

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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

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May 13th, 2022

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,

Some of you may have already heard about incidents of offensive and hurtful graffiti we have been experiencing in our washrooms. It is very sad to witness these acts, as at Markville we always pride ourselves at being a community where students have the right to go around all areas of the building in a respectable and inclusive environment.

We want our students to feel welcome, safe and included, but unfortunately, it was brought to our attention that some students do not feel comfortable and/or safe entering our washrooms. These instances of graffiti communicate not only hate, but also a sense of anger and frustration. We, as a school, are doing everything we can to stop these unwanted behaviours. Our school property is being vandalized with messages that communicate hate towards a number of groups, a behaviour that we cannot, and do not, tolerate.

We are employing a number of strategies to address this, such as having sign-out/in logs in classrooms, trying to minimize the number of students going to the washroom during class time, and even reaching out to the York Region Police for assistance. We have had lessons addressing the negative impact any type of racism and discrimination has on all of us. I know that the vast majority of our students find these acts to be offensive and hurtful. This week I shared the message below with our student body. At this time, I am asking for your assistance by having a discussion with your children about the harmful impact hateful acts have on both students and staff. We always appreciate your support!

Please read below:

Good afternoon, you may have noticed that the second floor washroom in the east wing of the building has been locked. I know that this is inconvenient for many students who would prefer to use the washroom closest to their classrooms. Let me explain why this has happened.

Yesterday we were notified that the washroom had been vandalized. It is really sad to know that someone feels that they can disrespect our school property, your school property. However, my deepest distress and pain was when I saw the type of vandalism that had damaged the washroom: hurtful words that promote hate towards certain groups, and disrespectful images were drawn. I was able to sense a lot of anger and hate in these actions.

It is my responsibility to name this act of vandalism for what it is: anti-black racism and gender-based hate. This act causes emotional harm, and will not be tolerated and police are being notified. This is not what Markville is all about. I know that you will agree with me when I say that I want Markville to continue to be a place where everyone feels safe and included, where we respect all identities, and where we build positive relationships and friendships.

This is the second act of vandalism in less than two weeks. If you have any information about it, or are aware of other disrespectful acts, please do not hesitate to alert us directly or use the Report It button on the Board website.

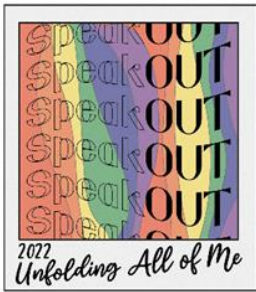
Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Patricia Obadia

Flash Print for SpeakOUT Spotlight

Flash Print @ MSS had a great opportunity this semester to work with Mr. Todd Taylor, VP at Westmount C.I. and a co-lead organizer of the SpeakOUT Conference for the York Region District School Board. This was a conference that was attended by the Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs) at 33 different secondary schools to engage and support one another to create environments that are equitable and inclusive.

The different crews at FP@MSS have contributed to the success of this online conference this year. All three crews that rotate into the creative design and print store helped to trim out over 800 stickers for this event and produce 50 custom greeting cards. Crew #1 created the design and layout of cards for the SpeakOUT Committee. Crew #2 offered logo options, designed independently by each student, for this year's SpeakOUT 2022 conference. All 6 logos were unique and attractive which made it very difficult for the SpeakOUT committee to choose a single design.



In the end, Mr. Taylor and his committee chose one of Lena B.'s logos (including her impressive animated version. Lena showed great



initiative by learning to animate the magnolia portion of her logo on her own time) to represent the

conference this year.

Once the logo and slogan were chosen, Crew #2 went to work to build not only the website, but also the content for the online platform. Melissa Z. anchored the team by

offering her excellent design and website building skills.



Lena B. set up documents needed to print out the official stickers that were produced in-house. She also designed pronoun stickers – an innovative idea that she came up with that Mr. Taylor said “...Go for it!” Jessica’s unique writing style lent itself very

well to writing short but distinctive biographies to introduce each speaker. Her research also resulted in the video/sound clips that are associated with each individual on the website – as well as the photos for the speakers.



During the SpeakOUT Conference held on Thursday, May 5, a vote was taken to choose a logo to represent the next conference from the remaining designs created by Crew #2. Congratulations to Lena - again! Her polaroid photo design was the

most popular from amongst the delegates and it will likely be the logo for the next conference.

Japan Bowl Spotlight



On Saturday, March 19, Huron University and The Japan Society jointly organized and hosted The Japan Bowl Ontario 2022 (online). The Japan Bowl is a Japanese language and culture competition open to all high school students from around the world for the last 30 years. The Japan Bowl Ontario 2022 had 35 students from 18 different high schools participating as teams.

