

Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

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Principal: Anthony Hu

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Vice-Principal: Mark Melnyk (Ling-Z)



September 1st, 2023

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 and Community Members,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope all students, families, staff, and community members had a restful and enjoyable summer. I would like to extend a special welcome to all grade nine students, as well as new students and staff to Markville Secondary School.

As we have experienced continual growth in enrollment at our school, there was a shortage of available classroom spaces. As a result, four portables have been installed in what was formerly the West Parking Lot of the school. Although the portables were scheduled to be ready for classes this week, due to factors outside of the Board's control, these classrooms were not ready and classes were relocated to alternative locations in the school. We apologize for the inconvenience that this may have caused, but I am pleased to inform you that the portables will be ready for classes on Tuesday September 5, 2023.

Please note that there is temporarily no food service in the cafeteria as all secondary schools in the Board are changing food service providers. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause and thank you for your patience as we transition to a new food service provider.

On August 28, staff and student mentors from TAC (Transition Activities Council) welcomed grade 9 students and their families during the annual Grade 9 Orientation Day. While the grade 9 students met their semester one teachers and other students in their classes, their parents/guardians had the opportunity to attend an information session led by administration. The session also included presentations by Mr. Ebrahim, Mr. Pardatscher, and student leaders from TAC, MAC (Markville Athletic Council), and SAC (Student Activity Council). For those who were unable to attend

the session on August 28, the administrative team also presented to Grade 9 students and their families during the evening of August 31.

On August 31 and September 1, the administration led the Caring and Safe Schools assemblies for grades 9 and 10 students that included important information about the supports available to students at school, as well as the expectations of behaviour for all students in the school. These presentations will continue on September 5 and 6 for students in grades 11 and 12.

Looking at the weeks ahead, Photo Day will take place on September 7. The first School Council meeting of the school year will take place on September 18 at 7:00 pm in the library. All parents/guardians and community members are welcome to attend. September 22 is a PA Day and as a result there will not be any classes for students on that day.

Although we are wrapping up the first week of the school year, extra-curricular clubs and athletic teams are well underway. Students are encouraged to listen to the announcements every morning to learn about meeting times for clubs and tryouts for athletics.

School staff are grateful for the partnership between the school and families as we work collaboratively to support the academic success and well-being of students. If you have any questions about your child's progress in their classes, you are welcome to contact your child's teachers directly. You are also welcome to contact the school if you have any questions, comments, or concerns and we will do our best to assist you.

On behalf of the administrative team, I would like to wish all students, families, and staff a successful school year!

Warmest Regards,

Anthony Hu

Principal
Markville Secondary School

School Zone Parking



Welcome back! August 2023

The City of Markham Parking Enforcement Unit is reaching out to all Markham schools to make you aware of the many school zone parking complaints that we receive each year. We aim to reduce unsafe vehicular activity in school zones by communicating to you the common school zone parking violations.

The City of Markham has over 90 schools and Public safety is important to us. We continue to do everything we can to address all of the complaints received. Despite posted signage, education, and enforcement, residents are continuing to park their vehicles in violation of the City of Markham Parking By-law. Schools within the City of Markham are patrolled regularly and we continue to work closely with York Regional Police and Fire and Emergency Services throughout the year to attend schools requiring additional assistance. Verbal and/or physical threats against a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer will not be tolerated. Officers are expected to report all of these incidents to York Regional Police.

The City of Markham has implemented the Administrative Monetary Penalty System (AMPS). AMPS is a more efficient way for municipalities to enforce parking bylaws. It allows for parking tickets to be served in a variety of different methods; for example, they may now be served through mail if a vehicle is found in violation. In particular, traffic congestion during school drop off/pick up times present unique challenges for enforcement. Mailing parking tickets allows officers to address most of the illegally parked vehicles and not just one or two vehicles.

General inquiries and parking complaints, including on street parking should be directed to the Contact Centre at 905 477 7000 ext. 2050. For all general information regarding parking, please feel free to visit the City of Markham website at

https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home/about/city_hall/bylaws/bylaw.

Please aid us in keeping school zones safe!

“The real penalty for not obeying parking regulations is that you may risk the safety of

children!” Sincerely,

Jeff Rahim

Municipal Law Enforcement Supervisor | Parking Operations

City of Markham

City of Markham 101 Town Centre Boulevard, Markham, Ontario
L3R 9W3 Website: www.markham.ca ☐ Tel: 905-477-7000 ext.
2050

Common School Zone Parking Violations

The City’s Parking Enforcement Unit has implemented some new penalties for vehicles parked or stopped in violation within a school zone to help address those safety issues. Vehicles that are parked within a school zone will be subject to increased fines.

