

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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April 1st 2021

Please keep in mind any information provided in this bulletin is subject to change and is accurate at the time of distribution.

Music Spotlight

Under normal circumstances, the months between February and April would be some of the busiest of the year for the Markville Music Department. During this time, all our major ensembles would typically be preparing to participate in music festivals and competitions such as the OBA Concert Band Festival, the Kiwanis Music Festival, Music Alive, and the OMFA Provincial Championships, where we have had a long standing tradition of receiving top honours. This year, in an effort to emulate some of the energy, excitement, and intensity that Markville Music students usually experience, all of our ensembles prepared virtual performances that were adjudicated by well renowned clinicians during online workshops.

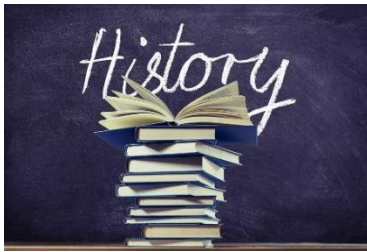
Our three concert bands had the opportunity to work with Colin Clarke, one of the most sought-after conductors and adjudicators in the country. Mr. Clarke is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Toronto Youth Wind Orchestra program, one of the leading performance ensembles of its kind in Canada, performing at New York City's Carnegie Hall in 2006, 2011, and 2016. He has guest conducted all-city bands, orchestras, and choirs across Ontario, and has led the Provincial Honour Bands of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island. Mr. Clarke has served as the conductor of the National Youth Band of Canada, and is currently the conductor of the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

Our three string orchestras had the pleasure of working with violinist Corey Gemmell, who has distinguished himself as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Canada, Germany, the United States and China. Mr. Gemmell is concertmaster for the Burlington Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Toronto, Mississauga Symphony Orchestra, Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra and the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Orchestra. He has also performed in this role with the National Academy Orchestra, the Elora Festival Orchestra, the Toronto Concert Orchestra and Esprit Orchestra. Mr. Gemmell has taught at the Royal Conservatory of Music and the University of Western Ontario and is a member of the Royal College of Examiners.

Our Choral Ensemble was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to work with Michelyn Wright. Ms. Wright has performed as a soloist with the Guelph Chamber Choir, the Kitchener Waterloo Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Operetta Theatre, and was a chorister with the Canadian Opera Company Chorus for 10 years. She is an active voice teacher in the area, who is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), and was on the executive of the Ontario Board of NATS for 15 years. Ms. Wright is a sessional lecturer at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, and has been an artist educator with the Canadian Opera Company, Vocal Director for the Unionville Theatre Company, and Vocal Instruction for the Bach Children's Chorus.

The clinicians were extremely complementary about the performances by all of the Markville ensembles, and were impressed by our ability to effectively overcome the challenges of performing in an online environment. They also provided insightful and useful recommendations on how to become better musicians and improve for future performances.

History Club Spotlight



On March 20-21, Markville's very own History Club members competed at the 2021 Winter League Canadian Online History Bowl competition. The History Bowl is a buzzer-based history quiz competition for teams of up to 6 students that is set up in a tournament style. Questions reference the history of the arts, sciences, religion, philosophy, language, historical geography, recent history, and even the history of sports and entertainment.

Markville's team performed very well finishing in the top seven which has qualified the team for the 2021 Canadian Online Championships on May 15th-16th! Special shoutout to our History Club executive members Herman Lam and Hansen Rao who have worked very hard to create and deliver history lessons, host trivia games, and share strategies to prepare for this competition.

Markville History Bowl Team Members who have qualified for the 2021 Canadian Online Championships on May 15-16, 2021:

- Herman Lam (Gr. 11)
- Hansen Rao (Gr. 11)
- Jackie Wang (Gr. 10)
- Bryan Zhen (Gr. 11)
- Jessica Korn (Gr. 11) (alternate)

Congratulations!

History Club meets weekly on Wednesday's from 3:00-4:00pm. Our google classroom code is **2y3j4no** New members are always welcome!

