

# Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



## Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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Markham, Ontario  
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**February 5th 2021**

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

## Message from Our Trustee

Dear families,

I hope that you and your families are healthy and doing well. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their flexibility, patience and perseverance during the school closures. We understand that the pandemic is creating challenges and hardships, and we will continue to prioritize and do our very best to support the well-being, learning and achievement of our students during these difficult times.

There are resources on the Board website that students and families may find helpful, including tips for speaking with your child about COVID-19, support using technology, community and mental health resources and more at [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

One of our [priorities](#) as a Board of Trustees is to Champion Equity and Inclusivity: we aim to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to remove barriers in support of all learners.

### **Anti-Black Racism**

We want each and every one of our students to know that they are valued, welcome, safe and respected in our schools. We know that sadly that is not the reality for some students and that incidents of anti-Black racism continue to occur in our community and our schools. These incidents cause pain, make our students feel unsafe and affect their well-being and achievement. This is not acceptable.

In the coming weeks, we will be sharing information and inviting you to participate in the *Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black affirming learning and working environments* virtual event. During this event we will be unveiling our Anti-Black Racism Strategy, which was developed in coordination with families, students, community partners, educators and members of our senior leadership team. The strategy was developed in response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism,

and it will be a critical tool to support positive change in the system and to improve the experiences of Black students and staff.

A series of training sessions, webinars and opportunities for learning will also be made available. Future communication will provide registration options.

I want to thank the members of the Anti-Black Racism Committee for generously giving their time, sharing their difficult experiences and their voice. We are committed to ensuring that this strategy is more than a piece of paper and are committed to doing the work to create more equitable learning environments.

I also want to acknowledge that February is Black History Month, and while we take this opportunity to highlight and celebrate the incredible contributions made by Black Canadians, we will also be looking forward to launching our Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy. We will also be continuing our [celebration of Black excellence](#) in our community and I encourage you to take the time to read the stories of some of the inspiring individuals learning and working here in York Region.

We all have a role to play in creating a community that enables everyone in it to thrive, and in doing this work, we will create a more inclusive and positive environment for *all* of our students and families.

## Black History Month



February is Black History Month and at Markville Secondary School we will be reflecting upon the contributions that Black Canadians, Caribbean, American, and Africans have made to Canadian society and the world at large. Each day we will showcase videos that explore Black History & Culture and their impact on

Canada. The themes we will be highlighting for 2021 connect to the following subject areas: History, Culture, English, Arts, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Business & Politics. We aim to showcase how these individuals have contributed to the fabric of Canadian society.

Week 1: History & Culture

Week 2: Arts & Literature

Week 3: STEM

Week 4: Business & Politics

## YRDSB Memos



### Understanding Gaming

### 了解游戏

### கேமிக்க ரிஃகாவ

Join Our Conversation As We Explore Young People's Interest In Computer and Video Games Play

讨论孩子对计算机和视频游戏的兴趣

கணினி ம வீயோ கேக்களி உகழைதயி

ஆவைத பறிய விவாத

**Presented by:**

[Hong Fook Mental Health Association](#)

YRDSB Social Work Team

CEC East Performance Plus Team

Inclusive School And Community Services

**Date:** February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

日期：2021年2月10日，

தேதி: பிரவரி 10, 2021

**Time:** 10:30 am – 12pm or 7:00pm to 8:30 pm

时间：上午10:30 – 下午12点或7:00 pm至8:30 pm

நேர: காலை 10:30 - மதிய 12 அல இர 7:00 த இர 8:30 வைர

[Registration](#)

[点击这里注册](#)

பதி ஁சய ஙுஙக களி ஁சக

**Registration Deadline:** February 4th , 2021/ 報名截止日期 : 2021年2月4 பதி

கால஁க: பரிவரி 4, 2021



## Financial support for parents/guardians

**Updated:** The government is providing financial support to help parents and guardians with additional costs during the 2020-2021 school year during the second wave of COVID-19.

Eligible parents or guardians will receive a one-time payment of:

- \$200 for each child or youth up to Grade 12
- \$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 years with special needs. This is a new program, and all parents or guardians who are residents of Ontario with eligible children will need to submit a new application for each child.

As of today, eligible parents or guardians can go to [Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners](https://Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners) for more information and to apply for this one-time financial support.

**The deadline to apply is February 8, 2021.**

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## Schedule Change

### NEW! Semester II Daily Schedule

For the duration of the school closure we will follow a 75 minute period format.