Drivers should be reminded to park in **permitted** areas only, which may include:

1. The school parking lot in accordance with signs posted; or,
2. Streets that **do not** have prohibited parking or prohibited stopping signs posted.

In addition to the most common parking violations listed below, drivers should ensure that they do not violate other parking regulations such as, parking too close or obstructing a fire hydrant, intersection, bus stop, private driveway, pathway, crosswalk, super mailbox, sidewalk etc.

Fire Route



These signs are posted to alert drivers that the area is a Fire Route. Fire Routes are classified as roads, laneways, or driveways that provide access to a building and may also include areas within a parking lot. A driver is in violation of this parking regulation if they are stopped or parked in a Fire Route even if their engine is running, hazard lights are flashing, or there is someone in the vehicle.

Where this sign is displayed, drivers are permitted to immediately drop off/pick up passengers – there cannot be a delay. For example, when a parent is dropping off their child to school, the child should get out of the vehicle and the parent should immediately drive away. Similarly, when a parent is engaged in picking up their child, the child should

already be waiting at the curb for their parent. After the child gets into the vehicle, the parent must then immediately drive away. **There should be no waiting; if the child is not at the curb, the parent should move and return when the child is present.**

Where this sign is displayed, drivers are **not** permitted to:

1. Sit and wait in the car for their child (even for a few minutes); or
2. Leave their vehicle for any reason (even to quickly drop off their child's lunch).

Certain schools may have designated kiss-and-rides. These designated areas may or may not also be part of a fire route. It is important to note that the fire route restrictions take precedence over such kiss-and-rides and that the parking of vehicles in such areas are permitted only for the immediate pick-up and drop-off of passengers.

If passengers are not immediately picked up then the vehicle must not park in the fire route – for any length of time and even if the fire route is designated as a kiss-and-ride.

Prohibited Stopping



These signs are posted in order to alert drivers that stopping is prohibited. They are often posted on the surrounding streets of a school and may indicate the times of day that a driver is not permitted to stop their vehicle - drivers must continue to drive with the flow of traffic.

Where this sign is displayed, drivers are **not** permitted to:

1. Stop their vehicle to let passengers in or out of their vehicle; or
2. Stop and wait for their child to get into the vehicle.

Prohibited stopping areas are far more restrictive on what vehicular activity a person may be engaged in. A vehicle should not be stopped in a no stopping zone at any time, even for the purposes of loading/unloading goods and/or passengers.

Prohibited Parking

These signs are posted in order to alert drivers that parking is prohibited



within the vicinity of the sign. A driver is in violation of this parking regulation if they have stopped the vehicle within the posted area. The vehicle is considered parked even if the engine is running, the hazard lights are flashing, or there is someone in the car. Additionally, these signs may indicate the times of day that a driver is not permitted to park their vehicle within the signed area.

Where this sign is displayed, drivers are permitted to immediately drop off/pick up individuals – there must not be a delay. For example, when a parent is dropping off their child to school, the child should get out of the vehicle and then the parent should immediately drive away. Similarly, when a parent is engaged in picking up their child, the child should already be waiting at the curb for their parent. After the child gets into the vehicle, the parent must then immediately drive away. **There should be no waiting; if the child is not at the curb, the parent should move and return when the child is present.**

Where this sign is displayed, drivers are **not** permitted to:

1. Sit and wait in the car for their child (even for a few minutes); or,
2. Leave their vehicle for any reason (even to quickly drop off their child's lunch).

Accessible Parking



These signs are posted to alert drivers that the parking spot they are located in is reserved for individuals with valid Accessible Parking Permits only. Vehicles are not permitted to park, stop, block, turn around in or otherwise occupy the spot unless a person with a valid Accessible Parking Permit is inside the vehicle. In addition, even with possession of such permits, the permit must be properly displayed. It is important to note that the permit is issued to an individual, not the vehicle; accordingly, drivers that are transporting individuals with accessible parking permits are subject to a parking ticket should the permit holder no longer be in the vehicle while the vehicle is occupying an accessible parking spot.

Common Parking Definitions

Below you will find some of our common definitions from the City of Markham's Parking Control By law # 2005-188.