Did you know that Markville Secondary School had a team of 3 grade 10 students participate in this event?

Learning about this competition from school (but not a school project), Christopher A., Harry L., and Lenny F. worked together to participate in this competition as team “N6 ウォリアー “. They were guided by Ms. Taiko Feldkamp, a Japanese language teacher at Thornlea S.S.

They were drawn to the event because of their inherent passion for the Japanese culture and language. This team presented to judges like Mr. Takashi Miyata, the Consulate-General of Japan in Toronto, and to Mr. Yoshikazu Ito, the Secretary General of the Toronto Japanese Association of Commerce & Industry.

All of the learning that has been driven by their own passion led Chris, Harry and Lenny to accept the opportunity to participate in this event. Their initiative to collaborate and organize themselves to compete in the event is outstanding. Well done!



Student Leadership Roles

Attention Student Leaders!

Every year, Markville has many activities planned to engage students and the community. These events are made possible by our 3 committed student leadership groups - collectively known as **SMACT!**

Individually, these three councils are the Student Activities Council (**SAC**), the Markville Athletic Council (**MAC**), and the Transition Activities Council (**TAC**).

Each of our student leadership councils are looking for **responsible, dynamic, organized, friendly, passionate, and articulate** students to be leaders for our school. **Any student** who possesses the aforementioned traits and plans to attend Markville S.S. next year is invited to apply!



Due to overlapping school-wide events, students may only serve on one council. **As such, students can only apply to ONE leadership council (SAC or MAC or TAC).** Please visit bit.ly/SMACT2023 for more information. Applications for the 2022-2023 school year must be submitted in full, no later than **Tuesday, May 17th at 3pm**.

Applicants need to **plan ahead** to ensure they give teachers enough notice to complete the ***teacher reference*** form (if required) **prior to the May 17th deadline**.

Take responsibility and accountability for the events that will happen at Markville next year and apply to become a SMACT leader! Gooooo Mavs!

SAC Advisors Ms. Delairi Ms. Ye	MAC Advisors Ms. Chong Mr. Wiskin	TAC Advisors Ms. Janny Li Mr. McKillop
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Students Against Impaired Driving Day



SAID DAY
Students Against Impaired Driving
Day: May 19, 2022

Every year, lives are needlessly lost on our roadways because of alcohol, drugs and distracted-impaired driving.

Founded in 1987, OSAID has a strong history of Ontario high school students practicing responsible choices, during a time many are learning to drive and deal with a variety of issues related to social situations. These social situations, alcohol and drug use and the reliance on smartphones, are key dangers related to impaired and distracted driving and contribute to crashes, serious injuries and fatalities among young people and novice drivers.

These are avoidable tragedies that leave scars on our families, schools, and communities. During Students Against Impaired Driving Day we ask that you make known your commitment to preventing impaired driving.

We remember the victims and honour their memory by making the responsible decision to not be impaired while driving and ensuring that others do the same.

#saidday2022

<https://www.osaid.ca/projects-2>

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



School Notices

Upcoming Dates

May 16	Music Concert Markville Pops 2022 @ Markham Flato Theatre (7:30 – 9:30pm)
May 19	SAID Day
May 23	Victoria Day (Holiday) School Closed
May 24-27	Tri-Maverick Cup (Student Lunch Event)
May 30	School Council Meeting
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

Peer Tutoring

PEER TUTORING

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

UPDATE: Now in person!

MONDAY-THURSDAY
2:40-3:40PM
In Room 228

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

Online Sessions are available for Remote Learners Only.

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:

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.

Social Media of the Week

8:39 ↗



MARKVILLESECONDARYSCHOOL
Posts



markvillesecondaryschool



Liked by markvilleartclub and 167 others

markvillesecondaryschool The Art Club did some sidewalk chalk art after school today in front of the school to enjoy the beautiful weather @markvilleartclub @yrdsb.schools 🌞 🎨



YRDSB Communications

THE CENTRE FOR BLACK STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Newsletter | May 2022

Centre for Black Student Excellence

YRDSB is pleased to launch the **Centre for Black Student Excellence**, a space committed to the promotion of Dismantling Anti-Black racism and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized.

We invite you to explore our new online presence at www.yrdsb.ca/blackexcellence to:

- Access videos, resources and information about community partners.
- Learn more about our work to dismantle anti-Black racism, guided by our strategy.
- Celebrate Black excellence through video, feature stories, podcasts and more.
- Find out about programs available to Black students and families.
- Check out our new community newsletter.
- And much more.

