

# TheRoyalGazette.

[ Your school. Your newspaper. ]

## Hands-On Learning

An Ancaster High student pens an open letter to Doug Ford about the education curriculum changes.

Learn about Doug Ford's plans to reduce funding for education – and Ancaster High's responses.

pg # 14

### New Zealand Shooting

A series of tragic hate crimes strikes the heart of New Zealand. pg # 4

### High School Musical

The Musical Theatre class returns with their second semester production! pg # 6

### Advice Column

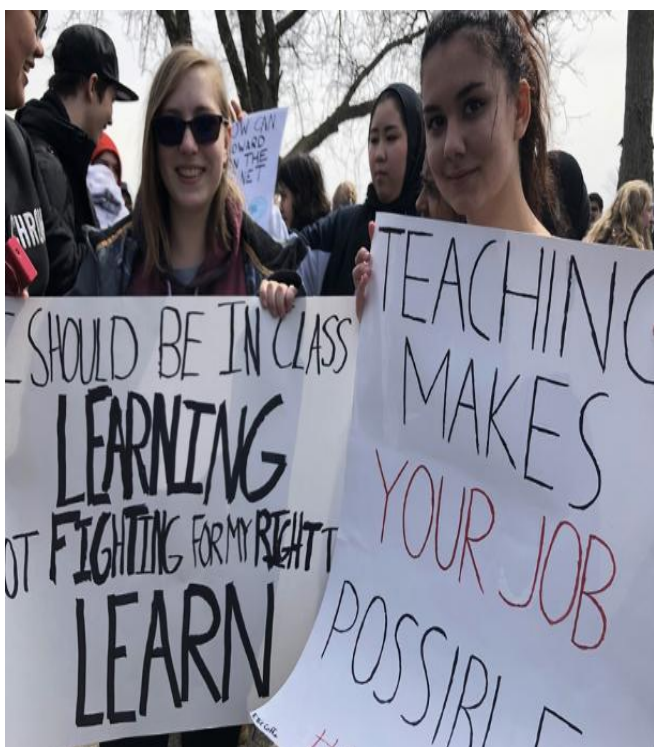
Looking for a job this year? Read our tips on building a student resume. pg # 10

Get the most important articles right away. Here's some of the **top stories of February.**

# This Month's

# Highlights

by Anne Fu - *Writer/Graphic Designer*



**Above:** Ancaster High students participating in the provincial wide student-lead protest, Student Say No, against Ford Government's controversial policies regarding education budget cuts. (*Vita Rao/Royal Gazette*)

On April 4th, close to 200 students at Ancaster High participated in the Students Say No walkout against the Ford government's education curriculum cuts and redesigns. These changes, which included a revamped sex-ed curriculum, larger class sizes, and mandatory e-Learning classes, faced strong backlash among many students and staff, including ones in the HWDSB board. Ancaster High's walkout joined the 700+ schools in Ontario and 40 local ones also participating in the event, which was established by 17-year-old teen activist Rayne Fisher-Quann, who attends William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute in Toronto. Fisher-Quann was also the driving force behind last year's sex-ed curriculum protest.

The walkout, which began at 1:15 PM, lasted until nearly the end of the school day, and it consisted of posters, chants, and speeches. It began with a march around the school, afterwards, students rallied primarily along Meadowbrook Drive. Some students

went as far as to obstruct the road, asking people driving by for their opinions on the Ford government's changes. Although, this was a controversial move, which resulted in some students choosing to leave the protest concerned about its legality. Counter-protesters were also present at the walkout, although their numbers and motivations remain somewhat vague. Some critics of the movement were concerned that the walkout served as a way for teachers to push their agenda on young, uninformed students; others noted their appreciation for Ford's reforms instead.

AHS students also spoke with local news reporters about their opinions on the curriculum changes.

“

**For us as special-ed kids, I go to this school for a program that is to help people who are autistic... If Doug Ford cuts this, my major concern is that I'm being put in a classroom that doesn't support my needs and where it will be so much more difficult to pass.**

”

**--Grade 10 student Alex Cormeau**

Walkout organizer Haneen Kadhom also expressed fears that fewer tuition programs would result in less low-income students being able to enter post-secondary education.

Across the nation, the walkout brought in an estimated 100,000 students, supported by various Canadian political leaders and house representatives, and extended even to elementary and middle school students, even though the changes are high school-focused. The protest comes as one of many in a series of recent large youth activism events, following in the footsteps of movements like March For Our Lives in the USA.

AHS Students Walk Out!

Ancaster



**Above:** Cindy Ryan displays the tattoo that marks her two liver transplants as she attends a bill briefing at the legislature in Halifax on Tuesday, April 2, 2019.. (Andrew Vaughn/The Canadian Press)

**In the wake of an organ donation** crisis where many Canadians are unable to get the life-saving treatment they need, Nova Scotia has passed a new organ donation law that makes all citizens 19 and over with the capability to consent organ donors by default, unless they choose to opt out. The legislation was passed unanimously by provincial lawmakers on April 2, 2019, and makes the Maritime province the first place in North America to instate such a law, known commonly as the “Negative Option”. This system already exists in multiple European countries, like Spain and Belgium.

This law was likely created with the intent to increase the number of organ donations in Canada. Compared with other similar developed nations, like the UK and USA, Canada falls far behind in organ donations, at a mere 21 donors per 1 million people. This new move, however, is considered controversial due to the fact that it may be culturally insensitive, seeing that some religions and cultures look down upon organ donation; and that definitions of being clinically brain-dead can still be hard to pinpoint, which opens up the worst-case scenario of taking organs from someone who is still technically alive. Suspicions of conspiracy theories, as well as fears that one’s organs may end up on the black market, or even just simple squeamishness, are also often common barriers to organ donation. As Kerry Bowman, a UofT bioethicist, puts it, “If we have a single situation in which we are taking organs from a person that would never have agreed to that I think that’s very problematic ethically.” Despite these concerns however, the law is still not expected to come into effect until 12-18 months later.