Period 1	8:20 am - 9:35 am
Period 2	9:40 am - 10:55 am
LUNCH	10:55 am - 12:15 pm
Period 4	12:15 pm - 1:30 pm
Period 5	1:35 pm - 2:50 pm

## Department Spotlight

## SHSM February 2021

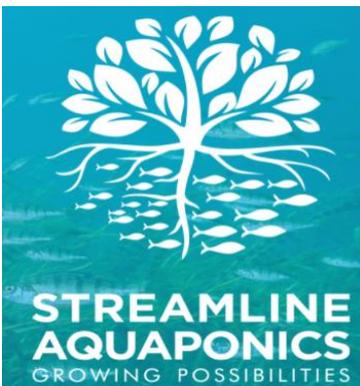


### CELL-BASED / PLANT-BASED TECHNOLOGIES

Please scroll down to learn more  
about this presentation.

At Markville Secondary School, we offer the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in the following sectors: Arts and Culture, Business, Environment, Health and Wellness, and Information and Communications Technology. Students apply for this program in grade 10 when they are selecting their courses for their grade 11 year.

Although school has looked different this year, there have still been a variety of specialized learning programs that our SHSM students have had the opportunity to participate in. In November there was a YRDSB wide virtual launch that all were invited to attend. It included a keynote speaker from Inksmith who talked about innovation, an introduction to the YRDSB SHSM Google Site, and the ability to obtain their certifications for project management and infection control. The YRDSB SHSM Google Site contains relevant SHSM information and lists of online Certifications, Experiential Learnings and Reach Ahead activities that students can complete on their own time. SHSM students are invited to check it regularly for new updates.



Here at Markville, we continue to have teachers who support each sector. For this newsletter, we will highlight the



Environmental SHSM sector. Students have participated in various opportunities, and will continue to do so during the remainder of the year. Students gained experiential learning experiences while learning from the virtual presentations from Markham Water and Ethical Choices Program. EcoSpark is scheduled to deliver four live virtual sessions from mid-February to mid-March. Students will gain understanding of how to conduct water quality assessments, develop specific skills in identifying benthic groups, and use various indices to assess aquatic ecological health. By attending these sessions, students will obtain their elective stream assessment certification. Stream Line Aquaponics will also be delivering a virtual presentation. Their presentation will introduce students to

aquaponics, sustainability and career pathways counting towards both an experiential learning and reach ahead opportunity. Details on the format and date of the Envirothon are soon to be released. The Envirothon is a competition that our students have competed in numerous times in the past. Our students are excited about participating again in this potential experiential opportunity.



## Co-op

**Congratulations to all Cooperative Education and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship (OYAP) students who have successfully completed their semester at their placements!**

After much preparation, patience, and plenty of persistence, students have experienced a wide variety of career areas including Business, Computers and Technology, Healthcare, and Education, and Automotive Technology. Despite a very challenging semester, Co-op teachers were able to offer over 60 industry placements to their students through in-person or virtual work experience...or even a hybrid model of both opportunities. Our Co-op students demonstrated great resilience, adaptability and most of all, positivity! We are very proud of our MSS Co-op students and their achievements.

The Co-op Department would also like to take this time to thank all of our **Community Partners** who have been graciously volunteering their valuable time and energy as Co-op Supervisors. The Co-op supervisors not only provide our students with the opportunity to learn beyond the traditional classroom, but they also provide them with opportunities to develop and enhance their employability skills, and help shape their future career choices. Many employers stepped up during this difficult time to come up with creative and innovative ways to continue to support our students' experiential learning. The program could not exist without the dedication of our Community Partners.

Students, parents and interested community members wishing to learn more about Cooperative Education/OYAP can speak to the department head, Ms. Vrensen ([kimberly.vrensen@yrdsb.ca](mailto:kimberly.vrensen@yrdsb.ca)) Or if you are interested in hosting a Cooperative Education or an OYAP student (or know of someone who might), we are always looking for community support for our wonderful MSS students!

**Here are a few ways that our students were able to participate in and benefit from Cooperative Education at MSS:**

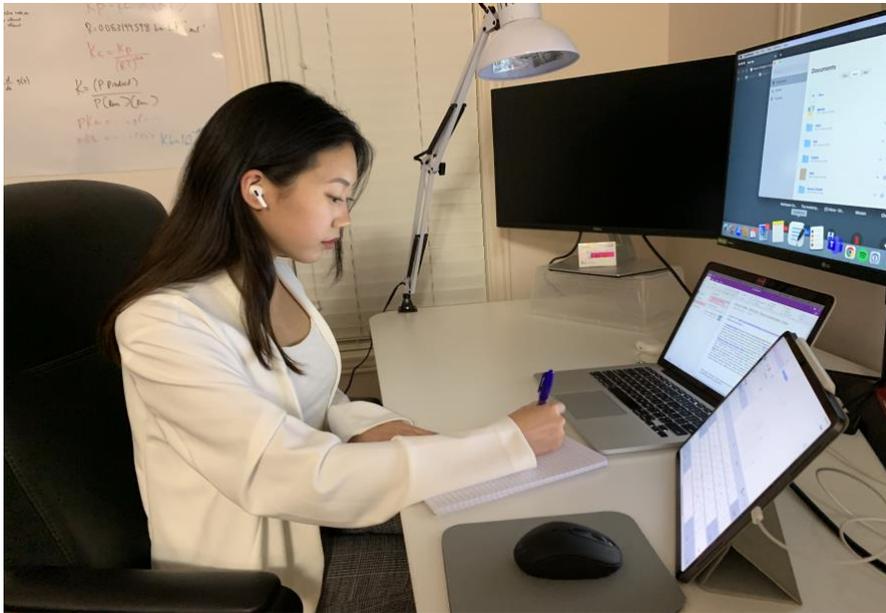
**Ashley Khuu: Grade 11 Cooperative Education Student**  
**Virtual Placement: Junior Achievement**