Staff Advisors: Adrienne Chong, Michael Diluccio, Marc Nicholson

Guidance Department



Hello Parents,
Guidance will be conducting a Virtual Presentation on Thursday, April 22nd at 6:30 - 7:30 pm. The presentation, Post Secondary Planning Information, is geared for parents and Grade 11 students. In this presentation, we will cover all of the pathway options available to students after high school, the preparation process for students and parents, application procedures, dates and much more. We hope you can join us for the Zoom session. Below you will find the Zoom link to join this informative session:

<https://yrdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/94823674942?pwd=ZmFBL3MyS3Zmdkh3QzZlucVZ1V25hdz09>

Preregistration is appreciated.

Thanks so much.
Markville Guidance Department

Schedule Change

	Time	T2-R1
Date		Apr 8 Apr 30
F2F Block 1	8:20 – 10:50	1
Exit	10:50 – 11:05	Exit
Travel & Lunch	11:05 – 12:20	Travel & Lunch
Block 2	12:20 – 1:10	2
Block 3	1:10 – 2:00	4
Block 4	2:00 – 2:50	5

Face to Face Rotation 1 schedule

Rotation 1 will start again on Thursday April 8th for cohort A, so students will have period one as their face-to-face class on their cohort day.

- If a student attends school on the wrong cohort day, they will be sent home. Cohorts are created to keep everyone as safe as possible, so this is necessary.
- Afternoon online classes will consist of 40 minutes of synchronous learning with the remaining 10 minutes for independent work and/or time for students to stretch, get a drink, etc.
- Lastly, if a class or entire school needed to be

closed due to COVID-19, the expectation is that all students are to connect in their virtual/online learning platforms (Google Classroom, Moodle, etc.) within 24 hours. The student would follow the same schedule in place at the time of the closure.

April 5 to April 16 Schedule

5 Easter Monday	6 Period 5 AM A Period 4, 1, 2 online	7 Period 5 AM B Period 4, 1, 2 online	8 Period 1 AM A Period 2, 4, 5 online	9 Period 1 AM B Period 2, 4, 5 online
12	13	14 APRIL BREAK	15	16

Daily Student Screening

REMINDER - All secondary students are required to complete the mandatory COVID19 screening confirmation form before attending school each day.

Form: ow.ly/LLMP30rz56R

Peer Tutoring



Hey Markville!

Do you need extra help? Are you looking for a tutor? If so, don't wait or hesitate! Submit an application for a 1-on-1 Peer Tutor. Sessions start the week of February 22.

What? 1-on1 Peer Tutoring!

Who? Adaptive and SVS Markville students!

***Note:** Peer Tutoring prioritizes support for Gr 9-12 compulsory courses. If you are looking for extra help in a senior elective, please first

connect with your teachers.

When? Lunch 11:20-12:10 (Tuesdays and Thursdays) or After School 3:00-3:50 (Wednesdays and Fridays). Tutees and Tutors will meet weekly and attendance will be taken.

Where? Virtually! Zoom invitations will be sent once a match has been confirmed. Students must be logged into YRDSB accounts.

How? Submit an application at bit.ly/msstutoringsignup2021 and check your GAPPS email for a match confirmation!

Tweet of the Week



Markville SS
@Markville_YRDSB



April 2nd is [#NationalGOOSpaperday](#)! What is GOOS paper? It stands for Good On One Side! Markville's ECO Club has put together a poster and questionnaire to celebrate this day with students tomorrow April 1st.



2:29 PM · Mar 31, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Tech Tip



Online Student
Tools

York Region District School Board Website

YRDSB website has been updated and improved, students can now access school databases all on one page on the student tools and resources page.

There are a number of different resources with student access that will relate to different subjects students are taking here at Markville Secondary.

Some of the resources are password protected. Students may need to ask their teacher for password information, but all is indicated on the student tools and resources page.

Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit

The [Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit](#) provides financial support to families with young learners to help with additional costs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting on April 26, payments will be issued as follows:

- \$400 for each child or youth up to Grade 12
- \$500 for each child or youth up to age 21 with special needs

If you received a payment through the [Support for Learners](#) program, you **do not** need to apply for this additional payment.

If you missed applying for the Support for Learners program, you will have the opportunity to apply. Applications will open from May 3, 2021 to May 17, 2021.

This new round of payment through the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit is in addition to payments provided by [Support for Families](#) and the [Support for Learners](#) programs.

Autism Awareness Month

This year the York Region District School Board (YRDSB) is officially launching a month-long World Autism Acceptance campaign alongside our community partners from our Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) [Autism Ontario](#) on April 6th.

The purpose of [Autism Ontario's Raise the Flag campaign](#) is to bring attention to the triumphs, contributions and experiences of people on the Autism Spectrum. By raising acceptance we can build stronger and more inclusive communities and learning environments for students who have ASD.

- 1 in 66 students in Ontario is identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Autism Ontario 2018.

Moving From Awareness to Acceptance

This year we are moving from raising awareness for Autism to increasing acceptance.

Acceptance and awareness come from vastly different mindsets. Awareness seeks to highlight how **Other** we are and emphasizes the differences and distance between our ways of being. Acceptance looks at commonalities we share and at the strength inherent in diversity. ([Autistic Self Advocacy Network, 2014](#))

Some students self-identify as an Autistic person as part of their social identity. At the YRDSB, the way we recognize World Autism Acceptance Month is through consultation with our students with Autism, their families and using our professional judgement. Watch this Ted Talk, [Dear Society...Signed, Autism](#) from the point of view of a self-advocate to learn more about Autism Acceptance. The most important thing to remember is that when you're talking about autism, you're talking about a person.

Videos:

- [Autism Awareness Month: Meet Brady](#)
- [Autism Ontario - See the Potential with Michael McCreary](#)
- [How Autism Freed Me to be Myself - Rosie King](#)

Other Resources:

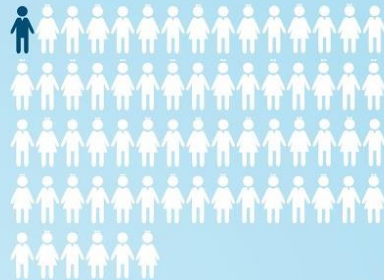
- [Autism Ontario Webinars](#): a resource for parents, professionals and educators

AUTISM PREVALENCE AMONG CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN CANADA

2018 Report of the National Autism Spectrum
Disorder (ASD) Surveillance System*

IN CANADA,
AMONG CHILDREN AND YOUTH 5–17 YEARS OF AGE:

AN ESTIMATED
1 IN 66 HAVE BEEN
DIAGNOSED WITH ASD



MALES WERE
IDENTIFIED WITH ASD **4X**
MORE FREQUENTLY
THAN **FEMALES**



1 IN 42
MALES
WERE DIAGNOSED WITH
ASD



MORE THAN HALF **56%**
OF CHILDREN AND
YOUTH HAD RECEIVED
THEIR DIAGNOSIS
BY AGE **6**



AND MORE THAN **90%**
90% OF CHILDREN
AND YOUTH WERE
DIAGNOSED BY AGE **12**



1 IN 165
FEMALES
WERE DIAGNOSED WITH
ASD

* Report findings are based on 2015 health, education and social services data collected from seven participating provincial and territorial governments (Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, British Columbia and the Yukon Territory), representing 40% of children and youth in Canada.

Acknowledgements: This work was made possible through collaboration between the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and participating provincial and territorial governments and expert advice from the Autism Spectrum Disorders – Advisory Committee (ASD-AC). This infographic was developed by PHAC; no endorsement by provincial and territorial partners should be inferred.