Last year, Humboldt Bronco Logan Boulet, who was one of the 16 hockey players killed in the bus crash on Saskatchewan last September, inspired a temporary surge in donations after it was revealed that he himself was a donor. Laws like the one currently being initiated in Nova Scotia represent a step forward in a permanent increase of organ donors.

Here in Canada, 1 person dies due to a lack of needed organs every 30 hours, which adds up to about 260 deaths a year. According to The Organ Project, a pro-donor organization, at any given point in time, some 4,500 Canadians are on the waiting list for an organ donation as well - a wait that may mean life or death for them.

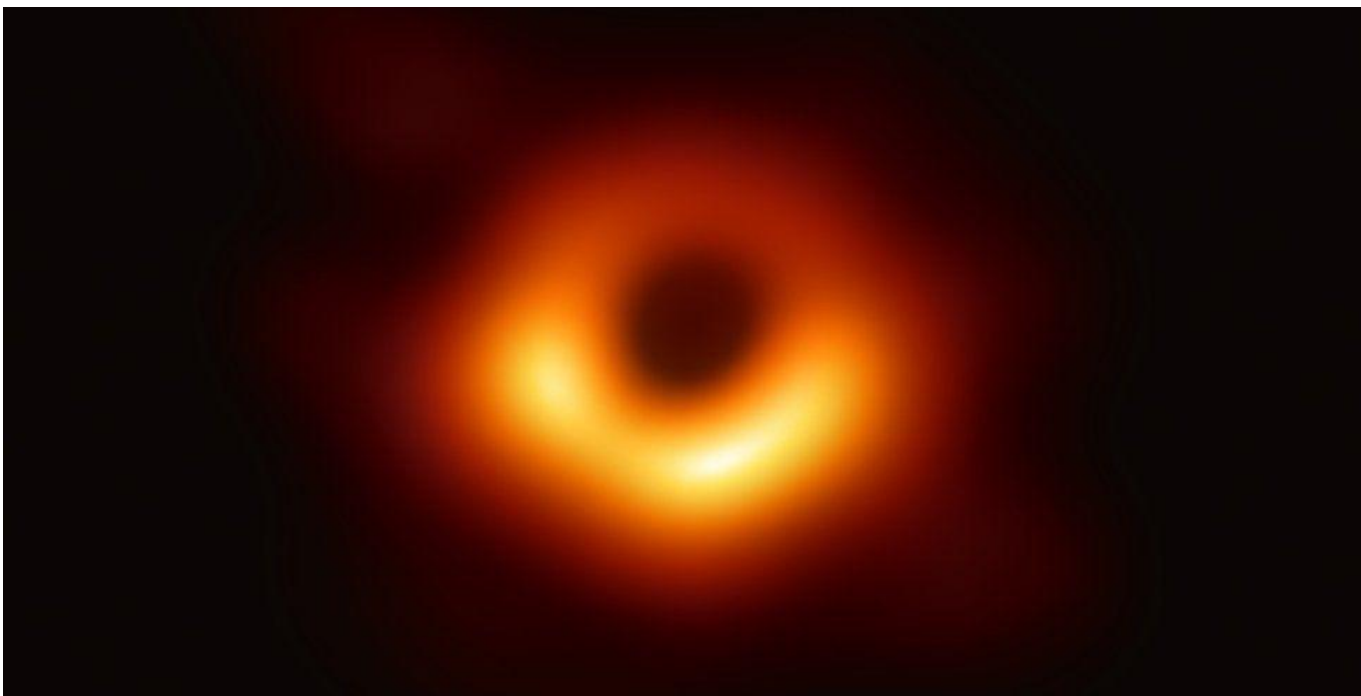
### Did you **know**?

- **21** donors per **1,000,000** people is need
- **260** deaths per year due to lack of organs
- At any given point there are **4,500** people on the transplant waiting list.

# Nova Scotia's "Negative Option" Organ Donation Law

Canada





**Above:** The Event Horizon Telescope—a planet-scale array of ground-based radio telescopes—has obtained the first image of a supermassive black hole and its shadow. The image reveals the central black hole of Messier 87, a massive galaxy in the Virgo cluster. **(Event Horizon Telescope)**

A historical feat of astronomy and engineering has allowed scientists using the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) to capture the first ever image of a black hole. Although the blurry, slightly-orange tinted image may seem awfully underwhelming to some, especially when considering the legendary bizzarrities of black holes, the effort behind it is nothing short of impressive.

The photo was taken using not one telescope, but a series of several placed around the world, spanning from Hawaii to Antarctica, that scanned the sky for days to piece the image together. The data, which was much too large to be sent over the Internet in a typical manner, was then uploaded onto several hundred hard drives and shipped using FedEx and UPS from the observatories, and then assembled together. The image represents a monumental achievement in science: not only have we now “seen the unseeable”, but the photograph has also helped astronomers understand the ways physics acts on a fundamental level. The most important implication of this photo is that the image aligns strongly with the predictions of what a black hole would look like according to Einstein’s theory of general relativity - which says, in short, that if you do the math and physics around a black hole, you should get something resembling a cloud of gas around the hole. By seeing a real photo of one, and thereby proving that the theory works even in the most extreme situations of the universe, astrophysicists now know for sure that it’s some part of how our universe works. Scientists hope to study black holes even further to see where general relativity begins to break down in them, so that one day, we may hope to unify general relativity with quantum mechanics - which is perhaps one of the largest unsolved mysteries of physics today, and the most famous.

If that wasn’t impressive enough for you, it’s also a feat of incredible technical renown that scientists were able to even capture an image of such an object, which, at 55 million light years away, spans a mere fraction of our sky. Since we can only see as fast as light travels, looking at a photo of an object 55 million light years away means we are seeing how it looked like 55 million years ago - i.e, we’re looking at a photo of the black hole as how it looked before the human race even existed. This event marks a landmark achievement in physics, and it’s not going to be the last either - the other black hole the EHT hopes to photograph is Sagittarius A\*, the supermassive black hole at the center of our galaxy.



