



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday, December 9, 2022

201 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, ON
905-479-2787
Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458
Email: unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca
Tweets: [@UHSupdate](https://twitter.com/UHSupdate)

Principal
[Sue Lyn Cheong](#)

Principal on Assignment
[Susie Nunes](#)

Vice-Principal
[Amol Gheewala](#)

Vice-Principal
[Patrick Belmonte](#)

Superintendent
[Michael Cohen](#)

Trustee
[Ron Lynn](#)

[TECH REQUEST FORM – 2022-2023](#)

[CLUBS LIST 22-23](#)

[GUIDANCE UPDATES](#)

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Empathy

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible. - Dalai Lama

DATE	EVENT
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20	Music Performance Cafeteria 7:00pm - 8:00pm
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21	Drama Performance Markham Theatre 7:00pm - 9:30pm
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23	Winter Assembly at Markham Theatre
DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 6	Winter Break

EQAO Math

Attention all families of students who are taking Grade 9 Math (MTH1W1) this semester: The EQAO Math Assessment will be taking place during your child's math class on **Thursday, January 19 and Friday, January 20, 2023**. A letter will be sent home to all affected families when school resumes in January (after the Winter Break). Please stay tuned for more details coming in the new year!

OUAC Closed

The OUAC is officially closed for the holidays from **December 22, 2022 to January 2, 2023**, inclusive. The OUAC website and online applications will be available during this time.

To reduce the chance of delays and slower online response times, encourage your university-bound students to complete and submit their 101 application well in advance of the January 12, 2023 deadline.

Extended Applicant Services hours will be available before the 101 application deadline:

Tuesday, January 10 and Wednesday, January 11: 9:30 am to 7 pm (ET)
Thursday, January 12: 10:00 am to 7 pm (ET)

Applicant Services Phone: 519-823-1063

Please inform your guidance office staff and any others who may be interested.

Thank you,
The OUAC Secondary School Division

Holiday Spirit Week

Hey UHS!

Next week is HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK! Holiday Spirit Week is a chance for students and staff to show off their creativity and spirit by dressing up as a different theme for the week of **December 12-16th**.

Match with another student for **Monday!**

Dress up in Baggy Clothes for **Tuesday!**

Wednesday will be dressing up in a Monochrome colour!

Suit up/Dress up for **Thursday** Formal Day!

Lastly, end the week off on **Friday** with a comfy Pajama Day!



Here are some of the newest books at the UHS Library

The Island of Forgetting by Jasmine Sealy

A Short History of the Blockade by Leanne Betasamosake Simpson

Get Involved: Democracy by Joy Kita

Where the Silver River Ends by Anna Quon

Black Food: Stories, Art and Recipes from Across the African Diaspora edited by Bryant Terry



Students are welcomed and encouraged to borrow books to take with them over the break!

Students also have access to ebooks through SORA. They sign in using the number 0 followed by their student number.

Unionville's 2022/2023 Yearbook Cover Design Contest!

Are you feeling artsy? Do you like fun colours and bold designs? Are you up for a creative challenge? We are looking for artists like YOU! Students are invited to participate in Unionville's 2022/2023 Yearbook cover design contest! The votes are in and UHS has voted for a 90s scrapbook theme! Here are the design rules to consider:

- Dimensions (this includes the front AND the back cover) 8.75" x 11.25" front and back with a spine that is 0.5" inch wide
- This should be in the spirit of 90s zines and scrapbooks (think bright colours, funky patterns, magazine cutouts, doodles)
- Make sure the design is in HIGH resolution (300 dpi). If the work is done on paper, please submit the work to Ms. Tom in Rm. 235
- If you are submitting a digital file, provide an uncompressed native file (e.g. .psd/ .ai)

<https://forms.gle/nQTYEYpJB645hjdk6>

Submissions are due **December 23, 2022**



Wellness Reminder of the Week:

"To keep the body in good health is a duty...otherwise we shall not be able to keep the mind strong and clear." – Buddha.

The winter weather is approaching, so please remember to keep yourselves warm and healthy!

