



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

December 8, 2023

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 Susie Nunes	Vice-Principal (Shek - Z) Patrick Belmonte	Vice-Principal (A-J) Dawn Imada-Chan	Vice-Principal (K-Shas) Raymond Luong	Superintendent Kien Nam Luu	Trustee Ron Lynn
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TECH REQUEST FORM – 2023-2024

CLUBS

GUIDANCE UPDATES

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Empathy

“If you want to lift yourself up, lift someone else up.”
– Booker T. Washington

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
UNTIL DECEMBER 15	Grad Photos (Room 326)
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12	UHS Music Winter Fantasia - Flato Theatre (7:00 pm)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13	AU Presents Jazz Through the Ages - Flato Theatre (12:40 pm) UHS Music Winter Fantasia - Flato Theatre (7:00 pm)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20	Holiday Music Concert (7:00 pm)

Message from the Director

Dear colleagues,

I am very pleased to report on the election of officers of the York Region District School Board for the year 2024. Trustee Ron Lynn was re-elected by acclamation as Board Chair.

The results of elections for other positions held at the Board’s Inaugural Meeting on **Monday, December 4** are as follows:

Board Vice-Chair	Pamela McCarthy
Finance and Property Standing Committee Chair	Michael Chen
Learning, Equity and Well-Being Standing Committee Chair	Carolyn Butterworth
Policy and By-Law Standing Committee Chair	Lauri Hoeg
Ontario Public School Board Association - Board of Directors	Nadeem Mahmood
	Dr. Elizabeth Sinclair

Attached is a list of [trustee contact information](#) for use by staff and members of the public. Please join me in congratulating Trustees Lynn, McCarthy, Chen, Butterworth and Hoeg on their election to these leadership positions for 2024, and to all of our trustees for their continuing leadership in support of York Region learners.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Trustee Services at 905-727-0022, extension 2262, 2327, or 2266.

Sincerely,
Bill Cober (he/him/his)
Director of Education
Education Centre – Aurora
director@yrdsb.ca

Student Activity Council and Activity Fees Update

Unionville High School Council would like to thank all families that have been able to contribute towards the \$45 Student Activity Fee, which helps whole-school spirit events for all grades.

At this time, approximately 950 of our students out of our school population of 2016 have contributed. We thank you for your support. If your family has not contributed and you would like to, then please visit [School Cash Online](#).

Questions can be directed to our administration team or your school council chair.

Anoosh Sharif
Chair
UHS School Council
OurSchoolUHS@gmail.com

Student Trustee Elections - Application Deadline Extended

If you will be in grade 11 or 12 next school year and are passionate about student voice, consider becoming a student trustee, and representing students across YRDSB.

Student trustees network with students, staff and the Board of Trustees to share information that gives students a meaningful voice. Learn more about the role and how you can apply at www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees.

Applications will be accepted until Monday, December 18 - 11:59 pm.

All students in Grades 5 - 12 will have an opportunity to vote for the candidate who represents our area of the Board. There are four areas of the Board: central, east, north and west. Once the four final candidates are announced, students can vote for two of the four candidates to represent them as student trustees in the 2024 - 2025 school year.

Students will receive information on how to vote in the election during the campaign and voting period.

Message from York Region Public Health

York Region Public Health will be reintroducing the enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act, which had been paused during the COVID-19 pandemic. York Region Public Health will contact families of students missing immunizations directly.

Please make sure you have provided your student's complete immunization records to YRPH and update them every time your child gets vaccinated.

YRPH will be holding student immunization "catch up clinics" at [community immunization clinics](#) and secondary schools in York Region. Information about the catch up clinic at UHS is forthcoming.

Winter Food Drive

The Student Council and Muslim Students Association is running a winter food drive! We will have boxes set up at the Town Centre entrance for donations until **Friday, December 22**.

Hunger is a persistent problem. The people who turn to food banks include: families with children new Canadians; employed people whose wages not sufficient to cover basic living essentials; individuals on social assistance; and Canadians living on a fixed income, including seniors and people with exceptionalities.

The Markham Food Bank accepts financial (cash, cheque, or [online via Canada Helps](#)) and in-kind donations of non-perishable food, baby items, and hygiene products.