Read: Autism Spectrum Disorder among Children and Youth in Canada 2018: A Report of the National Autism Spectrum Disorder Surveillance System

www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/autism-spectrum-disorder-children-youth-canada-2018.html

• ASD Data Blog <https://infobase.phac-aspc.gc.ca/datalab/autism-blog-en.html>

LEARN MORE ABOUT ASD IN CANADA

Visit: **Canada.ca** and search “autism” or “ASD”

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA: PHAC @GovCanHealth



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Canada

YRDSB Communications

Visit our new website

YRDSB has refreshed its Board website to make it easier for families to find the important information they are looking for at www.yrdsb.ca.

The new website has been designed to be mobile friendly, translatable, accessible, searchable, easy to navigate and to better reflect York Region District School Board and our community. This includes:

- Built-in translation tool
- Enhanced search capabilities
- Built-in accessibility features to meet accessibility legislation
- Revised navigation based on user testing, website analytics and research
- Quick access to six of our most accessed pages, including school calendars and school transportation information.

The new website also includes:

- [Family Resources](#) that provides quick access to online tools like Edsby, Google Classroom and School Cash Online, as well as links to information about translation tools, IT support for families and more. Use the “need help” button to access tips and support in using these tools.
- Updated [Online Student Tools](#) pages provide quick access to students to online learning platforms and resources to help with homework. Use the “need help” button to access tips and support in using these tools.
- An enhanced [Newsroom](#) with access to the latest news, events and videos so you can find out what’s happening around our Board.
- Easy access to information about [supports for students](#), [elementary school](#) and [secondary school](#) programs, [adult learning opportunities](#) and more.

Information about COVID-19 and schools, including update information, screening tools and frequently asked questions can still be found at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

We hope that the website makes it easier for families to find and access the information you are looking for. When you visit the new website, please take the time to share your feedback, so we can continue to ensure our website meets the needs of the community we serve.



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

April 2021

YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel

Social Connection and the Power of a Listening Ear

A year later, we continue to experience uncertainty with lockdowns and social distancing; we long for social interaction with peers, friends, and families beyond our immediate social circles. This month's newsletter will focus on the importance of maintaining and expanding our social connections by offering a listening ear while following Public Health guidelines.

Restrictions limiting in-person interactions have left many parents and students feeling a sense of isolation, sadness, anxiousness, and frustration, among other feelings. The importance of offering a listening ear could not be more pronounced as many feel disconnected and alone. According to [CMHA](#), 'really listening' is the key to a meaningful connection. Active listening is a part of effective communication skills that can support building a real connection with other people. It can take some getting used to, especially when behind a mask and distanced six feet apart or even behind a virtual screen.

The importance of offering a listening ear to understand what a person might be experiencing is a small act that can make a meaningful difference. [Leon F. Seltzer Ph.D.](#) explains why feeling understood is essential to our wellbeing and how it connects us to others, allowing us to feel welcomed.

Included below are some tips to build connection safely by offering a [sympathetic ear](#):

Reach out in a manner that feels safe and follows Public Health guidelines i.e., phone call, zoom, text, and other creative ways.

- Take the time to let the other person know you are there for them. *"I am here for you. I am listening. Tell me what's on your mind..."*

- Show empathy and understanding by validating what is being said. *"I hear you, and it makes sense why you would feel this way."*
- Acknowledge their feelings.
- Be present in the moment with the person.
- Listen to understand and take the necessary time to absorb the information. • Ask questions when appropriate. The questions should be curious, open-ended, and ones that do not contain an answer. *"Can you tell me more about what that was like for you?"*
- Pay attention to body language by facing the person to show you are listening. • Avoid advice-giving, interrupting, making assumptions, or judgments. • Let the conversation flow.
- Be honest about how much time you can offer to connect.

Following these tips should help you get started on building meaningful connections through the act of listening.

[School Mental Health Ontario](#) has created various resources for educators, parents and families, and students regarding supporting student mental health by developing healthy relationship skills. Check out some more tips from School Mental Health Ontario on [reaching out](#), so you can be your best to support your children.

