



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

Friday, February 10, 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)

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[Reid Wilshire](#)

Principal
[Susie Nunes](#)

Vice -Principal
[Patrick Belmonte](#)

Vice -Principal
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[Kien Nam Luu](#)

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[TECH REQUEST FORM – 2022-2023](#)

[CLUBS LIST 22 - 23](#)

[GUIDANCE UPDATES](#)

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Initiative

“When we succeed, we succeed because of our individual initiative, but also because we do things together.” – Barack Obama

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20	Family Day (No Classes)
FEBRUARY 21 -22	Grad Photo Retake Days
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27	School Council Meeting 7:00pm



As we are ready to embark on our Semester 2 journey, we would like to thank everyone once again for a great end to Semester 1. Whether you were able to achieve all of your academic goals for Semester 1 or if you fell just short, we hope that you are able to celebrate your successes and create some solid plans to reach your maximum potential for Semester 2.

We would like to welcome a number of new staff members who will be joining the UHS family in Semester 2. A big welcome goes out to Ms. Deluca-Kurek, Mr. Lau, Ms. Kligerman, Ms. Michaels, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Wang and Ms. Woo. Welcome to all new staff and students to UHS for Semester 2!



As a continuation of our Celebrating Black Excellence campaign, YRDSB will be celebrating Black History Month with the Celebrating Black Excellence - Black Voices project.

Celebrating Black Excellence - Black Voices aims to centre and celebrate the Black members of our YRDSB community and share their voices. This Black History Month campaign asks students, staff and families who identify as Black to consider submitting a short video of themselves answering one or more of the following prompts.

- I am proud to be Black because..
- It's important to me that I see my identity affirmed at school/work because...
- What I need at school/work is...
- People need to know that...

- I love myself because...
- I am magic because...
- Do you have a story to tell? Let us know what it is.
- If these prompts don't resonate with you, please feel free to answer a prompt or question of your own making.

These videos will be shared as Reels on the @yrdsb.schools Instagram account throughout the month of February, and may be featured on the Black Excellence webpage or in a YRDSB video.

Submissions from students and staff can be made through an internal form. If your child is interested in making a submission, please ask them to contact a staff member or principal at their school for details.

Community members who are interested in making a submission can do so through our public submission form which is available on the Celebrating Black Excellence webpage.

UHS Library Items

Celebrate Black History Month at the UHS Library by borrowing one of these amazing books! Click links for more information.

[Fifteen Dogs](#) by André Alexis
[Women Do This Everyday: Selected Poems](#) of Lillian Allen
[Theory](#) by Dionne Brand
[Brother](#) by David Chariandy
[The Belles](#) by Dhonielle Clayton
[What We Lose](#) by Zinzi Clemmons
[Finding Yvonne](#) by Brandy Colbert
[A Princess in Theory](#) by Alyssa Cole
[Half-Blood Blues](#) by Esi Edugyan
[The Turner House](#) by Angela Flournoy
[Call Us What We Carry: Poems](#) by Amanda Gorman
[The Illegal: A Novel](#) by Lawrence Hill
[The Snowy Day](#) by Ezra Jack Keats
[Beloved](#) by Toni Morrison
[Frying Plantain](#) by Zalika Reid-Benta
[Gutter Child](#) by Jael Ealey Richardson
[The Violin Conspiracy](#) by Brendan Slocumb
[Dear Martin](#) by Nic Stone
[The Color Purple](#) by Alice Walker
[Reproduction](#) by Ian Williams



Students are invited to join the Library's Google Classroom. The join code is sv427pg. Students may also search for books, request books and access other resources on the [Library page](#) (click link) of the UHS website.

Students also have access to ebooks through [SORA](#) (click link). They sign in using the number 0 followed by their student number.

Student Parking Pass Requests

Semester two student parking pass requests will begin **Monday February 13**. All students requesting a semester two parking pass will need to apply. There are 40 available student parking passes, passes will be distributed on a first come first served basis.

Please email reena.dudani@yrdsb.ca to request access to the Student Parking Pass request form. Once the form has been submitted and approved, we will notify you to pay the \$20.00 deposit fee using School Cash Online. Once the fee has been paid, you can pick up your parking pass from Mrs. Dudani in the main office.

Students with a semester one student parking pass can request that the \$20 paid in semester one be used towards their semester two parking pass deposit. If you lose your parking pass, the fee is non-refundable.

Yearbook 2022-2023

The year is quickly coming to a close! Get this year's Yearbook if you want to cement your kid's time in high school! The link can be found in [School Cash Online](#)!

Also, to graduating students and their families: this is a reminder to submit your baby photos to be included in the Yearbook!

Sports Corner

Dear Parents and Guardians, Unionville's badminton season is upon us! Our season will run throughout the months of February, March and April. Try outs for the badminton team will take place in the large and small gym during the following dates after school:

JUNIOR Badminton Tryouts (grade 9 & 10)

- **Wednesday February 15**
- **Thursday February 16**

SENIOR Badminton Tryouts (grade 11 & 12)

- **Tuesday February 21**
- **Wednesday February 22**



Students are reminded to wear athletic attire, clean pair of running shoes and their badminton racquets + goggles (if they have their own. If not, we will provide students with goggles and a racquet.)



