



NEWSLETTER-OCTOBER 2019

McCrimmon Middle School

Message from the Office

Where did September go? It's been a busy month here at McCrimmon as we have settled back into routines and started some new ones. You may have noticed that we have made some changes to our timetable, which includes 60 minute periods to maximize learning and minimize transitions. The result has been a sense of calm in our school and more time spent going deeper into learning tasks.

We know how important it is to build a sense of community and belonging for our students so that they look forward to coming to school each day. Our Climate team created 10 Lessons that we implemented school wide. The focus of the lessons were on equity and inclusion, to support building a classroom community where everyone feels valued, respected and included. All of our grade level teams also planned trips or events to create further opportunities for community and team building. We know that "Building relationships with students promotes a positive learning environment, helps to build our classroom community, and is probably one of the best investments we can make with our students" (Valerie Ruckes). We are also continuing to give students nomination ballots to congratulate them for demonstrating Peel's character attributes, where they are entered into a draw to win a #one♥mccrimmon t-shirt at our Climate Assembly. We will let families know when we will be having our first Climate Assembly.

Relationships are key to student success, including the parent and school connection. We know that parent involvement in school boosts student achievement and is a predictor of academic success—but we also know it declines as children get older. We will make sure to keep the lines of communication open and ask that you also reach out to your child's teacher whenever you have questions or concerns. Our Open House is this Thursday, October 3rd, from 6-7:30 pm and is a great opportunity for families to meet their child(ren)'s teacher. Another way that you can get involved is by joining our School Council. Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 16th, from 6:00-7:00 pm. We hope to see you there!

If you would like to see all of the other activities going on and opportunities for students at school you can now check our daily digital announcements at this link:

<http://bit.ly/mccrimmonannouncements>.

Thanks for your continued support,
Mr. Blanch and Mrs. Freitas

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Brampton, Ontario L7Z 2Z3
905-495-3229**

Principal: Mr. D. Blanch

Vice Principal: Mrs. K. Freitas

Office Manager: Ms. M. Elcome

Office Assistant: Mrs. G. Gallagher

Office Assistant: Mrs. T. Frost

Peel Board Trustee: Mr. Will Davies and Mr. David Green

Dates to Remember:

Oct. 3-Open House
6-7:30 pm

Oct. 4 & 7-Gr. 7 Dental
Screening

Oct. 10-Photo Re-take Day

Oct. 11-PL Day-NO school
for students

Oct. 14- Thanksgiving
Holiday-NO school for
students

Oct. 16-School Council
6-7:30 pm

Oct. 18-Terry Fox Run

Oct. 23-25-Gr.8 Walking
Trips

Oct. 23-School Bus Driver
Appreciation Day

Follow us on Twitter



@ McCr_MS

McCrimmon M.S. celebrates Islamic Heritage Month

On April 9, 2019, as part of the board's commitment to equity and inclusion, the Peel board approved a motion to recognize and celebrate Islamic Heritage Month in October. In addition to Islamic Heritage Month, the Peel board also approved motions to recognize and celebrate Indigenous Heritage Month and Hindu Heritage Month in November, Sikh Heritage Month in April and Jewish Heritage Month in May. The board will continue to recognize Black History Month in February, Asian Heritage Month in May and Pride Month in June.

The Government of Canada first established October as Islamic History Month in 2007 while the Province of Ontario declared the month of October as Islamic Heritage Month in 2016.

During Islamic Heritage Month, schools across Peel will participate in a number of activities that recognize and celebrate the rich heritage, history, culture and contributions of Muslim Canadians as well as Muslim communities from around the world.

Volunteers needed for our Breakfast Club

We are still looking for Volunteers for our Breakfast club this year, from 8:10am -8:45am, daily or occasionally. You will need to a criminal record check which you can get at your local police station (they have the forms that you need to fill out). Please contact Cathy Rowan at 905-495-3229 at ext. 310.

Celebrate Teachers' Recognition Day in Peel

Since 1994, parents and students from around the world have celebrated World Teachers' Day to commemorate the work of teachers and their contributions to society. On Oct. 4, take the time to let your child's teacher know he or she is truly appreciated. Thank your child's teacher and let them know they are making a difference.

