



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

VOLUME 10
Feb 12
2021

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**Guidance office
hours:**

**Monday- Friday
7:45am—3:45pm**

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No School

Monday, February 15, 2021

NECESSARY COURSE CHANGES for SEMESTER 2

Attention Adaptive and SVS students!

Elective changes are **no** longer being made as they have been performed on an ongoing basis since early October. If you have any questions, please contact your alpha counsellor.

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FACE-TO-FACE RETURN FEBRUARY 16, 2021

With the return to the school building, please note the following changes:

Student will have the choice to either pick up a volunteer form in the guidance office or access it online. Completed volunteer forms can be dropped off in guidance (there will be a basket on a table) or you can email them to your alpha counsellor.

Community Involvement Forms can be accessed from the YRDSB website:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Guidance/CommunityInvolvement/Documents/FOR-communityinvolvement.pdf>

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.

Please check our guidance website for updates:

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



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Course Selections

COURSE SELECTIONS for SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022

The MDHS course selection process will begin the Week of February 16th.
DEADLINE for submissions is Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

Important information is available on the COURSE SELECTION google classroom - enrolment key is **dqysjtq**. Please ask your student to join! Consider viewing the Guidance Presentation (pre-recorded video) found on the google classroom for more info on the process.

Guidance will also be hosting a series of Q & A sessions in order to assist students/parents/guardians with the course selection process. The google meet link can be found on the course selection google classroom page, <https://meet.google.com/lookup/bjhhjg35sq?authuser=0&hs=179> (Please ensure you have viewed the guidance course selection presentation prior to attending the Q & A session).

February 16th - 11:30 am - 12:00 pm
February 18th - 7:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Course requests for next year must be submitted electronically using My Pathway Planner/MyBlueprint.

Students may begin to submit their requests on Tuesday, February 16th at 9:00 am, and the deadline to submit is **Wednesday, February 24th at 4:00 pm**. **This is NOT first come, first serve**. Once course requests have been submitted, they cannot be changed and course planners will be locked, so please remind your child to choose carefully.

****Important information for Grade 12 students****

Grade 12 students who are graduating MUST select 'not returning' in My Pathway Planner/MyBlueprint. This feature will be available during the same dates as course selection February 16th-24th. This is important, as it confirms they will be leaving MDHS at the end of June and require academic records to be shared with post-secondary institutions and to ensure that diplomas are printed.

When selecting courses, students are encouraged to check the 'graduation tracker' on My Pathway Planner/MyBlueprint to help them complete their course selection and to ensure they are not missing compulsory requirements to graduate. If there is an error with the information found on My Pathway Planner/MyBlueprint, then please notify your guidance counsellor according to the new alpha below.

Please note, CCS's will not be distributed this year.



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Scholarship Information

The latest issue of the Scholarship Report has been posted to the google classroom.

This issue contains scholarship listings with APR-MAY 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.

Scholarship Google Classroom with code - [I5zjuvv](#)

Post-Secondary Information

University Applicants Google Classroom code – [Inatkxp](#)

College Applicants Google Classroom code – [khz24ox](#)

Volunteer Hours

For the 2020-2021 school year, the Ministry of Education revised the 40-hour community involvement graduation requirement by providing increased flexibility in how hours can be earned for all students, so that they will not be adversely impacted by the ongoing challenges related to COVID-19.

Students Graduating in the 2020-2021 School Year: The community involvement graduation requirement has been reduced to a **minimum of 20 hours** of community involvement activities.

Some possible volunteering opportunities to explore (copy link into browser):

<https://sendingsunshine.ca>

<https://volunteer.ca/index.php?MenuItemID=419> (VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING)

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/volunteering-ontario> (VOLUNTEERING IN ONTARIO)

<http://s643234117.online-home.ca/volunteering/find-my-volunteer-centre>
(ONTARIO VOLUNTEER CENTRE NETWORK)

<http://www.sparkontario.ca>



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Specialist High Skill Major

SHSM SECTORS at MDHS Arts & Culture, Construction, Health & Wellness, Horticulture & Landscaping, Non-Profit and Transportation

Calling all Grade 10 in particular (as well as eligible grade 11 students):

Benefits of SHSM:

- Participate in free training and field trips for 2 years (grade 11 and 12) to post-secondary institutions, conferences, trade fairs and other experiences related to your pathway and sector
- Eligibility for post-secondary scholarships offered at some college and universities to students who "successfully" complete all components of the SHSM program and earn their Red Seal
- Build your resume through various training opportunities (all SHSM students will receive training in Standard First AID/CPR Level-C - you will be exempt if you hold valid certifications in these already - proof must be provided).
- Engage in fun, experiential real-life experiences
- As SHSM is not a course, you will not have assignments and exams but you must take co-op in either grade 11 or 12 to be eligible

REGISTRATION FOR SHSM :

For Grade 11 students interested in registering for SHSM (and are planning to take co-op in grade 12 or who are enrolled in co-op 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 co-op in grade 11 or grade 12), feel free to contact Mr. Weinstein for information.