Through a virtual placement with the Junior Achievement Business organization, Ashley helped to create a non-profit organization: WeGotU. Along with her team of other Co-op students from YRDSB, Ashley developed this organization to provide a variety of resources, allowing individuals to eliminate their stress, improve their mental health, and maximize their student success.

To help students deal with their stress, Ashley and her team created podcasts. These podcasts cover a variety of topics pertaining to school stress, peer pressure, anxiety around Covid-19, time management, and more. They are available on 8 different platforms, ensuring that every student is able to listen.

Here is the Linktree where you can check out the WeGotU website, podcasts, and social media sites: [linktr.ee/wegotu](https://linktr.ee/wegotu)

*“Do you need some help dealing with minor stress? Do you want something to listen to? Check out the WeGotU Podcast!”*



[Ashley Khuu](#)

**April Wei: Grade 11 SHSM/Cooperative Education Student**  
**Virtual Placement: Markville Secondary School Music Department**

**In her own words...**

For my Co-op placement, I supported Markville Secondary School's own music department, Markville Music. Specifically, I assist the Head of music, Mr. Hu-A-Kam,

with the grade 9 and 10 string ensembles in Repertoire classes, as well as the grade 10 strings class with theory, and a few other tasks. Being a virtual assistant teacher for Mr. Hu-A-Kam has really helped me understand the other side of what goes on at school! As a student of Markville Music myself, I have discovered the hard work that comes with being a teacher, and I experienced it under even more difficult circumstances. I have now learned to become more flexible and adaptable to my surroundings and situations, and I learned to be able to improvise with whatever I am given. Over the past few months, I have been able to become a lot faster and more organized, and I learned how to find more efficient ways to accomplish different tasks. I also enjoyed working with Mr. Hu-A-Kam to figure out how to move some specific tasks online. It boosted my creativity and innovation as we managed to incorporate technology into the music course at Markville. Overall, my Co-op experience has been phenomenal for both developing my skills, enjoying myself, and helping others, and I could not have asked for a better placement!

## Tech Tip

Triple P session

# TRIPLE P – POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Triple P is a parenting program, but it doesn't tell you how to be a parent. It's more like a toolbox of ideas. You choose the strategies you need. You choose the way you want to use them. It's all about making Triple P work for you.

Because all families are different, Triple P has a range of ways to get your positive parenting program. Choose anything from single visit consultations to public seminars; group courses to private sessions. You can even do Triple P Online, at home or wherever you like!

This link down below has times where you can book local sessions and seminars which will be held virtually.

<https://www.triplep-parenting.ca/ont-en/find-help/find-a-session/>

## Tweet of the Week



**Markville SS** @Markville\_YRDSB · Feb 1



Markville is ready for the return of textbooks and resources! Way to go Mavs!!!



# Community Notice via YRDSB

## COVID-19 UPDATE

# 211 - Services for Families

## 211 CENTRAL FACT SHEET

### What is 2-1-1?

211 is a free service that connects individuals and families with the complete range of government, health, community and social services in their communities.

### 211 Central Quick Facts:

- 211 can be accessed by:
  - Phone (Call 2-1-1 / Toll-Free Number: 1-877-330-3213 / TTY: 1-888-340-1001)
  - Online (Search [211Central.ca](https://211Central.ca) for Toronto, Peel and York Regions / [Durham.211Central.ca](https://Durham.211Central.ca) for Durham Region / [211Ontario.ca](https://211Ontario.ca) for province-wide / [211.ca](https://211.ca) for nation-wide)
  - Text (Send an SMS to 21166 / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
  - Live Chat ([211Ontario.ca/chat](https://211Ontario.ca/chat) / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
  - E-mail ([gethelp@211Ontario.ca](mailto:gethelp@211Ontario.ca) / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
- 211 is free, confidential and available 24/7 (even on holidays) in 150+ languages
- When you dial 2-1-1, the line is answered by certified Service Navigators who will help you navigate the complexities of the human services system quickly and easily
- Contact 2-1-1 for information and referral to:
  - Health Services & Mental Health Supports
  - Income Support & Financial Assistance
  - Food Banks & Meal Programs
  - Housing Help
  - Seniors Support Services
  - [and more...](#)

Next time you are facing a non-emergency situation or are seeking community help and don't know where to turn, remember to contact 211! Help starts here.



