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

## InspireLearning! Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

York Region



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# May 27th, 2022

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

# Grade 9 Math EQAO

Semester 2 Grade 9 Math classes will be writing the Grade 9 EQAO Assessment of Mathematics in-person on Thursday, June 16 and Friday, June 17. More information about the assessment will be shared with students by their grade 9 math teacher.

Students who took grade 9 math in semester 1 have the option to participate. Please note that the assessment is not mandatory for semester 1 students, is not a graduation requirement nor will it be used to adjust your child's semester 1 mark. If your child took grade 9 math in semester 1 and would like to write the assessment, please contact the main office by Wednesday, June 1. More details will be shared with interested students closer to the assessment date.

# **Student and Family Surveys**

# YRDSB 2021-22 Student and Family Surveys

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Student and family input is important to us. The York Region District School Board will be conducting online surveys with students (Grades 7-12) and families (Grades K-12) between **June 1 - 30, 2022** to better understand experiences of learning this school year. Surveys will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

The surveys will include questions related to:

- learning model, technology, and learning tools
- engagement and learning
- family/school communication and community engagement
- well-being and mental health
- relationships with peers and staff

- safety, discrimination and bullying
- equitable and inclusive learning environments
- student identity

We ask questions about students' identities (e.g., race and gender) to support understanding how learning experiences may differ among groups of students. Results from the surveys will be shared with Trustees, schools, Board departments, and the public during the 2022-23 school year.

The information collected will be used to:

- Provide important information about student mental health and well-being.
- Identify systemic barriers in order to create healthy, inclusive, and equitable learning and working environments.
- Create programs, set priorities, and develop resources to continue building inclusive, welcoming, and supportive environments where all feel they matter and belong.

The Family Survey will be available online in English, Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

To accommodate participants with varying exceptionalities, both the family and student surveys can be completed using voice recognition software such as Google Read & Write. The questions in the survey are compatible with screen readers. For your reference, copies of both the student and family surveys are available on the <u>board website</u>.

Surveys are anonymous and confidential. This means that students and families will not be asked for their name, and individual responses will not be reported. Surveys are voluntary and respondents may skip any questions they do not want to answer.

Information provided in these surveys will only be accessible by staff in YRDSB's Research and Assessment Services Department. The third party data collection tool we use will also have access to responses until Research and Assessment Services removes them after the surveys are closed. Storage and retention of data will follow <u>Board Policy and Procedure #160.0 Records and Information Management.</u>

Students in Grades 7-12 will receive an email invitation to their GAPPS school account to participate in the Student Survey and will be provided with in-class time between June 1 and June 30 to complete the survey. If you do not want your child (ren) in Grades 7-12 to receive the Student Survey invitation or if you have questions about the survey, please contact <u>research.services@yrdsb.ca</u> **no later than May 26, 2022.** Parents/guardians will receive an invitation to complete the Family Survey through the email address that is on file at their child's school.

This important initiative will help further our vision as we work together to listen to the voices of students and families to continue meeting their diverse needs. Thank you for your support.

# Dragon Boat Spotlight

Dragon Boat Team

There was a lot of interest in dragon boating this year, enough to fill two boats! The team began their season practicing at Paddle Zone in Pickering where they learned correct form and practiced on paddle machines.





When the weather was warmer, the team was able to practice on water. Practices were at Frenchman's Bay Marina. The team trained hard. They paddled strong and synchronously.





Markville's Dragon Boat Team will be competing against other high school teams this year in the Pickering Dragon Boat Community Festival. This regatta will be on June 5th at Bruce Hanscombe's Park. Wish them luck!





# Asian Heritage Month



This year to celebrate Asian Heritage Month, we wanted to highlight some of the voices of Asian Canadians. Every day for the rest of the month, we will have a quote to start the day. Homeroom teachers will project the slide of the day for students to read and reflect on.

Week 1: Famous Canadians Week 2: Our students Week 3: Markville SS staff

> May is Asian Heritage Month in Canada, a time to reflect on and recognize the many contributions that Canadians of Asian heritage have made and continue to make to Canada.



# Message from Guidance

#### SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION PROCESS

Summer School registrations are filling up, but there is still time to register, if interested. Please note, however - if a student selects a course that is currently on their course selection for next year, Guidance is no longer able to replace it with another course. The student's new request will be placed on a waitlist and tended to once the schedule has been built. At this time, we cannot assure that a student will be able to get the desired course. For those interested in Credit Recovery and/or Credit Upgrade, registration does not impact next year's choices.

