

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



1000 Carlton Road
Markham, Ontario
L3P 7P5
Principal: Patricia Obadia

Tel: (905) 940-8840
Fax: (905) 940-8895
Email: markville.ss@yrdsb.ca



January 28th, 2022

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

Lunar New Year



Congratulations!

Markville SS would like to congratulate two of its teachers on their upcoming retirement: Diane Stecher, in the English and French and International Languages Departments, and Trusha Patel, in the Mathematics Department. .

We express our most sincere appreciation for their commitment, passion and dedication to our students and their families. We wish them all the best as they start this new path in their lives! Their Markville family will miss them dearly.

Trustee's Message

Message from Our Trustee

Dear families,

Thank you for your patience and support as schools closed to students and we moved to remote learning in January for two weeks after the winter break, following direction from the Government of Ontario.

It has been almost two years since the pandemic was declared and schools closed to students for the first time. Since then, we have all experienced significant changes and challenges in the way we live, work and learn. As a school board, we continue to be guided by public health advice and guidelines, our [values](#) as an organization and the goals set out in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#), all of which centre the well-being, learning and achievement of our students. We remain committed to sharing information with you as it becomes available. We also continue to update the Board website with resources and information, at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

On the website, you can also find information about the [Board of Trustees](#), including more about my role as your trustee, committee meeting dates, and information about public participation and how you can attend public board meetings. Following [a review](#) completed earlier this year, trustees approved some changes to [committee structures](#) and [delegation process](#) to create a stronger governance model. As a Board, we are committed to good governance, serving the needs of our community and upholding the values of York Region District School Board.

With winter well underway, I want to remind families that this year [schools will close when an inclement weather day is declared](#). This is as a result of the pandemic and the importance of adhering to public health guidelines.

There is much to look forward to in the months ahead.

This month, students in Grades 5 to 11 will have an opportunity to vote for the students who will represent their voices next school year, during the **student trustee elections**. Student trustees play an important role in our system, including participating in board and committee meeting discussions. The election process also gives students an opportunity to learn more about and participate in the voting process. Learn more at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

Throughout February, we recognize **Black History Month**. In addition to recognizing the contributions of Black Canadians throughout history, we are continuing to Celebrate Black

Excellence in our own community. I encourage you to [read or watch the stories of some of the many outstanding individuals in York Region, or nominate someone](#). You may also be interested in some of the episodes available on our [TuneIn YRDSB podcast](#), exploring Black History Month and beyond.

Later in February, our schools will become a sea of pink as we acknowledge **Pink Shirt Day** and stand together against bullying. Learn more about our work to [prevent and address bullying](#) and create [equitable and inclusive learning environments](#).

Family Day and **March Break** are also approaching, and I wish you and your families a healthy, restful and enjoyable break.

As we move closer to the spring and summer months, many families who have children graduating this year are beginning to wonder what **graduation ceremonies** will look like in June. We all want to be able to celebrate this important milestone with our graduating students in person. It is a special occasion, recognizing their years of achievement and hard work. We recognize that it has been deeply disappointing to students, families and staff that we have not been able to hold in-person ceremonies as we have done in the past, as we adhere to health and safety guidelines. School board staff continue to meet regularly with public health and to review provincial guidelines, and as more information becomes available, we will continue to provide you with updates.

In closing, I want to acknowledge that as an education community, although we have faced many challenges and changes in the past few years, we have also seen our community come together in many ways to support our students and one another. I am proud to be part of this community and I want to thank our students, families and staff for the effort and care they have demonstrated.

