

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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January 8th 2021

Principal's Message

Dear families,

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed some rest and relaxation during the break, and that you stayed healthy and safe. As you are aware, the Ontario Ministry of Education has directed all secondary schools to engage in remote teaching and learning during the period between January 4 and January 22, 2021. Our students are engaging in all their courses remotely. Their daily schedule includes the 150-minute block in the morning, where **both cohorts** of students participate in their classes from home **every day**. The afternoon classes continue to be offered virtually for 50 minutes per period. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding this or any other issue pertaining to teaching and learning. The well-being and safety of our students and staff continue to be our top priority.

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the middle of January, and the end of semester one! These are busy times for both teachers and students as they finalize their engagement with the curriculum as well as participate in a number of culminating activities. Many of our students are also virtually participating in extracurricular clubs. Our SMACT student leaders and their staff advisors (i.e., Student Council, Athletic Council and Transitions Council) have been very busy developing opportunities for the entire student body through their presence in social media. For example, SAC has organized a virtual club fair; MAC has been sharing strategies to maintain a healthy lifestyle by posting messages and suggestions on Markville's MAC Instagram account; and TAC has created a virtual presentation for Grade 9 students to learn more about study skills. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated students who care for each other and commit themselves to the well being of all.

I would like to express my most sincere gratitude for your support of our students who are learning through the adaptive model and those attending Secondary Virtual School. These unprecedented times require an even stronger partnership between the school and the home. Your commitment to the academic achievement and well-being of our students and your children makes the difference. Thank you!

Patricia Obadia

Student Trustee Opportunity



If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, 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 January 15

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 you can vote for student trustee in February.

YRDSB Memos



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter January 2021

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

Returning to Virtual Learning after the Winter Break

As a result of a provincially mandated lockdown due to rising COVID -19 cases across the province, we end the Winter Break with a return to virtual learning. Although this will present a challenge for some and disappointment for others, our focus will be on how to keep one another physically healthy and maintain social connections and mental health while distance learning. This month's edition of our Mental Health newsletter will focus on some suggestions of ways to stay socially connected during this continued time of physical distancing.

Each one of us is unique and may require different strategies to support our mental health. One size does not fit all. The following are some suggestions to help you think about what may help to support your own mental health and the mental health of your children.

Distance learning from home can have positive or negative impacts. One well-supported recommendation is to create a sense of **routine and structure** in the day (as much as possible). For example, try to make the morning routine the same each day, with breaks built in at predictable times.

Other suggestions include:

- Building in positive goals to **incorporate positive pursuits** such as learning something new (e.g. cooking, puzzles), showing gratitude (e.g. reach out to tell someone you care about them), and exercising (e.g. at home or going for a walk).
- [Dr. Shimi Kang](#), a mental health expert and clinical associate professor at the University of British Columbia, suggests that individuals determine 2-3 personal coping strategies that can act as their **own “go to” tools to cope with stress**. Writing this down and making note can make using them intentional. In addition, Dr. Kang reminds us that we should try **to limit our use of technology** where we can. Over dependence on technology/ screens can affect our mental health.
- Lastly, **identify someone you can purposely check in with on a regular basis**, not just during times of stress, but as a measure to maintain social connection. This practice can help maintain positive mental health.

[School Mental Health Ontario](#) has created a variety of resources for educators, parents and families, and students regarding supporting student mental health during this time.

Check out some more tips from School Mental Health Ontario on building [personal resiliency](#).

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 [Mental Health COVID-19 page](#) 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 these supports.

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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Financial support for parents/guardians

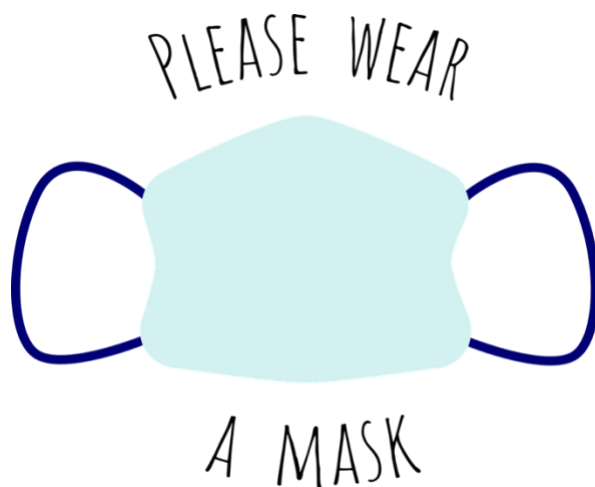
The government is providing financial support to help parents and guardians with additional costs during the 2020-2021 school year during the second wave of COVID-19.

