Parent/Guardian Community E-Bulletin



Markville Secondary School E-Bulletin

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September 9th, 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 and Community Members,

It has been a busy, yet exciting start to the school year. I would like to extend greetings, well wishes, and a warm welcome to all grade nine students and new students to Markville Secondary School.

As we continue into another school year during the COVID-19 pandemic, students and staff are reminded to self-screen every day before attending school using the <u>COVID-19 school and child care screening tool</u> which is maintained and updated as necessary by the Government of Ontario.

We have continued to experience growth as a school during the past two weeks which has resulted in a shortage of available lockers. Although there was a plan in place to provide each grade 9 student with their own locker to use for the school year, all students in the school will be required to share lockers. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank all students and families for their understanding.

On August 29, the school welcomed all grade 9 students and their parents to high school for the Grade 9 Orientation Day. As the students entered the school, they were greeted and cheered on by TAC (Transition Activities Council) student mentors and school staff. While the grade 9 students learned about high school through interactive morning sessions, their parents had the opportunity to attend an information session led by the administration of Markville SS which also included presentators Mr. Ebrahim, Mr. Pardatscher, as well as student leaders from TAC, MAC (Markville Athletic Council), and SAC (Student Activity Council). The administrative team also presented to Grade 9 students and their families during the evening of September 1 which was attended by many grade 9 students and their parents/guardians. On Grade 9 Orientation Day, the students experienced an exciting day which included a social

media presentation, school tour, and a delicious BBQ lunch. The transition to high school will continue for grade 9 students on Monday September 12 when they will be spending a fun-filled day at Green Acres Camp meeting new friends while participating in ice-breaker and team building activities.

On September 1 and 2, the administration at Markville Secondary School led the Caring and Safe Schools assemblies for each grade that included important information about the supports available to students as well as the expectations of behaviour for all students in the school.

Looking at the weeks ahead, the first School Council meeting of the school year will take place on September 19 at 7:00 pm in the library. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend. Please note that there will not be any classes on September 23 as it is a designated PA Day for all schools in YRDSB.

We are very thankful to all staff and students who are involved in the numerous extracurricular clubs and activities that are available to everyone in the school. Students are encouraged to listen to morning announcements to learn about clubs, athletics, and events taking place at school. We are also thankful for the partnership that exists between the school and with families as we work together to support student academic success, as well as positive mental health and well-being. If you have any questions about any of your child's classes, you are welcome to contact their teachers. 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.

I am excited to meet each of you and to learn how I can serve the Markville Secondary School community. On behalf of school staff and the administrative team, I would like to wish everyone a successful school year.

Warmest Regards,

Anthony Hu

Principal Markville Secondary School

Transition Activities Council (TAC) Spotlight



Once again this year, TAC mentors are working hard to welcome grade 9 students to Markville with high energy and friendly faces! Our annual grade 9 orientation day, August 29th, featured a morning that included meeting teachers and new classmates, while the afternoon was filled with information sessions and team-building activities.

The next exciting event is on <u>Monday September</u> <u>12th</u>: The ultimate orientation experience: **The Maverick Games, hosted at Camp Green Acres** in Markham. Grade 9 students will participate in various team and leadership building activities led by TAC mentors and camp staff. Following the "Challenge by



Choice" model, students are encouraged to participate in all activities to their personal comfort and challenge level. Grade 9 students are strongly encouraged to wear their "CLASS OF 2026" t-shirt that they received on Grade 9 orientation day!

Students need to arrive at school for the regular 8:20 start and will go to their period 1 classes. Homeroom teachers will bring their classes down to load onto buses to be ready to depart from the school to Camp Green Acres around 8:45 am. Students will return to school by 2:30 pm and will be dismissed at the usual 3:00 pm end time. At this special event, lunch will be provided (students completed a Google Form in homeroom class to select their food choice).

Please note that the program is outside – rain or shine, so students should plan and dress accordingly. MSS staff and TAC mentors can't wait to see our Grade 9s at the 2022 Maverick Games!

Message from Guidance

Hello Markville Parents

Welcome back to all of our students, current and new, as well as our families. The Guidance Department has been very busy doing our best to ensure that all students have suitable timetables this semester. We understand that there are still some students who have incomplete timetables in grade 9, 10 and 11 but we are pleased to share that some new classes will be opening next week that will allow us to fully timetable all of our new students who have been waiting for classes. THANK YOU SO SO MUCH for your patience and understanding. We are working as quickly as we can to get all students in classes and learning.

In addition, we worked very hard to accommodate student requests for timetable changes. Unfortunately, many of these requests could not be accommodated this year due to our very full classes. This is a good reminder for students to choose courses in February each year very carefully as changes at this time of year are difficult to complete.

Next week, we are happy to be meeting with all Grade 12 students during period 5 on Wednesday, September 14th for an in-person assembly. This assembly will go over the application process for college and university including deadlines, fees, prerequisites and other very important information. After school on September 14th, we will meet with any grade 12 students who would like to attend to learn about our application process for Major National Scholarships.

Guidance will also start to visit all grade 9 home rooms in the near future and introduce ourselves. We will share our role in Guidance and go over how to make a guidance appointment using Teach Assist.

Guidance will once again be offering **Virtual Presentations to Families** each month, in an effort to keep you informed on all important and relevant information <u>for all</u> <u>Grades</u>. Closed Caption instructions will be provided to allow families the ability to follow along in a preferred language. Please see the <u>Agenda</u> for upcoming topics, dates AND **links to the events**, as our first session is this **Wednesday, September 14th**. This session will assist new families to understand the platforms we use and ask questions. Presentations will also be posted to the <u>Guidance Website</u> afterwards.

Have a great weekend everyone. Markville Guidance

School Notices

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.

Upcoming Dates

Sept 12	Camp Green Acres Day for Grade 9 students
Sept 14	Grad Assembly Period 5 in cafeteria
Sept 14	Guidance Family Night (Intro to IPP), 6;30 pm, virtual event
Sept 30	Orange Shirt Day

Social Media of the Week

12 City of Markham Retweeted



York Region 🥝 @YorkRegionGovt

Students, you might be excited for **#BackToSchool**, but be vigilant. Make eye contact with drivers. Cross at intersections. Walk, don't run when crossing the street, watch for turning vehicles and press the pedestrian walk button. #PedestrianSafety #CyclingSafety @YRDSB @YCDSB @YRP



8:00 AM · Sep 6, 2022 · Salesforce - Social Studio

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