

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin

Inspire Learning!



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin



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September 3rd 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,

It is hard to believe that we have completed the first week of the semester. There has been so much excitement in the classrooms and the halls. Our students came every day, or joined us remotely, ready to learn and to participate in class. This week we also held a successful Grade 9 information evening attended by 134 parents/guardians!!

As I indicated in my previous communication this week, our partnership, the school and the home, is essential to the success of all students. These are some friendly suggestions that will assist us as we endeavor to keep everyone safe:

- We encourage all students to use active modes to travel to and from school (i.e., walk, cycle)
- If you choose to pick up your child from school, please park your car away from our parking lot. This will support safe physical distance for all at the end of the day. We have large crowds of students awaiting to be picked up.
- Students who have a spare in the morning block or the afternoon block may go to the library to study, or they should remain at home.

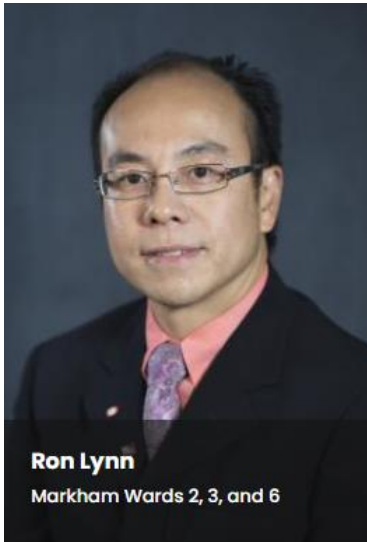
I sincerely appreciate your support and understanding as we continue to engage in our daily routines. The administration team and staff are following Public Health guidelines, keeping safety as our core priority.

Have a wonderful long weekend, enjoy some relaxation time!

Sincerely,

Patricia Obadia

Trustee's Message



Message from Our Trustee, September 2021

We have many reasons to feel optimistic as we begin the 2021-22 school year. Schools are reopening to in-person learning, vaccination rates continue to increase, and our students can start to resume some of their favourite school activities.

As we return to school, our [reopening plan](#) continues to prioritize the health and safety of students, families and staff members. We are working with public health to ensure we are taking all appropriate measures. For more information on the plan, including health and safety measures, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening. You can also find additional information from York

Region Public Health at www.york.ca/safeatschool.

The pandemic and last year's school closures affected students and families in many different ways. This has been a challenging time. Our caring, skilled and dedicated staff members are prepared to prioritize the mental health and well-being of students as they transition back to school, as well as supporting their academic learning and growth. If you are worried about your child, please speak to your child's teacher or principal. You may also find some of the [learning and well-being resources](#) on our website helpful.

Whether your child will be attending school in person or online, we know how important it is that they feel safe, respected and valued. We want every student to feel supported, to take pride in their identities and to know that they matter. Any form of hate or discrimination in our schools is not acceptable. This school year, we will continue to implement the [Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy](#) launched in March to address anti-Black racism in schools. We also remain committed as a school board to honouring the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#). As an education system, it is imperative that we create learning environments that enable all of our students to feel valued and to be successful.

As your school board trustee, it is my role to advocate for quality public education in York Region, and to ensure that our students remain at the centre of all of our decision making. The Board of Trustees makes [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and

communicates with the public, among other [responsibilities](#). We are also responsible for setting direction for the school board, through our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#). This plan sets out four priorities: Foster Well-Being and Mental Health, Build Collaborative Relationships, Champion Equity and Inclusivity, and Empower Ethical Leadership.

The relationship that we have with families is so important, and I will continue to keep you informed of our work and priorities. You can also find the [message from the Chair of the Board](#) on the Board's website. You are welcome to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

There are also many other ways you can stay connected with what's happening in the school board. Visit our [newsroom](#). Listen to our [podcast](#). Follow us on [Twitter @YRDSB](#) and on [Instagram @yrdsb.schools](#). Watch the latest videos, including news, features and profiles about our schools, students and staff members on our [YouTube channel YRDSBMedia](#).

As we begin another school year, I am so pleased to welcome all of our new and returning families. I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you a happy, healthy and successful year ahead.

Ron Lynn,
Trustee – Markham Wards 2, 3 and 6

Parking Lot

Our parking lot went through a major transformation over the summer of 2019. Consultants listened to the safety concerns of parents / guardians, students, staff, and community members and came up with a redesign to address these issues. The parking section is now self-contained, so anyone coming to park at the school will not have to cross traffic to get safely to the school doors. The new drop off circle is meant for short term pick-ups and drop offs only. To reduce congestion, we always recommend that students walk or bike to school – even when it's raining! If this is not possible, consider a pick up point away from the school such as the Centennial Community Centre. We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we all adjust to the traffic flow.

Holidays



The school will be closed next week on **Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday** for Labour Day weekend and two board holidays.

Please do not send your children to school as they will be closed. School will resume on **Thursday September 9th**.

School Notices

Visitors to the School

All visitors (including parents/guardians) must:

- Call the school to make an appointment
- Use the main entrance of the school
- Check in at the main office when they arrive for contact tracing purposes
- Follow the direction of the principal at all times

Absences and Lates

For the safety of all our students, it is important for Parents/Guardians to report if your child will be late or absent.

Automated absence/late calls and emails will be sent in the morning and afternoon. To report an absence please email markvilless.attendance@yrdsb.ca

Upcoming Dates

Student Council Meeting September 20th 7pm Will be held Virtually

More information to come including a link for a virtual meeting.

Daily School Screening for Students

Secondary students will follow the process below to confirm screening:

Step 1: Secondary students to complete on-line self-assessment [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) prior to entering the school on a daily basis.