“Fire Route” means any roadway, driveway, lane, ramp or other means of vehicular access to or from a designated building which is designated as a fire access route by the City’s Fire Department and shall include any part of a parking lot set aside by visible markings or markers for the purpose of vehicular movement.

“Park” or **“Parking”** means the halting of a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except when halting temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading goods or passengers.

“Stop” or **“Stopping”** means the halting or leaving of a motor vehicle, even momentarily, whether occupied or not, except when necessary to avoid conflict or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or of a traffic control sign or signal.

“Highway” includes a common or public highway, street, avenue, boulevard, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct, laneway, court, or trestle, designated and intended for, or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles; and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof; after “for the passage of vehicles.

How can parents help?

- Observe and obey all traffic/parking signs
- Do not leave your car unattended
- Do not make U-turns in a school zone
- Give yourself extra time so that you are not rushed
- Respect other drivers. Be patient.
- Do not use private driveways in the area as alternate pick up/drop off points. Please respect other homeowners/private business properties.
- If you must drive, park legally - even if this means walking some distance.
- Recognize that safety takes precedent over convenience.
- **Encourage alternative transportation (biking, walking, and taking the bus).**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How close to the curb should drivers park?

Drivers should not park more than **15 cm (6 inches)** from a curb.

2. How close to an intersection may drivers park?

A vehicle should not be parked within 9m (30 ft.) of an intersection on any road. This includes the portion of an intersection where two roads intersect to form a 'T'-shaped zone. In addition to the above, a vehicle should not be parked within 15m (49 ft.) of any signalized intersection.

3. How far should drivers park away from a fire hydrant?

Drivers should maintain a distance of 3m (10 ft.) from the fire hydrant. This includes areas where a fire hydrant may be located a substantial distance from the curb and/or street. Vehicles must park at least 3m (10 ft.) clear of the curb that lines up with a fire hydrant provided there are no other parking restrictions.

4. What do I do when I receive a parking ticket?

Individuals that receive a parking ticket either in person, on the vehicle, or by mail, are advised to follow the directions provided on the back of the parking ticket. It is the responsibility of the driver to respond in a timely manner.

School Trustee Message

Message from Our Trustee

September 2023

Dear families,

It is my pleasure to welcome all new and returning families to school for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and wish you a positive start to the new school year. I know it can be a time of transition for many, and am grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our school staff for all that they do to support students as they start the new school year, and create a warm, welcoming and inclusive environment in our schools.

The education of your children is a partnership, and we recognize that you are our most important partner when it comes to your child's education. As a family member, there are many ways you can engage in your child's learning, from speaking with your child about school and connecting with school staff to volunteering or becoming involved with the school council. You know your child best and we place great value on the relationship we have with families. I look forward to connecting with you throughout the school year.

As your school 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 has many [responsibilities](#), including making [policy](#) and [budget](#) decisions, and communicating with the public. Please feel free to [contact me](#) if you have any questions or concerns, and I will continue to keep you updated throughout the year on what is happening in the board. You can also visit our [newsroom](#), listen to our [podcast](#) and connect with us on social media to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the board.

This year, we are pleased to welcome our [new Director of Education Bill Cober](#), who took on the role on August 1 this year. He brings nearly 30 years of experience in public education in York Region, a commitment to student achievement and well-being, and a strategic and collaborative approach.

Later in the year, we will be undertaking a comprehensive strategic plan review. One of our roles as a board is to set the [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) that establishes our priorities and guides our direction as a school board. We will be reviewing that plan this year, and engaging with communities is a priority for us. Your input will be important and I look forward to sharing more information with you on this in the future.

I wish you all a great start to the school year and a happy, safe and successful year ahead.

Ed Law

Trustee, Markham Wards 3 and 4

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. We have a handful of Grade 9 students awaiting a class in order to have a full timetable – they will receive their final course this coming week.

Students received a Course Change Request form for **Semester 1** changes on August 28th, and closed on September 1st. Course space is extremely limited, but Guidance will do all that is possible to provide students with desired/required courses, in a priority sequence. We will be continuing to work through the form responses for all of the coming week. 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. Note that the Parent Portal is a system for Guardians to book appointments and view student information.

Guidance hosts several **Family Night Webinar Information Sessions** for Guardians each year. For your convenience, these sessions are virtual, and allow for families to enable Closed Captioning in a preferred language. The **Agenda** and instructions on setting up the Closed Caption feature, can be found [here](#). Guidance will post the link to the Webinar on the Agenda just before each presentation. For families who miss the event, the presentation is posted afterwards to our [Family Night Webinar page](#) of our Guidance website.

