

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 29th 2021

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

Congratulations

It is with mixed emotions that Markville is saying farewell to two of our teachers who have made the decision to start a new and exciting phase in their lives, retirement. Ms. Cape, the Head of the Library, and Ms. Nicholson, the Head of the Co-op Department for many years, have been real anchors to our community, and spent the great majority of their years in education at our school. Their commitment and dedication to students, to teaching and learning and to the well-being of everyone will be forever appreciated. Please join us as we extend our warmest and best wishes for the future to both! We will certainly miss them!



Principal's Message



MARKVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

1000 Carlton Road
Markham, Ontario
L3P 7P5

Tel: 905.940.8840
Fax: 905.940.8895

Dear Families and Students:

We hope this correspondence finds you healthy and safe. We wish to provide as much information as possible regarding the transition from Semester 1 to Semester 2.

YRDSB continues to follow the direction of York Region Public Health and the Ministry of Education regarding COVID-19 safety. Unless otherwise instructed, school buildings will remain closed until February 10, 2021.

We are currently preparing to transition into Semester 2. The following are some key dates for you to be aware of:

Feb. 1: PA Day

Feb. 2: Credit Conferencing and Rescue Day - Some students will be involved in activities to support completion of Semester 1 courses. Students are expected to attend only as directed by their teacher.

Feb. 3: Online morning classes only - In the morning, all students will attend classes online in 30 minute blocks following their regular start time. Students will receive an invitation to their digital classrooms before their first period class.

In the afternoon, there are no classes scheduled.

Feb. 4 - 10: Current School Closure - All Classes Online - For the duration of the school closure, Adaptive (face-to-face) schools will follow a revised school schedule. Students will follow a semester schedule and will attend their classes online in 75 minute periods with a five minute break between the morning periods and between the afternoon periods. This change is based on feedback from students and families about the 150 minute period students are currently experiencing. Once schools reopen, the schedule will return to an adaptive model as used in the fall. Details will be provided at that time.

Adaptive (face-to-face) schools will be providing students with a revised daily schedule. School start and end times remain the same. An 80- 90 minute lunch break will occur between period 2 and 3.

Feb. 11-16: Report Cards sent home - Semester 1 Report Cards will be sent home via students' GAPPs accounts.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. Please contact the school administrator to discuss any questions.

If you have concerns about how your child may be affected by the current circumstances, including any concerns related to mental health, help is available. Resources and supports related to student mental health can be accessed through YRDSB COVID-19 Mental Health Resources for Students and Families. If you ever have an immediate safety concern for your child, including risk of suicide, please contact your local hospital or emergency services by calling 911 immediately.

We remain deeply committed to supporting our students and families as we continue to navigate the effects of COVID-19 on education. If our school can support your family, we encourage you to connect with us.

Please be well,

Patricia Obadia
Principal



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For Students in **Secondary Virtual School:**

Dear Families and Students:

We hope this correspondence finds you healthy and safe. We wish to provide as much information as possible regarding the transition from Semester 1 to Semester 2. We are currently preparing to transition into Semester 2. The following are some key dates for you to be aware of:

Feb. 1: PA Day

Feb. 2: Credit Conferencing and Rescue Day - Some students will be involved in activities to support completion of Semester 1 courses. Students are expected to attend only as directed by their teacher.

Feb. 3: Online morning classes only In the morning, - All students will attend classes online in 30 minute blocks following their regular start time. Students will receive an invitation to their digital classrooms before their first period class.

In the afternoon, there are no classes scheduled.

Feb. 11-16: Report Cards sent home - Semester 1 Report Cards will be sent home via students' GAPS accounts.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. Please contact the school administrator to discuss any questions.

If you have concerns about how your child may be affected by the current circumstances, including any concerns related to mental health, help is available. Resources and supports related to student mental health can be accessed through YRDSB COVID-19 Mental Health Resources for Students and Families. If you ever have an immediate safety concern for your child, including risk of suicide, please contact your local hospital or emergency services by calling 911 immediately.

We remain deeply committed to supporting our students and families as we continue to navigate the effects of COVID-19 on education. If our school can support your family, we encourage you to connect with us.



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Tel: 905.940.8840
Fax: 905.940.8895

Patricia Obadia Principal
January 28, 2021

Dear Families and Students:

We hope this correspondence finds you healthy and safe. *We wish to provide you with details regarding the start of Semester 2.*

YRDSB continues to follow the direction of York Region Public Health and the Ministry of Education regarding COVID-19 safety. Unless otherwise instructed, school buildings will remain closed until February 10, 2021 and all classes will remain online.

