

# YORK MEMORIAL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE



## MEMORANDUM

from the **Principal's Desk**

Welcome Parents, Caregivers and Students to our Winter Edition of the School Newsletter. It is my hope that as you read through this newsletter you will get a sense of some of the many positive and delightful things that happen within our school and surrounding community. We have much to be proud of here at YMCI! Over the past few months, students have managed to make a significant impact on our school community by participating in food and toy drives, making charitable donations, and providing much needed community services. Whilst most of these events are captured within our 2022 upcoming yearbook, you can visit our school website at <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/yorkmemorial> to view some of our past and present activities that have taken place during first semester.



Thank you to the staff and students who have provided submissions for this edition. Our staff and students continue to work hard and persevere through the challenges brought on by the pandemic. I am extremely proud to work alongside such dedicated staff, whose continued enthusiasm, commitment, and support has allowed our students to flourish academically, social emotionally, artistically, and athletically. Thank you, YMCI teachers, support staff, main office staff and caretakers for all that you do!

I would also like to thank the executive members of our School Council, Co-Chairs Anissa Tata, and Stephanie Slobodian, Communications Officer/Treasurer Apurba Mukherjee and Rose McFarlane, Executive Secretary for their wonderful leadership and commitment to supporting YMCI families. The School Council organized several excellent work shops which included inviting a Child & Youth Practitioner from Sick Kids to discuss with parents and caregivers current issues that many families have been facing as a result of this pandemic. Their most recent workshop with guest presenter Chris Vollum focused on Digital Intelligence & Well-Being. This special presentation was also be provided to students courtesy of School Council. Thank you for providing such engaging and informative sessions for our entire YMCI community. It is working in partnership with our parents/caregivers, students, and community members that we are able to create the safe, vibrant learning environment that we have here at York Memorial C.I. Thank you for being a part of our amazing community village helping to raise one child at a time!

**February 2022**

**York Memorial Collegiate  
Institute**

**15 Trehorne Drive**

**Etobicoke, On**

**M9P 1N8**

**Tel: (416) 394 – 3000**

**Fax: (416) 394 – 3416**

**<http://www.yorkmemorial.ca>**

<b>Principal</b>	<b>Ms. D. Drummond</b>
<b>Vice-Principals</b>	<b>Ms. N. Martins</b>

<b>Superintendent of Education</b>	<b>Mr. K. Lennon</b>
<b>School Trustee</b>	<b>Mr. C. Tonks</b>

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**416-394-3001**

**Attendance**

**Guidance  
Ext. 20040**

In closing, on behalf of the administration team, thank you to our awesome students for making it a pleasure to lead and support you on a daily basis (although some of you have given me personally more grey hairs than I would have liked)! It really is a joy to step inside this building on a daily basis and to be surrounded by such energetic, creative and talented individuals. Continue to strive to be the very best you can be and wishing you all a successful semester 2!



Left to Right —Ms. Drummond, Mrs. Martins & Mr. Masciotra



## TO THE CLASS OF 2022:

**Commencement is scheduled for Wednesday, June 29th, 2022 at 1:30 pm.**

Grad gowns and caps need to be ordered by March 1<sup>st</sup>! If you have not done so, you need to complete the google form as soon as possible: <https://forms.gle/AcHyNT639zeKGNd98>

## !! IMPORTANT DATES !!

Feb 3	Start of Semester 2
Feb 18	Staff PA Day
Feb 21	Family Day
Feb 23	Pascal/Cyley/Fermat Math Contest Grades 9 –11
Feb 24	School Council Presentation
Feb 25	Student Digital Media Presentation
Feb 28	LGBTQ2SI+ Assembly
Mar 10	BHC African Heritage Assembly
<b>March Break 14–18</b>	
Mar 24	EASA Assembly
April 11	School Wide Credit Rescue Day
Apr 13	Progress Conferences (scheduled dialogue between parents/caregivers & teachers)
Apr 15	Good Friday
Apr 18	Easter Monday
Apr 27	The Music Dept presents Encore
Apr 28	School Council Meeting
May 26	Developmental Disabilities Sports Day
May 26	School Council Meeting
Jun 22–24	School Wide Credit Rescue Days
Jun 27	Tentative Date for Prom ( If allowed)
Jun 29	Commencement

## The Math Challenge is Back!

The Math Challenge is a monthly contest where students answer up to three questions to enter a draw for prizes. There is a prize every month and there will be a grand prize in June! Students just need to pull a copy down from the wall and give it a shot! The February Math Challenge is due on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Give it a try; it's as easy as p!



