#### May 2023 | MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Please note: Our new website is live! To access your child's campus website, go to <a href="mailto:auroraschool.ca">auroraschool.ca</a> and click on "Middle School" under the "Academics" tab or follow this direct Link: <a href="https://www.middleschool.auroraschools.ca/">https://www.middleschool.auroraschools.ca/</a>.

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# **Principal's Update**

Greetings to all Aurora families,

Happy spring to everyone! As a long winter closes, the weather is much more enjoyable and we look towards planning for the end of the year as well as next year.

Please be aware of emails that are sent home and please read them carefully as many of them contain time-sensitive items.

With final exams approaching, I encourage parents to read the policy on final exams and their dates. We are pushing hard towards the end and so it is important to keep an eye on student work and grades in PowerSchool.

We appreciate parental involvement and diligence in being our partner in education.

Sincerely,

Peter Dang Principal

#### **SCHOOL CALENDARS**

At the January *Meeting of the Board of Directors*, the school calendar for the 2023-2024 year was passed. It can be viewed on our website or by clicking on the following link:

2023-2024 Calendar

2022-2023 Calendar

### **Important Exam Information**

Final Exam Absence policy: AR 6170 Section 2

- -Should a student leave early for summer break and miss any Final Exams, the student may NOT write any exams early before departure.
- A missed Final Exam will be given a grade of "UA" (Unable to Assess) and the final course mark will be the average of the three terms.

#### **Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs):**

Grade 6 students will be writing the Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in the four core subjects at the end of June. They are mandatory tests that we use for final exams. To help prepare grade 6 students and their parents, please look over this guide provided by Alberta Learning: Grade 6 PAT Parent Guide (there are even some practice questions). Other very useful information about the Provincial Achievement Tests can be found here: https://www.alberta.ca/provincial-achievement-tests.aspx.

Click <u>here</u> to access the 2022-2023 General Information Bulletin, or go directly to the Grade 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests "Ouick Facts for Students and Parents/Guardians".

#### June Final exams schedule:

Tuesday, June 20

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 5, 7, and 8 English Language Arts

9:00 A.M.–10:00 A.M. Grade 6 English Language Arts Part B Provincial Achievement Test

9:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M. Grade 9 English Language Arts Part B Provincial Achievement Test

Thursday, June 22

9:00 A.M.-9:20 A.M. Grade 6 Mathematics Part A Provincial Achievement Test

9:00 A.M.-9:30 A.M. Grade 9 Mathematics Part A Provincial Achievement Test

### Friday, June 23

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 5, 7, and 8 Math

9:00 A.M.-10:10 A.M. Grade 6 Mathematics Part B Provincial Achievement Test

9:00 A.M.-10:20 A.M. Grade 9 Mathematics Part B Provincial Achievement Test

### Monday, June 26

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 5, 7, and 8 Social Studies

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 6 Social Studies Provincial Achievement Test

9:00 A.M.-10:20 A.M. Grade 9 Social Studies Provincial Achievement Test

#### Tuesday, June 27

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 5, 7, and 8 Science

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. Grade 6 Science Provincial Achievement Test

9:00 A.M.-10:15 A.M. Grade 9 Science Provincial Achievement Test

#### **SCHOOL NEWS**

**PLEASE WELCOME GABBY HURST, EDUCATION ASSISTANT!:** "Hi, I'm Gabby Hurst and I just moved to Edmonton 2 months ago from Toronto, Ontario. I'm a recent college graduate and getting married in the fall of 2023 (my last name will change very soon).

A few things about myself is I was a competitive swimmer for 12 years, I have a law enforcement background, and I have been an Educational Assistant for 3 years. I look forward to meeting you all and meeting the students. Thank you."



**BADMINTON:** What a weekend! The senior and junior badminton team had the opportunity to compete at the ME Lazerte badminton tournament. Up next, zone playoffs and the City Championship. Go Bears!!









**TOP MARKS UNIFORM FITTINGS:** Top Marks is holding In-Person Uniform Fitting appointments May 8-10 from 3:00pm-7:00pm in the Fitness Room in the Middle School. You MUST book an appointment in order to be seen. Please read through the Information package here: TOP MARKS UNIFORM FITTING INFORMATION PACKAGE





Dear Parents,

Top Marks is proud to be your uniform supplier. We assure you that we are committed to serving you to the best of our ability.

We ask for your cooperation in submitting orders by June 15, 2023, as this will ensure delivery of your order prior to the start of school.

#### **ORDER ONLINE**

Visit <u>www.topmarks.ca</u> to place your order. Your school password is **AURO1**.



