

Co-Operative Education

Once again a new school year has begun and our co-op students are out earning credits in a variety of work placements. New placements for this semester are Mighty Master Renovation, Primerica Financial, 16th Avenue Animal Hospital, Tommy Hilfiger, Old Navy, WiConnect Corporation, and Kelsey's. Many of our long-term partners in the community continue to support the program. We thank all of them for their participation. The OYAP (Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program) coordinators at the board level have created more opportunities for second semester again this year. Students in grade 12 who will be graduating this year can once again take a 4 credit co-op package and also earn their Level One in several trades at no cost by attending Community College for 8 weeks during the second semester. If your organization would like **to assist us in helping students get valuable on the job experience please contact Miss Robin Mitchell 905-477-0072 ext. 123.**



School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements.

Since some busing schedules begin by 7:00 a.m., cancellation decisions must be made by 6:00 to allow time to communicate this message to bus drivers. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following:

- A decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.
- When bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.
- Student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.
- School bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.
- Unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. **If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.**

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation Information:

RADIO	590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
	1540 AM	1580 AM	88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM
	94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM
	101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	105.9	107.1 FM
TELEVISION	CITY TV	CTV Barrie	CTV Toronto	CP24	GLOBAL NEWS	

A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1- 877-330-3001, or by following the YRDSB and YCDSB on twitter.

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Phys. Ed

Have you often wondered what happens early in the mornings in the North end of our school? Whistles blowing, balls bouncing, sticks swinging, sweat dripping on the gym floors....yes this is how Milliken Mills High School wakes up during our sports seasons. The YRAA fall sports season has just come to a close. We had a number of teams competing including; Varsity Boys Soccer, Varsity Coed Tennis, Varsity Girls Basketball, Junior and Senior Boys Volleyball and Varsity Girls Field Hockey. The Boys Soccer team developed their skills and improved their fitness all season, finishing with a very decisive win 6-2. The tennis team competed valiantly in an all day tournament. The Varsity Girls Basketball team just completed their season last week. All student-athletes worked with tenacity and sportsmanship on and off the court. Congratulations on a fantastic season. The Junior and Senior Boys' Volleyball teams developed their defensive digs and blocks, and offensive hits with many well earned points and some wins. Congratulations boys! The Varsity Girls Field Hockey team honed their field hockey skills, improved their levels of fitness and shone as awesome leaders of character and sportsmanship through sport. A special thank you to all of our hard working student-athletes and teacher-coaches. The dust cannot settle on our gym floors, as the new season is quickly approaching. Our teams continue to make us proud as the Senior Girls Volleyball and Junior and Senior Boys Basketball teams prepare for their seasons. Go Knights!!

Student Transportation Services of York Region
320 Bloomington Road West Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1
905-713-2535
FAX: 905-713-2533
Web site: www.schoolbuscity.com

Milliken Mills High School

November 2015 Newsletter



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Superintendent: Erik Khilji
Trustee: Juanita Nathan

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians

Accompanying this newsletter you will receive a copy of your daughter/son's first semester midterm report card. The Report Card is based on the policies and practices described in *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting In Ontario Schools, First Edition, Covering Grades 1 to 12*. The Provincial Report Card is a summative report of a student's performance in each class from September until the beginning of November 2015. Record is a numerical grade on the student's achievement of overall expectations in each course, assessment of the six learning skills and a comment of success and next steps for improvement as each student completes their course work in the second term.

We are pleased with the collective efforts of all our students and their dedication to both their academic and social development. The Report Card should serve as a tool to reflect on success in each course and plan to set goals for further learning. Throughout the year, students and their parents are encouraged to participate in both formal and informal dialogue to maximize learning opportunities for each pupil. As you know, our staff are available and welcome the many opportunities to support each student.

As we begin second term, we continue to encourage parents and guardians to contact their child's teacher to partner in guiding the student's future success this semester. As well, the staff in Guidance, Student Success, English as a Second Language (ESL), Special Education, Family Services York Region and each Subject department is positioned to offer further supports for each student. This year we are fortunate to have a common lunch where the offices of these departments host drop in rooms to assist students in their individual needs.

In the next few weeks, students will continue their studies and begin planning for semester 2 and the 2015-2016 school year or transitioning to post secondary destinations. Many activities are scheduled to support the students to prepare for the future as well as the help from classroom teachers, various supporting departments and the school administration. Encourage your child to work with these resources and if you have additional questions please do not hesitate to contact each directly.

We wish our students continued success for the balance of the semester and look forward to celebrating their continued learning.