# MEET YOUR 2021-2022 STUDENT COUNCIL!

We are so excited for this year and although things still may not be completely normal, we have been amazed by all the school spirit Mustangs have shown us! York Memorial's Student Council hosts various events for students such as spirit weeks, contests and more! So far throughout the year, we have hosted Frosh Week for the new grade nine students and a Halloween Spirit Week!

For Frosh week we held several activities during lunch in late September for grade nine students to get them comfortable with their new environment and also excited for the school year! We played musical chairs, hosted a scavenger hunt, a Kahoot!, obstacle course and the annual club fair for students to join clubs and truly get involved within York Memorial! With these events, students were also able to attain prizes such as York Memorial gym shirts, water bottles and candy! Additionally, on each day there was a different dress-up theme; Monochromatic Monday, Twin Tuesday, Denim Day, Flannel Day and Memo Spirit Wear Day, so many students dressed up and we proudly showcase pictures of their outfits on our Instagram page @ymcimustangs!



(Top Left to Bottom Right) **Treasurer: Hanna Ong, Social Chair: Nancy Huynh, Secretary: Lillian Ong, President: Laura Vu, Junior Vice President: Fiona Ngo & Vice President: Zoe Watson.**

We also recently hosted our Halloween spirit week where we hosted events daily such as a pumpkin decorating contest, a Kahoot!, musical chairs, a 'Squid Game' inspired "Red Light, Green Light," and a costume scavenger hunt. The dress-up themes of this week included: Fall Colours Day, Pyjama Day, Character/Meme Day, Throwback Thursday and Halloween! Photos of students' outfits from this week can also be found on our Instagram page @ymcimustangs.

We have expanded the student council with Memo's very first grade representatives. After a week of campaigning, voting took place on November 5th and we would like to officially introduce the 2021-2022 school year grade representatives. The **grade representatives are (Grade 9) Christmel Tuyadang, (Grade 10) Jacky Tran, (Grade 11) Abdullah Pathan & (Grade 12) Jainam Shah.**

Student Council has many events planned for the remainder of the school year! To date we have hosted a Black Friday Market Week during the week of November 22-26th for school clubs to fundraise by selling items. We organized a Senior Sunrise, a morning for all Grade 12 students to destress before university applications began, a Winter/Holiday Spirit Week the last week of school before Winter break similar to our Frosh and Halloween spirit weeks and a Holiday assembly in which students performed and showcased their talents in a festive nature.

We hope this gives you an insight into some of the things we are doing to help Memo to feel connected to each other. We also hope students continue showing school spirit for all these amazing events we have planned!



# STUDENT ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In the Grade 10 Science, Academic class, students created Mind Maps as summative projects to reflect their learning in units including Chemistry, Climate Change and Biology.



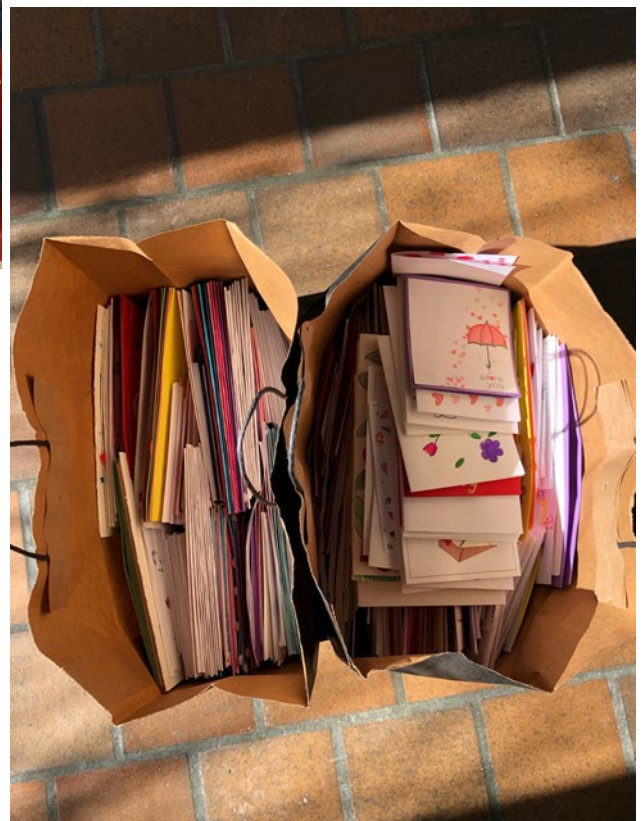
One of the most outstanding Mind Maps was submitted by student Jimmy Huynh in Ms. Loumanis' class. Jimmy's work represents the dual coding of text and imagery combined to demonstrate meaningful learning.