The UHS Wellness Council is back! We are a student run council whose mission is dedicated to improve students' health and well-being by creating and maintaining a positive school environment here at UHS. To learn more about how you can be part of the UHS Wellness Council, [please click here](#) for our Instagram page.

Peer Tutoring

All students **interested in becoming a peer tutor** for the 2022-2023 school year must submit their application through this link: <https://bit.ly/BecomeTutorUHS0>

This application must be completed using the **student's GAPPS email**. Upon submitting, students will **receive an email containing a PDF** that will need to be printed, signed and returned to the Guidance Department dropbox located outside the Guidance Office. **Please Note:** If students are applying to tutor a subject they are currently taking, please ask your subject teacher first, as students are required to indicate their subject teacher's name to confirm if they are recommended for tutoring that subject.

All students **requesting a peer tutor** must submit their application through this link: <https://bit.ly/RequestTutorUHS>

This application must be completed using the **student's GAPPS email**. Upon submitting, students will **receive an email containing a PDF** that will need to be printed, signed and returned to the Guidance Department dropbox located outside the Guidance Office.

[Please click here for the Peer Tutoring flyer](#)

Preparing for Severe Weather

As we are getting into colder climates and temperatures, here is a message that was sent to families from the YRDSB :

Dear families,

With yesterday's announcement from Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health regarding masking and winter weather approaching, we want to provide families with an update on masking and the steps we take to keep students safe when severe weather occurs.

Masking in Schools

Yesterday, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health strongly recommended that individuals wear masks in indoor settings. We continue to consult with York Region Public Health, who are strongly recommending masking in indoor settings. York Region schools and workplaces continue to be mask friendly environments and masking is strongly encouraged in YRDSB schools and buildings, and on all forms of school transportation. All students, staff, families and visitors who choose to wear a mask, or who are advised or required to wear a mask will be supported in doing so. A limited number of masks are available; children who wish to wear a mask but do not have access to one, may contact their school.

School Transportation Cancellations

School transportation (buses and taxis) may be cancelled due to extreme cold or inclement weather. On these days, schools will remain open unless otherwise stated. If school transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will also be cancelled in the afternoon. Any special or hot lunch days and field trips will also be cancelled.

Families should use their best judgment to decide whether to send their children to school on extreme cold or inclement weather days. Students will not be penalized for missing school on those days. For safety reasons, please let the school know if your child will not be attending school that day.

School Closures

Emergency closures will be considered when conditions may not be safe for students and staff members to attend school for the full day. This may include events that significantly limit school operations or access to the school site (e.g., widespread, prolonged power failures or downed power lines).

In keeping with our current practice, we will continue to keep our schools open as much as possible. However, it is important that families have alternate childcare arrangements planned for the rare occasions when schools may be closed. Before and aftercare programs will not operate if schools are closed.

Communication to Families

Decisions about school transportation and school closures will be made as early as possible and no later than 6:00 a.m. We will do our best to notify families in advance when we may be considering closing school and Board offices. Transportation cancellations or school closures are communicated through:

- Student Transportation Services - www.schoolbuscity.com or 1-877-330-3001
- Board and school websites
- @YRDSB Twitter account
- Radio and TV media outlets

For more information on severe weather days, please visit our website www.yrdsb.ca.

Semester 1 Exams

All students and families need to ensure that students are present and available for the Semester 1 Exam block. Semester 1 Exams will take place **January 26 - February 1**. Please be aware that **February 2, 2023** is Mark Review Day and **February 3, 2023** is a PA Day.

School Zone Parking Safety

Parking safety is everyone's responsibility! Please see the attached links for more information from the City of Markham about how we can all contribute to road safety.

Common Responsibilities of By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services

By-Law Enforcement & Regulatory Services Newsletter

School Zone Parking Safety Pamphlet



Prayer/Meditation Space Request

Does your child need a space to practice their faith? All students who would like to use our Prayer/Meditation Space for the 2022-2023 school year should complete the School Start Up forms: <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/> and email Ms. Kyriopoulos (effie.kyriopoulos@yrdsb.ca) for more information.