**NASA**  
@NASA

History is being made! A global network of telescopes has been working to capture the first ever image of a black hole. Follow along as @NSF shares the groundbreaking result at 9am ET of the #EHTBlackHole. Tune in: <https://www.nsf.gov/blackholes>

**9th April, 2019**



6.4K



2.2K





**Above:** Mourners pay their respects at a makeshift memorial near the Masjid Al Noor mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand.: (Fiona Goodall/Getty Images)

## EXTERNALS

# New Zealand Mosque Massacres

Two connected terrorist attacks occur in one day. Why did this happen? What does it mean?

by Emaan Tora - *Writer*



**L**ately, our world is full of tragic and heartbreaking events. Hatred and discrimination seem to have become a common occurrence, and mass murders of groups of people happen so often that, frighteningly, they are becoming normal to hear about.

One of the most recent tragedies was the New Zealand Christchurch mosque shootings. These shootings were two connected terrorist attacks at mosques on March 15th, 2019. The attacks were carried out by a 28 year old white supremacist shooter. The attacker began in a mosque in the suburbs of Riccarton called Al Noor mosque at 1:40 pm, and it did not stop there. At about 1:55 pm he continued at the Linwood Islamic Center. These attacks took place on Friday during the Muslim communities' weekly prayer and lecture called "jummah" or Friday prayer. What is even more disgusting to learn is that the shooter took it a step further, by livestreaming the killing of many innocent souls. He has since been arrested and charged with murder.

It is also frightening to realize that these shootings

were not sudden impulsive acts of an extremely troubled, and angry individual. Rather, it was a thoroughly thought out and planned act of terrorism based on beliefs of superiority and rights to land. We know this, as it was later discovered that the shooter had prepared and sent a detailed manifesto to New Zealand government officials. The manifesto is no longer available online and has since been banned by the New Zealand government, so its exact contents are mostly unknown. Many individuals argued that by banning it, the government unknowingly gave it power. Adversely, others believe that letting the manifesto get widely disseminated in far-right circles would give it real power, and that it would allow those who read its words to mimic its ideas, and potentially become radical terrorists. This could very well be what happened in the case of the Christchurch shooter. The shooter's gun ( see image 1) was covered in writing showing hatred towards Muslims and even named some infamous shooters who committed similar acts. The names included; Alexandre Bissonnette who killed

### March 14

**The shooter posts a racist manifesto where he explains how he plans on killing islamic "invaders". This is then sent to many politicians alongside with the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern.**

### March 14, 1:40 pm

**The shooter enters the Al Noor mosque and opens fire. The mosque contained over 200 people. The shooting lasted 6 minutes, killing 42 people.**

### March 14, 1:55 pm

**The gunman arrives at the second location of the massacre, the Linwood mosque, which contained 80 people. This attack lead to 8 deaths in total.**

### March 14, 6:16 pm

**The shooter, a 28-year-old white male. Brenton Tarrant is arrested by the police.**







**Above:** New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern comforting those affected by the attacks and showing solidarity with the Muslim community (DPA/Office of New Zealand's Prime Minister)

6 people in a Canadian mosque in 2017, Anton Lundin Pettersson who killed 2 migrant children in Sweden, and even Charles Martel the Frankish military leader who defeated the Muslims in Andalusia in the Battle of Tours.

Why? Why did he do this? Why does anyone commit these horrendous acts? One of the main reasons many terrorists commit these acts is for fame, and notoriety. New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern seems to think just that. She was quoted saying,

“

**[The shooter] sought many things from his act of terror, but one was notoriety – and that is why you will never hear me mention his name. He is a terrorist, he is a criminal, he is an extremist. But he will, when I speak, be nameless.**

”

So yes, Ardern's initial response was heart-warming, and her recognition of the deep rooted issues associated with this heinous act, even better. But how does one move forward on a community, federal, and national level after an event, or even chain of events, like this?

The response seen from both New Zealand and the world were amazing. Prime Minister Ardern quickly took charge, acting out in a way that every leader should. She saw a problem, and offered a solution. In this case the solution was tightening gun laws. Ardern announced this decision at a press conference in New Zealand's capital, Wellington, on March 18th, just 72 hours after the shooting. She said, "On 15 March our history changed forever. Now our laws will too. We are announcing action today on behalf of all New Zealanders to strengthen our gun laws and make our country a safer place." Ardern's actions are being commended world-wide. Not only is she taking legal action, but also offering direct emotional support to those affected and visiting families, refugee shelters etc. Some believe her bold moves are putting some pressure on other world leaders to make changes as swiftly as she.

Surprisingly, the Christchurch shooting received a great deal of

media attention, unlike other mass killings of people around the world. Take the "genocide" of the Rohingya people that had been going on in Burma. Or let's jump to another area in Asia, and see the mass unjust incarceration of Muslim Chinese individuals in camps. Concentration camps, in 2019



**Jacinda Ardern**  
@jacindaardern

What has happened in Christchurch is an extraordinary act of unprecedented violence. It has no place in New Zealand. Many of those affected will be members of our migrant communities – New Zealand is their home – they are us.

**14 March 2019**



41K



The somewhat good news is this particular issue received lots of concerned coverage. People all over, of all races and faiths, offered their condolences and support to not only the victims, but all of their fellow Muslim brothers and sisters around the world. Specifically, Hamilton had a heartwarming response to these acts of hatred. A vigil for the 50 victims was held at Hamilton Mountain mosque on March 18th 2019. Here, hundreds gathered to show their solidarity, including religious leaders, regular citizens, and political and law enforcement figures. Andrea Horwath (Hamilton Centre MPP) called out for individuals to reject islamophobia and said, "The same evils that fed an act of terror on the other side of the globe also plague our communities right here in Ontario." The local Imam also responded saying that the mosque doors will stay open and welcome for anyone who wishes to enter, and that, "[They] will get

through this with patience and Perseverance."