# YMCI KEY CLUB

## CUPID'S CARDS FOR COMFORT

For the second year in a row **York Memorial's KEY CLUB** undertook a wonderful initiative whereby they created and then delivered **900 HAND MADE Valentine's Day cards** for the residents of Humber Heights Senior's Home. YMCI's Key Club currently has 50 members and together, they worked so hard to help put so many smiles on the faces of our senior community members and everyone in the York Memorial community could not be more proud. Great work everyone; your efforts NEVER go unnoticed.



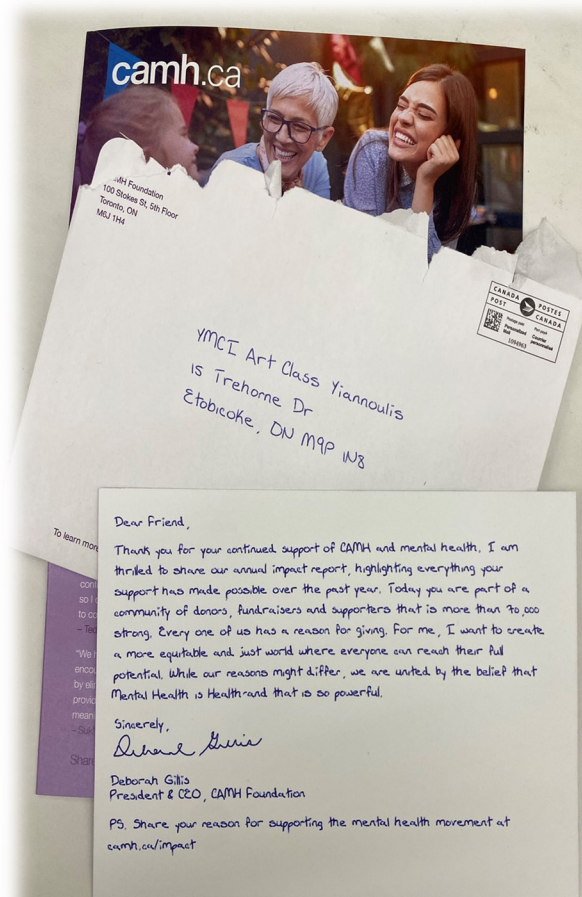
# Mental Health is Health at York Memorial Collegiate Institute

**By: Mia Soriano**

The Grade 11 Visual Arts class at York Memorial Collegiate Institute started a conversation about Mental Health. Students created artwork to express their 'Mental Health Portrait' to support CAMH, Canada's leading mental health hospital.

A special thank you to Cusi Mammoliti, one of the Principals at Terroni Sud Forno Produzione e Spaccio, where students artwork was on display. With the support from our patrons, Agostino DiCenso, Franco Rovazzi, Massimo Rovazzi, Anthony DiRenzo, and Adriano Fiacconi we were able reach our goal of raising \$500! We hope this fundraiser helps change how the world sees and treats mental illness. We can break down stigma and lead important conversations about mental health.

Thanks to the following students who successful sold their artwork: Andrei Apelado, Stephanie Hoang, Hailey Hickens-McLeod, Jezril Calivoso, and Meagan Phung. YMCI is proud of your commitment in supporting mental health awareness.