Ron Lynn
Trustee, Markham Wards 2, 3 and 6

SHSM Spotlight

SHSM January 2022 Markville Newsletter Entry

The Specialist High Skills Major is a program students can join that allows them to gain credits towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma while learning about a specific sector at the same time. The benefits of the SHSM program to students include:

- ★ A customized high school experience that suits their interests
- ★ The development of specialized knowledge and skills

- ★ Gaining sector-recognized certifications
- ★ Participation in career-relevant training
- ★ Overall, it enables students to build a foundation of sector-focused knowledge and skills before graduating, and allows students to make more informed choices about their future

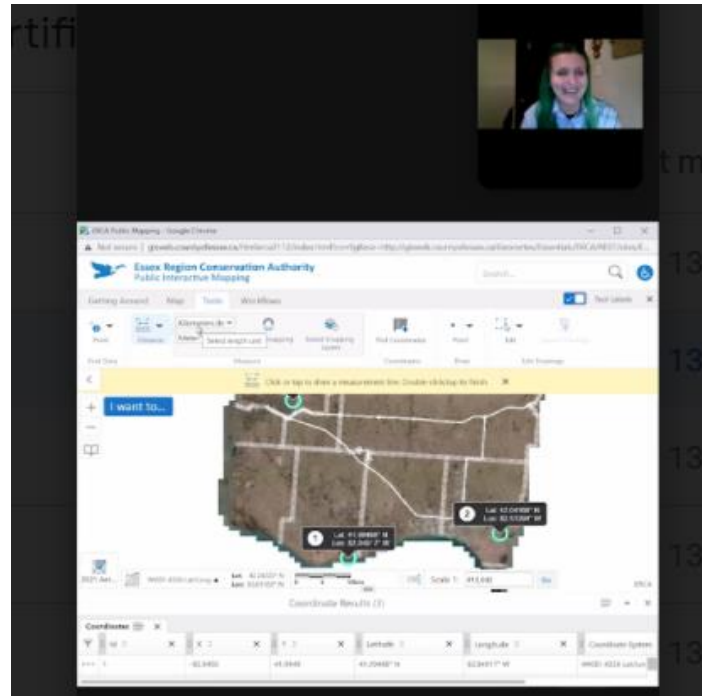
At Markville Secondary School, we offer the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in the following sectors: Arts and Culture, Business, Environment, Health and Wellness, and Information and Communications Technology. Students apply for this program in grade 10 when they are selecting their courses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

This semester there have been a variety of specialized learning programs that our SHSM students have had the opportunity to participate in. In October and November, there were YRDSB wide virtual conferences that all were invited to attend. At these conferences, students were provided with the opportunity to complete industry related certifications, and learn more about post secondary options and professions in their fields of interest. Certifications include CPR and First Aid Awareness training by St. John's Ambulance, customer service, infection control, conflict resolution, ethical considerations, anti-oppression and allyship, project management, concussion awareness, and group dynamics. Our SHSM students will continue to participate in these conferences throughout the next semester. In addition, teachers supporting the SHSM sectors here at Markville will continue to offer additional opportunities for our SHSM students.

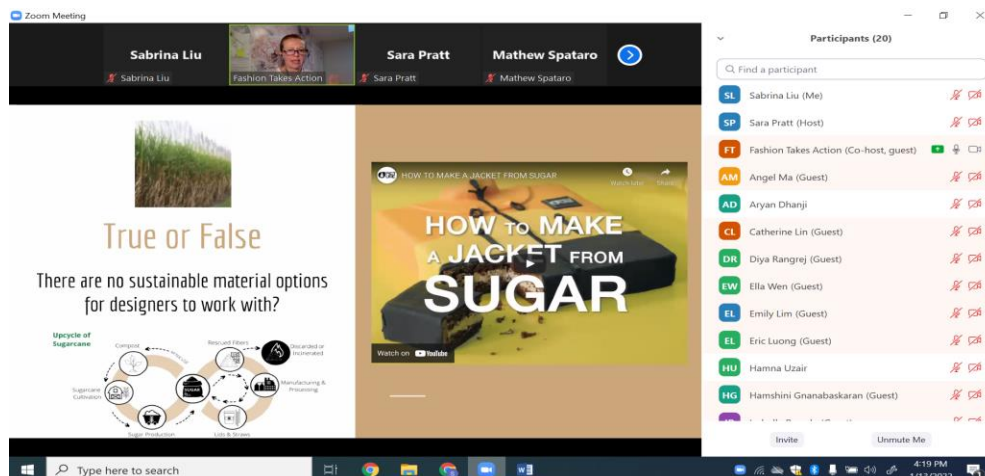
Here at Markville, we have a number of teachers who support each sector. For this newsletter, we will highlight the Environmental SHSM sector. The environment SHSM sector has had a busy start of the first semester. All opportunities were live virtual and interactive presentations.