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

- \$200 for each child up to age 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 January 15 2021.



Schedule Change

Rotation 7 started on **Tuesday December 15th.**

- Students are required to attend classes everyday virtually online until Jan 22 and then on Jan 29 students will return to their morning cohorts for face to face learning for the morning.
- 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.



Time	Rotation 3 Oct. 13-26 Rotation 7 Dec. 14-Jan. 13
8:20 to 10:50 a.m. Online	Period 4
10:50 to 12:20 p.m.	Lunch
12:20 to 1:10 p.m. Online	Period 5
1:10 to 2:00 p.m. Online	Period 1
2:00 to 2:50 p.m. Online	Period 2

Club Spotlight

Health Occupations of America (Canada)

Hey Mavs!! Our Markville HOSA chapter competed in the Fall Leadership Conference from Dec 6th to 12th and came out strong! The following students placed in the top 10 across Canada for their event:

Jennifer Ying - 2nd Epidemiology

Jessica Ying - 7th Place Epidemiology

Andy Wei - 3rd Place Behavioral Health

Bill Gong, Stanley Lin, Jason Ling, and Bernie Wang - 3rd Place Creative Problem Solving

Jessica Wang- 3rd Place Veterinary Science

Anika Saini & Naveen Rajan - 6th Place Forensic Medicine

Catherine Hsu - 10th Place Medical Math

Congrats to everyone and we look forward to another successful conference in the spring!

Lessons

HOSA lessons are back! Lessons will be held on Fridays from 3:00 to 4:00 pm after school on Zoom. The next lesson will be on the 15th and we hope to see all HOSA members then!

Meet the Professional (MTP) Nights

Clear your schedule for Friday, January 21st, from 6-7 pm for our very first Meet the Professional Night! We are excited to have Dr. Fang Zhou Yu present to all of you about his background and career! Stay tuned for more details!

Feel free to contact us!

Instagram @markville_hosa

Email markvillehosa@gmail.com

Website msshosa.weebly.com

<https://hosacanada.org/home/about/>



Attention: ALL Grade 9 Students
(Adaptive Model and Secondary
Virtual School Students)

Markville TAC is excited to present this year's **Grade 9 Study Skills Workshops!** The four-day workshops will be fun, after-school virtual events designed to provide current Grade 9 students (**Adaptive and SVS**) with tools to aid them in their learning and success. With our current learning environment in mind, specific **virtual learning strategies** will also be discussed. The workshops will

run from **3:05pm - 4:00pm** next week, and the Google Meet link is bit.ly/tacstudy2021. All of these details will also be available on our Instagram (@markvilletac). We hope to see you there!

Schedule:

Tuesday, January 12th – Organization

Wednesday, January 13th – Time Management

Thursday, January 14th – General Study Skills Part 1

Friday, January 15th – General Study Skills Part 2

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.



MARKVILLE MUSIC STUDENTS STAGE ANNIE JR. ONLINE JANUARY 8-9, 2021

Markville Secondary School will “stick up its chin and grin and sing ‘Tomorrow! Tomorrow!’” when Markville Music performs *Annie JR.* Based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award-winning best musical by Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, *Annie JR.* tells the story of a spunky Depression-era orphan determined to find her parents.

Markville Music Students have created this 60-minute musical theatre production virtually and remotely, and will be sharing their

edited work with you at ShowTix4U.com on January 8-9, 2021 right from the comfort of home.

Show times are Friday, January 8 @ 7:30 p.m., Saturday, January 9 @ 2:00 p.m., and Saturday, January 9 @ 7:30 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$1.95 CAD, which will cover the cost of royalties and service fees from ShowTix4U and Music Theatre International.

For more information please contact the Markville Music Department at (905) 940-8840 x131, visit markvillemusic.com, or ShowTix4U.com to get your tickets. See you online!