A. Corry

Green Inc. Awarded Grant for Environmental Efforts

This past weekend, Green Inc., Milliken's award winning environmental club, received a \$5,000 grant from TD as part of their Friends of the Environment Foundation. Thanks to Mr. Watkin, our member at large, for applying to get this grant for us! With this money, we are planning a field trip for the entire school on Earth Day 2016. Our goal is to educate students and staff on the environmental issues that are impacting our community and what we can do to make a difference.



In addition, after having achieved gold status for three years in Ontario EcoSchool's certification program, we are now eligible to apply for the prestigious platinum status. With this said, Green Inc. is going to be hosting a renewed litter-less lunch Tuesdays Program where we are asking you to take all of your garbage home with you and bring all your eats in reusable containers. As a reward, prizes will be given to participants on a weekly basis. Thank you Milliken for making us an environmentally- conscious school and remember to go green!

SHSM Environment Looking for New Recruits!

The MMHS Specialist High Skills Major in the **Environment** is looking for a few good men and women! If you are in grade 11 and feel a need to get directly involved in action oriented positive environmental change and want to get recognition and certification as well as sector specific training and knowledge all for free, then we have a program for you!!! With climate change an undeniable reality and the effects beginning to show themselves around the world, this educational program has never been more relevant. Put a purposeful stamp on your high school education at Milliken! Learn about the environment while participating in experiential education projects designed to make a real impact to improve it! Make your education authentic! Come and see Mr. Williams or Mr. Lebedynsky in room 124 and take a stand to do more for the planet! P.S., side effects may include but are not limited to environmental leadership and activism.



Dates Ahead	
NOVEMBER	
24	Course Fair (All Departments)
25	Canadian Math Contests
26	Full Disclosure (Gr 11 & 12)
	Library Read-a-Thon
	Semi-Formal
27	P A Day (no classes)
30	Equity Week Begins
	Food Drive Begins
DECEMBER	
4	Equity Week Ends
7	Grad Photos (to Dec 11)
9	Grade 8 Open House
	Food Drive Ends
10	Music Concert
18	SAC Holiday Talent Show
21	Winter Break (to Jan 1)
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas Day
31	New Year's Eve
JANUARY 2016	
1	New Year's Day
4	Classes Resume
7	Eastern Christmas
13	University Application Deadline
18-19	EQAO Math
22	Exams (to Jan 28)
29	Exams Review

Guidance News

Take Our Kids to Work Day

On Wednesday, November 4th grade 9 students had the opportunity to spend the day observing the workplace of their parents/guardians. Participating students really enjoyed observing different work environments, learning about workplace skills, as well as the tours and meals the companies provided for the day!

Students who could not participate out of school were involved in career exploration activities in the cafeteria. Four students from our community classes had the opportunity to tour the school and interview staff members from the cafeteria, caretaking, guidance and administration.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this day possible.

Community Involvement Activities

Students are reminded that their volunteer activities must be approved by the Guidance Department before they begin volunteering. Approved volunteer activities are covered by the Board's insurance plan for liability losses *only* if the Notification and Completion of Community Involvement Activities Form is properly completed and submitted to Guidance. This form can be downloaded at www.yrdsb.ca or picked up from the Guidance Office.

Grade 12 potential graduates are reminded that completing 40 hours of community involvement activities is a diploma requirement that must be met in order to graduate. Students who need assistance in finding eligible community involvement opportunities should check the bulletin board in the atrium or the Volunteer Opportunities binder in Guidance for new postings. The deadline to submit completed community involvement hours to the Guidance Office is **Wednesday, June 1, 2016**.

Full Disclosure Deadline

According to the Full Disclosure Policy, the last day for a student to drop a semester one grade 11 or 12 course so that it does not appear on their transcript is **Thursday, November 26th**. All grade 11 and 12 courses dropped after this date will appear on the student's transcript with the mark that they achieved at the time the course was dropped. If a grade 12 student wishes to drop a semester one course they should book an appointment with their guidance counsellor as soon as possible to ensure that the course is dropped before this deadline. Students are reminded that they must have 24 credits in order to have a spare and must maintain three courses on their schedule.

Post-Secondary Information

Students who are planning to apply to university this year will be able to pick up their confidential PIN Access Letter from the Guidance Office by the end of the month. This letter will contain the school number, student number and personal identification number (PIN) they will need to log on to the university online application. Students should listen for morning announcements informing them when the PINs have arrived, and may come to Guidance during their lunch, spare or before/after school to pick them up. Note - Students are required to bring ID with them and to keep their PIN in a secure location.