Students were involved in the following elective certification opportunities at school.

- ★ GIS elective certification – This was a certification offered through Essex Conservation Authority. Students worked through this certification, a computer based course, in two after school sessions. Students learned how to measure distances, identify watersheds and soils, and predict floods as they designed their own habitat restoration project.



- ★ Students had a joint elective certification opportunity recently with Sutton District High School - sustainable resource management planning. They learned about the life cycle of a t-shirt and its impact on the environment (with an emphasis on carbon emissions, chemicals i.e., particularly those that pollute water and waste). Upon completion of this certification (which was offered after school), students felt empowered to be part of the solution in how they shop, wear, and care for the t-shirt's life cycle after purchase.



- ★ Students participated in a University of Toronto Engineering Talk (prior to the winter break) which counted towards a reach ahead opportunity.
- ★ In the second semester, students will look forward to the

- elective certification (plant and animal species ID) where they will use field guides and related equipment to develop skills in tree, plant, bird, and bug identification. Students will come away with the knowledge of how to identify some of the most commonly seen species.
- opportunity to participate in the annual Envirothon hosted by Forests Ontario.

Message from Guidance

Message from Guidance

FAMILY NIGHT WEBINAR SERIES

Thank you to all of the families who were able to join us for **Markville's Specialty Programs**, and a special thank you to Ms Vrensen, Ms Keyzers and Ms Wilson for their expertise! The next Family Night presentation is quickly approaching on **February 2nd**, to support families in **Course Selection**. Students will receive Course Selection information during school hours on February 11th assemblies (virtually live to accommodate all learners).

The slide deck for the **Specialty Program** presentation is accessible on the [Markville Guidance](#) website's [Family Night Page](#). **The link to the February 2nd presentation** can be found on [Family Night Agenda](#), on that same page.

COURSE SELECTION

[myBluePrint/myPathwayPlanner](#) will be open to submit courses from **February 16-24th**. There is no benefit to being first to submit, so please choose carefully, and where needed, speak to teachers, as well as Guidance. Guidance is bookable to Families via TeachAssist [Parent Portal](#) – appointments can be in person or virtual (please select virtual, if preferred so that we know to send a link). Instructions on how to book an appointment can be located at the bottom of the [Markville Guidance website](#). Courses must be locked in by February 24th. Course selection tips and advice will be shared at the **February 2nd Family Night webinar**, and many questions answered.

NIGHT SCHOOL / ONLINE LEARNING

Please note that students can only register for YRDSB Continuing Education courses (Night School or eLearning) if they are UNable to receive the credit via Markville SS.

NIGHT SCHOOL - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/night-school-credit-courses>

Traditional in-class face-to-face Night School program has used a remote learning delivery model for Semester 1 - delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous). The delivery model for the Winter 2022 semester has not yet been confirmed.

Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 pm, and begin February 17th.

Before the start of the program, students will receive an email with instructions on how to join the class on the first day. YRDSB students will log in with their gapps accounts.

Registration for NIGHT SCHOOL (synchronous) is currently open on myBlueprint/PathwayPlanner. It is highly recommended that students register as early as possible, especially in non-STEM courses, to ensure a space in the course, as courses fill on a first-come, first-served basis. After Thursday, February 10, 2022, students will need to complete an online registration form as myPathwayPlanner will be closed. Once submitted, a form will be emailed to you - it will be critical to share this form with your Guidance counsellor in order for the course to be approved.

ONLINE LEARNING - formerly e-Learning - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/online-learning-formerly-e-learning>

This program offers courses that are specifically designed to be taught in a fully online format (formerly referred to as “e-learning”) - Classes occur online (asynchronous) using an asynchronous model, with synchronous check-in opportunities with the teacher.

Just like Night School, it is highly recommended that students register as early after it opens as possible, especially in non-STEM courses, to ensure a space in the course, as courses fill on a first-come, first-served basis and is open to all of YRDSB.

