



# Grade 9 Day!

**DATE: September 2024**



**Milliken Mills High School**

# PARENT INFORMATION SESSION



School E-mail: [milliken.mills.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:milliken.mills.hs@yrdsb.ca)

School Website: [millikenmills.hs.yrdsb.ca](http://millikenmills.hs.yrdsb.ca)

School Phone: 905-477-0072

# Land Acknowledgement

We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island who is our closest neighbour and partner in education.

To honour this agreement we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.





# How are YOU feeling?

Introduce yourself to somebody you don't already know.

Share how you are feeling today.



# Introductions

- Mark Melnyk – Principal
- Vanessa Wonnacott – Vice-Principal (A-L)
- Karen Schuur – Vice-Principal (M-Z)
- Natalie White – IB Coordinator
- Seema Shahjahan – 2024-2025 Vice-Chair of School Council

# School Council

- First Meeting and Elections are in-person on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. All parents/guardians are invited to attend.
- 6 meetings per year – usually on the third Monday of the month

Monday, September 16, 2024

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

Monday, November 18, 2024

Monday, January 20, 2025 (online?)

Monday, March 17, 2025 (online?)

Tuesday, May 20, 2025



# Introductions

- Mi-Jin Kim – Guidance Counsellor (A - Hi)
- Irene Petrou – Guidance Counsellor (Ho - M)
- Dina Saweriss – Guidance Head (N - W)
- Sandeep Virk – Guidance Counsellor (X - Z)
- Shana Mayer – Special Education Head
- Dan Lovell - Student Success Teacher

# General Information

## School Times

- 8:50 am - 3:30 pm (five-periods each day)

## School Year Structure

- 2 semesters (September – January and February – June)
- Grade 9 Lunch in Period 4 (12:55 – 2:10 pm)
- Four classes each semester – 75 minutes each
- Three report cards each semester (interim, midterm and final)
- Final exams – end of January and end of June

## School Population

- ~1600 students
- ~430 incoming Grade 9s



# Important Dates



- September 25 & 26 - Photo Day
- September 27 - PA Day
- October 1 - Grade 9 Camp Day
- October 15-16 - Interim Report
- October 21 - PA Day
- October 24 - Parent/Teacher Interviews
- November 15 - PA Day
- November 18-20 - Mid-term Report Card
- January 22-28 - Exams
- January 29 - Last Day of Semester 1
- January 30-31 - PA Days
- February 11-13 - Semester 1 Final Report Card

# How to Read a Course Code

**ENL1W1**



Department

Year

Course Type

Course Identifier

D = Academic

W = Destreamed

L = Locally Developed

O = Open

Z = Prep for IB

4 = Beginner Music

8 = Girls Phys. Ed

9 = Boys Phys. Ed

L = Course for ELLs

# Ontario Secondary School Diploma Requirements - New for Gr. 9's

13 **Elective**  
Credits

Successful  
Completion  
of **Literacy**  
**Test**

17  
**Compulsory**  
Credits

40 Hours of  
**Community**  
**Involvement**



# Attendance



Regular attendance is important for students' success.

Students must not attend if they are ill.

If your child is going to be absent or late, please contact the main office to let us know.

If they must leave early for an appointment, please contact the main office that morning.

# Driveway and Parking Lots

Everyone's safety is essential. Safety first!  
Do not rush in the parking lots or driveway.  
Be patient with others. Give pedestrians  
and cyclists the right-of-way.

The driveway in front of the main doors is a  
fire route. Car owners can be ticketed for  
stopping here to drop off/pick up students  
by the City of Markham.

The driveway is a “no U-turn” zone.



# Medical Conditions

If your child has a serious medical condition – such as *anaphylaxis, severe asthma, diabetes, epilepsy/seizures, or another severe condition* – be sure to report it to the main office by filling out a Medical Form each year.

Spare epi-pens can be stored in the main office.





# Lunchtime

Students may leave school property during lunchtime without signing out.

Servery will be open in September.



