

## **Biotech SHSM Description:**

The biotechnology SHSM program offers students experiential learning through a variety of apprenticeships, college and university programming including: Biomedical researcher, pharmaceutical researcher, laboratory technician, chemical engineer, clinical research data manager, forensic analyst, forensic examiner and more. Students moving directly into the workforce will have biotechnology-focused studies, cooperative and experiential learning to enhance their chances of employment. There is strong support in the community, from both organizations and industries, as the biotechnology sector in our community grows.

Our current students, through co-op and other extra-curricular programs, are connected to Sunnybrook Hospitals, Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Sinai Hospital, and MaRS. Students from our school have consistently been placed in the top three at the Toronto Science and Technology Fair – a result of the mentorship our students received from the community's scientists/researchers for their science fair projects. In addition to these community partners, we are also exploring partnerships with Seneca College/York University to develop dual credit courses that would fulfill their reach-ahead experience. (We plan to develop an Interdisciplinary course in biotechnology that will culminate in the Sanofi BioGENEius Challenge Canada). A biotechnology SHSM program at A.Y. Jackson Secondary School will provide students with more authentic learning experiences and the necessary skills to survive and thrive as global citizens.