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION

Applications to OCAS (Ontario Colleges) are due February 1st. Be sure if applying, that your student chooses the max of 5 programs and a start date of September 2022.

For Gr 12 students - as Semester 1 comes to a close, please ensure that any **Private School or alternative Board report cards** are submitted to Markville Guidance.

Private schools must upload to OUAC/OCAS, but the course does not count towards a student Transcript, unless MSS uploads the report card. Private schools can email counsellors directly; TDSB, etc would need to be provided via the student.

FAMILY WEBINAR OPPORTUNITY

[Dream York Career Discovery Expo for Young Women & Families](#) is a virtual evening event for students and their families in grades 7-12. This event is taking place on **February 3, 2022** from 6:00pm - 8:30pm. The evening will provide attendees with pathway information on the **Skilled Trades and STEM-related careers.**

Happy weekend!

Your Guidance Team~

School Notices

Course Feedback - February 3rd -Morning Only - Remote Only, No In-Person classes

Students are not to be in the building today but can join their classes online to receive final feedback on their Semester 1 courses; the schedule is as follows:

8:20 a.m. – 8:57 a.m.	Period 1 (Block 1)
9:02 a.m. – 9:39 a.m.	Period 2 (Block 3)
9:44 a.m. – 10:21 a.m.	Period 3 (Block 2)
10:26 a.m. – 11:03 a.m.	Period 4 (Block 4)

Upcoming Dates

Jan. 26 to Jan 31	Culminating Activity Days
Feb. 1	Instructional Day Lunar New Year
Feb. 2	Culminating Support Day
Feb. 3	Virtual Feedback Day (A.M.)
Feb. 4	PA Day – no classes
Feb. 7	First Day of Semester 2

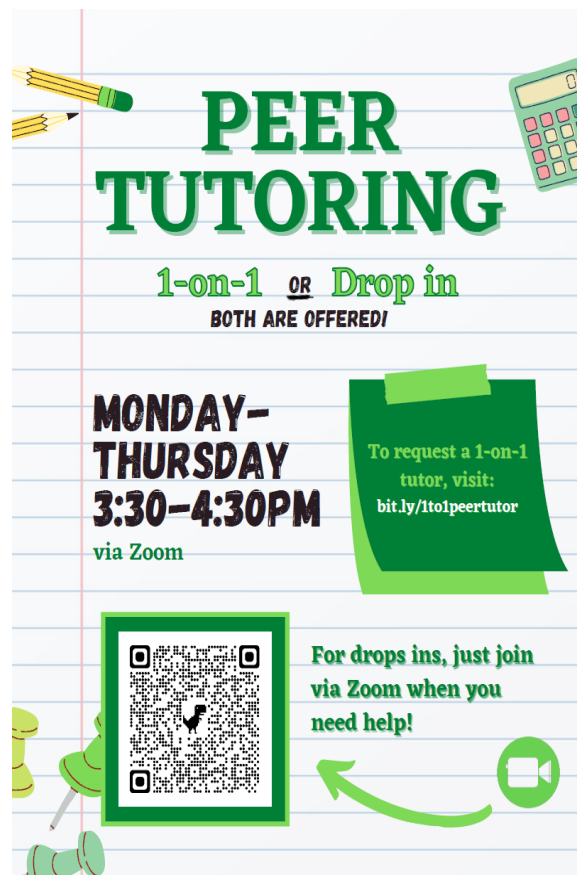
Peer Tutoring

Do you need extra help with your courses? Are you looking for a dedicated peer to help you stay focused and motivated with course work? Markville's Peer Tutoring Club is back and ready to support YOU!

Students can **drop-in** when help is needed or request for a **weekly 1-to-1 peer tutor**. Peer tutoring sessions will be **virtual, after school Monday-Thursday from 3:30-4:30 pm**.

- To request a **1-to-1 peer tutor**, students must submit this application form: bit.ly/1to1peertutor. Students will receive an email confirmation of their peer tutor match once the request is processed.
- No application is needed for **drop-in** peer tutoring—just join via Zoom when you need help! **See schedule and Zoom links below.**

All Peer Tutoring information including sign up form, schedule, and Zoom links can be found at bit.ly/msspeertutorinfo.