On January 29, students can log into their Teach Assist account to view their timetable for the second semester. Please note, second semester timetables may have changed. Keep in mind that timetable changes are going to be extremely difficult for this semester and in many cases not possible. If your child has an important reason for requesting a change, we will look at the request. Students can request an **important** change beginning on **Sunday, January 31st at 8 pm**. We will post a Google Form link on the My Pathway Planner Message section.

It will be live at that time. Please note that the order of making changes will be **based on urgency, not first come first serve**. Parents and Guardians are welcome to read more detailed information in Friday's e-Bulletin.

Students will receive an invitation to each digital classroom in their GAPPs email account before their first period class.

Students who are new to the board, or have forgotten their Username or Password, should contact their "home school" office staff to retrieve their Username and Password.

Feb. 3: Please note the modified schedule where classes are running only in the morning:

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 4	Period 5
Time	8:20 - 8:50 a.m.	8:55 - 9:25 a.m.	9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	10:05 - 10:35 a.m.

Feb. 4-10: All classes are online. See schedule below:

	Period 1	Period 2	Lunch	Period 4	Period 5
Time	8:20 - 9:35 a.m.	9:40 - 10:55 a.m.	10:55 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	12:15 - 1:30 p.m.	1:35 - 2:50 p.m.

Cohort information and rotation schedules will be shared prior to students returning to the face-to-face model.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to finalize student timetables and we look forward to welcoming students to the second semester.

Sincerely,

Patricia Obadia
Principal



MARKVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

1000 Carlton Road
Markham, Ontario
L3P 7P5

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Dear Student and Families,
Re: Learning Material Return Process

Students and families may now arrange to safely return items that belong to the YRDSB (including textbooks,

musical instruments, etc.) on **February 1 and 2, 2021**. In order to schedule a time to drop off the materials at the school, students will be given instructions to use a familiar tool for our school: **Teach Assist**. Each student will sign up for a time slot, and will only be permitted entry during this pre-arranged date/time. Students who are unable to sign up for a scheduled time, should indicate this in their response. Please note that arrangements for the distribution of textbooks and other learning materials for Semester 2 courses, will be shared at a future time.

Safety protocols will be in place as you enter the school building, and will include:

- individuals must maintain physical distancing by staying two metres apart from anyone not from your household;
- wear a mask;
- use hand sanitizer as you enter and exit the building; (Anyone wearing gloves upon arrival will be asked to remove and discard them. Applying hand sanitizer to gloves is not considered an acceptable way of cleaning hands);
- use the designated entry/exit doors only;
- a [self-screening](#) must be conducted prior to entering the building;
- students must drop off items individually (with the exception of Community Class students). No additional family members will be allowed to enter the building during the assigned time slot;
- only the drop-off of learning materials is allowed at this time. Individuals are to leave the premises as soon as they have dropped off their learning materials;
- students will be directed to one central drop off area for returning items;
- there will be no access permitted to any other rooms or locations within the school (including washrooms and lockers).

Anyone entering the building is expected to wear a personal face covering to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets to protect others. For more information about how to use face coverings properly, visit www.york.ca/covid19. Masks and gloves will not be provided.

If you **are not returning to a YRDSB school for Semester 2**, you must also return all YRDSB technology (e.g., laptop, Chromebook, etc.). All students are expected to return the following items which belong to the school:

- School library books
- Teacher classroom library books
- Classroom supplies
- Musical instruments that belong to the school
- Textbooks
- Anything else that is property of the YRDSB

Be advised that Teach Assist will open for appointments starting on Friday, January 29, 2021. Look for [Return of School Materials, January 2021](#).

Our ultimate goal is to provide a safe and supportive process to allow for the return of school property. We thank you for your cooperation as we facilitate a safe and organized process.

Sincerely,

Patricia Obadia
Principal

Guidance

SEMESTER 2 TIMETABLES: A Message from the Guidance Department

Dear Parents/Guardians and Markville Students:

This message also appears for students in their My Pathway Planner account under

Messages. We encourage students to check for Messages in My Pathway Planner on a regular basis.

