



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

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PNTS®

As of Monday, September 27th, students can begin making 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.

If you will not be attending in person, please send us an email so we can coordinate. Our Counsellors look forward to meeting with you!

Please note: If guardians/parents wish to make an appointment with their student’s guidance counsellor, please feel free to give us a call at 905-294-1886 ext. 515.

Guidance office hours: Monday- Friday 7:45am—3:45pm

Phone# (905) 294-1886 plus extension provided above

Important Upcoming Dates!

University Application Deadline: January 13, 2022

College Application Deadline: February 1, 2022 (for equal consideration)

Please check our guidance website for updates:

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



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Guidance News

TIMETABLE CHANGES

Timetable changes for semester 1 are now complete. No further changes will be made to timetables for semester 1 unless it is a level change.

You may begin making semester 2 changes with your alpha counsellor. Please make an appointment.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Scholarship Classroom code: Vlbxwry

****NEW**** Grade 12 students who are graduating this year do NOT need school sponsorship in order to apply to the LORAN. There is only one application deadline which is **Thursday, October 13th, 2021**.

The deadline for school sponsorship for the “National Book Award– UofT” is due to the guidance office on **Thursday, October 7th at 2:35 pm**. Please note, **no late applications will be accepted**.

Please see the first installment of **the Scholarship Report**, this report contains important deadlines for **upcoming scholarships**. Copy and paste this link into your browser:

http://seekingscholarships.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/ScholarshipReport_Sep-Oct-2021-AAA.pdf

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION

To all Grade 12 graduating students:

If further education is a part of your post-secondary planning, then it is time to kick-start the process of researching and applying to post-secondary programs. Given the restrictions on large assembly group gatherings, Guidance will be delivering all information and materials online through Google classrooms - where you will find a wealth of information, important dates, materials and presentations & webinars (both synchronous and asynchronous) to assist you on your journey to applying to university and/or college. These classrooms will be up and running next week! Remember, students may also apply to both destinations. Stay tuned for more information!

Please join...

University Applicants Google Classroom code – 3mpytle

College Applicants Google Classroom code – yijyprw

THE ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES' FAIRS (OUFs) GO VIRTUAL!

Ontario's universities are hosting the OUFs virtual events in Fall 2021:
Saturday, September 25, 12—2 pm and Tuesday, October 26, 5—7 pm

All Ontario universities will participate in these events. The events are free and anyone may attend – **NO pre-registration required**. Each event has four 30-minute sessions, where students can learn about the universities and programs of their choice and ask questions.

<https://www.ontariouniversitiesfair.ca/>





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Community Involvement/Volunteering

This applies to grade 12 students graduating only.

In 2021-22, the required number of hours for community involvement activities will be reduced from 40 hours to a minimum of **20** hours for graduating students. This is consistent with changes made in the 2020-21 school year.

Applies to all grades 9-12.

At the principal's discretion, the following activities will be deemed eligible for all secondary students for their community involvement activities in the 2021-22 school year:

- ⇒ Activities such as walking a younger neighbour or sibling to and from school, helping younger siblings with their homework, helping elderly relatives with errands, providing after-school care for a younger sibling etc. - up to a maximum of **10 hours**.
- ⇒ Activities that include up to **10 hours** of paid work, with the requirement to complete a reflection exercise indicating how their work contributed to service for others (e.g., grocery work during the pandemic)

Here are the steps you must follow in order to ensure your hours are approved.

Step 1: Review the list of eligible activities as set out on the YRDSB website.

Step 2: Select an activity. Students may want to contact one or more of the following charitable organizations; community agencies · community centers · government offices · service clubs · volunteer centers

Step 3: Complete the notification portion of the Notification and Completion of Community Involvement Activities Form by contacting your Guidance Counsellor to discuss via email or by making an appointment on TeachAssist. <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/sites/default/files/migrate/files/FOR-communityinvolvement.pdf>

Contact your guidance counsellor if you are unsure if your activity will count. In the event that you do not discuss the volunteer activity with your guidance counsellor, then you run the risk of your hours not counting.

Step 4: Complete your volunteer activities

Step 5: Submit the completed form. Ensure that all sections are completed, including parent signature, supervisor name, title and contact details. Then submit the completed form to Guidance.