Videotaping on school premises

While on school premises, the Peel District School Board is responsible for the protection of students and their privacy. In honour of our commitment to privacy and safety, we request that the use of audio and/or visual (video) recording equipment not be permitted unless authorized by school teaching or administrative staff prior to the recording being made. This includes the use of cellphones for recording your child on school property. We thank you kindly for your continued cooperation.

Get involved in your child's education

Research shows parent involvement positively affects student success. Becoming more involved brings many benefits. You will get to know teachers, the principal and other parents better. You will be able to share your talents, experiences and ideas. You will inspire youth—and be inspired by them. You will show your child how much you value education. You will gain insights that can help you to boost your child's learning. And you could develop skills and knowledge that can help you in your own career.

There are many ways to be involved. Attending the Peel District School Board's annual parent conference, volunteering at your child's school, talking to your teen about their school day and reading with your child at night are all forms of parent involvement. Visit www.peelschools.org/parents/involved to learn more.

Ready? Set? High School! A Parent's Guide to High School

Get ready for what could be the most exciting and important years your teen spends in school. For the first time, teens will have to make choices about what they will study and what career pathway to choose.

Whatever path your teen chooses, we want to make sure your entire family is ready to meet the challenges and embrace the many opportunities that await your teen upon graduation. Our *Parent's Guide to High School* will provide you with a snapshot of what you need to know to help your teen be successful. To view the online booklet, visit www.peelschools.org/parents/helpyourchild/parentguide.

For more ways on helping your teen make a smooth transition, visit www.peelschools.org/parents/helpyourchild.

Peel high school information nights start this fall

Learn about the Peel District School Board advantage and your local Peel board secondary school at an upcoming parent information night. For dates and times, visit www.peelschools.org/schools/informationnights or call the school directly. To find out which secondary school your teen will attend, call 905-890-1010/1-800-668-1146 ext. 2212 or visit www.peelschools.org/schools/findyourschool.

***Please note that dates and times are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please contact the school directly.*

Regional Learning Choices programs unlock passions



Regional Learning Choices Programs offered by the Peel District School Board empower students by providing them with opportunities to develop and explore skills in a particular area of interest. Regional programs are open to all students who meet the criteria for acceptance. Students and their families are encouraged to attend the information night for the program of their choice to receive more information about the program and application details.

Transportation is not provided for students in regional programs. If students have been accepted into a regional program and they live within the school boundary, they are eligible for busing only if they meet the distance criteria outlined in the board's *Transportation Policy #39*.

All regional programs include annual fees, including a non-refundable \$40 application fee, except the **Regional Skilled Trades** and Transportation Engineering and Technology programs, which are offered at no cost.

Important dates to note:

	Applications open	Applications close
ELEMENTARY	Jan. 27, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.	Feb. 10, 2020 at 3 p.m.
SECONDARY	Nov. 11, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.	Nov. 25, 2019 at 3 p.m.

Programs	Schools offered at	Starts in grade:		
		6	7	9
Actively in Motion (AIM)	Royal Orchard MS	✓		
Advanced Placement	Central Peel SS, John Fraser SS			✓
Arts	Earncliffe Sr. PS (starts in grade 6), Queen Elizabeth Sr. PS (starts in grade 7), Cawthra Park SS, Mayfield SS	✓	✓	✓
Arts and Technology	Morning Star MS	✓		
Graphic Design Management	T.L. Kennedy SS			✓
International Baccalaureate	Bristol Rd. MS, WG Davis Sr. PS, Erindale SS, Glenforest SS, Harold M. Brathwaite SS, Turner Fenton SS	✓		✓
International Business and Technology	Allan A. Martin Sr. PS, Lisgar MS, Williams Pkwy Sr. PS, Meadowvale SS, North Park SS, T.L. Kennedy SS	✓		✓
International and Executive Leadership Academy	T.L. Kennedy SS			✓
Regional Skilled Trades	Judith Nyman (starting in September 2020), West Credit SS			✓
SciTech	Centennial Sr. PS, Macville PS, Tomken Rd. MS, Chinguacousy SS, Port Credit SS	✓		✓
Sports	Applewood Heights SS			✓
Strings	Central Peel SS, Port Credit SS			✓
Truck and Coach Engineering and Technology	Bramalea SS			✓

For more information about program information nights, busing, fees and the application process, visit www.peelschools.org/RegionalPrograms

Jump start your future with Explore High Skills



Explore High Skills is a Peel District School Board pathway program that allows secondary schools with Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs to offer a unique specialized program choice for grade 9 and 10 students.