January 13, 2016 – Deadline to apply online to university
February 1, 2016 – Deadline to apply online to college

Release of Grades to Universities and Colleges

There will be a release of grades and other identifying information (name, date of birth, home address, telephone number, OEN, student number) for all eligible students in Grade 12 on the dates listed below using secure transmission technology to the Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) and the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS). These data transmissions will be done in support of all upcoming applications to college and university. If you would like more information about the upcoming release of grades, please feel free to contact your child's guidance counsellor.

ONTARIO UNIVERSITY APPLICATION CENTRE (OUAC)

<u>Transmission Deadlines</u>	<u>Information Sent</u>
February 11, 2016	Semester one final marks
April 28, 2016	Semester two mid-term marks
July 6, 2016	Semester two final marks and proof of graduation
August 31, 2016	Final marks from summer school marks

ONTARIO COLLEGE APPLICATION SERVICE (OCAS)

<u>Transmission Deadlines</u>	<u>Information sent</u>
November 25, 2015	Semester one mid-term marks
February 12, 2016	Semester one final marks
April 29, 2016	Semester two mid-term marks
July 8, 2016	Semester two final marks and proof of graduation
August 19, 2016	Final marks
from summer school	

Social Sciences & Humanities
Family Studies

Our courses are offered in grades 9-12 and are a popular option for students pursuing various pathways. Students in both the grade 10 and 12 Food & Nutrition courses recently visited the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair where they learned about advances in agriculture and how our food gets from farm to table. Our grades 9, 10 and 12 classes enjoyed celebrating Halloween by putting their decorative culinary skills on display. Students created treats that highlight the spirit of this holiday. The grade 12 Equity & Social Justice class is currently preparing for Equity Week, a school-wide initiative that will take place from November 30 – December 4. That week, students will work with clubs throughout the school to implement their own social action campaigns. Stay tuned for a report on this exciting week at Milliken!



Another BIG day in Geography

This week students in Geography were treated to working with a VERY LARGE MAP of Canada. In fact it was so big, it had to be set up in the Large Gymnasium. Students were able to walk to various locations and have a better understanding of unique spaces in Canada.



Preparing for the Literacy Test

Grade 10 Literacy After School Program

Breaking News! Grade Ten students at MMHS have been diligently practising and preparing twice a week for the Ministry mandated OSSLT that we all must pass as part of our Ontario Secondary School Diploma expectations. I am writing this article as a practice assignment from inside Mr. Williams's class in room 124 where we take our lessons. Although the actual test is not until **March 31, 2016** teachers highly recommend to all of their grade 10 students that they enrol in the after school practice course to get well prepared in advance. The test will focus on the skills of reading and writing with two booklets to be completed over roughly two periods. As a result, this course is designed to sharpen reading comprehension and one's ability to identify both explicit and implicit information as well as honing writing skills with an emphasis on clear and concise messaging and on-topic responses. If your child did not take the practice course this time around, contact the office at MMHS for the next upcoming session.

DANCE, DRAMA & VISUAL ARTS NEWS

The Arts are dynamic and thriving at Milliken Mills High School in each of our disciplines:

DANCE

Right on the heels of a successful *Zumba* adventure, arrangements for a workshop in *Socacize* are underway, continuing the mandate to bring the world of dance to MMHS, and offer opportunities to increase the experience of tradition, trend and culture amongst our students. Students are also deep in exploration, towards Arts Knight performances. Are you a dance enthusiast? Check out the World dance series happening at Harbourfront Centre. There is something new and different each week.

DRAMA

You may have seen students in the atrium, deep in stagecraft, working on backdrop for their upcoming performance. Set design is just a part of it. Classes and the Drama Club are deep into development and production of the theatrical work, debuting at Arts Knight... be on the lookout for details...

VISUAL ARTS

We don't just make it, we show it. A series of our students' digital and physical portraiture will be showcased at this year's **Quest Conference**. The art will communicate a range of human emotion as part of a focus on digital learning and mental health. A team of four Visual Arts students will also participate in **Artonomy**, a collaborative, critical thinking, fast-paced creative challenge, conducting on site at **Quest**, resulting in a mechanized art installation that will be headed to the local Cornell library for display. You can watch Dustin, Kristina, Monica, and Shirley in creative action through YRDSB live streaming on November 18th. Our PhotOgraphy team will be showing individual and collaborative class works in Gallery 44's **Proximity show at the end of the term**. Before then, you can catch representatives from all our courses at Arts Knight and gain some insight into their art-making process. Drop by our bulletin Board for other current contests and happenings.