# Mental Health is Health at YMCI

This fundraiser supports CAMH, Canada's leading mental health hospital.

Did you know that 1 in 5 Canadians experience mental illness in any given year? And that 4,000 Canadians die by suicide every year—almost 11 people per day?

And yet, many don't realize that, in its most severe forms, mental illness can be fatal.

The grade 11 Visual Arts class at YMCI are selling their art work to raise money for mental health support at CAMH.

With your support, we can change how the world sees and treats mental illness. We can break down stigma and lead important conversations about suicide prevention. We can give people time to get the help they need; families time to heal; and researchers and clinicians time to make breakthroughs and offer new treatment options.

[DONATE NOW](#)



MILESTONES

 \$5000





# FUN TIMES WITH OUR AWESOME DD Family!



It was an honour and a privilege to work with all of the fabulous DD students and staff this year! I learned so much and had such a blast! Thanks so much for all of your help. It was also so nice to see all of my Memo friends once again who are doing so well during these very difficult times. Keep it up!

Teacher: Sharon Roberts



# MEMO DANCE TEAM

Hey Mustangs!

Throughout the 2021 to 2022 school year, YMCI's Dance Team (DT for short) continued to make exciting and engaging performances as a means of keeping school spirit alive, despite the current events relating to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

One memorable act of the DT was their sentimental performance for Remembrance Day. Created and performed in November of 2021, the DT of 5 participated in YMCI's annual **Remembrance Day Assembly**, *showing respect and gratitude for those who bravely risked their lives to protect Canada, and the people who reside within it. The piece which consisted of soft yet impacting moves and emotional music, displayed the team's dedication for keeping school tradition alive.*

Shifting to a more jolly vibe, the DT performed in YMCI's annual **Holiday Assembly**.

*The team grew to 10—including staff representative Ms. Mastropaolo and 9 girls ranging from grade 9 to 12. They came together to create a sense of connectedness and joy at YMCI before closing off for the Winter Holidays.*

As of now, the team is working on a fiery performance for the **Black History Club Assembly**, *set on celebrating the achievements made by black individuals and allies. While the Covid-19 Pandemic has undoubtedly brought challenges and worries to the entire YMCI community, the DT will continue to do what they love: create performances to entertain YMCI as well as broaden their skills, only now in uncertain times.*

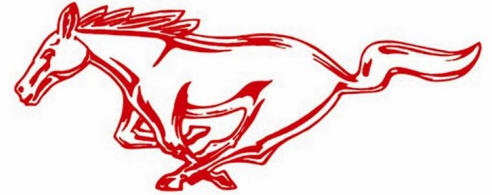




# ATHLETICS AT MEMO

The Athletics team of staff have been working alongside the Student Athletic Association to provide as many opportunities to students as possible. Our goal is to encourage students to be physically active multiple times per week. It has been such a joy to see students using our athletics spaces again this year. While there have been some challenges to navigate, the extra efforts have always been proven to be worthwhile.

In October and November, students had the opportunity to play in a volleyball intramural league. League games ran on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Students had the option of competing in a more competitive division or a more recreational division. Nearly 150 students participated in the two leagues. The score-keeping, refereeing and organization was all done by the Student Athletic Association - a fantastic accomplishment! Winners of the two leagues received championship t-shirts (designed by Laura Vu) which they can be seen proudly showing off within our facilities.



In recent months, we have been allowed to operate competitive sports. Our school volleyball, badminton and cricket teams have all been furiously preparing for interschool competition. We wish them the best of luck with their seasons and we know that they will make us proud! Our hope (and projection) is that we will be able to run all competitive teams that we have traditionally offered in the past. Many students are eagerly awaiting the start of our basketball, soccer and track and field programs.

The remaining months of the school year will see our gymnasium pushed to its limits. The gymnasium has been booked morning, lunch and after school nearly every single day. It is very clear that there are many dedicated staff and students who are passionate about physical activity. Their hope is that students will adopt a lifelong love for moving!

Please join me in thanking the coaches and student leaders who are making all of this possible! A special thank you to Zoe, Laura, Nancy and Cindy (our administrators of the SAA) who have been doing an amazing job! Their passion, maturity and leadership make the school a better place!









