

InspireLearning!



## Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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Friday, November 29, 2019

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

One of our top priorities as a school board is creating an environment that enables our students to focus on learning and be successful. That means creating environments where students are safe and feel safe, where all of our students know that they are welcome and supported, and where they see their identities reflected, valued and celebrated.

#### Championing Equity and Inclusivity

Championing Equity and Inclusivity is one of the priorities outlined in the [Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). We are fortunate to live in one of the most diverse regions of Canada, and welcome students, staff and families with a broad range of identities and experiences. There has been much work underway at the Board in the past few months to ensure we are providing all of our students with a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment, including:

- Providing [Board-wide training](#) for over 12,000 school staff on anti-Black racism.
- Acknowledging [Treaties Recognition Week](#), and learning about the importance of treaties and treaty relationships in Canada from First Nations community members.
- Bringing together over 250 students and staff at our annual [SpeakOut conference](#) for the 2SLGBTQ+ community.
- Hosting a labour market information night for parents to learn about current and future career opportunities and employment trends.
- Bringing together hundreds of members of the education community for three days of learning focused on Indigenous Education and Equity at our world-renowned [Quest conference](#).

I have had the opportunity to attend various school meetings and spoken to parents, students and educators firsthand, this includes, School Councils, Regional School Council Forum, Quest Conference and York Regional labor market information night. It is important that our families know and feel that they are a valued, respected and important part of our school community. In the recently held regional school council forums that brought together school council members from across the region, we learned and shared together on important topics such as engaging families, vaping and problematic gaming. It was wonderful to see so many family members there. I have visited no less than eight school council meetings so far this year and it is my mandate to visit every school council in the school year as it provides me with great opportunities to listen to and interact with families. As a pilot project commencing since the beginning of the year, a few schools piloted Active School Travel, which promotes students to walk or cycle to schools with their families. It was well received and feedback was also received from families.

The Board of Trustees was also pleased to receive and commit to taking action on the recommendations in response to the Anti-Black Racism, Antisemitism, Classism and Islamophobia community consultations.

### Winter Months

With the winter weather already upon us, I also want to remind families that school transportation may be cancelled on [extreme cold or inclement weather days](#), and there may be rare occasions when emergency weather conditions result in school closures. To ensure families are aware, last month, we tested a new system to send text messages to families in emergency situations only. Information about transportation cancellations and school closures will also be available on Board and school websites, Board social media channels and local media.

Many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays in the coming weeks and months, and I wish you all the very best for the season. I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back in January.

Ron Lynn

Trustee, Markham, Wards 2, 3 and 6

## IMPORTANT RESOURCES

### MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

In an effort to support our students and families in Mental Wellness, please [click here](#) to access an informational document outlining various signs, strategies, and community Mental Health resources. Of course, please always feel free to connect with a Caring Adult at MSS for support, as wellness in ourselves and our loved ones 'takes a village'. This document is also available on our school website under [News & Events](#)

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

### YOUNG ACTIVISTS CLUB (YAC) FOOD DRIVE

The Young Activists Club (YAC) will be running a Festive Food Drive in support of our [local food bank](#). Students can bring in non-perishable food items to their Period 1 classes next week, December 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. Any students without a homeroom can hand their donations into the main office.



### CAREER NIGHT – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>

We would like to invite all of our students to meet their future during Career Night @ Markville!

What would you have wanted to know before you chose your career? What advice would have helped you choose your post-secondary program? What courses do you wish you would have taken in high school? What are the pros and cons of your job? If you made a career change in the past, why?

On Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Markville chapter of Health Occupations Students of America (Canada) and Specialist High Skills Major program are hosting an event to help students find information that isn't available on the internet. Students are invited to our cafeteria to ask honest questions to professionals about their school and work experiences. This night is to discuss the different paths students can follow after high school with individuals whom have first-hand experience.

If **you are interested in sharing your insight** with eager students, please send [nina.saini@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nina.saini@yrdsb.ca) your first and last name, current profession, past profession(s), educational background, and your email address before November, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (today!).

We cannot wait to see all of our students on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:00pm to discover their future!

### THE CENTRE FOR ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH ([CAMH](#)) SURVEY

On Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, Markville SS will be administering a Centre for Addictions and Mental Health ([CAMH](#)) survey to all students. This survey was developed by CAMH professionals and adapted for secondary school use by our Student Success team and is anonymous. Our hope for the survey is to receive candid information about our school climate regarding student well-being, sense of safety / community, addictions, and substance use. We hope to use this data to inform our practices and professional development moving forward – with the ultimate goal of supporting all students as our guiding purpose.

## FLU SEASON IS HERE. GET THE FLU SHOT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

The first and best step to prevent influenza, the flu, is to get the flu shot every year. The flu is contagious and anyone can get it. Getting the flu shot can protect you, your family and those around you.

To learn more about the flu and flu vaccine, visit [york.ca/flu](http://york.ca/flu)

### WINTER WEATHER

With winter weather already here, we want to share some important reminders for families.

When an **inclement weather** or **extreme cold** day is declared, school transportation (including buses and taxis) is cancelled in the morning and afternoon. Schools will remain open. If you drive your child to school, or your child takes alternate transportation, you must make arrangements for your child to get home at the end of the day. Please call the school if your child will not be attending school on those days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on these days.

There may be rare instances when **emergency winter events** occur and we need to close all schools and Board locations. Please take the time to make plans in the event of an emergency school closure.

Information about transportation cancellations and Board closures will be shared through local media, [Board](#) and school website and on [twitter @YRDSB](#).

