



# Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

**August 30, 2024**

201 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, ON  
905-479-2787

Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458

Email: [unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca)

Tweets: [@UHSupdate](https://twitter.com/UHSupdate)

Principal  
[Susie Nunes](#)

Vice-Principal (R - Z)  
[Patrick Belmonte](#)

Vice-Principal (A - I)  
[Catherine Clarke](#)

Vice-Principal (J - Q)  
[Raymond Luong](#)

Superintendent  
[Kien Nam Luu](#)

Trustee  
[Ron Lynn](#)

## TECH REQUEST FORM – 2024-2025

## [GUIDANCE UPDATES](#)

### Character Matters Trait of the Month: Respect

“One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.”  
- Bryant H. McGill

### Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2	Labour Day (No Classes)
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3	Grade 9 Day
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4	First Day of Classes for Grades 10 - 12



### Administration Student Alphas (by last name)

Administration	Alpha
Ms. Clarke	A - I
Mr. Luong	J - Q
Mr. Belmonte	R - Z



Guidance Counsellors Student Alphas (by last name)

Guidance Counsellor	Alpha
Ms. Felicia Sukdeo	A - F
Ms. Keyan Wu	G - J
Ms. Rita Riolo	K - Mac
Mr. Shiraz Rafik	Mad – V, X
Mr. Jonathan Tam	W, Y - Z

Grade 9 Welcome Day

Welcome UHS families and students to the 2024-2025 school year.

September 3rd, 2024 is a special Orientation Day where only grade 9 students attend. All other students will begin school the following day (Wednesday, September 4, 2024).

Our Welcome Day for Grade 9 students takes place on Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024. Students will participate in an assembly, tour and welcome activities as well as spend time in each of their classes. Student Ambassadors will be on hand to help everyone find their classes. Grade 9 students are asked to arrive at UHS by 8:05 a.m. and make their way to the large gym.

**Welcome Day Schedule:**

8:05 - 8:25 Welcome Students (Large Gym)

8:25 - 9:30 Grade 9 Student Assembly in Large Gym

9:35 - 10:05 Period 1 Class

10:10 - 11:25 Getting to Know UHS and School Tour

11:30 - 12:00 Period 2 Class

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:05 - 1:35 Period 4 Class

1:40 - 2:10 Period 5 Class

2:15 - 2:35 Photo on Warden Field

2:40 - 3:05 Closing Activities in Large Gym



Parents/guardians of grade 9 students are invited to attend one of the following information assemblies:

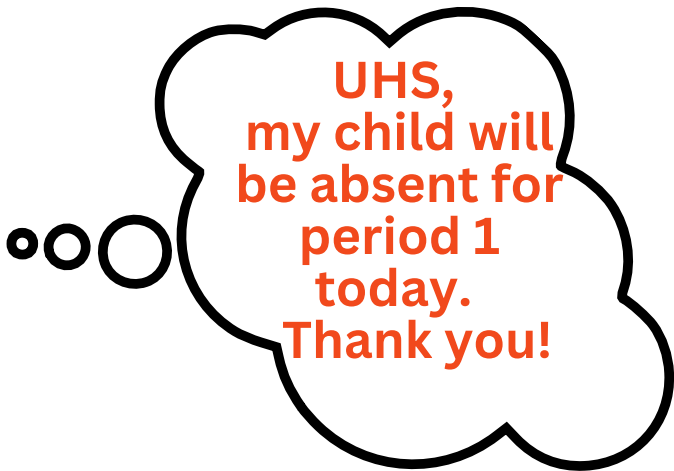
- 8:30 - 9:15 am Mandarin-Speaking Assembly in Library
- 8:45 - 9:30 am English-Speaking Assembly in Cafeteria

UHS will be providing lunch for grade 9s on Orientation Day.

September 3, 2024 is a special Orientation Day where only grade 9 students attend. All other students will begin school the following day (Wednesday, September 4, 2024).

Reporting Student Absences

Parents are asked to **call** or **email** the attendance office, (905) 479-2787 ext. 230 or [unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca), on each morning of their child’s **absence or late**.



Online Start-Up Forms

- Forms will be sent centrally to all families at all schools approximately one week after the start of the school year. Translations are available. The Board will send a central email to all families with a link to a Google Form to complete the start-up forms.
  - Student GAPPs login information will be required for families to complete the forms. Please ensure your students have their GAPPs login information at the start of the school year.
- For secondary schools, the Start-Up Permission Form will also be sent to students' GAPPs accounts for them to complete online.