These sector-related programs are available to students in all skill levels and in all pathways. Specialized programs in grade 9, like Explore High Skills, provide unique learning experiences to engage students as they transition to high school. Students can focus their learning on an area of interest as they build self-confidence, learn essential skills, and develop a sense of belonging in school and in the community.

To enroll in the Explore High Skills program, students will indicate their interest when selecting high school courses in the fall. For more information about the program and participating schools, go to www.peelschools.org/ExploreHighSkills

Peel District School Board program offers flexible school options for student athletes, artists



PEEL REGION HIGH PERFORMERS PROGRAM

Does your child/teen have an intense sports or arts training and competition schedule that makes it difficult to attend school regularly? The Peel District School Board's *Peel Region High Performers Program* will offer flexible timetabling to accommodate student athletes and artists with demanding practice, competition, rehearsal and/or performance schedules.

Peel Region High Performers Program is offered at:

- Britannia Public School (grades 4 to 5)
- Dolphin Sr. Public School (grades 6 to 8)
- Mississauga Secondary School (grades 9 to 12)

Information nights will be offered as follows:

Location	Information Night
Britannia Public School	Nov. 7, 2019 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Dolphin Sr. Public School	Nov. 6, 2019 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Mississauga Secondary School	Nov. 5, 2019 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

For more information, visit www.peelschools.org/HighPerformers.

Engage. Educate. Empower. Speakers Series.



After 18 years, the Peel District School Board is revamping its annual parent conference. After hearing from participants, we are changing the traditional full-day workshop model to a multi-evening speaker series focused on a specific subject, where parents and caregivers will hear from a keynote speaker followed by a panel who will take audience questions. We will also invite Peel board departments, groups and community partners to share their information in an exhibitor area.

The ***Engage. Educate. Empower. Speaker Series*** is co-presented by the Peel Elementary Teachers' Local. Without their support, this free learning event for parents/caregivers would not be possible.

Date and Time	Location	Topic and Speaker
Monday, Nov. 4, 2019 5 to 8 p.m.	HJA Brown Education Centre, 5650 Hurontario St., Mississauga	Digital citizenship and online safety featuring Jesse Miller
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020	Chinguacousy Secondary School, 1370 Williams Pkwy., Brampton	TBA
Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020	Mayfield Secondary School, 5000 Mayfield Rd., Caledon East	TBA

These **free events are open to all Peel board parents of students at all grade levels.*

***Reserve your spot for the first session starting Oct. 7, 2019 at
www.peelschools.org/parents/conferenc***

Celebrating Faith and Culture

October 2019

DATE	HOLY DAY(S)/HOLIDAY	FAITH AND CULTURE
October	Falling Leaves Moon	Indigenous Worldview (First Nations)
Sunset of September 30 to October 1 ●	Rosh Hashanah	Judaism
October 5	Durgaashtami	Hinduism
October 6	World Communion Sunday	Christianity
October 7 ●	Vijaya Dashmi/Dassehra	Hinduism
Sunset of October 8 to 9 ●	Yom Kippur	Judaism
October 12 – 16	Ghambar Ayathrem	Zoroastrianism
October 13	Kathina, Pavarana, Anapanasati and Founders' Day	Buddhism
Sunset of October 13 to 20	Sukkot	Judaism
October 14	Thanksgiving	Canada
October 16 – November 3	The month of 'Ilm	Bahá'í
October 17	Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva's Enlightenment (Pravrajya)	Buddhism
October 17	Karva Chauth	Hinduism
Sunset of October 20 to 22	Simchat Torah	Judaism
October 19	Arbaeen	Islam
October 20	Installation of the Guru Granth as Guru	Sikhism
October 27 ●	Diwali	Hinduism
October 27 ●	Diwali/Lord Mahavir Nirvan	Jainism
October 27 ●	Bandi Chhor Divas	Sikhism
October 28 ●	New Year's Day/Day of Enlightenment	Hinduism and Jainism
October 29	Birth of the Báb	Bahá'í
October 30 ●	Birth of Bahá'u'lláh	Báhá'í
October 31	Halloween	Canada
Sunset of October 31 to November 1 ●	Samhain	Wicca