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

December 2022

YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel

Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy

A closer look at the concept of “Between and Around”

Dear Families,

In the [November edition of the Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter](#) We took a closer look at the concept of **Within**. In this edition, we continue to focus on the [Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy \(SMHAS\): A Holistic Approach to Mental Health, Within Us, Between Us, Around Us](#) by taking a closer look at the concept of “**Between**” and “**Around**” and the associated priority actions.

More than words on paper, the SMHAS strategy is created to be action-oriented. With an understanding that actions, accountability and collaboration are needed to foster [identity-affirming](#) and [healing-centred](#) spaces that enhance mental health.

To uphold the collaborative process of our strategy development and honour the voices and contributions of students, families, communities, organizations and staff who shared their wisdom with us, we have co-created a multifaceted, holistic framework informed by many voices. This framework encompasses mental health and wellness that is inclusive of the whole person and the many intersections (intersectionality) and relationships that are encompassed within their social identities. This speaks to the key concepts of Between and Around.

Between:

Between can be explained as the social aspect of our relationships with other people, our families, and communities. This includes but is not limited to our connections and relationships with faith groups, elders and beyond. The Between action areas focus on building capacity, understanding and resources with people, families, and communities in YRDSB to address trauma, racial trauma and other forms of harm while supporting healing and growth. We approach the development of the Between priority actions with an understanding that we, as a school board,

To read the full Newsletter please click [here](#).



**In collaboration with
York Region District School Board**

SAAAC Autism Centre Presents

Caregiver Orientation: New Autism Diagnosis

To be delivered in Tamil and English

Join us to chat about:

- Next steps after diagnosis
- Types of funding available
- Services and programs available in the community
- SAAAC Cares Program
- YRDSB Autism Supports
- Cultural perspectives on children with disabilities
- Your experiences as a caregiver of a child with Autism

**December 13th 2022 | 6:30-8:30pm
Markham District High School
89 Church St, Markham, ON L3P 2M3**

Register here on our [Google Form](#)

**For questions or accommodation requests please
email: nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca**



Student Voice Town Hall Meetings are coming to UHS

Our students' voices matter, especially when it comes to decision-making at our school. The Student Voice town hall initiative is an effective way to gather UHS students' opinions, thoughts, and ideas about their experiences at school, in order to help establish a better and safer school environment.

The Student Voice Town Halls will collect data in two ways : one involves an online survey to gather a large database, and two, is to host small, focused interviews with classes, clubs and other informal groups of students to allow more in-depth conversations.

The UHS Student Council Student Voice committee prepared questions from survey data that they feel will resonate with staff, students and administration and will focus on collecting feedback that will help UHS to provide a positive, engaging and safe environment for everyone.

Throughout the semester, the Student Council will train volunteers to facilitate these Town Hall meetings.