# FALL FOOD DRIVE

**Thank you to the YMCI  
Community for your  
generous donations to  
our community food  
drive!**



YMCI's BHC (Black History Club) and SASA (South Asian Students Association). collected nearly 500 items, that were to the Weston King Neighborhood Centre (Weston and Lawrence). While we waited we saw many seniors of various cultural backgrounds lined up to collect food items. There is clearly a need in our community.



BHC & SASA will attempt to run more food drives during the remaining school year. We look forward to your continued support. We would like to take a moment to thank students and families for your generosity

Mahendra Ram, Colett Turner and Chris Porter



# Course Selection 2022/23

Course Selection for next year has officially begun! This week York Memorial's Guidance department combined with George Harvey's staff to present three separate virtual assemblies, one for each grade, to advertise the different course offerings available to ALL students next year.

These virtual information sessions have now been **POSTED in GUIDANCE GOOGLE CLASSROOM** for all students to access.

All students have also received a hard copy of next year's Course Selection sheet and detailed instructions of how to **log into myBlueprint**, and how to choose their future courses.

ALL students MUST select their courses for next year using **myBlueprint by February 28<sup>th</sup>** at the absolute latest. Please continue to have conversations with your child regarding these important decisions.



## FUTURE INFORMATION SESSION:

On Tuesday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm York Memorial's Guidance Department is hosting an evening information session to answer any questions about course selection. This session is open for ANY interested York Memorial student or guardian. The link for this event will be posted on Guidance Google classroom Tuesday afternoon.

As always, feel free to email your Guidance Counsellor with any questions/concerns:

[Christopher.vujacic@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Christopher.vujacic@tdsb.on.ca) - Students with last names: A-G

[Kalisha.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Kalisha.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca) - Students with last names: H-N

[Christina.ostermann@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:Christina.ostermann@tdsb.on.ca) - Students with last names: O-Z



# What is a Dual Credit?



A Dual Credit is a Ministry of Education approved program that offers YOU the opportunity, while you are in high school, to take a college course that counts towards BOTH your high school diploma and a postsecondary certificate/diploma/degree.



## A DUAL CREDIT...



HELPS prepare YOU to make the transition from secondary school to: apprenticeship training, college, university or the workplace.

[tdsb.on.ca](http://tdsb.on.ca)

EARN A COLLEGE CREDIT



EARN A HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT



FREE OF CHARGE



WORKS WELL WITH CO-OP



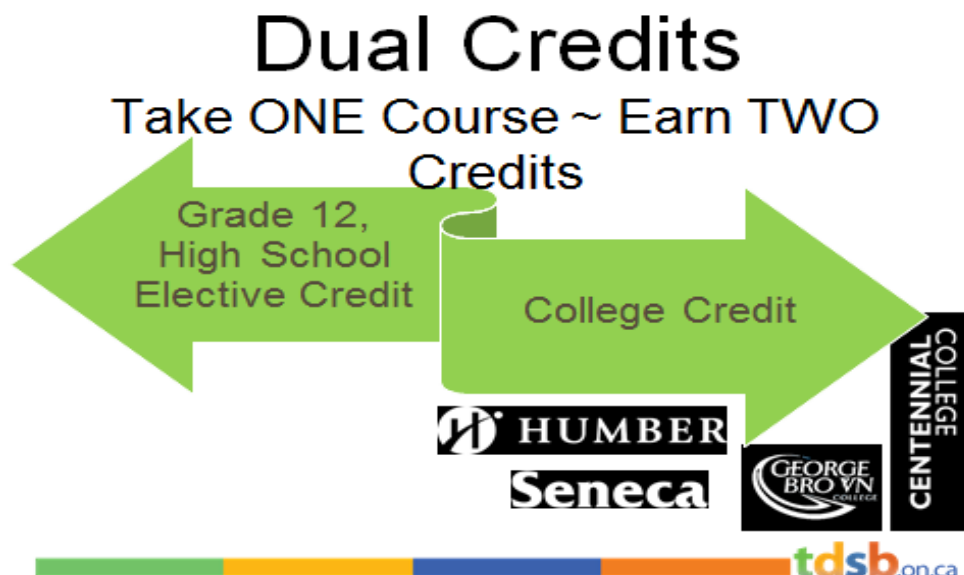
# Learn



## DUAL CREDIT AT YORK MEMO

York Memo is proud to announce that over the last several years, over 30 students have signed up for the Dual Credit Program.