SEMESTER 2 TIMETABLES:

I know many students have been anxious to see their semester 2 timetables. They have not been available until now because Guidance has been working on scheduling our adaptive students with fewer classes running at Markville while still trying to give students all or most of the classes for which they signed up. Many timetables will look different than how they looked previously. Virtual School has also completed their timetable process. In most cases, if a course was completely canceled, students would have been advised by a GAPPS email from Guidance. If they responded to the email, they would have worked through the issue with a counselor. If they didn't respond, then a suitable alternative may have been chosen for them or if they are a senior student, they may see a spare in their timetable. In grades 9 and 10, there were many conflicts with elective choices so an alternative may have been selected on their behalf. There was limited availability, but in most cases we were able to choose their alternate for these changes. If they did not get their alternate choice, that was because that choice was not possible. Our apologies; we tried our best.

This is not a normal year and timetabling has been extremely tight. We ask everyone to be flexible this semester. Hopefully we return to a more normal timetable process for next year.

WHEN WILL I GET MY SEMESTER 2 TIMETABLE?

Timetables are available to view on Teachassist today, Friday, January 29th.

HOW WILL I REQUEST A CHANGE (Adaptive and SVS)?

You cannot request a timetable change by emailing a Guidance Counsellor or making a Guidance Appt. Please keep reading for the procedure.

Keep in mind that timetable changes are going to be extremely difficult and in most cases not possible. Again, we need your flexibility for semester 2. However, if a student has an extremely important reason for requesting a change, we will look at the request. Students can request an **important** change beginning on **Sunday, January 31st at 8 pm**. We will post a Google Form link on a My Pathway Planner Message. It will be live at this time. Please note, we will make **changes based on urgency, not first come first serve**. On Monday, February 1st and Tuesday, February 2nd, Guidance will look through requests and make changes as needed. IT IS URGENT THAT STUDENTS CHECK THEIR GAPPS EMAIL REGULARLY ON THESE DATES BECAUSE THE CHANGES WILL BE TIME SENSITIVE. THEY WILL NEED TO RESPOND TO OUR EMAIL WITHIN A SHORT TIME OR THE SPACE AVAILABLE MAY BE GIVEN TO ANOTHER STUDENT.

***Thank you for your patience and understanding. This has been a challenging year.
Markville Guidance Staff***

Student Trustee Opportunity



If your son/daughter will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and is passionate about student voice, they may consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB.

Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

The deadline to apply is February 1

Four candidates will be selected board wide to run for the two student trustee positions and all students will have an opportunity to vote. We will share information on how students can vote for student trustee in February.

YRDSB Memos

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 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

Feb. 1st	Feb.2	Period 1	8:20AM - 8:50AM
PA DAY - no classes	Credit Completion Day	Period 2	8:55AM - 9:25AM
	All Semester II teachers will send classroom link via GAPPS email	Period 4	9:30AM - 10:00AM
		Period 5	10:05AM - 10:35AM
		Wednesday Feb.3rd First day of Semester II classes Modified schedule	



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

Math Contest Registration Information



Due to the recent changes to in-person attendance at schools, registration for the math contests will now be done by each individual household.

To register for the Waterloo Pascal, Cayley, Fermat contest please visit the website:

<https://cemc2.math.uwaterloo.ca/contest/Sigma/school/newHomeSchool.php?pageLang=E>

This website will allow you to register your household. Please note that only a supervising adult may complete the registration. Once you have registered you will be given a login and password that will permit you to sign up and pay for individual contests (excluding Euclid and the Canadian Computing Contest). Information for the Euclid and CCC contest will be forthcoming.

Tech Tip

New! All students who have school textbooks and / or learning materials will need to book an appointment to return these borrowed items.

Students are to sign into their **Teach Assist** account and use **Appointment Manager** to book a day and time slot to return items.

No appointments today

Book Appointment for the date



Select either February 1 or 2.

Then select your preferred 15 minute time interval. This selected time slot is when you will return your materials.

DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS AND PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES IT IS IMPORTANT YOU ARE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR YOUR TIME SLOT ONLY.

