

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

1000 Carlton Road,
Markham ON L3P 7P5
Phone: (905) 940-8840
Fax: (905) 940-8895
E-mail: markville.ss@yrdsb.ca

Principal: Anthony Hu
Vice-Principal: Barbara Caravella (A-Lim)
Vice-Principal: Kathy McAlpine (Lin-Z)



October 7th, 2022

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

Student Information System Update:

Over the course of the past two years many Ontario school boards have been working on the migration of their student information systems to a modernized system. The student information system is integral to school operations and is complex in nature. Over the summer, the board implemented this new student system and as is the case with any new project of this magnitude we experienced a small number of implementation challenges. Our Information Technology Services team is working diligently with the associated vendors to resolve the issues. We recognize that these issues may have caused some inconveniences for regular school procedures and will work to provide regular communications to families.

SAC Elections Spotlight

Dear Families,

After a week-long frenzy of interviews, applications and campaigning, the results are in! Our new Student Activity Council 2022/2023 is complete. A big thanks to all the candidates for their spirit and tireless efforts, and congratulations to our new team!

SAC Execs:

- Bonnie Wen (President)
- Karen Guo (VP)
- Salim Mohamed (Equity and External Affairs)
- Elise Wong (Secretary)
- Soham Shorey (Student Advisor)

Grade 9 Representatives:

- Angela Zhou

- Rachel Chung

Jr. Graphics Director - Matthew Tsai

Jr. Content Creator - Justin Guo

School Notices

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent-Teacher Interview Night will be held on **Thursday, October 20**. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) in person, and learn more about the classroom. To maintain maximum flexibility for families, in situations where a parent is requesting a virtual interview, and little availability remains in the interview schedule, teachers are asked to explore other dates to connect (phone or video) with families.

Families can use Edsby, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their child(ren)'s teacher(s) on Parents' Night. You will receive an invitation to sign up for a meeting time once the schedules are available.

[Edsby](#) is a cloud-based platform that lets families easily reserve times to meet with your child(ren)'s teachers. YRDSB in partnership with Edsby have created a secure platform that protects the privacy of information for families.

Families that already have an Edsby account may use their previously created account. The username is the full email address that is on file at Markville and the password is the one created at activation. If you have forgotten your password, you can find [resources on the Board website](#) to help, including how to reset your password.

Families who **do not have** an Edsby account will need to create one to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for Parents' Night. **An up-to-date and valid email address must be provided to your child's home school.** For help creating an Edsby account, [instructions can be found on the Board website](#). An email from York Region District School Board with instructions on how to create an Edsby account will be sent to your email inbox. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office.

Families who do not wish to book a time on Edsby or are not available on October 20th can contact the classroom teacher directly.

For help signing up for Parent-Teacher interviews, please visit [our board website](#).

Important Timelines

October 4 -11	Parents/guardians to create Edsby accounts, if they do not yet have one.
October 12 -19	Parents' Night schedule opens at 8:30 a.m.for booking. Log into your Edsby account. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby account and a notification to your email. Instructions for signing up for interview slots are found here .
October 11 - 12	Interim Reports will be distributed electronically to parents / guardians / 18+ students via the Electronic Distribution Process.
October 19	Interview Scheduler closes at 3:00 p.m.
October 20	Parent-Teacher Interviews (in-person) 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming Dates

Oct 10	Thanksgiving (Holiday)
Oct 11	Photo Missed Day
Oct 13	YRPH Immunization Clinic (Grade 7-12)
Oct 20	Parent-Teacher Interview Night (6:30-8:30 pm)
Oct 21	PA Day

YRDSB Communications



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

October 2022

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

**Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A
Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us**



Dear families, caregivers and beyond,

The York Region District School Board is pleased to share the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us](#) to support the alignment of the Well-Being and Mental Health goals outlined in the [Director's Action Plan \(DAP\)](#) and our ongoing commitment to Student Well-Being and Mental Health.