Fear is not the answer. We need to step up and come together as a community to prevent history from repeating itself. We need to do this so that more do not face the same fate as those such as the youngest of the victims, 3-year-old Mucaad Ibrahim. Like 42 year old Husne Ara Parvin who was shot while trying to save her wheelchair-bound husband Farid Uddin. Or Hamza Mustafa, a talented horseback rider, who died just two days after his 16th birthday, and who called his mom when the shootings started, terrified, saying, "Mom, there's someone in the mosque shooting us," while his mother waited on the line for 22 more minutes hearing yelling and screaming, waiting until someone took the phone and told her that her son was dead. Step up for 51 year old Neem Rashid. For 21 year old Talha Neem. For 58 year old

engineer Lilik Abdul Hamid, 33 year old soccer player Muhammad Ata Elayyan, 66 year old Abdelfattah Qassem, 77 year old Muse Awale, and for so many more. For all the victims and individuals affected.

So yes, although unfortunately hatred and discrimination seem to have become a common occurrence, so have the good emotions and actions that follow it. Togetherness, love, support and empathy. Like Imam Sayed of Hamilton Mountain Mosque said, "These aren't statistics, brothers and sisters, these are people and we need to remember the cost."

**If you would like to contribute money to support the victims, visit the give a little funding page**

**[givealittle.co.nz](http://givealittle.co.nz)**



## INTERNALS

# Ancaster's Musical Theatre

A look at Ancaster High's Brand new production of High School Musical.

**Left:** Ms. Turner's Musical Theatre class rehearsing to prepare for their show in May. (@ahspresents)

by Jocelyn Mattka - *Writer*

**T**his May, *High School Musical* is coming to the stage at Ancaster High! This production is being put on by the students in this semester's Musical Theatre course, a class that allows students to work through the complete process of putting on a musical.

With only a couple of months left until the performances, the rehearsal

process is already well underway. At this point, rehearsals are all during the 75 minute period that the class takes place in, but will soon be joined by evening rehearsals as well. Ms. Turner, who is the teacher of the Musical Theatre class, explains the student initiative being taken on in this process.

"The production is student driven," she says, "Cassie

Turkstra is the student director, Tyler Scobie is the stage manager, Tara Rezvan is the choreographer, and the rest of the Musical Theatre class has taken on production roles in set, tech, costume, publicity, crew etc."

Allowing the students to take on so much responsibility for the outcome of their show really pushes them to fulfill their





commitments as a part of the team putting on the production, as well as pushing them to step into leadership roles. This also provides a wonderful opportunity for students to be a part of different production roles in Musical Theatre that they wouldn't have necessarily been exposed to if they weren't so involved in *all* the aspects of putting on a show.

Taking on a Musical Theatre production as part of a class may seem like a very daunting task, but this course provides an experience that students will never forget. The process of a cast coming together as a team and working with each other to bring a show to life is one that is incredibly rewarding for both the students and teachers involved. As of right now, this course is being offered again next year and Ms. Turner strongly encourages all those interested to take part in it.

"Join!" she says, "It doesn't matter what your skill level is, it's about building a community that helps all students gain confidence and learn some skills they maybe never knew they had. Each day is something new and exciting."

You can come out to support your fellow students and Musical Theatre in our school on the show's performance dates: May 23rd, 24th and 29th at 7:00PM. The shows are being put on right here, in Ancaster High's auditorium.

"Students should come see the show because the cast is working very hard to put on an amazing production, and it's already such a well-known story that everyone will be able to easily enjoy the songs and the dances, which are all going to be exciting and fun. It's a really upbeat, classic show that everyone is sure to enjoy!" says Mason Lance, who is playing

Ryan in *High School Musical*.

On the whole, this show is definitely a must-see. Although this course may still just be the start of something new, the students involved have really got their heads in the game and are proving there's nothing like Musical Theatre to show that *we're all in this together*. So come on out this May to see what's sure to be a show-stopper!

**For more  
information and  
to stay tuned  
follow:**

**@ahspresents**

**On Instagram**

## TEACHER INSIDER

# Mr. Page

Learn more about one of Ancaster High's most infamous math teachers, the Pagester himself!

by Ashley Barry - Club Advisor



### Q: Tell us about your family.

A: "Well I have three kids and if you're in my class you already know about it! My eldest son, Levi is graduating McMaster University and is going for his Graduate degree at the University of Manitoba. His professor is putting him into the field this summer where he will be working at the Dinosaur Valley

in Alberta, so my oldest is doing all right! Jacob is graduating High School this year after a victory lap and Megan, my youngest is in Grade 11 and is looking at going to the University of Guelph to become a Veterinarian. Well, that's my kids and my family and my wife and I have been married since...Wow we've been married since 90! We started dating when I was sixteen and got engaged at

eighteen and married at twenty-one!"

### Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: "Well I feel like I do everything! I'm very busy and my students know about this to a degree. Monday I am the 'Taxi,' driving my kids to Piano, Violin and Cello lessons. On Tuesday, I take my





where the kids could play and everything family to play Badminton at a club in Hagersville, Wednesday I teach a class in the evening, Thursday is my night off! I think? And on Friday we normally drive to Waterloo to meet family and friends for Youth Group."

**Q: How did you get into teaching?**

A: "Well that's a long story! I was never going to be a teacher and wanted to be an Engineer like my dad. I had to go back a retake a course because the entrance mark for Engineering was a 'B' in Calc 1 and I had a 'C' and although I had a 'B' in Calc 2 and straight 'A's,' they wouldn't accept me. While retaking Calc 1, one of my friends and Professors had asked me for a favour while he was away. He said, 'look I need you to teach the class' and I said "really?! Well I don't know if I can." He told me "well you have more experience than most," so I decided to do it and ended up teaching University level classes and ended up falling in love with teaching. It went something like that. Teaching is my life."

**Q: How long have you been teaching at Ancaster High? Have you taught anywhere else?**

A: "I've been at Ancaster High since 2000, so nineteen years! It was a busy point in my life. I had

transferred from Westmount to Ancaster High and at that time my son was born. I also taught at Delta and Section 27, which was a special education program focusing on kids who had left High School for whatever reason and wanted to graduate and receive a High School Diploma. That program I taught students from the age of 18 to 40 in it."