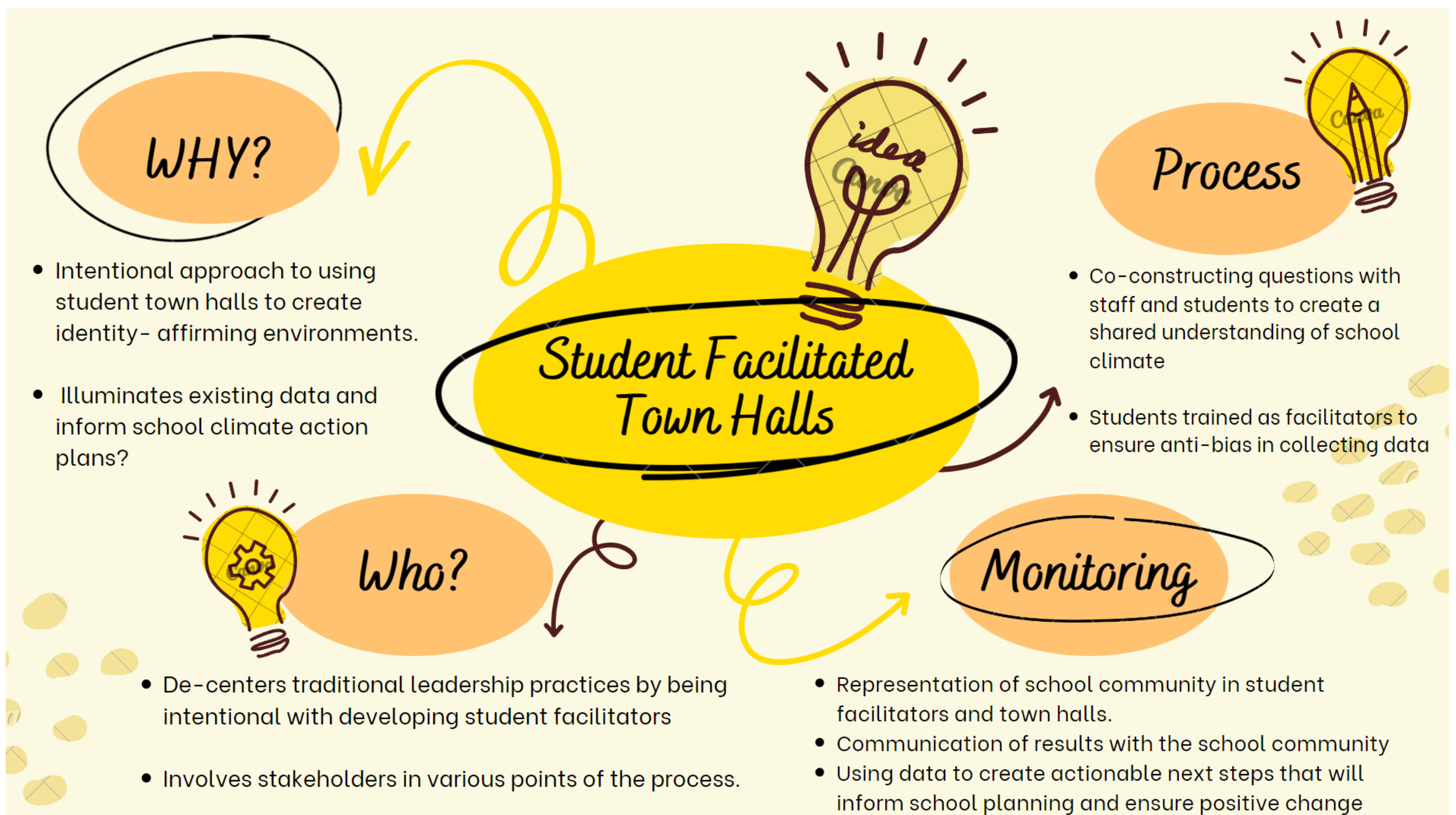
Please encourage students to sign up for our first Town Hall:

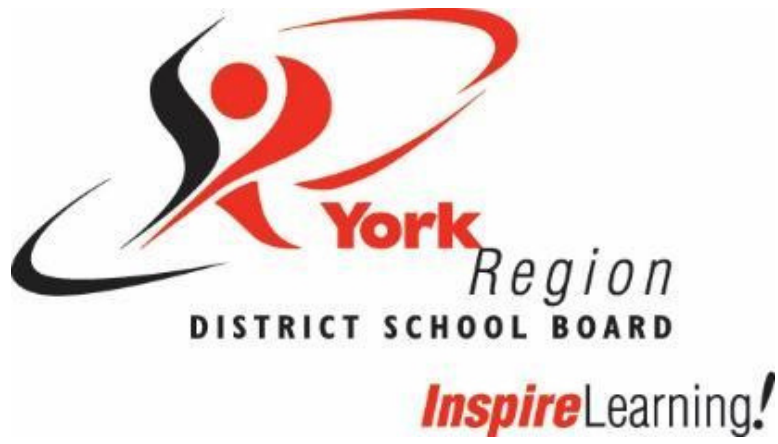
WHEN: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH 3:15-4:00 LOCATION: THE LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

Sign Up:<https://forms.gle/GCShvzTdteBALcMLA>

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sara Faulkner & Afsana Ahmed
Staff Advisors, Unionville Student Council (USC)
sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca





Community Building and Engagement Event

共建美好家庭座談會／共建美好家庭座談會

Please join us at our 2022-2023 community building event! We are thrilled to build connections with the Chinese Heritage parents and students, and engage meaningful conversations that help students thrive at school.