Apply to SHSM

After attending an SHSM information session, or speaking with Mr. Weinstein or Mr. Butler, you can begin the following application process.

Step 1: Login to your YRDSB @gapps account

Step 2: Complete the Regional application: bit.ly/YRDSBSHSMapp

Step 3: Monitor your YRDSB @ gapps email for all SHSM related communications. If you wish to forward your YRDSB@ gapps email to a preferred email account, see: bit.ly/gappsforward

Students are asked to check the SHSM google classroom for opportunities being offered centrally. Students are asked to self-report their participation using the forms posted in the google classroom. Some opportunities have already been posted by sector with many others still to come.



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Calling all York Region High School Students—Youth Homelessness is real. Get Involved and Earn Volunteer Hours



This is a great way to get involved as high school students, from the safety of their home property that helps our community. Spend a night out (5 hours) in the cold and experience some of the harsh realities young people face who find themselves homeless on any given night. Build your Shelter for the Night. Try to Stay Warm. Learn About Homelessness.

We've launched our new "At-Home" 360°Experience – our new virtual event for this year that we are hoping schools will share with their student bodies to participate in and pledge your support to helping raise the valuable fundraising dollars that support our work at 360°kids.

360°kids is the largest youth serving agency in York Region. Whether kids are reaching out for emergency housing because they've had family breakdown, or need counselling to deal with issues, need help finding a job, or need help with basic necessities like food, clothing, or hygiene items. 360°kids is there. And we have been for almost 32 year now!

This year's event has had to change slightly due to the lockdown situation we are all in but we are still planning to have an interactive, educating and fundraising event on **Thursday March 4th – 5th from 8pm – 1:00am**. We will be remotely engaging with all participants throughout the night and sharing videos of our work, our community agencies that also provide supports to our most vulnerable and how this pandemic has really impacted their ability to access services, and supports.

Participants will register as in past and collect pledges from their peers online and can do their own personal "At-Home" event from their front porch, maybe pitch a tent in their backyard, sleep in their car, building their own shelter around their property somewhere and experience the harsh elements of the winter outside for 5 hours on the evening of **March 4th**.

INCENTIVES – we will be offering incentives this year based on fundraising levels, and we will still be offering the 360°Experience jacket for those participants who meet the \$2,000 fundraising level. There will be other incentives at the \$150 (toque), \$400, \$750, and \$1,000 levels as well.

Please register using this link: [Register for the At-Home 360Experience Here](#)

The Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E.) created its Scholarship Program to commemorate the contributions of Rose Fortune (1774-1864) and Peter C. Butler III (1859- 1943) – the first Black police officers in Canada. By awarding scholarships, A.B.L.E. assists Black and visible minority students in achieving their educational and career aspirations.

A.B.L.E. is committed to ensuring that the criminal justice system is reflective of the entire Canadian mosaic, by providing opportunities for our young people to serve, protect, and correct.

Please share the following information with graduating Students accepted at a designated educational institution that may be interested in this scholarship opportunity:

- [Application Form](#)
- [Candidate Letter](#)
- [Selection Criteria](#)

Application deadline has been extended to March 22, 2021 at 5:00pm.

For any questions, students may contact the Scholarship & Awards Committee Chair at ablescholarship@gmail.com.



HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE WATERSHED'S

GREY TREE FROG APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Are you a high school student who wants to:

- ✓ Help reverse climate change while helping Mother Nature?
- ✓ Gain ecological knowledge and restoration experience?
- ✓ Learn about and enjoy Nature while exploring green careers?

JOIN US THIS MARCH BREAK!

Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW) will host the three-day online Grey Tree Frog Apprentice Program via Zoom. Apprentices will receive a scientific introduction to ecology, ecological restoration, climate change, ecosystem decline and environmental problem solving. Apprentices will learn how to overcome environmental challenges through education, leadership, planning, communication, and individual and community action. Apprentices will develop job and life skills and contribute to improved watershed, ecosystem and community health.

Upon completion of the program, students will receive:

- Up to 20 community service hours
- Certificate of completion
- Personalized letter of reference

   @frwatershed

GREY TREE FROG



APPRENTICESHIP RUNS ONLINE MARCH 16-18, 2021
SPOTS ARE LIMITED!
APPLY BEFORE FEBRUARY 19, 2021 AT
[HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/KFCCDSL](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/kfccdsl)
OR CONTACT THIVYAH@FRW.CA