**Q: What is your favourite teaching memory? It could be a moment in the classroom, a student or just anything that made you feel really proud to be a teacher.**

A: "There's a lot of really amazing memories from teaching. I'm close to retirement and many people keep asking me if I'm ready and I am not because I love what I do. But when I first started teaching, and I was doing that special education program, a lot of the kids were trying to graduate and many of the girls I taught were young moms who were independent, out of their homes and were just trying to live. Quite often these students couldn't come to class because they were taking care of their kids and either couldn't afford daycare or find someone to watch their children, so I had spoke with the Principal to allow them to bring their kids to school. Sometimes I would be teaching classes while holding a kid and we built a small area

worked out well. It was an experience because when you're working with kids who are just merely trying to survive it puts into perspective the things we have that we often take for granted and being able to teach with a kid who would be pulling at my beard at the time and still being able to work collaborate with these students made me appreciate what I have and the sense of value teaching gives me when working with students."

**Q: You like to share stories and connect with your students. Do you think this has an impact on how they learn in your class?**

A: "It helps us communicate and talk. Yes, I am the teacher and am the adult, therefore having the responsibility for being something more, but as the students and I become more involved in each other's lives, it gives us both an opportunity to share. This creates a comfortable atmosphere for learning. Math can be intimidating, why not make it more relaxed and enjoyable?"

“

**So by sharing our stories and talking, I get to know my students better and they get to know me and we can open and do a lot more with math, so through that, I think the avenue does lead to better learning.**

”

# Classes Taught

- ❖ Grade 10 Academic Mathematics **MPM2D1**
- ❖ Grade 11 Business Finance **MBF3C1**
- ❖ Grade 12 College Preparation **MAP4C1**



**Above:** Ancaster Students enjoying themselves in the Tropical Dance held in the East Wing Cafeteria at Ancaster High School (**Ashley Barry/ Royal Gazette**)

INTERNAL

# The Tropical Dance

A fun and interesting theme turned into a spectacular event.

by Ashley Barry – *Club Advisor*



**F**rom bright coloured shirts and beach shorts, to flower leis and sunglasses, Royals ditched their winter attire to attend the tropical-themed school dance on Thursday, March 28th!

Sold out in just three days, Ancaster High's Students' Council planned and executed a terrific event. With the dance being held at maximum capacity, the condition of the Cafeteria, much like a Tropical climate, was humid and sweaty as students clustered together dancing and singing at the front of the DJ stand. Nonetheless, the students had a great evening of dancing and fun!

From the choice of music, decorations and enormous amount of energy, the Tropical dance was a night where Royals could forget about the long, cold months of the winter season and dress up for warmer weather that is fastly approaching!

To begin the night, the DJs set the summer vibes by playing songs such as 'Despacito' (Luis Fonsi), 'Hips Don't Lie' (Shakira), 'Starship' (Nikki Minaj) and new and old Rap that kept the energy high.

The dance floor itself was decorated with banners of flags,

palm trees, tropical birds and flower leis that helped create the tropical atmosphere. With the combination of music and decor, students danced and sang along up until the last hit song, "Don't Stop Believing" (Journey), that has seemed to become an Ancaster High tradition to play at the end of the night.

Student Council's Presidents, Shane and Liam believe the dance an overall success commenting:

“

**The school spirit at Ancaster is outstanding and it is something we have tried to emphasize in what we do at Student Council. The two of us really wanted to run an event that would get students excited and get that great school spirit going!**

”

“...Over the past few years we have had a number of dances and the Tropical theme was a little different than those in the past, a unique idea and that's something we felt students would get fired up for. The dance was a great chance for students to get together and celebrate a long school year, and the tropical theme was in a way kicking off the better weather that's coming up. The responses we got from students were fantastic! It was definitely a great way to head into the end of the school year.”

And it was a spectacular event... thank you to all the teacher and student volunteers who organized and supervised the evening!

**To learn about more events like this one follow:**

**@ancasterhighroyals**

**On Instagram and stay updated**



## ADVICE

# How to Build an Impressive Resume

Looking for a job but don't know what employers are expecting? Here are some helpful tips just for that.



by Sabrina Cagampan - *Writer*



**A**s the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, many of us are already thinking ahead to the summer. Many students, broke and board, decide to get summer jobs. Then there are people looking even further ahead towards applying for post-secondary schools. For both, a resume is required to show off why they should hire you or why they should accept you into their school. For anyone who needs to start building up a resume, we have put together ideas for what type of activities you should be involved in and why they are appealing to employers and schools.

For our purposes here, we will mostly cover extracurriculars, those being what makes up the majority of students' resume.

## Variety is the Spice of Life:

More and more are schools wanting to see well-rounded individuals, meaning that they want to see that you thrive in multiple ways and aren't just good at one thing. Having a variety of involvement in arts, sports and academics (etc.) shows that you can adapt to different challenges and are willing to try a variety of things.

## Did you know?

The three steps to being well-rounded are Physical strength, Technical Movement and Mental Awareness

From DECA, to band, to basketball, to our very own Royal Gazette, the school offers opportunities for all of these fields and there is bound to be something that interests everyone. Taking full advantage of what the school has to offer is perfect, and there are plenty of opportunities outside of school as well.

## One Day, Son, This Will All Be Yours:

Leadership roles demonstrate initiative and reliability, which are much sought after traits. Leading school clubs (whether it be taking over a club once you become a senior student, or starting your own), organizing school events, or volunteering and teaching kids

(e.g. summer camps) are great ways to show off that you are responsible and motivated. Even if you do not consider yourself the 'leader type', it is extremely beneficial to step out of your comfort zone and learn new skills.

## Playing Nice With Others:

Collaborative roles are also important to many employers and schools. They want to know that you can work well with others, you can carry your weight of the work and that you won't be a nuisance to work with. Being part of a team sport/academic team displays such traits.

## In it for the Long Run:

Long term commitments show employers that you are dedicated and they don't have to worry about your quitting a few weeks in. Especially to those who are in the junior grades, other than just show that you are committed, being involved early on can open doors to leadership opportunities in senior grades (a two-for-one deal).

