health Awareness

If you have an immediate concern and you feel that your child is in crisis, please contact one of the following links or phone numbers.:

- 310-COPE: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673),
- <https://www.yssn.ca/> - available 24/7
- KidsHelpPhone: 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 — <https://kidshelpphone.ca> - available 24/7
- call 911 if immediate assistance is required.

Guidance Google Classroom

Join our **MDHS Guidance Google Classroom** for all information guidance related: university, college, apprenticeship information, volunteer opportunities, mental health supports and much more.

Join with this code: **g7d6eud**

Scholarship Report

The latest edition of the scholarship report can be found by copying the link below.

Please take a few minutes to read through the report. If the PDF requires a password: **scholar678**

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:c53977b3-7cbd-465e-84ba-27f4d835f10c>

SHSM Field Trips

When: March 25, 2025
Where: Durham College (Leaving at 8:30 am – returning approximately 2:30 pm)
How many: 30-40
Sectors: Construction, Horticulture & Landscape, Transportation
What: Reach Ahead and Experiential Learning (potentially) with a pizza lunch provided

When: March 28, 2025
Where: Markham District HS (all day in the library)
Sectors: All sectors
How many: All SHSM needing to complete their training
What: Compulsory certifications - Standard First Aid/CPR-C

Part 1: Once students have submitted the permission form to guidance, **they will receive a link to complete the online portion of the training in 2-3 weeks** (approximately 6 hours to complete but does not have to be done all at one time). This should be completed before March 28th.

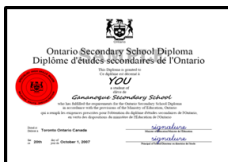
Part 2: March 28: Complete the in-person portion of the training (full day) in the MDHS library



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Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

Apply to SHSM: <https://bit.ly@YRDSBSHSMStudentapp>



Why consider the Specialist High Skills Major program (SHSM)?

- ◆ Students focus on a career path to match skills and interests while meeting requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- ◆ Students must take cooperative education in grade 11 or 12 to be eligible.
- ◆ A 2-year program for students entering grade 11 but students may register if entering grade 12 and plan on completing coop.
- ◆ Customize secondary school education to suit interests and skills
- ◆ Complete sector recognized certifications (including Standard First Aid/CPR-C)
- ◆ Prepare for post-secondary opportunities
- ◆ Earn the SHSM Distinction on the OSSD
- ◆ Engage in fun, experiential learning with like-minded peers
- ◆ Participation in training and field trips is **free for SHSM students**.

Specialist High Skills Major: 5 Required Components