If you have any questions, please contact your alpha counsellor.

The Guidance Team



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Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

SHSM SECTORS at MDHS

Arts & Culture, Construction, Health & Wellness, Horticulture & Landscaping, Non-Profit and Transportation

Reminder: Grade 12 SHSM students should check that they are in a position to earn the Red Seal.

If you are missing a certification (e.g. Working at Heights for Construction, Standard First AID/CPR Level C), there will be opportunities to earn them. If you are missing other SHSM requirements (e.g. courses, Reach Aheads, Experiential Learning), inquire to see how you may be able to complete these requirements.

CERTIFICATIONS EARNED:

If you have earned certificates outside of school (e.g. St. John's Babysitting, Standard First AID/CPR Level C, leadership, customer service, or others), please send us a scanned copy and we will see if it is eligible to count toward your SHSM requirements.

REGISTRATION FOR SHSM

For Grade 11 students interested in registering for SHSM (and are planning to take coop in grade 12 or who are enrolled in coop this year), feel free to contact Mr. Weinstein for information (marc.weinstein@yrdsb.ca).

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 contact Mr. Weinstein for information.

To apply to MDHS SHSM programs, use the bit.ly shown below. Please note that this process may be changing - if you are unable to complete your application, please contact Mr. Weinstein.

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

YRDSB Night School

Remote Learning (replacing Face-to-Face instruction this fall)

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/secondary-school/night-school>

The program will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous).

Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30— 9:45 p.m.

2021-2022 Night School Credit Classes

- The traditional in class face-to-face Night School program will move to a remote learning delivery model for the fall (the delivery model for the Winter 2022 semester is still TBD).
- Before the start of the program, students will receive an email with instructions on how to join the class on the first day.
- Students will log in with their gapps accounts.
- *Decisions to run courses are based on sufficient enrollment and teacher availability*

Semester One—Fall 2021:

October 5, 2021 to February 3, 2022

Semester Two—Winter 2022:

February 17, 2021 to June 14, 2022

1. Register online by [my Pathway Planner](#). The first night of class is **Tuesday, October 5, 2021**.
2. YRDSB students who register after Friday October 1, 2021 will need to complete an online registration form as my Pathway Planner will be closed. Once submitted, a form will be emailed to them.
3. Please share the form with your guidance counsellor and have them email their approval.
4. Students may register after the first class with the understanding that it is their responsibility to catch up on any missed work.

Please note: Consult with your alpha guidance counselor for eligibility as students are only permitted to take a maximum of 4 credits per semester.



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YRDSB Online Learning

Online Learning (formerly known as e-Learning)

Courses specifically designed to be taught in a fully online format using an **asynchronous model**, with **synchronous check-in opportunities with the teacher**.

Registration for current YRDSB students opened on September 14, 2021. Courses began on September 21, 2021.

- Online Learning Night School (formerly Night School e-Learning) courses are taught by YRDSB teachers using Ontario's Virtual Learning Environment-BrightSpace by D2L.
- The platform is web-based and contains lessons and a wide range of collaborative tools.
- Teachers interact with students on weekdays both synchronously (real-time) and asynchronously (pre-recorded lessons, discussions, etc.) to deliver the curriculum.
- Students are not required to log in at a specific time each day, there is flexibility so that they may log in at a convenient time for them.
- Students can expect to do a minimum of 6 hours of learning each week per course.
- The program offers courses that are specifically designed to be taught in a fully online format (formerly referred to as "e-learning").
- Online learning relies on communication between students and teachers.
- Online learning does not require students and teachers to be face-to-face with each other.
- Classes occur online using an **asynchronous model, with synchronous check-in opportunities with the teacher**.

Eligibility

Online Learning Night School is available to the following individuals:

- Current YRDSB students residing in Ontario, with Canadian status, and enrolled in day school courses may be eligible (Check with a Guidance Counsellor at your YRDSB school to find out if you qualify).

2021-2022 Sessions

- **Fall 2021:** The registration period for external applicants is August 30 - September 28, 2021, and for current YRDSB students is September 14 -28, 2021. Review the [registration](#), [course list](#), and [important dates](#) pages prior to applying.
- **Winter 2022:** The registration period for all applicants will be available in mid-December 2021.