## I Volunteer as Tribute:



We all need 40 hours of volunteer work to graduate, but students should consider trying to find volunteer work that they are passionate about or relate to the field of study they want to pursue. In interviews and on school applications they might ask you to explain why you participated in a certain activity. By doing volunteer work you are passionate you'll have a lot more to say about it which shows that you are driven and engaging to employers.

listen to the announcements or talk to your guidance counsellor. Whether it be for job hunting or school applications, we wish you the best of luck!

**If you want to get involved, but don't know how, check out the volunteer board (near the office),**

**Got questions? Want to recommend another topic? Contact Sabrina and Ananya at:**

**scagampa6502@hwdsb.on.ca**

**asingh1584@hwdsb.on.ca**

## NEWS//FLASH

### CELEBRATIONS

## Rainbow Prom

Find more about a fun, welcoming and affordable event with good food and music.

by Sabrina Cagampan and Farrah Sherrard - *Junior Editor and Writer*

**P**rom can often be daunting for many. From pressure on what the wear, promposals, the typically heteronormative environment, tasteless playlist, to the substance use, some students might think prom is 'not for them'. But, it doesn't have to be that way.

HWDSB's Rainbow Prom welcomes LGBTQIAAP+ students and allies to be themselves.

Rainbow Prom will take place on Wednesday, April 24 at Carmen's Banquet Centre. Tickets go on sale for only \$20 each (including dinner). For more information and to buy tickets, please see Ms. Danese in room

1031 (former room 109).

The inclusive environment allows for a great deal of diversity, even if there are still rules and supervisors present. The dress code is just to wear clothes - wear a dress, a skirt, a suit, jeans, flannel, graphic tees, go for it, however, from experience it is most common that the attire is just as formal as prom. Don't want awkward slow dances? No problem. Really, you feel that comfortable in that space.

And that's the point of Rainbow Prom. To express yourself in a warm comfortable environment with other people who are just as comfortable.

“

**It's guaranteed to be a *fabulous* night and we can't wait to see you there!**

”



## CELEBRATIONS

# Pink Day!

**Ancaster High celebrates Pink Day and it turns into a huge success.**



**Above:** Students wearing pink clothing gather in Gym AB for a group pictures in support of Pink Day (Jenna Scott/The yearbook committee)

by Ananya Singh – *Writer/Graphic Designer*



**P**ink Day is an international celebration dedicated to the recognition and celebration of diversity, as well as raising awareness about the prevention of transphobia, homophobia and all kinds of bullying. This celebration began in Nova Scotia when a male student wearing a pink shirt was being bullied, and two passing male students saw this and decided to intervene. They successfully intervened but decided that more needed to be done to prevent such mentalities. So, they decided to purchase a few pink shirts, and in a matter of a few days multiple students started wearing these shirts to show their support. Soon enough the entire school took a stand and rallied against homophobia, transphobia and any sorts of gender-related bullying.

This year, Ancaster High held a series of events and booths celebrating Pink Day on Wednesday, April 10th during lunch. This event was organized by Positive Space, a club dedicated to appreciating the LGBTTIQQ2SA community. This club had a booth with poster boards promoting and explaining the purpose of Pink Day, as well as busting some common myths about the LGBTTIQQ2SA. This booth was run by Ancaster High's Business, Marketing and Communications teacher, Mrs.

Danese, as well as Farrah Sherrard and Hunter Patterson, Co-Presidents of Positive Space, alongside other members of the club. They saw this event as a fundraising opportunity for their club and the organization of Rainbow Prom, an inclusive and fun event which will be held on April 24th. This was done by selling appetizing cupcakes near the main doors of the East Wing cafeteria for one dollar each.

Clubs, such as Student Voice, The Royal Gazette, and Student Council also participated in the organization of Pink Day. Student Voice set up a Photo Booth with fun costumes as a way of encouraging people to express themselves. The Royal Gazette had designed a poster where people could write motivational and positive messages. Student Council put up a stand where they sold bags of chips as a way to help Positive Space raise more money.

During the celebration of Pink Day, a flash mob (Mrs. Turner's Musical Theatre class) performed for 30 seconds to the song "We're All in This Together" from High School Musical, in the front of the East Wing cafeteria. They did this to support Pink Day, while promoting their upcoming show, *High School Musical Junior*, which will be held in May. When asked how they thought their performance and their show

supported Pink Day, grade 10 students and members of the flash mob, Mason Lance and Addison Massey, said "...the message of High School Musical is similar to the message of Pink Day; 'we're all in this together', be yourself, don't stick to the status quo, don't really care what others think of you."

The event had an incredible turnout of people who felt passionately about Pink Day and believed in its mission.

“

**I think Pink Day is a really important day to have at HWDSB and Ancaster High because today's society is rampant with discrimination against the LGBT community, so it's important that students here know that they are loved, welcomed and included in the school environment.**

”





said Leanne Tran, Grade 10. When asked why it's important for such days to exist Farrah Sherrard, Grade 12, said " Days like this support the marginalized, depressed and

people who are struggling, and it is important that you participate, or at least understand the struggles, take a moment to reflect on your own sexualities and think about everyone around

You."

Overall, Pink Day at Ancaster High was a success, and a fun unique way to show awareness for bullying.

## CELEBRATIONS

# Pink Day Photo Gallery

Take a look at some great snapshots of a great celebration .

**Below, left to right:** James M., Autumn W., and Lauren S. getting ready to sell cupcake; Hannah Smith and Lauren Sneath enjoying themselves; Mason L., Betty O. and Tara R., performing in the flash mob; Sabrina C. helping out with Pink Day; group photo in Gym A/B of everyone who wore pink (*Jenna Scott/ Yearbook Committee*)





## OPINION

# Hands-On Learning

Following the #StudentsSayNo walkout at AHS, one student decides to give her opinion on the changes.



**C**hanges are constantly being made as a result of decisions within the government, and, with some exceptions, these changes often go unnoticed by our age group. Currently, things are very different because these changes are directly affecting us as current students, and affecting our futures too. Premier Doug Ford of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario is making changes that many view as detrimental to our future and education. These changes are set to go into effect in the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. They can be encapsulated into a few main topics; Mandatory e-learning cocourses, cuts in

funding for OAP (Ontario Autism Program), increased average class sizes from 22 to 28 students, total ban of cellphones, changes to the elementary sex education curriculum (changing back to the way it was in 1998), and finally, cuts to OSAP.

