## **Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin**







1000 Carlton Road Markham, Ontario 13P 7P5 Principal: Patricia Obadia

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#### June 25th 2021

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

## Principal's Message

#### Dear Families.

Another year has come and gone and we could not have done it without your support and encouragement. Thank you!

This year we saw various learning formats; some students and staff spent teaching and learning completely online, while others engaged in a variety of environments, sometimes in the building, sometimes at home. No matter where, staff and students engaged in teaching and learning and in experiencing the many significant events that occurred around us. We all watched as a pandemic spread all around the world; we saw front line workers' ongoing fight to save lives and scientists developing a vaccine to save the world. We express our gratitude for all they do daily, risking their lives for us. At the same time that COVID-19 forced many changes into our lives, social justice took a front row seat in the world's awareness. Our students were able to discuss and address social issues such as human rights, racial justice and gender equality that especially affected marginalized communities, looking at steps to be taken to make the world a better place.

In spite of all these challenges, life at Markville continued and now we are approaching the summer holidays. I would like to say some good byes: three of our staff members will be on a leave next year; we wish Mr. Parks, Mr. Patten and Ms. Wager all the best during that time. I want to take a moment to thank this year's retirees, Ms. Cape and Ms. Nicholson who retired at the end of semester one. They both dedicated numerous years of their careers to Markville's students, always committing unselfishly to student achievement and well-being. We wish them all the best as they start this new journey. Mr. Sidhu, teacher in the Science Department, will be leaving us to teach in another YRDSB secondary school. We are very thankful for his dedication to the teaching of Science and for his kindness and care of his students. This year-end also sees one of our administrators leave our team. Mr. Vlachopoulos, who joined Markville in 2017, has been promoted to Principal and will join Aurora High School in September. Mr. Vlachopoulos will be missed. His

knowledge of education, his insights, his kindness, his care and dedication to students and their families have been exemplar. Mr. Vlachopoulos also knows how to put a smile in everyone's faces, even during very difficult times. We will miss him, but we know that another community will benefit from his knowledge, his skills and his talents. Please join us in congratulating him!

I know that the 2021-2022 school year seems a bit far, but I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Barbara Caravella to our Administration team. Ms. Caravella comes with much experience having worked at a number of YRDSB secondary schools. We are looking forward to collaborating with her supporting student learning and well-being.

Finally, dear families, I hope you have a restful and safe summer and find time to rejuvenate and enjoy your loved ones. I sincerely hope that September brings us a more "normal" beginning, seeing students in the halls, hearing their voices and their laughs and listening to their ideas and thoughts. Thank you all and be well!



## **Student and Family Feedback Surveys**

Dear Families,

The York Region District School Board is conducting two surveys to collect feedback from students and families across the system to understand their experiences at school. The deadline to complete the survey has been extended until June 29, 2021. There is one survey for students and one for families. Information for families can be found <u>here</u>.

All parents and guardians of students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 are invited to participate in the survey for families. The survey is voluntary and will take about 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey is anonymous and individual responses will be kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation. Individuals will not be identified in any reports or presentations resulting from this survey. Parents and guardians can access the English and translated versions of the survey <u>here</u>. Translated version include: Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (traditional), Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

#### Survey for grades 7 to 12

Dear student,

The York Region District School Board is conducting a survey to collect feedback from students to

understand their experiences of learning during this school year. The survey has been open since May 26, 2021 and will be closing in a few days (June 28, 2021).

All students in Grades 7 to 12 are invited to participate in this online survey to be completed at their convenience.

• The survey is voluntary and will take about 15-20 minutes to complete.

• The information students provide will be anonymous and individual responses will be kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation.

- Individuals will not be identified in any reports resulting from this survey.
- Students may skip questions they do not want to answer.

Students can access the survey here.

Thank you for your support.

## Virtual Summer Camps

#### Hosted by the Community Safety Village

#### Online registration only

Due to the large interest in our virtual programs we ask that you are a resident of York Region, you can select as many camps that are appropriate to your child's age and

interest. At this time we are limited one camp per child so if your child is selected for a particular camp they will not qualify for any others. Selection is based on a first come first serve basis. Please only select one camp per child in order to provide this opportunity to as many children as we can in York Region.

For the summer of 2021, the Community Safety Village of York Region is rolling out a series of Virtual Summer Camps!