我們渴望對話，了解學生的情況並分享有關家庭關係和情感健康的技巧。我們誠邀您加入對話，好讓華裔學生的情況能夠得到更多的支持。

我们渴望对话，了解学生的情况并分享有关家庭关系和情感健康的技巧。我们诚邀您加入对话，好让华裔学生的情况能够得到更多的支持。

To register for this Cantonese/ Mandarin session:

[点击这里报名讲座](#) or scan the QR code



[點擊這裡報名講座](#) or scan QR code



Parents, Guardians, Caregiver and Students

Join us to learn and share with your community how the families are supported!

Date: Wednesday, Dec 14th, 2022

Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Location: Armadale Community Centre
2401 Denison Street, Markham, ON L3S 1E7

Presenters:

Charmaine Tong (M.S.W., R.S.W.)

York Region District School Board
School Social Worker (Chinese Heritage Community)

Hannah Xu (MPH)

Hong Fook Mental Health Association
Youth Program Worker

For more information, please contact:

Community Care Team
School Social Worker
Charmaine Tong

charmaine.tong@yrdsb.ca

Light refreshments will be provided

Registration will be closed after we have reached the maximum number of registrations for the event. This free session is brought to you in partnership with Hong Fook Mental Health Association and Community Care Team of York Region District School Board



Looking for Club Information? Look no further!

Club	Teacher Supervisors
Artisans Club	Jessica Li
Business & Sports	Neil Sareen
Charis Club	Peter Lansing
Chess Club	Afsana Ahmed
Chinese History Club	Shan-Chen Yu
Club de Français (French Club)	Peter Lansing
Community Council	Melissa Del Rosario - James Campbell - Felicia Sukdeo
Computer Science Club	Raymond Do
Cooking Club	Anna DiLorenzo - Frances Tom
Dance Council	Melissa Bettio - Kathleen Major
DECA	Kuo Pan - Wesley Guldemon - Neil Sareen
Dramatic Arts Council	Lazaros Geronikolos
Eco-Council	Michael Johnston
Film Club	Lauren Fridman - Shiraz Rafik - Zachary Layton
Gender & Sexuality Alliance	Sara Faulkner - Zachary Teitel
Guitar Ensemble	Niloufar Barazesh
Jazz Band	Niloufar Barazesh
Light Music Club	Jennifer Porter
Math Club	Daniela Panacci - Shan-Chen Yu - Liubov Chulkova - Shama Sharma
Mock Trial	Dustin Cash – Nathan Struk
Muslim Students Association	Farhan Baig
Narrative Arts Club	Shiraz Rafik
Newcomers Club	Tara Kapeluch
Philosophical Studies Club	Laura Fong
Prom Committee	Zafirah Damji - Daniela Panacci - Melissa Bettio
Robotics	Brian Cho
Science Club	Elaine Howard - Jeffrey Chan
Show Choir	Melissa Bettio - Julia Fong - Michelle Teh
Social Justice Club	Felicia Sukdeo - Jennifer Porter
Special Events Club	Zafirah Damji - Susan Sun
STEM Beyond	Georgina Mantelos
Tamil Students Association	Shama Sharma
Target Alpha	Wesley Guldemon - Matthew Himelson
UHS Architecture Club	Zachary Layton
UHS Black Excellence	Sara Faulkner - Zachary Teitel - Beckey Serwaa
UHS Med	Evan Mallin
UHS Wellness Club	Michelle Farwell - Evan Mallin
UHS Writers Club	Zachary Layton
Unionville Howl	Keyan Wu
Zoology Club	Yiu Lun Leung - Daniel Dietrich

[Please click here to access teacher advisor emails](#)

Upcoming Events - January 2023

DATE	EVENT
JANUARY 13 - 14	Showtime 7:00pm
JANUARY 19 - 20	EQAO Math
MONDAY, JANUARY 23	School Council Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm
JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 1	Culminating Activities/Exams