People all across Ontario are responding to this news in various ways. Some students and individuals believe that Doug Ford is doing what's ultimately best for us in the long run. If you look at it from a financial standpoint, yes these cuts could help reduce provincial debt, but at what cost? Why is an area as important as education being cast aside and treated as so much less? Why are

our futures and quality of education suffering to pay off a debt we did not directly cause?

Let's start by analyzing the changes that will affect learning quality for a large amount of students: mandatory e-learning courses, and increased class sizes. In the past our education system was very flawed. With information being taught in only one way, pertaining to one learning style. As of today, we have taken great steps, if not leaps, towards trying to make sure everyone can grasp concepts and retain knowledge in every classroom. Teachers are presenting information in a variety of ways, and giving students even more options when

it comes to creating projects and meeting curriculum expectations, and by allowing us to complete necessary work, in a way that isn't necessarily boring to us.

However, many students require one on one help, or teacher explanations. Both e-learning and larger classrooms will strip students of those opportunities. Larger classrooms leave less time for teacher and student one-on-one conversations, and e-learning classes don't allow for that at all. Students do not come to school to learn lessons on a device; they come to have real interactions, further their knowledge, and challenge their minds with classroom discussions. With these changes, in many courses, this will not be an option. It baffles me as to why Ford is requiring 4 mandatory elearning courses when individuals like Harvey Bischof, who is President of the OSSTF (Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation) says, "If you look at the history of e-learning right now, the credit accumulation rates are not very good." If the statistics say you are not making the right choice for your youth, why continue moving in the wrong direction?

Many also wonder how teachers will be affected in this scenario. According to Education Minister Lisa Thompson, teachers will not lose their jobs as a result of the new education plan. However, this simply does not add up. If we are increasing class sizes even by a few students per classroom, on a provincial scale that will lead to a mass loss of jobs. This number will be increased even more due to the mandatory elearning courses. In fact, an estimated number of at least 1,186 secondary teachers and 5844 teachers overall will lose their jobs.

This leads us to ask, what are the teachers doing about this, and what are their thoughts? To my dismay, teachers are being told to not comment their opinion on these changes (at least in a school setting, or in conversations with students). Despite this, it can be said without a doubt that some form of retaliation will be coming from them, and even Ford

expects it. This is evident, as he was quoted saying,

“  
**If the head of the unions want to hurt the children of this Province by doing walkouts and everything else, I'd think twice if I were them.**

”  
**-Doug Ford**

This mildly threatening statement is ironic, as many of the changes being made due to his decisions are what will hurt individuals on both ends of our education system.

Frustration. That is how many people feel about this scenario. Voiceless. We have yet to reach the age of being able to vote for matters that, well, matter a lot. However, do not feel discouraged, there are still many ways you can contribute in attempts to get the attention of our government officials, school walkouts being a major one. Ancaster High School was involved in a Province-wide student organized walkout on April 4th 2019 to protest these changes. If your opinions align, and you support the cause, go out and contribute to the next one.

**So, dear Doug Ford, where is your data?**

Who were you consulting before making these changes? It certainly was not the students or the teachers who will be directly affected by this issue. As Malcolm X said, "Education is the passport to the future, for

tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." That is us, and so many students realize that. With a large amount of students so passionate about this issue, expect the most. So again, dear Doug Ford, you said this new education plan would teach us resilience. You wanted us to be resilient, so here we are. And we will not settle down until you give us, at the very least, some of our educational rights back.

**600,000/22**

**Approx. number of students in Ontario divided by current average class size**

**= 27,273**

**Approx. number of full time teachers needed**

**What happens to this average if class sizes go up by 1 student?**

**600,000/23**

**Approx. number of students in Ontario divided by current average class size**

**= 26,087**

**Approx. number of full time teachers needed**

**That's potentially 1,186 fewer teachers for classes, mentoring, special programs and student support**





**Above:** A look at Westfield Heritage Village before entering  
(Anika Kanagaretnam/ Royal Gazette)

## FESTIVALS

# Maple Syrup Festival at Westfield Heritage Village

A fun event displaying one of Canada's oldest traditions

by Anika Kanagaretnam – *Writer*



**T**he annual Maple Syrup Festival at Westfield Heritage Village came back again this March. It was running every Sunday in March, and a couple extra days during March break. This event was fun for the whole family, and was educating as well. At the Heritage Village, everything is run as a replica of what life would have looked like in the 1860's.

The original way of making maple syrup was called the three kettle method. There are three kettles filled with sap. You need 40 litres of sap to make 1 litre of syrup, which will turn into around ½ a cup of sugar. Then they boil the sap to try to separate the water from the sap, and the water then eventually evaporates. The colour goes from a light colour and turns into a darker colour, until it becomes the colour of the maple syrup you use for your pancakes at home. You can tell if the sap has boiled enough by its colour and consistency. However, they were not able to keep the maple syrup for long because they didn't have a fridge to keep the syrup. Later on, the syrup would crystalize



**Above:** A look at the three kettle method that was used in the past  
(Anika Kanagaretnam/ Royal Gazette)

and turn into sugar. Sugar would be the end result of this process. I also learned that it is possible to tap different types of maple trees and even other types of trees like birch trees.

The Heritage Village was also showing the more modern way of making maple syrup, the way it is generally made today.

Nowadays, people use machines called evaporators. They extract the water from the sap much quicker than the three kettle method. They let the sap boil until the syrup becomes so thick that the syrup sticks to the spoon before it starts to spill out. The syrup will also feel smooth when it has boiled for long enough.