The strategy was co-constructed based on extensive internal and external consultation with students, parents, staff affinity groups, community groups, mental health advocacy groups and beyond. The Strategy aims to advance students' mental health and well-being through the promotion of health, culturally responsive and healing-centred engagement, enhancing capacity, prevention of illness, and support when needed. In a way that honours the student's identity and sense of self, fosters inclusion, mattering and belonging and builds community.

Acknowledging that there are many different individual and community understandings of the parts of mental health, the Strategy focuses on three main concepts:

Within: can be explained as the gifts and assets of our self/spirit, various intersecting identities, and traditions, as well as our cognitive and emotional well-being;

Between: can be explained as the social aspect of the relationships we

have with other people, our families, and communities and beyond;

Around: can be explained as the families, communities, and learning/social environments that surround us. This also encompasses experiences of different life events, as well as systemic factors such as oppression, colonialization and racism, discrimination and marginalization. In addition, it includes access to culturally representative and responsive support and resources.

Each area, Within, Between, and Around will be enhanced by the implementation of specific priority actions for the system, school/classroom, student, and family/community. To learn more about the specific priority actions, please review the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us.](#)

Beginning this October, all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 will have an opportunity to engage in a class/school-based activity that focuses on the concept of Within. This activity supports educators in intentionally establishing healthy, safe, inclusive, and critically conscious learning environments; centred on the integral parts of identity. Beyond this, the activity creates an opportunity for positive identity formation and affirmation and mattering and explores:

- Belonging, being and becoming.
- What makes me who I am?
- Who/what am I connected to?
- What are my goals, dreams and aspirations?
- What grounds me and gives me confidence and hope?
- Who are my supports, the people that lift me up?

When students know that they matter, belong and are cared for by those around them, they are best able to succeed, thrive, be hopeful and welcome new opportunities and learning. We continue to look forward to a year of learning, discovery, and joy alongside you.

Additional Resources:

[YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page](#)

Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the Twitter account [@YRDSB](#)

Follow YRDSB Mental Health on Twitter [@MH_YRDSB](#)

**Patricia Marra-Stapleton, M.Sc., C.
Psych. Assoc.** Mental Health Lead

patricia.marra-stapleton@yrdsb.ca

Hoshana Calliste, M.S.W., R.S.W.
Assistant Coordinator of Mental Health
hoshana.calliste@yrdsb.ca



Welcome to week one of Cyber Security Awareness Month (CSAM)!

My name is Saeed Barbary and I am the associate manager of cyber security at the YRDSB. During the month of October, I will be sharing a weekly memo highlighting some of the most important aspects of cyber security, all in an effort to raise further awareness on the important role that each one of us has to keep threat actors and vectors from breaching into our systems, networks, and accounts.

This week we discuss the rise and fall of social media. What started off as an innocent website to keep people connected across the world, has turned into a reconnaissance field for threat actors. What is reconnaissance you might ask? Reconnaissance is a military term used to observe the enemy from afar and collect as much information as possible to plot successful attacks using the enemy's weaknesses. Social media, with its powers of connecting people, has become the number one target for reconnaissance by threat actors, who attempt to collect information about you through what you have publicly shared (with or without your knowledge). This information can then be used against you during a targeted ransomware, phishing, or smishing (like phishing but sent as an SMS) attack. The collected information can make the attempt/attack more targeted and personalized towards you.

There are standard steps you could take to protect your security and privacy on your social media accounts:

1. Never give full permissions to any social media app unless it needs it to function. Make a habit of periodically checking the settings of the social media app/website to make sure that the security and privacy settings align with how much you want to restrict/share.

2. Think twice before sharing. Once it is shared, it is online forever, even after you delete it.
3. Always separate personal from work accounts. Never overshare about your workplace, or share information, locations, numbers, or even people that might become a target of reconnaissance.
4. Enable multi-factor authentication (MFA) if the app/website offers it. It could be the key difference in stopping threat actors from taking over your account.

More content can be found at

<https://cybersecurityontario.ca/mod/page/view.php?id=430> related to this topic.

If you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, I would be happy to help!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Saeed Barbary

saeed.barbary@yrdsb.ca