Our direct link to the ShowTix4U page is

<https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/43037>

Tech Tip



Podcast: [*The Secret Life of Canada*](#)

Learners: Age 15-17 (Grades 10-12)

Curriculum Connections: History, Geography, Social Studies, Indigenous Studies, Civics, Law, Anthropology

- [Secret Life of Chinatown](#): What is the historical importance of Chinatowns? How did Chinatowns go from safe-havens to celebrated cultural spaces?
Teaching guide includes: ad-free audio, slideshow, activities, lesson plan, bonus mini-episode and lesson plan about Madhu Verma.
- [Secret Life of the Province of Jamaica](#): How did different groups of black men and women successfully work together towards labour activism and human rights in Canada?
Includes: slideshow, activities, lesson plan, bonus mini-episode and lesson plan about Jackie Shane.
- [Secret Life of the North](#): How has the North been impacted by forces of colonization and why have many Canadians not known about the history, geography, and society of the Inuit?
Includes: slideshow, activities, lesson plan, bonus mini-episode and lesson plan about Bernelda Wheeler.
- [Secret Life of Water](#): Can the foundation of Canada be traced back to Indigenous waterways and trade routes? What is the past, present, and future of this precious resource?

Includes: slideshow, activities, lesson plan, bonus mini-episode and lesson plan about Tom Longboat.

- **The Indian Act:** In 1876, the young country of Canada passed a set of laws intended to govern First Nations people in Canada. So, how and why did The Indian Act come to be? And why is it still on the books?

Includes: slideshow, activities, lesson plan, ad-free audio.

Tweet of the Week



Markville SS
@Markville_YRDSB



REMINDER: Based on information provided by [@ONeducation](#) Jan. 7th, all secondary schools will re-open Jan. 25th as previously stated. Currently all Ss are engaged in [#onlineclasses](#).



8:23 AM · Jan 8, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

Community Notice via YRDSB

COLLEGE INFORMATION WEEK



The YRDSB Graduation Coaches for Black Students, in partnership with various colleges, are hosting two College Information Nights for Black Students.



Two Nights of Information

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Humber College and George Brown

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Seneca College, Sheridan and Centennial

[Registration](#)

Seneca



Sheridan | Get Creative

CENTENNIAL
COLLEGE

NACCA

est.2018

Black History Month 2021

CALL FOR YOUTH ART SUBMISSIONS GR 1-12

Theme:
Standing on strong shoulders

3 Prizes of \$200 each!

Youth identifying as Black or of African descent



The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) in partnership with The Town of Newmarket is hosting a virtual showcase of youth artworks during Black History Month 2021 – February 1 – 28, 2021.

The virtual show will feature artworks from youth who identify as Black or of African descent in grades 1 – 12, and may include painting, photography, sculpture, and other media. Deadline for submission is January 11, 2021 at 6:00p.m.

Prizes of \$200 each will be awarded to three students based on originality, creativity and relevance of the artwork to the theme: “Standing on Strong Shoulders”.

For more information, visit: <https://www.naccacommunity.ca/nacca-youth.html>



THE YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD &
EDUCATORS FOR TAMIL STUDENT SUCCESS PRESENTS



OUR EXISTENCE IS OUR RESISTANCE

Tamil Heritage Month 2021



Traditional Tamil Cuisine with Sarmel Arudsothiy

Mon. Jan. 11th, 2021
@ 6pm - 7pm

Spoken Word Workshop with Nirosha Balakumar

Tues. Jan. 12th, 2021
@ 6pm - 7:30pm



Register using bit.ly/THM2021

Markham Public Library

COVID-19 Service Update: Library Services Available During Lockdown

The Province of Ontario enters lockdown on December 26 for a minimum of 28 days. This impacts some of MPL's services but does not affect our commitment to serving our community.

Starting on Dec. 29, we will be offering curbside pickup and return at Markham Village, Thornhill Village and Unionville Libraries. Curbside will look a little different but will continue to be completely contactless to keep you safe. Please visit [markhampubliclibrary.ca/reopening](https://www.markhampubliclibrary.ca/reopening) before coming to pick up your holds.

For more information on what to expect, please visit [markhampubliclibrary.ca/reopening](https://www.markhampubliclibrary.ca/reopening).

For any questions or concerns about your account, overdue items or returns, please contact [AskMPL](#).

Thank you for your support, understanding and patience during this difficult time as we work together to ensure the well-being of everyone in our community, and reduce the spread of COVID-19.