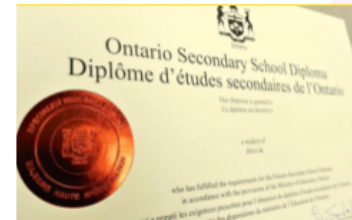
If you would like more information regarding this amazing program, please see one of our Dual Credit Team Members: Ms. Martins, Mr. Vujacic, or Mr. Langer for more details.



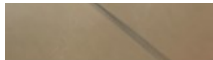
# Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM)

## WHAT IS SHSM?

- SHSM (Specialist High Skills Major), allows students to...
- Take courses to suit their interests and talents by choosing a field they wish to explore (Arts & Culture or Health & Wellness)
- Make their school experience more meaningful and enjoyable...prepares them for their future career goals.
- Transition to apprenticeship training, college, university, or employment.
- Meet the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and give students the Red Seal on their Diploma. The Red Seal shows you are highly qualified in a SHSM Program or Skilled Trade and is highly sought after by Employers.



*All students who complete a SHSM will graduate with a Red seal on their OSSD (Ontario Secondary School Diploma)*

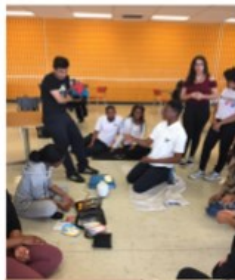


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## SHSM @ YORK MEMORIAL

At York Memorial we offer **two SHSM programs; Arts & Culture and Health & Wellness**. Our program began during the 2016-17 school year and in less than FIVE years, has grown to include close to **150 students!**



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# SHSM @ YORK MEMORIAL

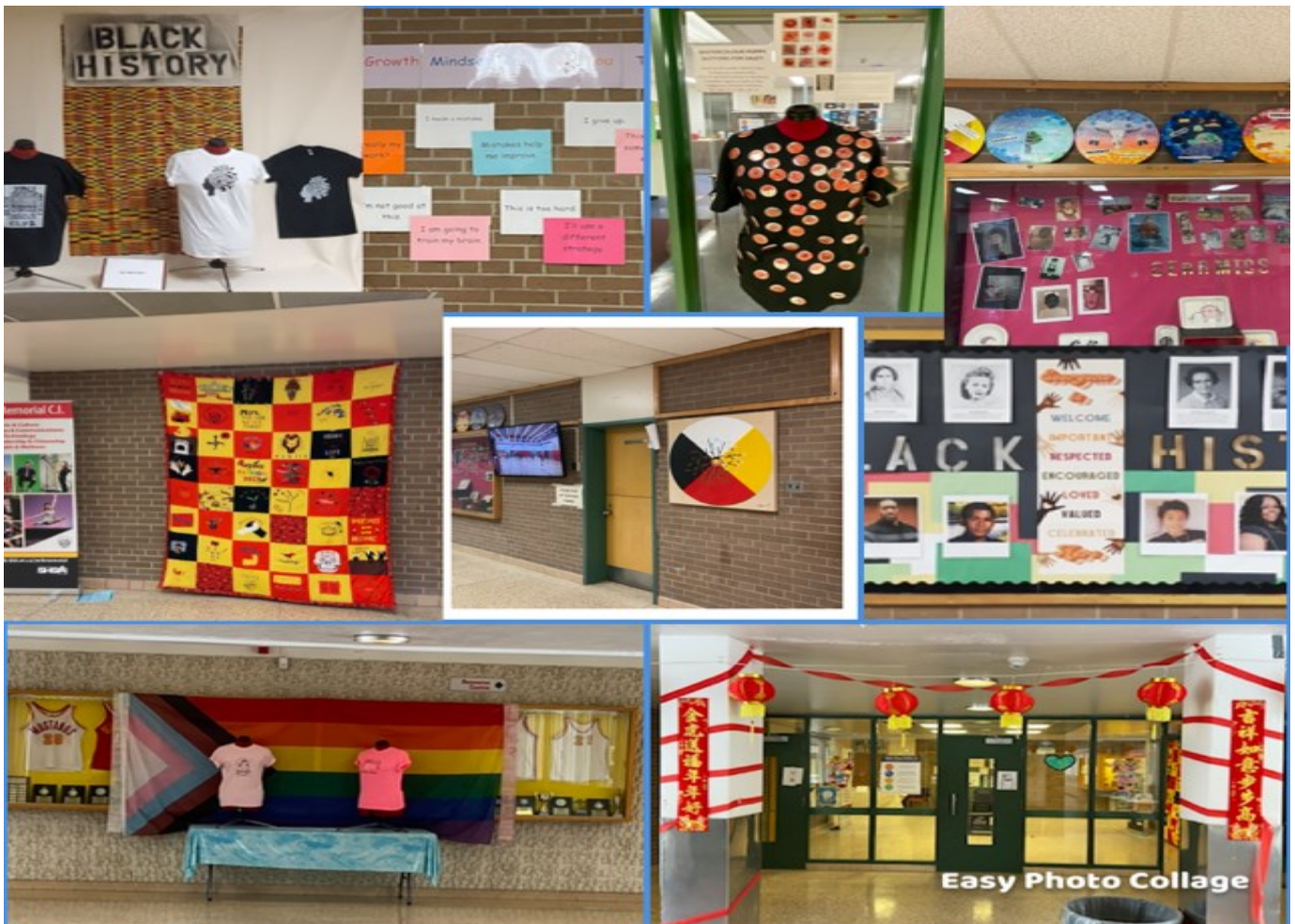
One of the best parts of being a York Memorial SHSM Student is the numerous opportunities to go on **Field Trips** and participate in **workshops & events**. A few examples of these workshops & events over the last several years have been:

- **CPR/First Aid Training**
- **Make-up & cosmetology certification @ The Sony Centre**
- **Infection control @ Toronto General Hospital**
- **Video game coding & Problem solving @ Microsoft**
- **Various dance workshops/performances with Dance Professionals**
- **Workshops on; Portfolio Development, Leadership, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Group Dynamics, Ethical Considerations, Fundraising & Proposal Writing, and Project Management**
- **SHSM Student Breakfast & Awards Ceremony**



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## Displays inside the hallways of Memo



# YORK MEMORIAL C.I. Staff Contact Information (2021-2022)

15 Trehorne Drive, Etobicoke M9P 1N8; Tel: (416) 394-3000

***For calling in absences, please call the main School number and select option 1 to leave a voicemail message***

<b>TEACHER</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>EXTENSION</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Akbari, Samand	Social Science	20076	samand.akbari@tdsb.on.ca
Aranha, Paul	ACL Special Education	20136	paul.aranha@tdsb.on.ca
Archer, Andrew	Science	20095	andrew.archer@tdsb.on.ca
Arquilla, Renata	Arts	20090	renata.arquilla@tdsb.on.ca
Balasis, Kostas	ACL Phys Ed	20030	kostas.balasis@tdsb.on.ca
Barnes, Michelle	Math	20080	michelle.barnes@tdsb.on.ca
Bochen, Tran	Biology/French	20095	tran.bochen@tdsb.on.ca
Calitri, Carmela	Special Ed/DD	20014	carmela.calitri@tdsb.on.ca
Cheng, Lily	Special Ed/DD	20014	lily.cheng@tdsb.on.ca
Chauhan, Nikita	Science/Biology	20095	nikita.chauhan@tdsb.on.ca
Cutajar, Charlotte	ACL Math	20080	charlotte.cutajar@tdsb.on.ca
Delorme, Julie	ACL IT, Staff Dev.	20130	julie.delorme@tdsb.on.ca
Ditillio, Patricia	Arts	20137	patricia.ditillio@tdsb.on.ca
Fisher, Sharleen	ACL Comp Tech, Business	20076	sharleen.fisher@tdsb.on.ca
Fortuna, Julie	Phys. Ed.	20031	julie.fortuna@tdsb.on.ca
Gagne, Matt	Music	20139	matt.gagne@tdsb.on.ca
Garlock, Geoff	Social Science	20076	geoff.garlock@tdsb.on.ca
Gerecht Dan	ACL SS and Can WS	20076	dan.gerecht@tdsb.on.ca
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Kanagalingam, Ragu	Math	20080	ragu.kanagalingam@tdsb.on.ca
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Koutlemanis, Anastasia	English/Spec Ed	20090	anastasia.koutlemanis@tdsb.on.ca
Laan, Zach	History	20076	zach.laan@tdsb.on.ca
Langer, David	Careers/Civics/Drama	20107	david.langer@tdsb.on.ca
Loukes, Tobie	Arts	20137	tobie.loukes@tdsb.on.ca
Loumanis, Sophie	Science/Chemistry	20095	sophie.loumanis@tdsb.on.ca
Makuikila, Jean	Moderns	20130	jean.makuikila@tdsb.on.ca