REVIEWS

# Venom Movie Review

Venom is a 2018 American Superhero film based on Marvel Comics character, Venom.

by Hammad Pathan – *Writer*



**Above:** Deleted scene from Venom displaying Tom Hardy as Venom about to face off against parked car

RATINGS

- 29% Rotten Tomatoes
- 6.8/10 IMDb
- 2/5 Common Sense Media

**W**hen I heard that a movie about Venom was in the process of being made, I was ecstatic. Venom is a character in the Marvel universe that has only appeared in comics, cartoons, and Spider-Man 3. While he is not as big of a character as Spider-Man, he has plenty of potential in the Marvel franchise. Marvel finally picked up on this and announced Venom (2018). As I went to watch this, my expectations were set high, as the backstory of Venom is something many Marvel fans want to see. The movie starts off with an

introduction to Eddie Brock, the protagonist and a journalist. He discovers Venom and the story builds from there. Venom can be seen as a ‘good guy’ in this movie, which was confusing at first. However, Marvel did their best to add scenes where he can also be seen as evil, such as eating people's heads. We had the archetypal “good hero falls, rises against the villain and saves the day” plot. In particular, the studio put excellent work into the CGI. It can be seen clearly with the flashing pointy teeth, the Symbiote body and even all the

portrayed Venom, but I think we should ultimately be happy that he has finally gotten some attention. The ending of this movie has a nice twist, with a teaser of a sequel involving another symbiote, supposedly stronger than Venom and Spider-Man. This character is Carnage, and I can't wait to see him in the next movie.

Personal Rating:  
8/10.



REVIEWS

# Netflix Review

The Umbrella Academy is a popular Netflix television show filmed in Hamilton and Toronto, Ontario.



by Vita Rao- Writer



Above: Vanya Hargreeves, portrayed by Ellen Page .

**A**dapted from Gerard Way's comic book series of the same name, The Umbrella Academy, follows a dysfunctional family of adopted sibling superheroes and their shared quest to uncover the reasoning behind their father's death.

The show begins with the simultaneous and global births of 46 children, despite their mothers showing no signs of pregnancy prior to. Eventually, Sir Reginald Hargreeves adopts seven of the children and deeming them, "The Umbrella Academy."

In the present day, after years of estrangement, the siblings are reunited at their father's funeral. While rejoined, it is revealed that

an apocalypse is soon approaching, leaving it up to the recently reunited siblings to stop it.

**This drama-filled show is constantly keeping viewers on their toes with its unexpected and unusual plotline and theme.**

RATINGS

- 10 Number of episodes
- 9.5/10 Personal rating
- TV-14 Certification
- 76% Rotten Tomatoes
- 8.2/10 IMDb

# HOROSCOPES

Are you an Aries? So are these celebrities:



Paul Rudd



Mariah Carey



Robert Downey Jr.

## ARIES ♈

*March 21 - April 19*

It's Aries season! A big Happy Birthday to all of our Royal Aries. This star sign is the first in the zodiac and are known for their leadership and focus. This month, expect a leadership opportunity to come your way. Lucky numbers: 2, 3, 10

## TAURUS ♉

*April 20 - May 20*

Tauruses are an earth element sign meaning that you are patient and practical. These characteristics will come in handy this month with an upcoming project. Lucky numbers: 17, 48, 66

## ♊ GEMINI

*May 21 - June 20*

A wealth of knowledge will be bestowed upon you this month. Keep your eyes and ears open, as you may learn of some shocking discoveries. Lucky numbers: 16, 26, 36

## CANCER ♋

*June 21 - July 22*

Congratulations Cancer! You will be recognized for an achievement this month. Take the time to celebrate this with friends. Lucky number: 55, 72, 99

## LEO ♌

*July 23 - August 22*

With the semester halfway finished and summer looming, it might be hard for you to focus. However, great reward will come from continuing to work hard! Lucky numbers: 13, 24, 62

## ♍ VIRGO

*August 23 - September 22*

Great news, Virgo! A fantastic month lies ahead... April Fools! This is going to be the worst month of your life. Lucky numbers: 8, 17, 90

## LIBRA ♎

*September 23 - October 22*

This month will be full of ups and downs. It might be hard to keep on top of everything, but don't be too hard on yourself, you're doing your best. Lucky numbers: 15, 27, 78

## SCORPIO ♏

*October 23 - November 21*

You'll make a mistake this month, Scorpio. Fortunately, a second chance will be granted, but don't mess it up. Lucky numbers: 6, 39, 40

## ♐ SAGITTARIUS

*November 22 - December 21*

Look out, Sagittarius! Someone you're close to will betray your trust this month. Better hire some pest control to get rid of the snakes in your life. Lucky numbers: 7, 45, 98

## CAPRICORN ♑

*December 22 - January 19*

Spring is near, Capricorn. Breathe in the fresh air, and take a breath in your life as well. It's foreseen that a pause will do you good. Lucky numbers: 2, 23, 75

## AQUARIUS ♒

*January 20 - February 18*

A rough month lies ahead, Aquarius. It is important to remain level headed and communicate with those close to you. Lucky numbers: 5, 22, 23

## ♓ PISCES

*February 19 - March 20*

Pisces, your compassionate and intuitive nature will help strengthen a relationship this month. Look out for a friend in need. Lucky numbers: 9, 11, 16



# Scan to Subscribe!



**Do you value student journalism and the Royal Gazette?**

Show us your support by subscribing, contributing, giving feedback and/or spreading the word!

## In This Issue

### **Editor-in-Chief**

Emily Outerbridge

### **Club Advisor**

Ashley Barry

### **Graphic Designers**

Ananya Singh  
Jenns Grant  
Claire Nesathurai  
Anne Fu

### **Web Designer**

Jason Amri

### **Illustrators**

Anne Fu

### **Supervising Teachers**

Mrs. Bentham  
Mr. Sheeler

### **Writers**

Ashley Barry  
Sabrina Cagampan  
Erika Ehrenberg  
Gabriel Farion  
Anne Fu  
Celia Harrison  
Sophie Hughes  
Anika Kanagaratnam  
Maddy Kearns  
Emily Outerbridge  
Olivia Pasian  
Ananya Singh  
Ashley Smith  
Ava Stechey

## Contact Us

 @ahsroyalgazette

 gazetteroyal@gmail.com

 royalgazette.ca

**Join us.**  
**Wednesdays**  
**Room 205 (2036)**