We are looking forward to the year ahead!
~Your Guidance Team



This is a mental health resource that will appear in the E-Bulletin weekly that was created by past and present Markville students.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zxvp0ngpV22ikM7Fow2FNIMxX2wErCF5/view?usp=sharing>

Markville Guidance Website Wellness Page:

<https://sites.google.com/gapps.yrdsb.ca/markvilleguidance/wellness>

School Notices

Upcoming Dates

Sept. 4	Labour Day (no classes)
Sept. 7	Photo Day

Sept. 12	Grade 9 Camp Green Acres
Spet. 22	PA Day
Sept. 25 - 29	Terry Fox Week

YOUR PHOTO DAY IS APPROACHING!

Thursday September 7, 2023



Showcase Your Best Smile

- Students will be photographed at school.
- You must be photographed to receive your student ID.
- Review your images and purchase online with ease!



DON'T FORGET

To help make your photo day seamless, check out our photo day tips at edgeimaging.ca/photo-day-tips



GET REMINDERS

Sign up for notifications at edgeimaging.ca/photoday to get real-time updates about your photo day and stay in the know with Edge.



YRDSB Communications



Indigenous Languages and International Languages (ILIL) Program

The York Region District School Board offers language learning to elementary students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 and language credit courses to secondary students in Grades 9 to 12.

Elementary Language Classes

Elementary classes are extra-curricular language learning opportunities available in-person or remotely. Classes are 2.5 hours and take place once per week between Tuesday to Friday evenings (6:00 PM to 8:30 PM) or Saturday mornings (9:30 AM to 12:00 PM).

Register by **Monday, September 11, 2023** to attend the full language program in its entirety.

For more information about the elementary program, visit the ILIL [Elementary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Secondary Credit Program

Secondary credit courses take place online once per week for 3.7 hours. Courses run from September to June for the full program year, and take place on Wednesday evenings (5:45 PM to 9:25 PM) or Saturday mornings (8:45 AM to 12:25 PM).

Registration is now open until the third class.

For more updates and information about the secondary credit program, visit the ILIL [Secondary webpage](#) or scan the QR code:



Please Note:

- Courses offered are subject to enrolment and teacher availability.
- Stacked classes may be created based on registration numbers.
- Not all languages are offered at the elementary and secondary levels. · Additional fees are required for international fee-paying visa students.

Languages Offered:

Arabic

Cantonese

Dari

Farsi

Filipino

German

Greek

Gujarati

Hebrew

Hindi

Italian

Japanese

Korean

Macedonian

Mandarin (Simplified) Mandarin (Traditional) Punjabi

Ojibwe

Russian

Sinhala

Spanish

Tamil

Turkish

Ukrainian

Urdu

Vietnamese

Yoruba

Community Events



Immigrant stories on a grand scale

Immigrantstory.ca's fourth major exhibition takes place at the Markham Public Library's Aaniin Branch, 5665 14th Avenue, August 26 to October 27, 2023. Massive narrative panels and even larger thematic tableaux depict the immigrant journeys of dozens of individuals and families.

Stories contributed by award-winning writers accompany those penned by the website and exhibition's creator, writer/designer Sholom Wargon. The 38-by-54-inch story panels can be read easily from five feet away.

The thematic panels run the gamut of immigration motifs: a train arriving at Toronto's Union Station, circa 1930; an Italian wedding in Hamilton, 1928; at-risk Chinese railway workers. Two of the largest pieces display all of the project participants; one positions them at their birthplace on an illustrated map of the world. Two panels highlight bonds forged by the immigrant subject with indigenous Canadian communities.

The entire collection is exquisitely printed and finished. Historical photographs have been restored in stunning detail.

The story collection, augmented from its 2021 spring launch and fall exhibition at the Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery, now features immigrants from 22 countries and counting. Its ethnogeographic subject base grows as new stories are added. For each narrative accessed on the website's [STORIES](#) page, there's an interactive depiction of the subject's immigrant journey on its [ORIGINS](#) page.

All stories on exhibit are viewable on the website; thematic panels, onsite only.

“In our initial conversation, many immigrants tell me ‘My story’s nothing special,’” says Wargon. “Not true; *everyone*’s story is special. It’s up to us, as writers, to draw out the details that bring their story to life.”

Response to the exhibitions has been overwhelmingly positive, necessitating multiple guest book printings.

For information contact Sholom Wargon at 416-803-2733,
Sholom@immigrantstory.ca.