When making a donation to the Markham Food Bank, please ensure items are within the best before period, have not expired, and have not been opened. We are unable to accept homemade food and food that is no longer in the original packaging. We cannot accept alcohol or items with alcohol (e.g. chocolates with brandy).

Most needed items:

- Small and Large Bags of Rice
- Individually Wrapped Snacks for School
- Hot Cereal (Instant Oatmeal, Oats)
- Instant Coffee
- Jam
- Canned Salmon and Sardines
- Canned Evaporated Milk
- Non-Dairy Milk (oat, almond, rice)
- Vegetarian Soups
- Habitant Soup
- Cooking Oil
- Kidney Beans
- Peanut Butter
- Cake Mixes
- Juice
- Canned Fruit
- diapers size 5 and 6
- formula stage 1, 2 and 3

Please note that they currently have an influx of pasta, and Kraft dinner. We will continue to accept these food items, but we ask that you consider donating food from our most needed list.

STEM Update

We are excited to launch STEM Unionville (version 2.0)!

We have revamped the program and will be running a mandatory information session for all STEM students, by grade, beginning this **Wednesday, December 13** in the library.

Students attending in the first half of the period may come down to the library once they have checked in with their classroom teacher for attendance. Students who have been assigned the second half of the period should wait for a PA announcement.

- Wednesday, December 13 - period 2: Grade 11 (last names A - M in first half of the period, N - Z in second half)
- Wednesday, December 13 - period 3: Grades 11 and 12 who are at co-op
- Thursday, December 14 - period 1: Grade 12 (last names A - M in first half of the period, N - Z in second half)
- Thursday, December 14 - period 2 for any seniors left
- Friday, December 15 - period 3: Grade 9 (last names A - M in first half of the period, N - Z in second half)
- Friday December 15 - period 4: Grade 10 (last names A - M in first half of the period, N - Z in second half)

Full Disclosure - Course Withdraw

The course withdrawal date (Full Disclosure) has been extended to **Thursday, December 14**. Students who withdraw from a Grade 11 or 12 course after the posted deadline or “drop date” will have the course and grade recorded on their Ontario Student Transcript (OST).

Scholarship News

Students are encouraged to continue to check the Scholarship Google Classroom, as items will be updated as they become available. Please review for various scholarship opportunities. Classroom code: 6fdb6l3

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS

School Sponsored:

January 9 - University of Western Ontario - Presentiment's Scholarship (domestic and International Students)

January 9 - Schulich Leaders Scholarship (STEM)

All eligibility criteria and application details are available for students on the 2023 - 2024 Scholarship Google Classroom.

BFCN Scholarship Application Workshops

Save the dates and register for the upcoming [BFCN Scholarship Application Workshops](#)! BFCN is excited to be collaborating with the Durham Region Anti-Racism Taskforce (DRART), Peel District School Board (PDSB), York Region District School Board (YRDSB), and York Region Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) to offer the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop to Black students and their families.

BFCN invites all York Region District School Board (YRDSB) Black Grade 8 to Grade 12 students and their families to the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop on **Wednesday, December 13** from 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

Please register ASAP and secure your spot to learn more about searching, preparing, and applying for post-secondary funding opportunities at <https://bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopDecember132023> or <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81234567890>

Summer Employment Opportunities

The Ontario Public Service (OPS) is pleased to announce the launch of the 2024 [Summer Employment Opportunities \(SEO\)](#) and [Ontario Internship Program \(OIP\)](#)!

These programs provide students and recent graduates with the opportunity to gain knowledge, develop skills, and build relationships that will strengthen their future employment prospects in the labour market, while contributing to Ontario's diverse and inclusive public service.

We encourage eligible students and graduates who are driven by a passion for creating a stronger Ontario to learn more and apply for our opportunities.

Get Notified When Jobs Go Live - Create your Job Alerts!

It is a busy time of year but do not worry, you can stay on top of these opportunities by creating a job alert to notify you when the jobs are live!

Follow these instructions to be notified of SEO opportunities:

Please note some mobile phone browsers may not be compatible with the OPS Careers job alert function. If you experience difficulties, you are encouraged to sign up for a job alert on a computer.