## YRDSB Expectations for Personal Mobile Devices

We want all UHS students to feel safe, included, and cared for during the school day.

We can do this by connecting with our peers, teachers and school staff.

Let's power down our mobile devices and tune into school!

All mobile devices, including cellphones, smartwatches, and tablets, must be **powered off** or **set to silent mode** during **the school day**, including **recess and lunch**, unless students leave the school during lunch.

If an educator sees you using a mobile device without permission:

- You will be asked to power the device off or set it to silent mode.
- You may also be required to hand in your mobile device to the office for the school day.
- Your parent(s)/guardian(s) may also be notified.



## Student Parking Information 🚗 P

To request a student parking pass, students need to email or see Ms. McIntyre ([sandra.mcintyre@yrdsb.ca](mailto:sandra.mcintyre@yrdsb.ca)) in the main office by **Friday, September 6th**. Students can then submit their request on the Parking Pass Google Form Parking on **Tuesday September 10th** at **8:00 am**.

Once your form has been completed, submitted and approved by Vice Principal **Mr. Luong**, the \$20 **"Student Parking Permit Deposit – Semester One Only"** will be added to your School Cash online account. It is your responsibility to check School Cash Online for this payment option. There are only 40 student parking spots available and passes are on a first come first served basis.

Once you have paid your fee on **School Cash Online**, please bring your receipt to Mrs. McIntyre in the main office to pick up your red Semester One parking pass. You will need to reapply for a parking pass each semester.



## Technology Requests

We are encouraging all students to bring their own laptop or chromebook to school on a daily basis to assist in their learning. If you are bringing a personal laptop or chromebook, please ensure that it is clearly labelled for ease of identification. If your child does not already have a personal or Board laptop or chromebook, please complete the [Technology Request Form 2024-2025](#). The link will be posted on the parent bulletin top left corner for the whole school year.



## Message from Caretaking

Please help keep UHS clean! Please do not put anything sticky on the floors (tape, gum, adhesive, etc).

Please continue to stack all chairs at the end of the day. Thank you for keeping our space pleasant and ready for the next class to use !



## Caring and Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations

Dear Families,

As the new school year is beginning, students will be attending Caring and Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations on **September 23 and 24, 2023**. These presentations are designed to underscore behaviour expectations as we create a caring, safe and inclusive school environment. As families are critical partners, please continue discussions about school safety at home by asking your child what they have learned in the Start-Up Presentation.

Presentation topics include:



- Racism and types of discrimination;
- Bullying;
- Progressive discipline; and
- Standing up for each other, including methods of reporting incidents of racism, discrimination and bullying.

## Mental Health

We will stress to students the importance of connection as we return to school. Students are learning about who they can talk to if they need support. In addition, positive mental health is closely tied to each individual's sense of identity and safety. As such, mental health initiatives are aligned with equity and safety in mind, which includes culturally specific supports. YRDSB student mental health services are delivered by Board social work and psychology staff. These services are accessible through the school principal. Mental health resources for families are also available on the Board website.

## Tips for UHS Daily Lives

1. **Locker usage:** please always lock your locker and only use the lock school provided. No personal lock. No sharing the combination to others. No overnight food and drinks.
2. **Survival items:** please bring your own water bottles, cutlery (spoon, fork or chopsticks), lunch and snacks. School do have water fountains, but the students need to bring their own water bottles.
3. **Personal possessions:** please don't leave things unattended and bring all your belongings with you when you switch classes, especially the electronic devices.





## Inappropriate Behaviour

In the Start-Up Presentation, students are learning about anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination, and bullying. This learning will continue throughout the school year. Instances of anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination and bullying are not acceptable and are addressed through progressive discipline. In some cases of racism and discrimination, York Regional Police may be involved.

Students will also be reminded about safe school behaviours, including what items must never be brought to school, such as peanut products, vape products/drug paraphernalia, weapons/replica weapons and knives/replica knives.

## Reporting Behaviour

Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying. Students can report incidents by:

- Telling a caring adult;
- Using the YRDSB's "[Report It Button](#)" (Located on our school's website, the online Report It button allows students and families to share information about inappropriate behaviour and incidents of hate or discrimination. Please see [this video](#) for additional information);

Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868).