Step 2: Upon completion of the self-assessment, complete response to the question “Have you completed the self-screening test?” in the Confirmation [Form](#)

Step 3. Upon completion of the form confirming successful screening, students will receive an email.

Step 4: After receiving this email, students can then attend their school and will have to show the email response in one of the following ways to their period 1 teacher (or period 2 teacher if they have a spare or were absent in period 1):

- Show email on phone (showing the email or a photo of the email)
- Hard copy printout of the email
- Students who do not complete the self-assessment will be directed to the posted COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening tool to provide verbal response to their teacher
- If “no” to all questions on the tool, the students will be able to start their day in the classroom, or
- if “yes” to any question, the students will be directed to the designated isolation room for pickup and will be advised to attend an assessment centre.

For students who may not be able to complete the self-assessment process independently, Parents/guardians are to complete:

- Step 1: The on-line self-assessment [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) prior to sending students to school on a daily basis.
- Step 2: Parents/guardians will need to log into the Confirmation [Form](#) through their child’s YRDSB gapps account, to indicate they have completed the assessment on behalf of their child.

Instructions on logging into the YRDSB Gapps accounts can be found at <https://forms.yrdsb.ca/AccessStudentGmail/>

Message from Guidance

Welcome Families!

Please note some important details from Guidance:

New students that have begun attending classes, yet still require access to YRDSB's online platforms, can access instructions on how to log into GAPPs, myBlueprint and TeachAssist [here](#). Your student's subject teacher can provide them with their confidential and unique password, or please reach out to Guidance.

Students received a Course Change Request form for **Semester 1** changes on August 30th – [Gr 9 Course Change Request](#) & [Gr 10/11/12 Course Change Request](#). Although primarily Semester 1 changes are occurring at this time, for planning purposes, students also received their Semester 2 Timetable via GAPPs and Guardian email. This form will **remain open until September 10th @ 3pm**. Course space is limited, but Guidance will do all that is possible to provide students with desired/required courses, in a priority sequence. Guidance will open for appointments to students and families to address Semester 2 changes as soon as Semester 1 has been finalized.

Please bookmark the [Guidance website](#) for your reference, as it hosts numerous resources to help support students and families in navigating high school, as well as contact information to reach Guidance. Students will be notified as soon as appointments have opened – to view details on how students and families can book an appointment, please visit the [TeachAssist page](#) of the Guidance site.

We are looking forward to the year ahead!

~Your Guidance Team

Library Spotlight

Library Learning Commons Spotlight

The Library Learning Commons team at Markville welcomes students back to school and back to the Library this week. We are excited to see everyone and continue our work with students and staff. Our staff this year includes Ms. Wilson (Head of Library Learning Commons), Ms. Haak (Library Technician) and Ms. Gupta (Teacher Librarian).

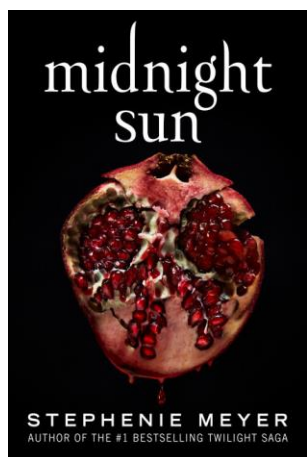
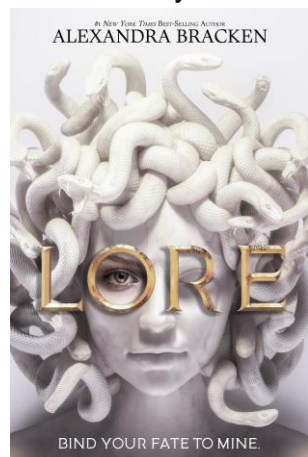
This semester, the Library will be open to classes to participate in our Library workshops and tutorials while following YRDSB Covid-19 protocols. We are also open to students during the lunch hour to come and eat with their peers. **Contact tracing information and Covid-19 safety protocols are followed during this time as well.**

In our June Library Spotlight we made note of our e-book resource for students. We have been building our e-book Library and would like to remind everyone that it is available for use right away.

We have new and exciting ebook titles available exclusively to Markville students through Sora by Overdrive. A couple of popular titles include (but are not limited to): Lore by Alexandra Bracken, Midnight Sun (The Twilight Saga #5) by Stephenie Meyer, Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi and Ready Player Two by Ernest Cline (sequel). Access them on Sora by Overdrive today!

[Sora Reading App By OverDrive](#)

Try logging in both with YRDSB credentials & Markham Public Library info for an even wider variety of books.



Tweet of the Week



Markville SS @Markville_YRDSB · Aug 31



Mavs, we are so excited to have you back!!![#BackToSchool](#)



This Month in September

FEDERAL ELECTION



Voter's checklist

Get to know your voting options and choose what works best for you. No matter how you vote, keeping you healthy and safe is our priority

If you plan to vote by mail, don't wait, apply now at elections.ca.

- Make sure you're registered** at your current address
- Watch for your **voter information card** in the mail
- Make a plan to vote**
- Find out **who the candidates are** in your riding
- Bring ID** when you go to vote

- At your assigned polling station **on election day**
- At your assigned polling station **on advance polling days**
- By mail:** visit elections.ca to see if voting by mail is the right choice for you (deadlines apply)
- At any **Elections Canada office** across Canada (deadlines apply)


It's Our Vote

Visit elections.ca for the official information on voting and the health and safety measures in place
1-800-463-6868 / elections.ca / TTY 1-800-361-8935



<https://elections.ca/>