Mental Health COVID-19 Page

COVID-19 has presented unprecedented issues and concerns for our community, our country and the world. As we focus on keeping ourselves healthy and containing the spread of COVID-19, we must also keep ourselves mentally well.

The link below is dedicated to supporting student mental health during this pandemic. Resources for students, parents/guardians as well as community resources are listed. In addition, there are various links to YRDSB mental health supports as well as community supports available during the school closure. Please consider taking some time to familiarize yourself with the [Mental Health and Community Supports During COVID.](#)

Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the Twitter account @YRDSB

Patricia Marra-Stapleton, M.Sc., C. Psych. Assoc.

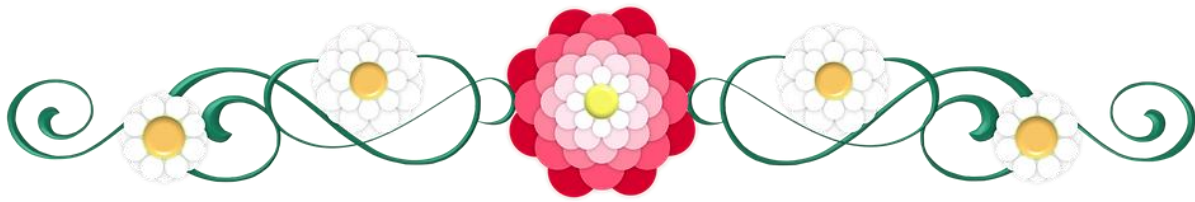
Mental Health Lead

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Hoshana Calliste, MSW, RSW

Assistant Coordinator of Mental Health

hoshana.calliste@yrdsb.ca



Budget Consultation Process for Families and Community Members

Between April 7 and April 29, York Region District School is inviting families and community members to participate in its annual budget consultation process. The Board values public input and encourages public participation in virtual [consultation sessions](#) and an online survey. These consultation sessions provide the Board with valuable information about how the community would like to see the school board budget allocated to better support student achievement and well-being. The results will be used to inform the 2021-22 school year budget allocation.

The dates and times of the virtual consultations are:

· **Wednesday, April 7, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

- Please register for this Public Budget Consultation Session at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3150347517880291084>.
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.
- Public, listen only, telephone access to the webinar is via **647-497-9368** and entering Access Code **490-736-992**.

· **Monday, April 26, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

- Please register for this Public Budget Consultation Session at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3227105524126939660> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.
- Public, listen only, telephone access to the webinar is via **647-497-9389** and Access Code **149-846-166**.

YRDSB has created a survey to gather community feedback into the process. The survey will be available for completion on the Board [website](#) **April 7 - April 29, 2021**.

YRDSB values community input and is working to increase transparency and understanding of its budget process. Questions regarding the budget process may be directed to Budget20212022@yrdsb.ca.

Community Notice via YRDSB



MARKHAM AFRICAN CARIBBEAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION **PRESENTS:**

DESIGN YOUR FUTURE BLACK YOUTH LEGACY CONFERENCE **2021**



GENERATIONAL WEALTH

REGISTER TODAY: www.macca1987.com

JOIN US ON
APRIL 17, 2021
AT 11:00AM
(Conference targeting
ages 14-24 yrs)

www.macca1987.com

Community Events

Many Faces of Markham

Presented by

The City of Markham Race Relations Committee

In support of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

**Submit your art, writing, video or spoken word submission
to Sandra Allen at sallen@markham.ca by April 23, 2021**



Working Together to Confront Anti-Black Racism

The City of Markham is committed to being an inclusive city where everyone feels welcome and a sense of belonging. Show your support for this year's theme.

Learn more & apply: markham.ca/ManyFaces

For assistance: Customer Contact Centre 905.477.5530



sallen@markham.ca
markham.ca/ManyFaces