# Stay Informed

- Keep your e-mail address up-to-date with the main office.
- Please read e-mails from the school, from school staff, and from YRDSB.
- Please read the Family Bulletin every Friday.
- Please subscribe to e-mails of a commercial nature.
- Read the online *Guide to the School Year*.
- Speak to your child's teachers.
- Create a TeachAssist Parent Portal Account at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/live/parents/>

# TeachAssist Parent Portal

- You can view your child's courses and marks (if made visible by their teacher)
- Go to <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>
- Enter in your e-mail address and leave the Password blank, to set up a one-time access link, or to reset a password that you've created
- An e-mail will be sent with a time limited link that will look

teachassist@yrdsb.ca  
To: parent\_email

Click here for your one time access to teachassist  
<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/live/parents/listReports.php?email=parent&token=serdftyugio678>

- Once logged in, parents will have the option to set up a password to access this site regularly.

# CASL - Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation



Secondary  
**Milliken Mills High School**

Staff: --Select an Application--  
Students: --Select an Application--

ENHANCED BY Google

Milliken Mills H.S. | School Information | News & Events | Departments | IB Programme | Students | Parents | Guidance | Library | School Council

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Milliken Mills High School

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**MillikenMillsNews**  
Today [Tuesday, August 29](#)

**Wednesday, September 27**  
IB Evaluation Visit for 5-Year Re

**Thursday, September 28**  
IB Evaluation Visit for 5-Year Re

**Friday, September 29**  
IB Evaluation Visit for 5-Year Re  
Showing events until 10/31.  
[Look for more](#)

[Parents/Guardians: Enter your e-mail address to \*\*subscribe\*\* to electronic communications of a commercial nature.](#)  
  
[You may also choose to \*\*unsubscribe\*\* at anytime.](#)

[Principal's Message](#)

[Trustee Message](#)

[School News](#)

[teachassist](#)

[my PATHWAY planner](#) Grades 6 - 12 Individual Pathways Plan

[Google Apps for Education](#)

[Google Calendar](#)

 **REPORT IT**  
Caring and Safe Schools

# Weekly Bulletin

Every Friday, the school sends a Weekly Bulletin to families. Please read it for information about events at the school and in the school community.

The sender might be [mmhs@users.smores.com](mailto:mmhs@users.smores.com). Please set this address so that it does not go to your Junk folder.

You can easily translate the Weekly Bulletin into almost any language.

<https://www.smores.com/1bkh0-mmhs-weekly-bulletin-for-families?ref=email>

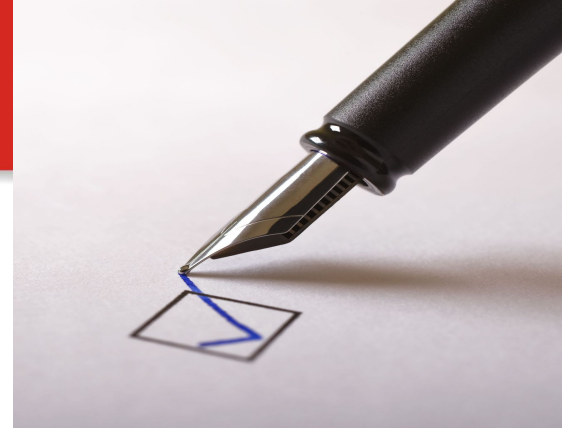
# Consent Forms

YRDSB will e-mail Consent Forms to families and students during the week of September 9.

Student GAPPS login information will be required for families to complete the forms.

- Start-Up Permission Form (mandatory)
- Student Information Consent Form (mandatory)
- Request for Faith Accommodation (optional)

Hard copies will be available in the main office.

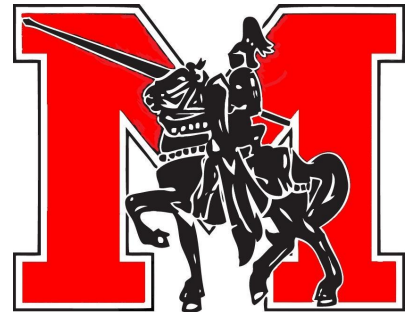




# Extra-curricular Activities

Encourage your child to get involved in school extracurricular activities.

Develop interests, skills and friendships.



# Student Activity Fees

## Grade 9 Camp Day at Camp Robin Hood - October 1

- includes team building and leadership activities
- Cost is \$55 - transport, food included

This year the Student Activity Fee is \$40 per student.