Our process for extreme cold, inclement weather and emergency weather days is outlined in the Board's [Severe Weather policy](#), which has been recently updated and is available for public comment. Seeking feedback from staff and community members, including parents/guardians, is an important

part of the review process. All [policies available for comment](#) are sent to school council chairs and are posted on the Board website, along with information about how to provide feedback.

## TWEET OF THE WEEK



Happening now in our halls!  
[#physics](#) [#eggdrop](#) [#impact](#)  
[#design](#) [#learningisfun](#)

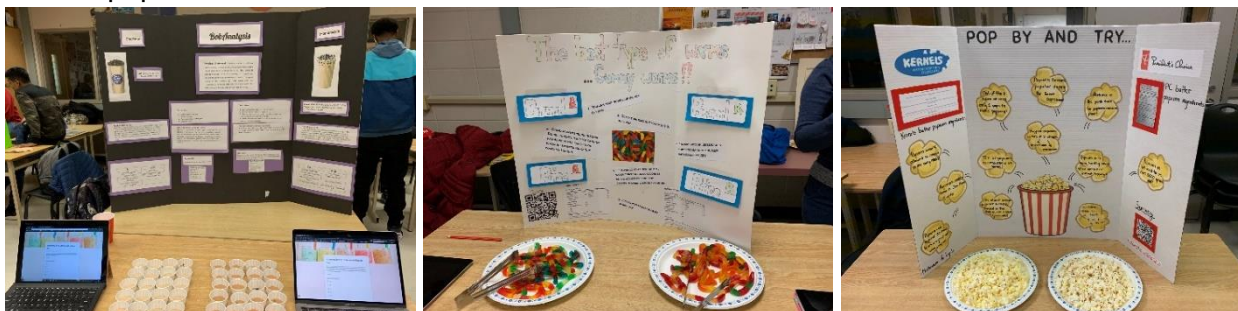


## DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

### BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Did you know that November is Financial Literacy Month in Canada? Learning about business is important for adults and students alike and Markville S.S. offers a variety of Business Studies courses to support students to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to make good financial decisions as customers, employees and investors. Some ways students have been learning and applying their business knowledge are through stock market competitions in Grade 10 Introduction to Business or Grade 12 Finance, analyzing data regarding the differences in name brands versus private labels through taste test experiments in the Grade 11 Marketing class and seeing Canadian law in action by visiting the Superior Courts in downtown Toronto with the Grade 11 Law class. Lastly, thanks to Mr. Rao, Mr. Whiler, Mr. McKillop, Ms. J. Li, Mr. Cao, and Ms. Obadia for supervising our students who are competing in the DECA Regional Competition at the Goodman School of Business at Brock University this weekend. Good luck to all the participants!

Mrs. Chan's Grade 11 Marketing projects: Is it worth it to make your own bubble tea or buy it from the store? Are branded gummy worms better than No Name ones? Is there a taste difference between microwave popcorn brands?



Mr. Whiler's Grade 11 Law class visited the Superior Court of Justice this past week:



For information and tools regarding financial topics such as budgeting, debt reduction and financial rights visit: [canada.ca/financial-literacy-month](http://canada.ca/financial-literacy-month)


 Financial Consumer Agency of Canada / Agence de la consommation en matière financière du Canada

### Six reasons why you need a budget

- 1 Allows you to stay on track
- 2 Reduces stress
- 3 Helps you distinguish between needs and wants

- 4 Avoid debt
- 5 Save for tomorrow
- 6 Be ready for surprise expenses



[canada.ca/financial-literacy-month](http://canada.ca/financial-literacy-month)
Canada

### Upcoming Events

DATE	School News	Student Life	Arts	Sports & Clubs	Academics
MONDAY, DEC. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 9 Study Skills Lunch Workshop</li> <li>Co-Op Career Fair in the Atrium (8:30am – 11:00am) &amp; (12:30pm – 2:30pm)</li> </ul>				
TUESDAY, DEC. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 9 Study Skills Lunch Workshop</li> </ul>				
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 9 Study Skills Lunch Workshop</li> <li>University of Waterloo – Computer Science Day</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SNAP Basketball (9:15am – 1:30pm)</li> <li>Fitness Fair in the Atrium (11:00am – 1:45pm)</li> <li>Senior Boys Basketball (4:00pm – 6:00pm)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HOSA Career Night (6:30pm – 8:30pm)</li> </ul>				
THURSDAY, DEC. 5 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grade 9 Study Skills Lunch Workshop</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">CAMH</a> (The Centre for Addictions and Mental Health) Survey (9:45am – 11:00am)</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hockey Game (2:15pm – 4:00pm)</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Girls Volleyball (2:40pm – 5:15pm)</li> <li>• Senior Boys Basketball (4:00pm – 6:00pm)</li> </ul>
FRIDAY, DEC. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dodgeball Buy-In</li> <li>• Imagine Cinemas (9:00am – 1:30pm)</li> <li>• Senior Boys Basketball Tournament</li> <li>• Swim Team (1:30pm – 3:00pm)</li> <li>• <a href="#">National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women</a></li> </ul>

Looking for Volunteer Opportunities? Come visit the Guidance Office, or check out these helpful links:

	<a href="#">Student Volunteer Opportunities</a>		<a href="#">Volunteer Opportunities</a>
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Lunch Time Tutoring – Library Learning Commons, Mondays and Wednesdays – Periods 3 and 4  
 After School Tutoring – Room 345, Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00pm – 4:00 pm

If you have any questions, please email your child’s vice-principal: [michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca](mailto:michael.vlachopoulos@yrdsb.ca) for students with surnames A – LIM, or [kathy.mcalpine@yrdsb.ca](mailto:kathy.mcalpine@yrdsb.ca) for students with surnames LIN– Z

Please visit our website at <http://markville.ss.yrdsb.ca>.