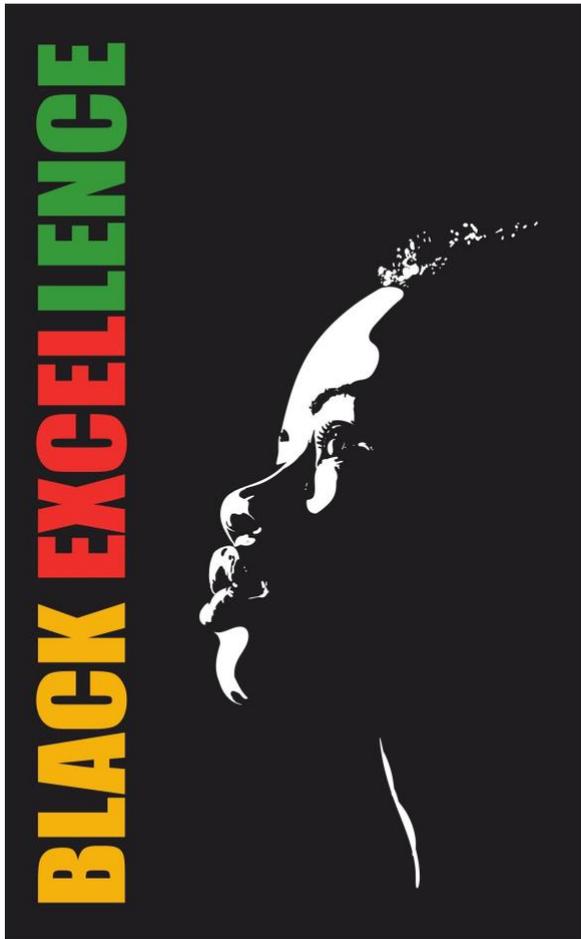
## PILLARS to Well-Being Muslim Student Conference



Conference Dates:

- Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:00pm - 6:00pm
- Wednesday, March 3, 2021 4:00pm - 6:00pm
- Thursday, March 4, 2021 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Students are asked to register by Friday February 12: [register](#)



Mostafa Abdelhamid  
Woodbridge College

Black History Month - February 2021  
#BlackExcellence



Black History Month  
**STANDING ON STRONG SHOULDERS**

**FEB 1-28 2021** | Join us for an exciting lineup of virtual activities!

**FEATURING:**  
Flag Raising Ceremony, Reception, Panel Discussion, Music, Guest Author, Ujamaa Black-Owned Marketplace and more!

Visit [newmarket.ca/blackhistory](http://newmarket.ca/blackhistory) for complete schedule, activities and to register.

**NACCA**  
est. 2018

[naccacommunity.ca](http://naccacommunity.ca)  
@nacca\_newmarket  
@nacca.ne  
@NaccaNewmarket

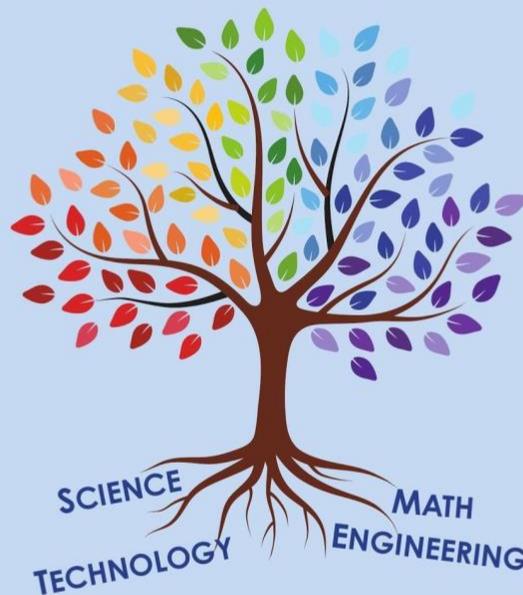


YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & SKILLS ONTARIO  
INVITE YOU TO AN INFORMATION SESSION ON

# STEM

THE ROOTS OF SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



We are inviting **ALL** YRDSB parents/guardians of YRDSB Elementary and Secondary students to join  
**York Region District School Board's Pathways Team & Skills Ontario**  
on **Tuesday, February 9, 2021 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
to learn about careers related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)  
as well as initiatives and resources available from Skills Ontario.

## GOOGLE STREAM

**\*Please note:** you will need to log into your child's YRDSB Gapps account  
to access the online webinar stream. **\*Register in advance:** [BIT.LY/YRDSB-STEM](https://bit.ly/YRDSB-STEM)



