



GUIDANCE BULLETIN

VOLUME

2

Oct. 9
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Guidance x 515

markham.dhs@yrdsb.ca

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COUNSELLORS

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Students can now make appointments online using Teach Assist

As of Tuesday, October 13th counsellors will only be meeting with students either by phone or virtually through Google Meet. When you book your appointment, please email your counsellor indicating your preferred meeting format (phone call or virtual). If by phone, then please provide the phone number at which you can be reached.

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. Guardians/parents (not students) making appointments are asked to please book 2 slots when meeting with a guidance counsellor.

Timetable Changes

Semester 2 timetable change requests can now be made with your alpha counsellor. Kindly book an appointment through TeachAssist to discuss your request.

Guidance office hours: Monday- Friday 7:45am—3:45pm
Phone# (905) 294-1886 plus extension provided above

Important Upcoming Dates!

Ontario College Fair:	virtually on November 4 & 5
University Application Deadline:	January 15, 2021
College Application Deadline:	February 1, 2021 (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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Mental Health Awareness



We understand that students may be finding these extremely challenging times. Students may experience feelings of distress as course demands increase. If your student or if you know of a student struggling emotionally, please reach out to the alpha guidance counsellor for support. The school has access to a social worker and mental health nurse that can support students with a referral. We can also refer students to community supports, if necessary.

If your concern is immediate 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

OR call 911 if immediate assistance is required.

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. Remember, students may also apply to both destinations.

Post-secondary Info Session #1 presentation was viewed by students this week, followed by drop-in Q&A seminars hosted by Guidance. The video presentation can be found in the google classrooms. Info Session #2 outlining how to apply to college and/or university will be in early November. PIN numbers for university applicants will be sent to students' gapps emails at the same time. Stay tuned!

University Applicants Google Classroom code – Inatxpx
College Applicants Google Classroom code – kh224ox

Please encourage your student to regularly visit the post-secondary google classrooms, which have links to all of the colleges and universities in Ontario, with valuable information on registration for webinar & webcast presentations hosted by university reps, Fall Preview days and Open Houses, Program Viewbooks, campus tours and more!



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Scholarship Information

Upcoming School Sponsored Scholarships:

Queen's Chancellor—November 16th deadline

Lester B. Pearson Scholarship (International Students)- November 16th deadline

Please join the Scholarship Google Classroom with code - [15zjuvv](#)



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 Ahead, 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