Haak, R : Textbook Return Materials January 2021

@ 11:00:00

2021-02-01 12:30:00
2021-02-01 12:45:00
2021-02-01 13:00:00
2021-02-01 13:15:00
2021-02-01 13:30:00
2021-02-01 14:00:00
2021-02-01 14:15:00
2021-02-01 14:30:00
2021-02-01 14:45:00

Haak, R : Textbook Return Materials January 2021

@ 11:00:00

2021-02-02 08:45:00
2021-02-02 09:00:00
2021-02-02 09:15:00
2021-02-02 09:30:00
2021-02-02 09:45:00
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2021-02-02 14:15:00
2021-02-02 14:30:00
2021-02-02 14:45:00
2021-02-02 15:00:00
2021-02-02 15:15:00

Tweet of the Week



Markville SS @Markville_YRDSB · 20h

Let's show our neighbors some ❤️💙 for their #virtual snow creation! 🎩🌿
🌿🍅🍅🍅🍷🍷🌿🌿🧊



Beckett Farm PS @BeckettFarmPS · 21h

Today was our school virtual #snowday #STEAM challenge. Check out the creative snow person outside our school!



Community Notice via YRDSB

COVID-19 UPDATE

211 - Services for Families

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 FACT SHEET

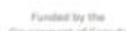
What is 2-1-1?

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 for Toronto, Peel and York Regions / Durham.211Central.ca for Durham Region / 211Ontario.ca for province-wide / 211.ca for nation-wide)
 - Text (Send an SMS to 21166 / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
 - Live Chat (211Ontario.ca/chat / Monday-Friday | 7am-9pm EST)
 - E-mail (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.



A.B.L.E. Scholarship Opportunity

The Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E.) created its Scholarship Program to commemorate the contributions of Rose Fortune (1774-1864) and Peter C. Butler III (1859- 1943) – the first Black police officers in Canada. By awarding scholarships, A.B.L.E. assists Black and visible minority students in achieving their educational and career aspirations.

A.B.L.E. is committed to ensuring that the criminal justice system is reflective of the entire Canadian mosaic, by providing opportunities for our young people to serve, protect, and correct.

Please share the following information with graduating Students accepted at a designated educational institution that may be interested in this scholarship opportunity:

[Application Form](#)

[Candidate Letter](#)

[Selection Criteria](#)

Application deadline has been extended to March 22, 2021 at 5:00pm.

For any questions, students may contact the Scholarship & Awards Committee Chair at ablescholarship@gmail.com



Educators for Tamil Student Success of
York Region District School Board
in Partnership with

Technological Advances in Science,
Medicine, and Engineering (TASME)

presents

**An international competition launched in
conjunction with Tamil Heritage Month and Thai**



Pongal celebrations

[TASME](#) (Technological Advances in Science, Medicine, and Engineering) is a forum that brings researchers, professors and students together to share new knowledge, cultivate innovative thinking, and strengthen collaboration.

We encourage students to participate in this research-based poster competition that fosters ingenuity and creativity, encourages experimentation and teaches critical thinking and problem solving. **The competition is intended for students in Grades 9 to 12 who self-identify as Tamil and is open to all students that may be interested.**

Through this competition, participants will also have an opportunity (when requested) to be mentored by a post-secondary faculty or student and to build a network in pursuit of post secondary studies. The posters will be judged on their merits for prizes and certificates.

At this time, TSME is soliciting proposals (abstracts) from the participants. Proposals will be reviewed and participants will receive an acceptance letter with instructions to proceed.