Message from the Team

“Now more than ever, the lives of Black students hang in the balance. With a mirage of images that bombard our television screens black youth are too often further marginalized and face significant disparities in accessing their education.

As part of our commitment to change, the Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy is a roadmap that will help to forge change and make inroads towards the priorities that matter.

Enter, the **Centre for Black Student Excellence**—a space committed to the promotion of Dismantling Anti Black racism and amplifying voices that have been historically marginalized. A place that gives birth to the genius that is within us. The ultimate goal is to work to eliminate barriers that YRDSB data shows have resulted in stark disparities and disproportionalities for Black students' achievement and well-being.

Within these pages there are many options that are available to you. You will have access to mixed media— YRDSB curated videos and podcasts, a community newsletter and highlights, resources, and digital learning.

With a clearly defined mission—as a system we have also had to challenge our approach to teaching, best practices and to ensure that we actualize how young people will be made aware of their greatness and infinite potential.

We invite you to enter. Abide in the space of learning and discovery, as we celebrate achievement and the pursuit of brilliance.

Join us as we strive to collectively dismantle systemic barriers and work together to create transformational change.”

Meet the Team



How we provide support...

Darcie Sutherland, Principal

Responsible for coordinating the implementation of YRDSB's [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy \(DABRS\)](#). A significant part of the role includes supporting all YRDSB staff in acquiring the racial literacy skills needed to recognize, discuss, dismantle and disrupt racist ideologies that perpetuate the disparities that Black students face.

Mawuli Chai, Strategist

Supports the full implementation of the Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy

Implementation Plan.

Veron DeBique, Jonatan Fuentes, Nicolette Bryan, Graduation Coach for Black Students Provides intensive culturally-responsive support to Black students that will assist with helping to improve their academic achievement and well-being.

Shani Blake, Community & Partnership Developer

Establishes and maintains relationships with our community partners and organizations and directs schools toward a number of programs and resources to support our students, parents and staff.

Heather Henry, Equity Teacher Facilitator

Works together with schoolteachers and administrators to meet the diverse needs of students and families across the region. This includes fostering school-community relationships and supporting the implementation of inclusive curriculum.

To request support from a member of the Centre for Black Student Excellence team please email BlackStudentExcellence@yrdsb.ca

Partners

The Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS) is committed to promoting well-being and excellence in achievement for students of African/ Caribbean heritage. You can follow them on Twitter [@AEBSyrdsb](https://twitter.com/AEBSyrdsb)

Learn more about Black community agencies that provide supports in your area: [Aurora Black Community \(ABC\)](#)

[ANCHOR \(Formerly Vaughan African Canadian Association \(VACA\)\)](#)

[Markham African Caribbean Canadian Association \(MACCA\)](#)

[Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association \(NACCA\)](#)

[Parents of Black Children](#)

[The Black Foundation of Community Networks \(BFCN\)](#)

[York Region Alliance of African Canadian Communities \(YRAACC\)](#)

Upcoming Events at YRDSB



“The Come Up Summer Program was amazing. My experience was, in-short, incredible. It taught me different things and things I need to know to help me in my future endeavors. It was an incredible experience and helped me a lot to know how to handle school situations as a Black teenager.”
- Bamishe, YRDSB Student

The Come Up summer program is a unique **in-person** experience for self-identifying Black students (and their parents/guardians) in the York Region District School Board who will be entering grade 9 or 10 in September 2022. The program will begin Wednesday, July 6 and end Friday, July 29, 2022 (9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.).

Students will have an opportunity to successfully earn a high school credit by participating in a fun and dynamic program. Some of the topics may include: positive identity formation and affirmation, career pathways, emotional intelligence, social media, digital literacy, entrepreneurship and legal rights. Each activity/workshop is designed to prepare and support Black students as they embark on a new journey.

A workshop series on navigating the secondary school system, supporting your child and accessing resources is also available for parents / guardians.

See [flyer](#) for further information. Deadline to [register](#) is May 16, 2022.

Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS) Annual Student Achievement Awards 2022 “Celebrating Black Excellence”

Wednesday, June 8, 2022 (Virtually) from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (EST)

School staff may nominate a student in Grades 4-12 for demonstrating success in one of the following areas: the arts, academics, athletics, citizenship. Please speak to your school administrator for further information.

Scholarships

[AEBS Scholarship](#) The Alliance of Educators for Black Students (AEBS) is pleased to offer York Region District School Board students graduating from high school in 2022 the opportunity to apply to several scholarships.

Deadline: May 16, 2022.