#### FITTING DATE - BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

**Fitness Room-Middle School** 



MONDAY MAY 8, 2023 3:00pm - 7:00pm
TUESDAY MAY 9, 2023 3:00pm - 7:00pm
WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2023 3:00pm - 7:00pm

You may book your appointment using one of the following options:

- Online through our web-based appointment system (see attached for instructions).
- By calling our customer service department at 1-800-667-7105 (Monday - Friday 7:00am-3:00pm MST) or by sending an email to info@topmarks.ca.

**SCHOOL START STUDENT SUPPLY ORDERS:** Aurora Academic Charter School is excited to offer the opportunity to purchase your school supplies through School Start for the 2023-2024 school year. This process will save you both time and money. Order early, and you will be entered in one or more contests! Order your supplies online and have them delivered right to your home.

### **GRADE 5-6 STUDENT SUPPLY LIST**

#### GRADE 7-8 STUDENT SUPPLY LIST



CANADA-WIDE SCIENCE FAIR NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! The Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF) is the national science fair competition held annually across the country. It is planned by the Youth Science Canada (YSC) and the Edmonton Regional Science Fair (ERSF) is the major partner in this event. Edmonton is the host this year at the Edmonton Convention Center and many volunteers are needed to make it happen. Aurora Charter School students have a long history of participation and successes both at the ERSF level and the national level. We are the only Edmonton-area school to have at least one (often more) Aurora School student as a member of Team Edmonton to compete at nationals since 2007! This year, 3 out of the 8 Team Edmonton students who are competing are Aurora students! Our own middle school science teacher, Mrs. Amanda Joblinski, is the president of the ERSF council and a key organizer of the CWSF this year.

Volunteers are needed throughout the competition week (Saturday, May 13- Saturday, May 20) in a variety of roles. They can range from one or 2 hours to all day or multiple times in a week both on weekdays and weekends and evenings.

Event Website: <a href="https://youthscience.ca/get-involved/">https://youthscience.ca/get-involved/</a>

Volunteers are asked to sign up here: <a href="https://youthscience.ca/get-involved/volunteer/">https://youthscience.ca/get-involved/volunteer/</a>

Then you will receive a confirmation email to create an account.

Then you will be able to sign up for volunteer roles and shifts. Just follow the instructions. Training and instructions for the volunteer roles will be provided.

- Special skills such as being bilingual in French are always in high demand.
- You don't need to have any special training or knowledge in science. Just volunteer enthusiasm and a desire to represent Edmonton to the rest of the country is needed.
- You can volunteer for as many roles as you wish.
- Volunteers do not have to be linked to Aurora Charter School. ANYONE can volunteer.
- Check with the Volunteer Coordinator Davis Shewchuk to see if you can volunteer as a family or with someone else. <a href="mailto:cwsf.volunteers@vouthscience.ca">cwsf.volunteers@vouthscience.ca</a>

You will get:

- Event t-shirt
- Food and applicable expenses covered (depends on role and location)
- Volunteer experience at a world-class event

For any questions, contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Davis Shewchuk <a href="mailto:cwsf.volunteers@youthscience.ca">cwsf.volunteers@youthscience.ca</a>

We hope to have you help further Aurora's great reputation and profile in the community!

SPACE LEFT FOR EUROPE 2024! Attention all students in grades 6-8! There are spaces left on the Europe 2024 trip to Scotland, England and Paris. The trip will take place in March 2024, over Spring Break. All nformation about dates, costs and itinerary can be found by clicking <a href="mailto:here">here</a>. Please see Miss Wilson at the high school or email <a href="mailto:mwilson@auroraschool.ca">mwilson@auroraschool.ca</a> for additional booking information.

**2022-2023 YEARBOOK:** You can now order your 2022-23 yearbooks! The cost is \$35.00 and orders can be places until **May 31st** through Powerschool.

**AURORA MUSIC PROGRAM:** If you would like to donate to our music program, simply follow this link to our Amazon Gift Registry, put an instrument in your cart, check out, and the instrument will be delivered directly to the school! We greatly appreciate all donations to this program.

If you would like a donation receipt, please send your Amazon receipt to wliang@auroraachool.ca and this will be provided during tax season.

**HEALTHY HUNGER-HOT LUNCH:** Healthy Hunger is an online fundraiser for the school's Bear Den Leadership Program. It offers a monthly hot lunch opportunity to students who wish to participate. Parents are encouraged to go to <a href="healthyhunger.ca">healthyhunger.ca</a> to sign up and pay for the hot lunches.

**The next hot lunch date is May 18th**. Hot lunch orders should be placed under Aurora Charter **Middle School**. Orders are placed separately from the Elementary and High School, so that means each school may not have a hot lunch on the same day or even from the same vendor. Please visit the <u>Healthy Hunger</u> website to register your account.