PEER TUTORING

1-on-1 OR Drop in
BOTH ARE OFFERED!

MONDAY-THURSDAY
3:30-4:30PM
via Zoom

To request a 1-on-1 tutor, visit:
bit.ly/1to1peertutor

For drops ins, just join via Zoom when you need help!

Tweet of the Week



City of Markham  @cityofmarkham · Jan 26

...

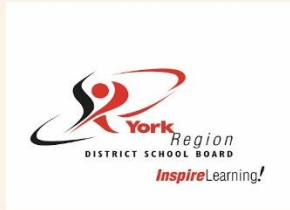
Friendly reminder: Please stay off Markham's ponds, stormwater ponds and waterways as the ice is unsafe.

Ice may appear thick, but it is unpredictable and some areas may have little to no ice.

Learn how to skate safely and find a rink near you: markham.ca/skating



Community Events



MEET & GREET

With the Chinese School Social Worker

Let's celebrate Chinese New Year together!

LOOK FORWARDING TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND THINGS THAT MATTER TO YOU

DROP IN SESSION - YRDSB SECONDARY STUDENTS
RSVP BY EMAILING THE SOCIAL WORKER AT
CHARMAINE.TONG@YRDSB.CA or by entering
the Zoom info below when meeting starts.

Date: Feb 2nd, 2022

Time: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Meeting ID: 992 4650 6194

Passcode: 2Ln701



MENTAL HEALTH 101 WORKSHOP : CHINESE FAMILIES & STUDENTS

101心理健康学习讲座： 如何了解子女内心世界多一点

讲员: **Guest Speakers:**

诚意邀请家长和子女一起参与

日期： 二零二二年二月八日

时间： 7:00pm-8:00pm

Feb 8th, 2022

**Chinese Students and
parents are invited**

唐诗颖 Charmaine Tong
MSW, RSW, School Social Worker
(Community Care Team), YRDSB
约克区教育局学校社工, 社工系
硕士, 注册社工

徐子涵 Hannah Xu
MPH, Hong Fook Mental Health Assoc
Youth Program Worker
康福心理健康协会青少年活动工作人员
公共卫生硕士系

RSVP BY EMAILING THE SOCIAL WORKER AT
CHARMAINE.TONG@YRDSB.CA or
drop- in by entering the zoom info when meeting starts
可電郵 charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca 登記報名
或按以下zoom會議資料



Meeting ID: 923 1395 7122

Passcode: hyK7N7

MENTAL HEALTH 101 WORKSHOP : CHINESE FAMILIES & STUDENTS

101心理健康學習講座： 如何了解子女內心世界多一點

講員: **Guest Speakers:**

誠意邀請家長和子女一起參與

日期： 二零二二年二月九日

時間： 7:00pm-8:00pm

Feb 9th, 2022

**Chinese Students and
parents are invited**

唐詩穎 Charmaine Tong
MSW, RSW, School Social Worker
(Community Care Team), YRDSB
約克區教育局學校社工, 社工系
碩士, 註冊社工

張諾懷 Cherry Cheung
BSW, Youth Program Worker
Hong Fook Mental Health Association
康福心理健康協會青少年活動工作人員
, 社工系

楊博源 Bernie Yeung
BA, SSW, Placement Student,
(completion in April, 2022)
Hong Fook Metal Health Association
康福心理健康協會實習學生, 文學,
社會服務系, 四月待畢業

RSVP BY EMAILING THE SOCIAL WORKER AT
CHARMAINE.TONG@YRDSB.CA or
drop- in by entering the zoom info when meeting starts
可電郵 charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca 登記報名
或按以下zoom會議資料



Meeting ID: 923 1395 7122

Passcode: hyK7N7

Newmarket Public Library
and NACCA present:

Harnessing Allyship and Leadership

Tuesday, February 15, 2022
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

In recognition of Black History Month, the Library and the Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association are hosting a moderated panel discussion. Moderated by Kim Wheatley, the panel will explore allyship and leadership with three professionals who are actively doing the work to disrupt injustice and inequities.