YEARBOOK

It's a official. In keeping with world trends focused on unity and equality, this year, we U-KNIGHT! Don't miss out on the memories and the boost in innovative creative imagery, being developed by the Yearbook Crew. Order your book in the atrium at lunch.

ARTS KNIGHT

Winter is on the way and so is ARTS KNIGHT, featuring an extravaganza of artistic experiences and ventures from our MMHS students. See critical thinking and personal engagement in action as well as gaining a sense of the skill sets and accomplishments developed through The Arts. Dance, Drama, Music, Technology and Visual Arts students are currently working within the creative process to develop and polish their creative endeavours. Listen to the announcements for dates, times and places.

ARTS ADMISSIONS

At MMHS, we make sure that our students are ready to meet the challenge of post-secondary admissions, working with students in-class and in extra-curricular sessions, to fine-hone and strategies artistic portfolios and admissions requirements. If applying for a creative post-secondary programme, consult the portfolio or audition requirements and meet with members of our teaching team for feedback and strategic suggestions before the winter break. Refine you admissions choices and supporting work over the break to prepare for any related interviews, beginning in February. Our students know that, regardless of whether they are continuing in the arts, the skills and aptitudes that they develop through the Visual Arts, will help them in their careers and futures. **Creativity and creative problem-Solving have been sited as the most sought-after requirement across employment fields, today. Creativity equals opportunity.**

Science

The **Department of Science** is pleased to report on the following events since the start of Semester One:

Two SBI4U sections (Grade 12 University Preparation Level Biology) were able to participate in DNA Fingerprinting Lab Protocols to advance student learning in Molecular Genetics principles at the Ontario Science Centre Forensic Science Lab. Some techniques that students practiced were using the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique and Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis (PAGE) protocol to amplify and isolate (respectively) one non-coding allele (DS180), from chromosome 1. Figure 1.0 below shows an example of bands of DNA (run using PAGE) after isolating DNA from students' cheek cells and amplifying one section of the DS180 allele using PCR. Students were able to analyze their results after staining with a fluorescent DNA dye Sybr Safe. The two lanes that resemble ladders (one is marked with a white arrow) are reference DNA fragments of known molecular sizes (measured in kilo base pairs, Kbp) against which students could compare their own DNA results.

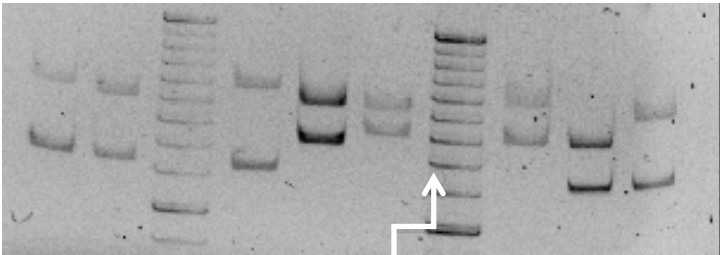


Figure 1.0 Students then predicted the frequency of this non-coding allele of their DNA called the DS180 allele within their groups and in the current world's population (~ 7.4 B) They were able to make inferences on their findings to determine how allele frequencies are using in Forensic Science cases. All students from both sections of the SBI4U groups were able to successfully run the protocols and hence got 100% results (n=20- SBI4U1 - 01 AND n=24 – SBI4U1-02).

We continue with our Pre-AP Grade 9 Academic Science program (SNC1D5-01) for a second year and will run our first ever Pre-AP Grade 10 Academic Science Program (SNC2D5-01) in February 2016.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all Science Teachers (Mr. Lee, Mr. Kyriakou; Mrs. Qureshi; Mr. Chung, Mr. Kong and Mr. Leung) who have helped to promote the integrity of the vision of our department to practice sound pedagogical principles while meeting the learning needs of all students.

News from the Library

The fall Read-a-Thon is happening on Thursday November 26th all day in the library. Students donate \$2 and the money raised goes towards the Library Bursary. Come join the fun for this great cause! Read, relax, & treats will be served. Your support is very much appreciated.

Library Speakers Series

The Library will be sponsoring an exciting selection of guest speakers for Equity Week at MMHS. The line-up so far includes First Nations Chief Sherry Antone and Habitat For Humanity representative Enloe Wilson. An exciting array of literature related to social justice issues will also be on display in the atrium on Thurs., Dec.3, courtesy of several GTA bookstores