1. Go to the [SEO Job Alerts Page](#).
2. Enter your name and email address.
3. Under the “Job Category” section, select “Summer Employment Opportunities” (to be alerted of student positions, under the “minimum salary” section, select “<\$40,000”).
4. Click submit.

For OIP opportunities, sign up for the [OIP News Alerts](#) for the latest updates regarding the OIP launch and application timeline!

Secondary School Opportunities

Our secondary schools offer courses and programs that let you explore your interests, build skills and gain experience in areas that interest you. You can now [search from 16 different sectors](#) to learn more about:

- career pathways in the fields that interest you
- courses and programs you can take in secondary school that let you gain sector-specific skills, knowledge and experience
- how you can earn certifications, post-secondary credits and job experience while in high school

Find out what [courses and programs are available](#) in the fields that interest you at your school.

UHS Music Presents Winter Fantasia 2023 at Flato Markham Theatre

- **Tuesday, December 12** - 7:00 pm: Grade 9 Concert Band, Core Strings Ensemble, Junior Jazz Band, AU Piano Ensemble, Chamber Choir and Wind Ensemble
- **Wednesday, December 13** - 7:00 pm: Symphonic Band, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Senior Jazz Band, Guitar Ensemble, AU Strings and UHS Orchestra

Tickets are available through [School Cash Online](#) until **Friday, December 8**. After December 8, tickets can be purchased through the Flato Markham Theatre box office, for an additional fee.

Showtime's Production of Pippin

Showtime presents "Pippin" on **Thursday, January 11** and **Friday, January 12, 2024**.

There's magic to do when a prince learns the true meaning of glory, love and war in Stephen Schwartz's iconic and unforgettable musical masterpiece. It's an epic journey of discovery, full of great music and fabulous choreography. Join us for a full production, complete with an amazing live pit band and a cast of over 50 actors, singers and dancers!

Tickets are now available for purchase through [School Cash Online](#).

Evening show tickets will be available on School Cash Online until **Wednesday, December 20** - after that, you can purchase tickets at the Flato Markham Theatre office for an additional \$5 service charge.

School Council Meeting

Our 4th School Council Meeting will be held **Monday, January 22, 2024** at 7:00 pm in the UHS library. Translation services from English to Mandarin will be available. Please feel free to fill out the [School Council Pre-Registration Form - Monday, January 22, 2024](#).

The agenda will be shared with all families at a later date.

We are all looking forward to seeing everyone in person!

Student Study Tour - Spain 2024

We are excited to announce an interdisciplinary trip to Spain.

This study tour will be from **May 17 - 25, 2024** for students in Grades 10 - 12 in English, History, Social Science, Family Studies, Visual Arts, and Physical Education.

MADRID, MALAGA, CORDOBA, GRANADA! Explore history, culture, food, and healthy, active living.

Pre-booking is now open on the website operated by our travel provider, Georgia Hardy Tours. Please look at our customized [website](#) for more details and the booking information.

Please reach out to Sara Faulkner sara.faulkner@gapps.yrdsb.ca or Yachna Minhas yachna.minhas@gapps.yrdsb.ca if you have questions.

Graduation Photos

Attention potential Grade 12 students: grad photos are now taking place in room 326! Edge Imaging is here to take [grad photos](#), until **Friday, December 15**.

BOOK YOUR GRADUATION PHOTO SESSION NOW

Please sign up at www.bookmygrad.ca. Our school code is: WUH. Have your student card handy. Sign up to book a time that works best for you.



Congratulations class of 2024!

Library Information

This year Hanukkah begins in the evening of **Thursday, December 7** and continues until **Friday, December 15**. Learn more at the UHS Library.

Happy Hanukkah to all who are celebrating!

Hanukkah by Rebecca Sebelko
The Hanukkah Family Treasury by Steven Zorn
Celebrations of Light by Nancy Luenn
My Two Holidays: A Hanukkah and Christmas Story by Danielle Novack
Celebrate: Stories of the Jewish Holidays by Gilda Berger



Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
December 22	UHS Winter Assembly (Daytime/students only)
December 23 - January 7	Winter Break
January 8	Return to School
January 12	UHS Showtime (7:00 pm)
January 22	School Council meeting (7:00 pm)
January 25 - 31	Exams