#### STUDENT AWARDS

The changes to the distribution of Awards in the Middle School are presented below and will supersede any previously published description and criteria for the Awards.

# Term Awards will be given as follows for Grade 5 and higher:

- Outstanding Citizenship: One per class and the recipients will be selected by the teachers.
- Diligence: One per class and the recipients will be selected by the teachers.
- Honor Roll: Any student who achieves an average of 80% or higher in the 4 core subjects. Students must not have anything lower than 75% (or a "B") in any subject.
- Honors with Distinction: Any student who achieves an average of 90% or higher in the 4 core

subjects. Students must not have anything lower than 75% (or a "B") in any subject.

### The following award will be a year-end award only:

• Principal's Award for overall academics, leadership, citizenship, and sportsmanship will be given to

one individual in grade 6 only. The recipient will be selected by the teachers of that grade.

#### **Conditions:**

- Any student on Extended Leave during that Term is ineligible for an award and Honor Roll in that Term, but is still eligible for awards in the other Terms.
- Any student having an Extended Absence in ANY term is ineligible for the Principal Award if applicable.
- Any student with a "UA" as a report card grade in any subject is ineligible for any awards that term, including Honor Roll, Honors With Distinction, and the Principal's Award if applicable.
- Any student who misses a Final Exam in June is ineligible for the Principal's Award if applicable.
- All awards and Honor Roll is at the discretion and approval of the Principal.

### **Extended Absence Policy and how it affects Awards Eligibility:**:

An Extended Absence is a non-medical absence from school for 5 or more consecutive school days (family holiday, visits, funeral, weddings, other events, etc.). The parents are to first contact the principal well before the trip to discuss this. An Extended Absence form will be provided to the student only after the parents discuss this with the principal. Extended Absences have academic consequences for the student as indicated in policy <u>AR 6130 Section</u> G and <u>AR 6170 Section 1</u>.

### **Awards Ceremony:**

- The Term 3 Awards Ceremony will take place virtually on Friday, June 23rd at 2:30pm.
- Honor Roll, Honors with Distinction, Academic, and Character Awards recipients' names will be posted on the wall outside the office.

### **ALTERNATIVE DRESS DAYS (ADD)**

Wednesday, May 3 – Hats on for Mental Health (casual)

Friday, June 2 – Casual or Pride Awareness (Any colors on the Progressive Rainbow Flag)

Wednesday, June 28 – Casual or Summer colors

- No inappropriate wording, imagery, or symbols for a school setting.
- Students not participating MUST be in uniform.
- The theme (color) must be visible on the top, be apparent on the piece of clothing, and cannot be covered.
- Theme apparent accessories do *NOT* qualify.
- Pants/bottoms must match the solid theme color or be solid black bottoms, blue jeans or uniform pants.

#### **PARENT INFORMATION**

PLEASE BE MINDFUL WHEN PACKING YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH:

If possible, **avoid any glass containers**, as a number of them are getting broken. This presents a danger of cuts/injury during the clean-up, as well as leaves your child without a lunch to eat should the contents become contaminated with glass. Also, please remember to **pack reusable or disposable utensils** if they are bringing food which requires utensils.

#### **STUDENT ABSENCES:**

Parents, please remember to notify the school if your child will be absent or late on any given day. You can leave a voice message at the school 24/7, or you can email Mrs. Bali at <a href="mailto:sbali@auroraschool.ca">sbali@auroraschool.ca</a>. ABSENCES CANNOT BE REPORTED TO THE SCHOOL BY STUDENTS.

### **AURORA IS A PEANUT "AWARE" SCHOOL:**

Please note that Aurora is a peanut "aware" school. If possible, **avoid sending anything that may contain nuts in your child's lunch**. We appreciate your cooperation.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

May 3ADD: Hats on for Mental Health (Casual)
May 5-6Camp Warwa Trip (Grade 8's)
May 8-10Top Marks Uniform Fittings (3:00pm-7:00pm in the Art Room)
May 10Reynolds Museum Field Trip (Grade 8's)
May 15In School Field Trip to Japan (Grade 8's)
May 17Grade 6 ELA Part A PAT (9:00am)
May 18Track and Field Team competing at Rollie Miles
May 18Canada Wide Science Fair Field Trip (Grades 5-8)
May 18Hot Lunch (Subway)
May 19Professional Development Day (No School for Students)
May 20Victoria Day (No School)
May 24Monday Schedule
May 31Grade 5 Parent Orientation Night (7:00pm in school)
June 1ADD: Pride Colours or Casual
June 2Hot Lunch (Little Caesars Pizza)

# AURORA ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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12245 131 ST NW Edmonton, AB T5L 1M6 SUBSCRIBE

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