This fee helps to support school clubs, activities, events – all so that we can make MMHS an even better place to learn, grow and be.

- Please pay both fees through School Cash Online.

# YRDSB Expectations for Personal Mobile Device Use

## Presentation for Grades 9 - 12



# Setting Healthy Boundaries

We want to continue to build a healthy school community where people are *present* and *connected* with each other.

We want you to be focused on and engaged with your learning.

This promotes student mental health and well-being.

Gr 9 to 12



## Research shows:

A 2023 UNESCO report found a negative link between excessive cellphone use and student academic performance, stating that students can take up to 20 minutes to refocus on learning after focusing on a distraction. Removing smartphones from some schools was found to improve learning outcomes.

Gr 9 to 12



## Research shows:

A CAMH study on youth, smartphones and social media use showed that over a third (35%) of Ontario's secondary school students spend five hours or more daily on electronic devices (smartphones, tablets, laptops, computers, gaming consoles) in their free time.

Gr 9 to 12





# YRDSB Expectations for Personal Mobile Devices

All mobile devices, including **cellphones, smart watches, and tablets**, must be **powered off** or set to **silent mode** during **class (instructional time)**.



Gr 9 to 12



# If an educator sees a student using a mobile device without permission:

They will be asked to power the device off or set it to silent mode.

They may also be required to place their mobile device in a secure location in the classroom for the remainder of class.

You, their parent(s)/guardian(s) may also be notified.

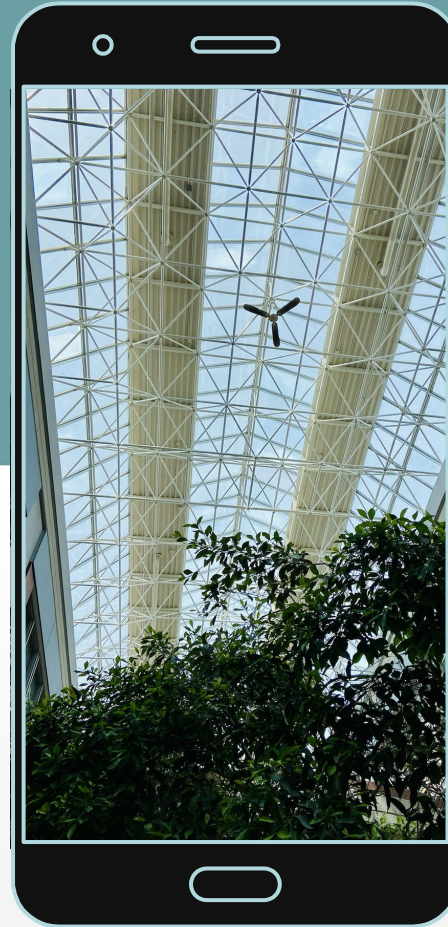


Gr 9 to 12



## Getting Started: Main Points

1. Hands off approach
2. Helping students set healthy boundaries
3. Building relationships with students
4. Not meant to lead to discipline
5. Set out clear expectations
6. If problem persists, start by calling home.
7. Speak with Administration



# Who Do You Contact If...?

IF...	CONTACT THE...	BY...
You want to drop off an item for your child to pick up	Main Office	In-person
You want to discuss course selection, timetable, graduation, or post-secondary pathway options	Guidance Counsellor	E-mail or phone
You want to review your child's behaviour and/or academic progress in a particular subject or course	Subject Teacher, SERT, the Guidance Counsellor or the Student Success Teacher	E-mail or phone
You want to discuss your child's well-being	Guidance Counsellor, SERT, or the Vice-Principal	E-mail or phone

# Who Do You Contact If...?

IF...	CONTACT THE...	BY...
You want to discuss your child's overall academic progress	SERT, Student Success Teacher, Guidance Counsellor, or the Vice-Principal	E-mail or phone
You have a question about the IB program	IB Coordinator	E-mail or phone
You need to resolve an issue with a staff member	Staff Member before contacting Subject Head and/or the Vice-Principal or Principal	E-mail or phone
You would like to discuss any other aspect of the school	Vice-Principal or Principal	E-mail or phone

# General Q & A