Kim Wheatley

Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley who carries the Spirit Name Shkoden Neegaan Waawaaskonen (Head or Leader of the Fireflower). She is Turtle Clan from Shawanaga First Nations and is a multi-award winning speaker who has appeared on television, radio and numerous written articles locally, nationally and internationally.

Melissa McLetchie

A doctoral candidate in Sociology at York University, Melissa is examining the collateral consequences of imprisonment, particularly the impact of incarceration on the families of Black Canadian prisoners.

Mollie Coles Tonn

Is the co-creator of The SoCo Collective, a local grassroots organization that seeks to facilitate community learning and inspire active connection with important social movements.

Beatrice Anane-Bediakoh

A doctoral candidate in Sociology at York University, Beatrice examines how Black people respond to the racialization of space in racialized neighborhoods and its impact on Black personhood. She also offers affordable tutoring services to low-income families in the GTA.



Kim Wheatley
Moderator



Melissa McLetchie
Panelist



Mollie Coles Tonn
Panelist



Beatrice Anane-Bediakoh
Panelist

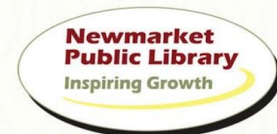
Admission: FREE

Register for this online program at <https://bit.ly/naccanpl>

In person at the Lower Level Information Desk

Or call 905-953-5110 Ext. 4770

NACCA
est.2018



Presented by public libraries from Durham and York Region—

Black Excellence in STEM Careers and Research

Featuring Black Excellence in the field of STEM. Margaret Ikape, PhD candidate at University of Toronto, shares her passion for science, her journey, and research interests in the fields of Astronomy and Astrophysics. Session is hosted live on Zoom.

Monday, Feb 7 | 7 pm

Join us for this free
online program.

Register at
<https://bit.ly/nplblackSTEM>



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

📅 Register on Eventbrite

📺 Live on Zoom

Black Excellence in STEM Careers and Research

Featuring Black Excellence in the field of STEM. Margaret Ikape, PhD candidate at University of Toronto, shares her passion for science, her journey, and research interests in the fields of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

Monday, Feb 7 | 7 pm



Celebrate with Stories, Music and Dance

Join us for a special African Voyage featuring uplifting and energizing stories, music and dance with Njacko Backo. For grades 3–6.

Friday, Feb 11 | 10 am



YRDSB Communications



Triple P Parenting Seminar Helping Families Manage Stress

This Triple P informed discussion will provide information and practical strategies to help families share and learn about:

- Common causes of stress
- How stress affects parenting
- How to recognize signs of stress
- Healthy ways to reduce and manage everyday stress

[Register Now!](#)

Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers!

Join us to share, learn and build a school culture where mental health and well-being is valued and promoted.

Date: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Zoom Link will be provided

Facilitator: Uma Bhatt, R.S.W. York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families

More Information:

Oksana Majaski

Community & Partnership Developer Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca

This free Parent Presentation is brought to you in partnership with York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families and York Region District School Board



Winter Walk Day – February 2, 2022

Winter Walk Day is celebrated by schools across Canada on the first Wednesday of February each year. Walking to and from school is fun every day, so we encourage you to journey outside throughout the entire month of February! This year, Winter Walk Day officially kicks off on Feb. 2, 2022.



Schools and Parents are encouraged to visit [Ontario Active Travel Winter Walk Day](#) to plan and promote a winter walk day in your school community. Let us know if you are interested in participating so we can support you. By dressing for the weather, keeping active and staying hydrated, you can stay warm and enjoy the winter weather!

Winter Walking

Don't let the cold temperatures keep you from walking this winter. Walking in the winter can be especially good for your health. It is refreshing to your senses, beneficial to your mind and just plain old **FUN!** Being outside more often allows children to develop a stronger immune system and a resistance to allergies. **It's snowy....**walking to school and playing outside in the winter gives

children the opportunity to develop and strengthen their overall muscular system. Walking in the snow encourages balancing and using new muscles that are often not used. Just be sure to bundle up! So dress warm and get your walk on!