[BFCN Scholarship](#) BFCN believes that access to education of all forms is important for the continued success and development of youth in our community. Their Scholarship Program is designed to address a few of the gaps and barriers in order to increase access to post-secondary education and support Black students and their families.

Deadline: July 31, 2022.



Listen to the [SHINE Podcast](#)

SHINE is a YRDSB podcast that features voices from the Black community. It introduces conversations that inspire and challenge.

Guests share their lived experiences, advice, industry expertise and more.

SHINE is a production of Tune In YRDSB. [Tune In YRDSB](#) is the first podcast of its kind in Ontario, featuring a wide range of topics related to education.

Tune In YRDSB is available on all major podcast platforms.

SEX TRAFFICKING

Instances of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation
are a growing concern in York Region.

Youth as young as 12 are being recruited!

Would you know it if you saw it?
What could you do?

May 19, 2022 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

We welcome parents, guardians, caregivers, educators, staff and the
community! [Register](#) today!

York Region District School Board in a collaborative partnership with
Women's Support Network is hosting a virtual information session
about sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.

This session will provide awareness and information about:

- What is sex trafficking
- How to identify signs of someone who may be in the
process of being recruited or is already being trafficked
- Who is at risk
- Available resources and supports in the
community



For more information:

Oksana Majaski

Community & Partnership Developer, YRDSB

Oksana.majaski@yrdsb.ca



Inclusive School and Community Services
in partnership with
CCSYR SEPYR and CICS IYC

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, a talent show, virtual cultural displays
and much more!**

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

Register now for this online event! bit.ly/38OiMrq

For more information, please contact: iscs@yrdsb.ca





INDIGENOUS YOUTH IN TRADES

Looking to the Future?
Earn While you Learn!
How do I sign up?

Earn a certificate of participation, interactive activities with each trade, new knowledge regarding Indigenous culture including making a water drum! Receive a Good Mind Box loaded with specialty items from each trade session.

DATES & PROGRAM:



Living the life of an Indigenous Chef
Tuesday May 17, 2022
@ 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.



Power up your Future as an Electrician
Thursday May 19, 2022
@ 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.



The Wonderful World of Construction
Tuesday May 24, 2022
@ 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.



Wow I didn't know that about Ironwork!
Thursday May 26, 2022
@ 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION OPEN — There is limited registrations per school board!



Summit Coordinator:

 **TAP Resources** | t: 519 445 1794
e: tapresources@tapresources.ca

 **Ontario**
The OYAP program is funded
by the Government of Ontario

 **OYAP**
ONTARIO YOUTH
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Self ID'd Indigenous students in Grade 6-12 are invited to attend the Indigenous Youth Trade Summit.

This OYAP program is for Indigenous youth interested in pursuing a career in skilled trades.

Please contact Bradley.gibson@yrdsb.ca or Victoria.raymer@yrdsb.ca to register.

Community Events

June 2 is
election day.



 Elections
Ontario

This Month in May


JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrate Jewish Diversity



Ontario's Jewish community is rich and diverse.

Our history in the province begins in the early 1800s and extends up to the present day. Our community is made up of Jewish people from countries and regions all over the globe like Brazil, the Caribbean, Ethiopia, India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Morocco, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Ukraine, and more!

To learn more about the history of Ontario's Jewish community, visit www.ontariojewisharchives.org

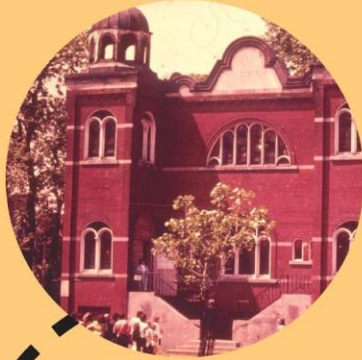
#MYJEWISHHERITAGE

 UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto |  ONTARIO JEWISH ARCHIVES
BLANKENSTEIN FAMILY HERITAGE CENTRE

 **NO SILENCE ON RACE**

Maxine Ewaschuk, Sarah Akilu, and Ariella Daniels sat for their portraits and interviews as part of *Periphery*, a project spotlighting Jews of multiracial and multi-ethnic heritage. Photography by Liat Aharoni, 2021. Courtesy of the Ontario Jewish Archives.

JEWISH
HERITAGE MONTH



SCROLLING SPADINA

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 through 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.



ojascrollingspadina.org



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto
ONTARIO JEWISH ARCHIVES
BLANKENSTEIN FAMILY HERITAGE CENTRE

CIJA
Canadian
Jewish
Advocacy