These camps are free of cost and registration can be completed online.

Online registration will be opening starting **Monday June 21<sup>st</sup>. All registration must be completed through our booking system.** 

All information on our different camp opportunity's and the link to register can be found on the Community Safety Village webpage: <a href="https://www.yrp.ca/en/community/Virtual-Summer-Camps.asp">https://www.yrp.ca/en/community/Virtual-Summer-Camps.asp</a>

#### Teen Police Academy program

Grade level – currently Grade 10 – Grade 12.

The Community Safety Village - York Regional Police is now accepting applications from youths for the 2021 Teen Police Academy Program. The program is suitable for students in grades 10-12 who have an expressed interest in policing. This adaptation of our very successful 2019 pilot program will allow them to gain some insight into the profession and its requirements.

The goal of the program is to offer youth an opportunity to develop leadership, awareness, communication and problem-solving skills that will help them grow as a person and be successful in any future endeavours.

\*\*In order to apply each student must submit a current resume and cover letter as well as a 400 word document on "Why they are applying for this camp" and "What they hope to gain from this experience"?

Each selected candidate will have the opportunity to take part in a variety of experiences such as:

- Presentations about the recruiting process
- Learning about a variety of police units, both sworn and civilian positions
- Exposure to the various scenarios that will challenge them and improve their awareness and problem solving skills
- Exercises designed to build their communication skills and develop their public speaking abilities
- Taking part in activities that will build team work and cooperation

One Teen Police Academy Virtual program Monday, August 9 – August 13, 2021

#### High School Prep Virtual Camp

Grade level – currently in Grade 8 heading to high school Sept. 2021

The Community Safety Village welcomes youth who are graduating grade 8 and heading into High school to join us for a 2 day Camp to prepare for the transition. This camp will provide an interactive look at topics like Tobacco / vaping, mental health wellness, resume writing with a mock job interview. Lessons on Safe Social Media as well as Drinking and Drugs.

High School Prep Virtual Camp August 17, 2021	Monday, August 16, 2021 and Tuesday,
High School Prep Virtual Camp August 20, 2021	Thursday, August 19, 2021 and Friday,

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Teen Police Academy Virtual program Monday, August 23 – August 27, 2021

## **YRDSB Communications**



#### Welcome to Summer!

Region

InspireLearning!

Please visit <u>2021 Online Summer Program Opportunities for Children, Youth and Families</u>

You will find a list of programs organized by category and age group. We encourage you to check the link regularly as the Community and Partnership Developer Team will be making regular updates to available programs and resources.

Also check out the <u>Community Resources</u> Page for other important information regarding mental health, financial, legal and other supports.

The following **Community and Partnership Developer** staff will be available throughout the summer to support families with information and resources they might need. These staff members can be reached by email or phone:

Oksana Majaski oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca 416-568-2252

Yasmin Mawani yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca 416-727-8179

Yvonne Kelly <u>vvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca</u>416-697-4208

Patti O'Sullivan patti.osullivan@yrdsb.ca\_905-252-0597

Shani Blake <u>shani.blake@yrdsb.ca</u>416-554-0362





bit.ly/BFCNScholarship2021-22

bit.ly/BFCNAim2Achieve2021-22

www.BFCN.ca

## Virtual Model Parliament for High School Students

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO



September to December 2021 The Legislative Assembly of Ontario is happy to announce the launch of a NEW Virtual Model Parliament Program. This program will culminate in a 2-day online debate on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

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## Who can apply?

Ontario students who will be in grades 10–12 during the program dates with an interest in current affairs, provincial issues and government.

## Why apply?

This program offers civic minded students a unique opportunity to gain a hands-on understanding of Ontario's Legislature. Participants will get to workshop their own party's bill, participate in engaging virtual workshops with key figures in Parliament, and debate all party bills in a unique online experience.

# Visit our website for more information and to apply!

www.ola.org/en/visit-learn/programs

Online applications will be accepted from June 15<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th,</sup> 2021.



### **Tweet of the Week**



Markville SS @Markville\_YRDSB · 14h ···· Attention Markville Class of 2021! Join us on Monday, June 28th for a walkthrough Grad Celebration from 4:00pm - 8:00pm. Please arrive at your scheduled time to receive your cap & gown, diplomas, awards and graduation gifts. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL! :