Massinen, Anna	English	20090	anna.massinen@tdsb.on.ca
Mastropaolo, Stephanie	ACL-Stud. Succ. & Literacy	20139	stephanie.mastropaolo@tdsb.on.ca
McAlpine, Jeffrey	ACL-Athletics	20030	jeffrey.mcalpine@tdsb.on.ca
Merran, Amie	Moderns	20130	amie.merran@tdsb.on.ca
Mohamed, Kalisha	Guidance	20042	kalisha.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca
Oei, Derek	Business & Tech.	20076	derek.oei@tdsb.on.ca
Ostermann, Christina	Guidance	20043	christina.ostermann@tdsb.on.ca
Pearce, Katherine	Geography/English	20090	katherine.pearce@tdsb.on.ca
Pepper, Margaret	ACL-Stud. Succ. & Numeracy	20080	margaret.pepper@tdsb.on.ca
Porter, Chris	Math	20080	christopher.porter@tdsb.on.ca
Ram, Mahendra	Science	20095	mahendra.ram@tdsb.on.ca
Sesto, Kathy	English/Law	20090	katharineanne.sesto@tdsb.on.ca
Sukhra, Jennifer	Social Sciences	20076	jennifer.sukhra@tdsb.on.ca
Teunissen, Joanne	Moderns	20130	joanne.teunissen@tdsb.on.ca
Truong, Luong	Science	20095	luong.truong@tdsb.on.ca
Tsoukarellis, Michelle	Special Education	20014	michelle.tsoukarellis@tdsb.on.ca
Turner, Colett	Math/Science	20095	colett.turner@tdsb.on.ca
Vujacic, Chris	ACL Student Services	20041	christopher.vujacic@tdsb.on.ca
Wesley, Megan	ACL- Fine Arts/Music	20139	megan.wesley@tdsb.on.ca
Woods, Matthew	Business	20076	matthew.woods@tdsb.on.ca
Yiannoulis, Elizabeth	Phys Ed/Art/NAC	20031	elizabeth.yiannoulis@tdsb.on.ca
Gabriel, Adrienne	Social Worker	20085	adrienne.gabriel@tdsb.on.ca



# Things you will see as you walk around our school





# YMCI School Council Presents

## Digital Intelligence & Well-Being ~ parent learning series ~



TikTok



Snapchat



Instagram



Discord

Welcome, York Memorial families, to our Zoom Social Media presentation.

Understand the primary causes of youth stress and anxiety, online, and how to support your kids with intention and purpose around their screen-time and content.

You're in for some great learning, Q&A and interactivity as you learn;

- How to Create Intention & Purpose
- App Privacy and Custom Settings
- Demo of Tiktok, Snapchat & Instagram
- Building Confidence & Online Skills

~ Date: February 24, 2022 ~

~ Time: 7pm ~

~ with Chris Vollum ~



On your phone, tablet or computer, click this Zoom meeting link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86340533736?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86340533736?pwd=anVQaHdUN3V2OHNLm0tSY3B6REdrQT09)

[pwd=anVQaHdUN3V2OHNLm0tSY3B6REdrQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86340533736?pwd=anVQaHdUN3V2OHNLm0tSY3B6REdrQT09) and choose "Call using Internet Audio (or Computer Audio)" when you enter the meeting