Timeline

Proposal (Abstract) deadline: February 5, 2021

Final poster submission deadline: May 15, 2021

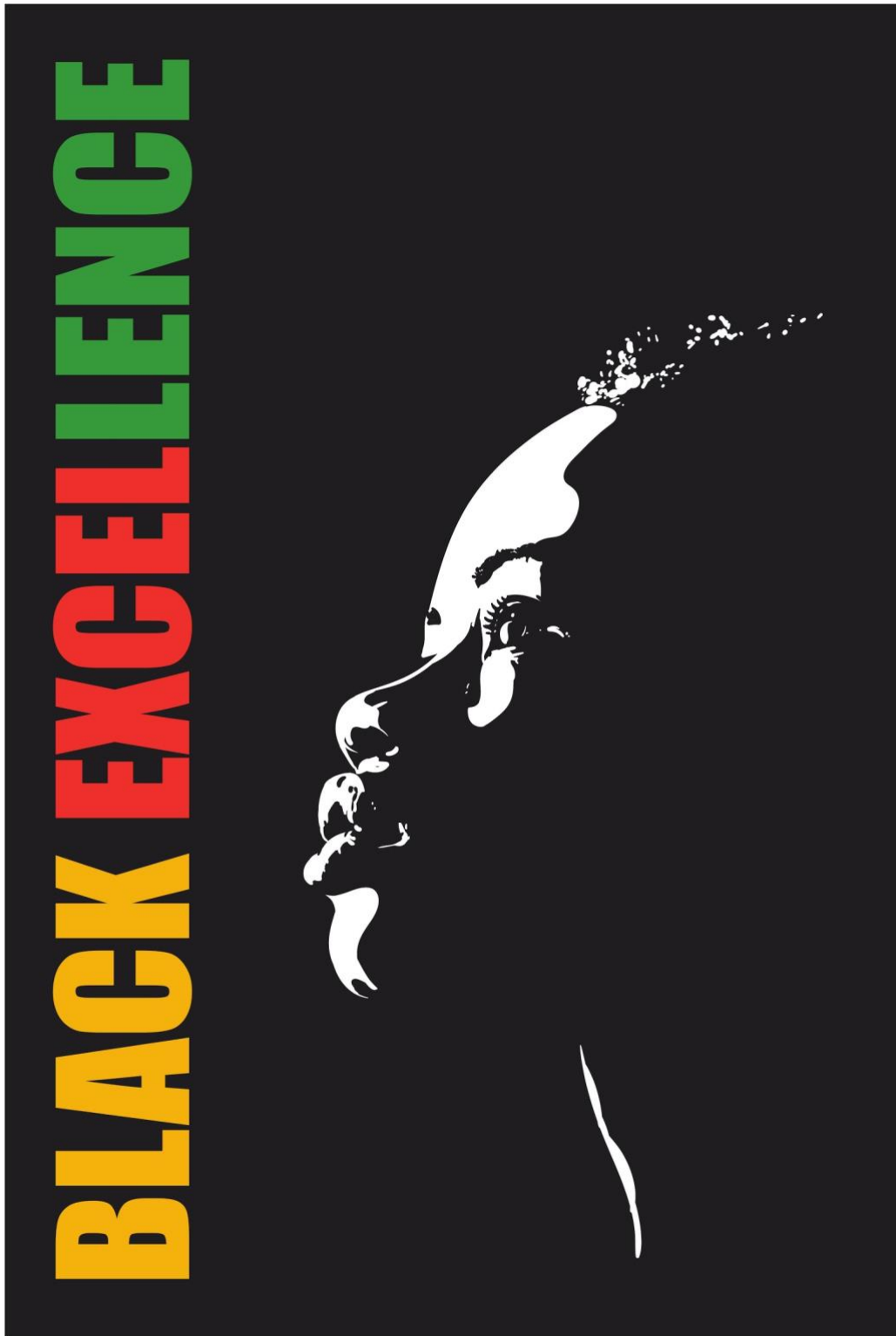
Virtual sharing of competition: May 29, 2021

Poster [submission](#)

Members in Charge of the Poster Session:

Prof. Nades Palaniyar, Senior Scientist, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada Prof. Bala Maheswaran, Faculty Member, Northeastern University, Boston, USA Prof. Nirusha Thavarajah, Faculty Member, University of Toronto, Scarborough, Canada Prof. Sam Thiagalingam, Faculty Member, Boston University, Boston, USA Prof. Ampalavanar Nanthakumar, Faculty Member, SUNY-Oswego, Oswego, US

Contact information: tasme@tasmeconferences.org



Mostafa Abdelhamid
Woodbridge College

Black History Month - February 2021
#BlackExcellence

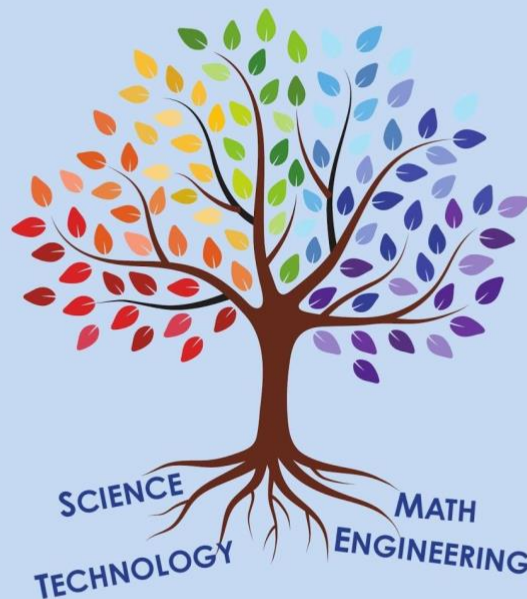


YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD & SKILLS ONTARIO
INVITE YOU TO AN INFORMATION SESSION ON

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)



