

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020



To York Memorial Students, Parents and Guardians,

I am just reaching out to connect with you and let you know that the YMCI administration, support staff, and teaching staff are all thinking about you and wish that each and everyone of you are safe and are taking care of each other. As we try to confront the challenges that face us all in many different areas of our lives because of this Covid-19 pandemic, please remember that YMCI staff, collectively, are here for you.

The TDSB is currently working with the teachers' unions and the Ministry of Education to look at students' education for the remainder of the school year. Please note that plans are underway to ensure that **learning opportunities for all students continue** and that the *"current closure of schools from March 14 to April 5 will not impact secondary school graduation"*. (TDSB Website)

It has been a challenging year at YMCI in terms of change and ongoing, impending changes with the recent challenges of the COVID -19 pandemic. It is understandable that many of you may feel stressed, overwhelmed and worried about everything happening around you. If this is the case, please reach out for support. Below are links to organisations that can help you in your time of need.

### When An Urgent Response Is Needed

- [Telehealth Ontario](#) at 1-866-797-0000, or the distress line or mobile crisis team in your area
- [Kids Help Phone](#) at 1-800-668-6868 or texting CONNECT to 68686

### General Supports

- [Helping Your Kids in Changing Times](#)
- [Tips for Supporting Teens](#)
- **School Mental Health Ontario**
  - [How to Support Student Mental Health During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)

- **Kids Help Phone**
  - [We're Here for You During Covid-19](#)
  
- **Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)**
  - [Talking to Children about Covid-19 and Its Impact](#)
  
- **Children's Mental Health Ontario**
  - [Talking to Your Anxious Child about Covid-19](#)
  
- **World Health Organization**
  - [Helping Children Cope with Stress during Covid-19](#)
  - [Coping with Stress during Covid-19](#)

Please remember, YMCI Staff are here for you also.

Please check the TDSB and/or school website frequently for updated information about your child's education. On the school website there is information about current educational learning sites for students and information for students taking **Advanced Placement (AP) classes**. This is a fluid situation which is forever changing. As we move through uncharted waters, I ask that you try to stay positive, continue to support each other including YMCI staff as we strive to support you. Let's lean on each other as one York Memorial Family and remember that whatever lies before us, YMCI staff has and will always have your child's best interests at heart.

Take care and stay safe,

Missing and thinking of you!

Donna Drummond - Principal