TO REGISTER for Summer School

\*Students must sign up for <u>In-Person</u> or <u>Online learning</u> summer school through myBlueprint (Continuing Ed tab in your high school pathway planner).

\*Students <u>MUST</u> fill in the Google Form below to ensure that Guidance has all information, as well as Guardian permission. Confirmation of permission via this form replaces submitting a sign-off sheet.

Google form to be completed in addition to myBlueprint: https://forms.gle/zBTz9PfmYnYVFWzKA

#### 2022/23 Day School Online Learning Registration Process

**Day School Online Learning Registration for 2022-23 is open**. This is for students going into Gr 11 or 12 who KNOW that they would like to take a course via Online Learning (asynchronous) vs MSS. Note that students can continually sign up, once they know what their timetable will be in August. IMPORTANT: If a student selects Online Learning and the course is removed from their MSS selection, please note that it may not be possible to get it back at a later date, should the student change their mind. More information about Day School Online courses can be found <u>here</u>.

In terms of the **Government-mandated Online courses**, CURRENT GRADE 10 FAMILIES (only) received a YRDSB email on May 20th that contained a Google Form allowing them to Opt Out of the Online requirement. Families can complete this form independently to Opt Out, or can contact Guidance to request Guidance to Opt Out on their behalf. No action is required for those not seeking to Opt Out. More information has been posted <u>here</u>.

## **POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION**

Reminders: **OCAS** (Ontario Colleges) acceptances were due on **May 1st**. **OUAC** (Ontario Universities) must accept by **June 1st**. At this time, Semester 2 Midterm marks are visible to Post-Secondary institutions.

Have a glorious weekend!!

Your Guidance Team~

# **School Notices**

Graduation Information for Assembly 2022.pdf

Markville Course Calendar 2022-2023

Student Information Package.pdf

School ends at 2:25pm

Student Sceening Tool York Region's Safe at School COVID-19 screening

Secondary School Confirmation Form

Graduation and Prom Slideshow is now available for viewing on the school website that was shown to Grade 12 students on Tuesday, May 25th.

Here is the link below for the website. http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/markville.ss/Pages/default.aspx

#### Upcoming Dates

May 30	School Council Meeting		
June 1	National Indigenous Month Begins		
June 2	Prom		
June 10	SAC's Carnival Event (11:05 – 2:25pm)		
June 14	Music Banquet		
June 16-17	Grade 9 EQAO Math		
June 21	Athletic Banquet		
June 29	MSS Graduation		
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# **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 **in person**, **after school Monday-Thursday from 2:40-3:40 pm**.

To request a **1-to-1 peer tutor**, students must submit this application form: <u>bit.ly/1to1peertutor</u>. 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 <u>bit.ly/msspeertutorinfo</u>.

Social Media of the Week					
York Region DSB  @YRDSB					
PARENTS - Please see this message from @YorkRegionGovt regarding community immunization clinics for eligible students to receive vaccines against Hepatitis B, Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Meningococcal disease. www2.yrdsb.ca/sites/default/ 					
2 Likes					
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	<u>sites/default/files/2022</u> <u>unizations_reminderM</u>		<u>ent Notice -</u>		

# **YRDSB Communications**



Curriculum & Instructional Services invites the parents/guardians of Elementary and Secondary students:

# Careers in the Trades - Parent/Student Engagement Night

Parent / Student Engagement Evening Grades 7 - 12

<u>REGISTER</u> HERE

## CAREERS IN THE TRADES

WITH DR. JON CALLEGHER FROM JOBTALKS

Virtual presentation followed by a student panel and Q&A.





Learn about the

**Skilled Trades** 

Apprenticeship; a

**First Choice** 

and

*Curriculum and Instructional Services* is pleased to announce the **Careers in Trades** virtual evening session. Please share the details of this event with your student and parent community. **This information session is for parents/guardians and their children in grade 7-12**.

Careers in the Trades Promotional Flyer

On the evening of **June 2, 2022** join us for an informative session with Dr. Jon Callegher, the Executive Director of <u>Job</u> <u>Talks</u>.

Dr. Callegher will share his latest research on the emotional and experiential challenges facing young people today. He will also share data-driven reasons for

why working in the skilled trades is a first choice career option. Also, learn how students can begin exploring skilled trades careers while still in high school or earn their Level 1 Apprenticeship training by the end of grade 12.

# **Event Details:**

Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. A link to this virtual evening session will be sent to all registrants on June 1st, 2022.









## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

June 2022

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

## **Navigating Uncharted Territory**

For many students June symbolizes the end of the year celebration as well as the ending of a chapter. It's a time of year where a student may celebrate prom, graduations, final performances or look forward to further studies. These experiences serve as a milestone for many young people. As the school year comes to an end, it might feel like navigating uncharted territory. As we continue to navigate the unknown it is understandable for students to feel anxious, excited, a sense of loss, grief and all the emotions one can harbour during this time.

In an <u>article</u> by Erinne Magee, a freelance writer, discusses the importance of reflection and closure near the end of the school year. Marnee cites Jamie M Howard a PhD a senior clinical psychologist and Dana Dorfman a PhD and psychotherapist who both provide key considerations when approaching this theme of last day of school:

1. Considering cues from children such as their body language, words, behaviours or mentioning feeling fine at the moment but might be struggling as school ends.

2. Validating their feelings. Avoid overgeneralizing what the young person is feeling as this can cause feelings to be minimized. Rather, tuning in and holding space for safe spaces can allow for more open conversations.

3. Creating a family schedule. For younger children, asking your child what they miss the most can facilitate dialogue to incorporate what they were missing into your family routine. Such as a family scavenger hunt, nature walk, photography, making a recipe and so on.

4. Reflection. Validating their progress and personal development is acknowledged. Discussing some of their favorite memories this year. Such as creating a family yearbook, photo collages, scrapbooks, storytelling or whichever creative ways suits your family.

<u>Scholastic Parents Staff</u> by <u>Scholastic Canada</u> offers some key insights in an article titled "<u>Tips to Get Kids Ready for the School Year End</u>" for parents on how to prepare our children for the end of the school year:

• Talk it over: Having open dialogue and inviting your children to reflect about their school year and their mental wellbeing.

• **Creating a countdown:** Some children might ask how long they have until an event happens? This is because they are starting to grasp the concept of time. So if your child asks "How many days until the end of school?" You can reply "Let's count down"

#### Helpful Tips and Resources:

School Mental Health Ontario (SMHO) offers strategies on how we can start <u>these</u> conversations and tools we can access to support.

<u>No Problem Too Big or Small:</u> This is a resource made by students for students. Throughout the resource, there are positive affirmations and reminders for students that

there is help around and no problem is #TooBigOrTooSmall to reach out and ask for help. Check out: <u>My Circle of Support Pocketbook-Student Help</u> <u>Seeking Resource</u> by School Mental Health Ontario.

## Additional Resources:

<u>YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page</u> <u>SMHO Parent/Family Page</u>

## Upcoming Workshops:

Children and Restorative Sleep, June 6, 2022 6:30 PM EDT

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For more additional workshops visit <u>York Hills Centre for Children, Youth</u> and Families website.

We look forward to creating pathways for caring connections and meaningful relationships with parents, caregivers, and families. Share your voice by using this <u>feedback form</u>, and let's pave the path forward together.

#### Mental Health COVID-19 Page

As we focus on keeping ourselves healthy and containing the spread of COVID-19, we must also keep ourselves mentally well. The link below 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 support as well as community support. Please consider taking some time to familiarize yourself with the supports found on the <u>COVID-19 Mental Health</u> <u>Supports for Students and Families</u> webpage.

Continue to check out the <u>YRDSB website</u> for updated information as well as the Twitter account <u>@MH\_YRDSB</u>.

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Catholic Community Services of York Region(CCSYR), Settlement and Education Partnership in York Region(SEPYR) & Centre for Immigrant and Community Services (CICS), Immigrant Youth Centre(IYC)

in partnership with

**YRDSB Inclusive School and Community Services** 

# Celebrating

# **Asian Heritage Month**

# Everyone is welcome!

Come and join us in this online experience to celebrate different Asian cultures and participate in fun games, talent show, virtual cultural displays and much more!

> Tuesday, May 31, 2022 6:30 p.m - 8:00 p.m

Register for this online event with IYC and SEPYR! <u>bit.ly/ahmcelebration</u>

#### For more information, please contact:

Amanda.Chi@cicscanada.com or vchung@ccsyr.org









# This Month in May



# A VIRTUAL TOUR OF TORONTO'S JEWISH MARKET

The Ontario Jewish Archives presents the first-ever virtual tour of Kensington Market. Watch the streets come to life though guided videos presenting the sights and sounds of the one-time Jewish Market. Learn about the history of Toronto's Jewish community and the challenges and opportunities they faced in the early twentieth century. Along the way you will discover stories of migration, employment, activism, community, culture and more.

**UJA FEDERATION** 

ONTARIO JEWISH ARCHIVES BLANKENSTEIN FAMILY HERITAGE CENTRE

JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH

ojascrollingspadina.org

KYOrk Region

CIJA

