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



## Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

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## September 23rd, 2022

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

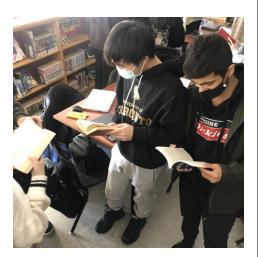
## **Library Spotlight**



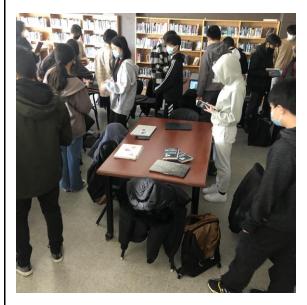
The Library staff at MSS are happy to have met over 375 grade 9 students over the course of two weeks during our annual Gr. 9 Library Orientations. Our grade 9 students participated in a number of activities, presentations and games to help introduce them to what

Markville's Library Learning Commons has to offer.

Students learned about our zones (quiet, moderate and collaborative) so that they can choose where to sit when they visit our space, based on their needs for that day. They were able to learn all about how to use our business center for printing, borrowing books and resources. At station two they were introduced to our creative studios where students can record podcasts and film using our green screen. At station three, students learned how to use our search catalogue



to find books and when we came all together again we tested their knowledge with fun games and prizes.



Markville's Library Learning Commons offers a wide variety of workshops that teachers can bring their classes to including, but not limited, academic research, citations, book talks, getting organized with Google Drive, podcasting, green screen technology, poster making, creating an effective presentation, film / book studies, literacy building and breakout activities (like escape rooms with locked boxes). We are looking forward to having our grade 9 students use our space and attend our workshops over the next 4 years.





Workshops Available



**Creative Studios** 

## **Parking Bylaw**



Welcome back! September 2022

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,

Grace Lombardi

Municipal Law Enforcement Supervisor | Parking Division

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 <u>immediately</u> 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 ticketshould 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 15cm (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.

## **Message from Guidance**

Guidance Appointments can continue to be booked using <u>TeachAssist</u> - instructions on how to book an appointment are located at the bottom of the home page of the <u>Markville Guidance website</u>. Students should not panic about their semester 2 schedule but they should make an appointment if they wish to make a change in the next few weeks. If we don't have a course available at the present time, we will make sure that they are added to our wait list. As well, families can book an appointment using the <u>Parent Portal</u> button on the TeachAssist website (please remind your student(s) to use the Markville website and not an App, as the App is not YRDSB-related). TeachAssist provides a drop-down menu to choose a reason for the visit, and allows families to select a virtual appointment in lieu of an in-person meeting, if preferred.

Last week, Grade 12 students took part in a Graduation Assembly, and this week Grade 9 students received a visit from Guidance to provide key information to help acquaint them with Markville. The presentations can be found on the <u>Grade 12 page</u> and <u>Grade 9, 10, 11 page</u> of the Guidance Site.

Your Guidance Team will be presenting Post-Secondary Planning topics to Grade 11 & 12 students each month, as they prepare for their next adventure. On Wednesday, Sept. 28th at 3:30 pm, Guidance will present a Virtual Session on Post-Secondary Research for our grade 11 and 12 students. Guidance is also presenting monthly Virtual Presentations for Families, in an effort to keep you informed on all important and relevant information for all Grades. Please see the Schedule for

upcoming topics and dates, as well as Closed Caption instructions are provided to allow families the ability to follow along in a preferred language. Our second presentation is on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm – a session designed to introduce families to a number of resources that can aid in Post-Secondary pathway planning for students. The link to attend this presentation will be available on the Schedule, just prior to each Session. We hope you can join us.

We look forward to working with you this year!

~Your Guidance Team

## **School Notices**



## **Upcoming Dates**

September 26-30	Terry Fox event week
September 26-30	Truth and Reconciliation week
September 28- Oct 4	Safety Week
September 26	Gr 11/12 Post Sec Research Presentation
September 28	Guidance Family Night (Post Secondary)
September 30	Orange Shirt Day / Day for Reconciliation

## **YRDSB Communications**





Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter September 2022

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

## **Supporting a Mentally Healthy School Start**

Dear Families, caregivers and beyond,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year. We are happy to see all of you!

We acknowledge that many different feelings and emotions accompany the start of a new school year for students, parents, educators, and the communities that support them. From excitement to nervousness, anxiety to joy and everything in between. Whatever feelings and emotions accompany your child(ren) or family, know they are valid, important and okay.

Our September Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter focuses on a mentally healthy start to the school year. A mentally healthy start to the school year may encompass something different for each child and family, honouring that we all experience and support our mental health and well-being differently.

<u>School Mental Health Ontario</u> invites parents and caregivers to consider the following tips to support a <u>Mentally Healthy Back to School</u>. Whether your child(ren) is attending virtually or in person, the following tips may be helpful.

1. Take care of yourself, so you can be your best to support your child(ren) Do One Small Thing each day that brings you joy and helps you to feel well and happy. Taking care of your health and well-being is a powerful tool to support your child(ren) and model how to support and maintain positive Mental Health.

### 2. Talk to your child about how school is going

Ongoing conversations about school, individual classes and the overall school experience are important. How a child feels on the first day of school may differ from how they feel on the 30th or 100th. Encouraging children to share their experiences creates opportunities for them to share moments of joy and accomplishments. As well as any challenges they may be experiencing.

These prompts may help start or continue the conversation:

- What is something(s) you hope to do during the school year or feel excited about?
- What is something(s) that brings you joy at school?
- Have you had experiences that make you feel unhappy or uncomfortable at school?
- Is there anything you feel worried or anxious about?
- Do you feel supported at school?
- Is there anything I can do to help you feel more confident, comfortable and supported at school?

#### 3. Pay attention to stress levels

We each manage and respond to stress differently. What signs do you notice when your child(ren) is stressed? Pay attention to these signs and support your child(ren) in using healthy responses and coping tools to manage stress. Try these activities from <u>School Mental Health Ontario at</u> home to help your child(ren) learn to understand and manage stress.

### 4. Empower your child to self-advocate

Children spend most of their waking hours at school. School needs to be a place where they find comfort and joy beyond learning. At times this is not always the case. It is important that young people know where to turn and what they need in challenging moments or situations. Exploring the following questions with your child may help build self-advocacy skills that can aid them throughout the school year and beyond:

- What helps you feel relaxed and calm in stressful or challenging situations & how do you ask for these things?
- What do you need to be successful this school year, in a particular class or situation?
- Who are your caring people (adults and friends) at school, home, and community?
- Who do you turn to when you are feeling stressed or need help?
   How do you ask for help/ support?

For some children, it may be important to practice how to ask for help so that they build confidence and comfort around help-seeking when needed. Let children know that <a href="There's No Problem Too Big Or Too Small">There's No Problem Too Big Or Too Small</a> to reach out and ask for help.

When students feel supported and cared for by those around them, it can allow them to open up to new opportunities and learning. We are better together. Looking forward to a year of learning, discovery, and joy alongside you.

#### Additional Resources:

YRDSB Mental Health Resource Page
Child Mental Health Resources In York Region
SMHO Parent/Family Page

#### **Upcoming External Workshops:**

Understanding ASD Learning Styles and Effective Teaching Strategies Calming Stormy Waters
Mindful Compassion

Continue to check out the  $\underline{\mathsf{YRDSB}}$  website for updated information as well as the Twitter account  $\underline{\mathsf{@YRDSB}}$ 

Follow YRDSB Mental Health on Twitter <a>@MH\_YRDSB</a>

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