## Student Discipline

We use a progressive discipline approach for inappropriate behaviour on and off school property. This means we consider various options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices. In some cases, suspension or expulsion may be necessary. The Ontario Education Act and the Board's Caring and Safe Schools Policy (found on the Board's Caring and Safe School Page) outline situations where suspension and expulsion must be considered. These infractions are also outlined in the Guide to the School Year. In addition, when inappropriate behaviour occurs, information will be shared with the student(s) who were harmed and the families of the student(s) who were harmed to the extent that legislation allows.

## Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug-Free Environment

The use of tobacco, electronic products (such as [vaping](#), [electronic cigarettes](#) and related products) and student possession of alcohol/illegal and restricted drugs, including cannabis, are **prohibited on school property or within 20 metres of school boundaries**. This complies with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, enforced locally by York Region Community and Health Services. A progressive form of discipline may apply, including suspension from school and fines (up to \$5,000). In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA), exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture and spirituality.

## Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology

Students are reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools. This agreement is also included in the start-up package that all families receive at the beginning of the year.

Students are reminded that online threats and comments are taken seriously and may have consequences, including potential criminal charges. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remain our top priority.

## For More Information

For more details on these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for more information and to access family resources to continue these conversations at home.

Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.

## A Note from Student Services (Special Education) to Students & Families

We look forward to welcoming back all of our students this fall!

Students who are enrolled in Learning Strategies courses (GLE) your child's teacher for that course is their Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) for this school year.

If your child is not taking Learning Strategies, their SERT will be in contact shortly. Students are always welcome to drop by the Resource Room (216) or our office (218) to check in and receive support.

You can expect your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP) for this year to be sent home mid October, in the meantime teachers will follow last year's IEP. A IEP consultation form should be coming home shortly as your contributions are important to the creation of the IEP.

If your child received a new diagnosis or completed an assessment over the summer please reach out to [Melissa Caufield](#) or [Beckey Serwaa](#) so we may create or add to your child's IEP.

Community Class families should be hearing from their child's teachers regarding bussing and class information. Your child's teacher is also their SERT for this school year. Parents are reminded to refer to the Late Bus Report on the Student Transportation Services website at [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com) prior to leaving for the bus stop in the mornings and afternoons and understand the need to make alternative arrangements for their child/children if the school bus is late or canceled.

Melissa Caufield  
Student Services Department Head  
([melissa.caufield@yrdsb.ca](mailto:melissa.caufield@yrdsb.ca))

[Beckey Serwaa](#)  
Student Services Assistant Head  
([beckey.serwaa@yrdsb.ca](mailto:beckey.serwaa@yrdsb.ca))

**SUPPORT**  
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# Unionville High School Daily Schedule



SCHEDULE	START	END
Homeroom (5 min)	8:25 am	8:30 am
Period 1 (75 min)	8:30 am	9:45 am
Travel Time	9:45 am	9:50 am
Period 2 (75 min)	9:50 am	11:05 am
Travel Time	11:05 am	11:10 am
Period 3 (75 min)	11:10 am	12:25 pm
Travel Time	12:25 pm	12:30 pm
Period 4 (75 min)	12:30 pm	1:45 pm
Travel Time	1:45 pm	1:50 pm
Period 5 (75 min)	1:50 pm	3:05 pm

## New Traffic Calming Measures for Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre Sept. 3 to Oct. 4

Effective **September 3 to October 4, 2024** between the hours of **8:00 to 9:00 AM** and **2:30 to 3:30 PM** Monday to Friday only, traffic control measures will be in place at the Markham Civic Centre (101 Town Centre Blvd). This will impact Unionville High School-related vehicular traffic, and anyone visiting the Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre during these times.

**School-related traffic:** all vehicles **must access** the school parking lot and drop-off area from **Wallis Way**.

**Visitors and staff to Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre:** recommended that all vehicles enter the parking lot entrance at Cox Boulevard and Town Centre Boulevard.

These new traffic control measures are necessary to manage efficient flow of traffic and to prioritize everyone’s safety.

Thank you in advance for your patience and please ensure you plan your travel time ahead.

If you have any questions, please email [CustomerService@markham.ca](mailto:CustomerService@markham.ca)



## Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
September 16	School Photo Day (Gr. 9 & 10) School Council Meeting (7:00 pm)
September 17	School Photo Day (Gr. 11 & 12)
September 25	Camp Day (Gr. 9)
September 27	Professional Development Day (No classes)
October 14	Thanksgiving (No classes)
October 17	Photo Retake Day
October 21	Professional Development Day (No classes)