

YORK MEMORIAL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE



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Tuesday, October 19th, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Fall greetings to you all! The school year has gotten off to a very busy but very successful start. Students and staff have adjusted to the new semestered rotational timetable and most students are remembering that we actually have Late Start days every Wednesday! 😊

I am pleased to announce that we hosted our School Council elections on September 28th. The following members of the York Memorial community were acclaimed as voting members of the School Council and then subsequently voted in as School Council executive.

Congratulations and thank you to this year's School Council members; we look forward to a continued positive and productive partnership with the school and community at large.

Below are the names of the 2021-2022 YMCI School Council Executive.

School Council Position

Co-Chairs

Treasurer/Communications

Secretary

Community Relations

Student Representatives

Teacher Representative

Name

Ms. Anissa Tata,

Ms. Stephanie Slobodian

Mr. Apurba Mukherjee

Vacant Position

Vacant Position

Laura Vu and Zoe Burton

Ms. Stephanie Mastropaolo

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the following members of the 2020-2021 School Council Executive. Secretary, Ms. Tanisha Campbell and Past Chair Dawn Gent for their excellent services and ongoing support of the York Memorial families. Thank you both for strong voices and excellent advocacy for our school community.

There are still 10 spaces on the School Council voting committee. If you are interested in joining the School Council as a voting member please feel free to contact the YMCI School Council at SC.YorkMemorialCollegiateInstitute@tdsb.on.ca **Our next School Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021 start time 6:30 pm.**

School Updates

Curriculum Night

We will be hosting our Curriculum Information Night for parents, and caregivers on Thursday, October 28th. During this online presentation you will hear from our students and Assistant Curriculum Leaders (Heads of Departments) who will walk you through grade level curriculum, classroom and school expectations and activities that are planned throughout the school year. This presentation will be held via Zoom starting at 7 pm. Please use the link below to join.

<https://tdsb-ca.zoom.us/j/93702624268>

Meeting ID: 937 0262 4268

One tap mobile

+16473744685,,93702624268# Canada

York Memorial Food Pantry

We have been *very* fortunate once again to receive a donation through the Toronto Foundation For Student Success (TFSS) of non-perishable food items to be distributed to families of York Memorial students in need during this difficult time. If your family is experiencing food insecurity and would like to receive food from our pantry, [please complete this Google Form](#) (click on the highlighted link).

When offering this program in the past we always reached our limit for food requests and had to close the google request form. With this in mind, please be reflective of your family needs.

There will also be a slight change to the program this year. This year, all food pantry boxes will be picked up from the school at the dates/times listed in the Google Form and attached flyer. However, feel free to contact us should your family have special considerations by filling out the last question on the form.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Please mark Tuesday November 9th in your calendar for our Parent/Teacher Interview. The interviews will take place from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm and 6 pm – 8 pm. All interviews will be conducted virtually. Please watch out for further information in the near future.

Start of Year Forms Can be Completed Online Starting September 9, 2021!

As part of the TDSB's Digital Transformation strategy and in support of a Board directive, a selection of school Start Up forms have been made available to parents/guardians this September in digital format using Permission Click. This model is easy, simple, and secure and will help streamline the process of a number of standard forms as well as save paper and resources.

All parents and caregivers should have received a broadcast message that was sent by TDSB to all parents/guardians (priority 1 or 2 contacts with an email recorded in Trillium) through School Messenger on Thursday, August 30, 2021 to communicate the new process for digital forms.

How does it work?

After your child's first day of school on September 9, an email was automatically sent to the parent/guardian listed as the primary or secondary contact with an email address on file with the school. The email came from TDSB Online Form (noreply@tdsb.on.ca) and would take you to a secure site to complete and submit your child's forms.

What forms can I complete online?

The forms available online include the following:

- Consent Form Package
 - Permission to participate in off-site walking excursions
 - Student media release consent
 - Permission to leave school in severe weather conditions

- Use of parent/guardian email address
- Medical Information Form

- Acknowledgement and Declaration of:
 - Digital Learning Tool Consent
 - Code of Conduct
 - Code of Online Conduct

An email has automatically sent to the parent/guardian who is the primary or secondary contact (Priority 1 or 2) with an email in Trillium (see [FAQ](#) for explanation). The email includes a link for parents/guardians to complete the forms for each of their children and was sent the next school day after attendance was taken, and the student became active in Trillium. The email came from the noreply@tdsb.on.ca email address. **Please check your junk mail if you have not received it directly in your in box.**

The forms/procedures that will be provided in digital format are:

- PR088 - [Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources](#)
- PR511H - [Walking Excursion - Immediate Community](#)
- PR511E - [Medical Information for Excursions](#)
- PR519A - [Severe Weather Conditions: Permission to Leave School](#)
- PR529B - [Student Media Consent Release Form](#)
- PR563 - [Anaphylaxis](#)
- PR571 - [Code of On-line Conduct](#)
- PR585 - [Board Code of Conduct](#)
- PR607 - [Diabetes Management](#)
- PR714 - [Asthma Management](#)
- [TDSB Digital Learning Tool Consent Form](#)

You are encouraged to complete these forms online ASAP (many thanks to those who have done so already). If you would prefer paper copies to be sent home, please have your child to come the main office, where they can pick up a package.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) and Grade 9 EQAO Math Test

The OSSLT is designed to measure whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. Successful completion of the literacy test is one of the requirements to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. All students across the province write this test.

This year, the literacy graduation requirement for all students graduating during the 2021–2022 school year **has been waived**, **graduating students do not need to take the OSSLT**.

All current grade 10 and 11 students however are expected to write the literacy test (although some exemptions may apply). Students will have two opportunities to pass the OSSLT this school year. The first exam will take place in November and the second opportunity will be given in the spring.

Grade 9 students in the regular academic and RUSH program will be required to write the grade 9 EQAO math test. Although this test is not a requirement to graduate, all students (with limited exemptions) are expected to participate in the test. Whilst the exact date of the test is to be determined, it is expected that students will be write the test in January 2022.

A separate letter will be sent to families, providing more detailed information regarding both tests.

Homework Help

Our after-school homework help has begun. Students can sign up for extra help every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school. Tutoring takes place in the library from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm. This is in addition to the support that is being offered by the classroom teachers before school and/or at lunch times. A HUGE THANK YOU to all the volunteer peer tutors and staff for providing such a great service to support others.

Sincerely,

Donna Drummond

Donna Drummond
Principal – York Memorial C.I.