Wellness Reminder of the Week:

The UHS Wellness Council is 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.

Valentine's Day is right around the corner! Take a moment today to pay attention to yourself, focus on your feelings and practice self-care. Remember to tell a family member, a friend or a significant other how much you love and care about them!

WELLNESS COUNCIL

Cocoa Buddies

February 13 and 14

IN THE ATRIUM FOR ALL PERIODS!

**\$1.00 IF YOU BRING YOUR OWN CUP
\$1.50 FOR ONE CUP
\$2.00 FOR TWO CUPS**

WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING YOUR OWN CUP!

DM diverseminds

B'NAI BRITH CANADA

B'nai Brith Presents...

DIVERSE MINDS
CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!
Write and illustrate a children's book that tells a story of diversity and inclusion

WINNING BOOK WILL BE PUBLISHED AND WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE OF \$5000!
2ND PRIZE: \$2500 • 3RD PRIZE: \$1000

Deadline for entries is April 16, 2023!

3.2 M likes

diverseminds@bnaibrith.ca

diverse minds Calling all high school students in Canada! Create a book for elementary school kids. Visit DiverseMinds.ca for detailed submission information and guidelines

#onceinalifetime #championingdiversity

From This Week's Communication:

[Inclusive Schools and Community Services: Advocacy and Allyship Event](#)

[Inclusive Schools and Community Services: Autism Information Series – English](#)

[Inclusive Schools and Community Services: Poverty in York Region in 2023](#)

[MACCA Community Appreciate Award Nomination](#)

[Meet and Greet for Farsi Speaking Families at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.](#)

[Town Hall on Antisemitism](#)

[Tune In YRDSB – Monthly Wrap Up and Calendaring Report](#)

[York Pride – Skate with Pride Event](#)

An important note from the Guidance Department:

No elective changes will be addressed. Only essential course changes for semester 2 can be completed.

These include:

- Students requesting a course type change (e.g., SNC2D1 to SNC2P1)
- Grade 12 students missing a pre-requisite to graduate
- Grade 12 students missing a pre-requisite for a post-secondary program

Students with these essential changes are asked to meet with their alpha counsellor:

A – G → Ms. Farwell

H – Liu → Ms. Riolo

Lo – V → Ms. Hawkins

W – Z → Mr. Tam

Timetable changes in the first week of semester 2 will be completed for students who were not successful in their semester 1 courses. Guidance will be contacting these students.

Unionville High School Guidance Department

Culturally Responsive Mental Health & Wellbeing Services for Students and Families (Alphabetized)

[Across Boundaries](#) provides a dynamic range of dignified, inclusive and compassionate mental health and addiction services and programs for racialized communities in Afrikaans, Amharic, Arabic, Bengali,, Caribbean dialects, Dari, Farsi (Persian), Harare, Hindi, Mandarin, Pashto, Punjabi, Shona, Somali, Swahili, Tsonga, Twi, Urdu, Xhosa

[Black Youth Helpline](#) (416-285-9944/1-833-294-8650) serves all youth and specifically responds to the need for a Black youth specific service

[BounceBack Ontario](#) is a free, guided self-help program that's effective in helping people aged 15 and up who are experiencing mild-to-moderate anxiety or depression, or may be feeling low, stressed, worried, irritable or angry. Services available in Arabic.

[Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture](#) is a community-based organization that helps victims of torture, war, genocide and crimes against humanity. CCVT provides treatment, tools and support that allow refugees to heal from trauma and become active community members. Youth Settlement Counselor: 416-363-1066 EXT: 227; Parenting Support: 416-363-1066. [Children and Youth Programs](#) Support is available in various languages including Arabic.

[Distress Centres of Greater Toronto Area](#) provides support in [English](#), [Cantonese](#), [Mandarin](#), [Portuguese](#), [Spanish](#), [Hindi](#), [Punjabi](#) and [Urdu](#).

[Family Services of York Region](#) Supported languages Tamil, Hindi, Urdu, Farsi, Mandarin/Cantonese, Gujarati, Punjabi

[Harriet's Youth Support Line](#) (1-877-695-2673) is a 24-hour emergency / crisis response line for African, Caribbean, and Black youth. Text messaging is available for young people who do not feel like speaking to someone, but are still in need of help.

[Hong Fook](#) provides a continuum of mental health services covering the spectrum from "promoting wellness" to "managing illness" in Cambodian, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Korean, Vietnamese and English.

[Hope for Wellness Helpline](#) (1-855-242-3310) offers immediate help to all Indigenous peoples across Canada. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and offers counselling and crisis intervention. Connect to access support via phone or online chat.

[ICNA Relief Canada](#) (905-858-1067) provides a non-clinical aspect of counselling to clients in need

[Jewish Family and Child Services](#) is a multi-service agency that strengthens and supports individuals, children, families and communities within the context of Jewish values. Jewish Family and Child Services offers affordable, professional counselling that is confidential and convenient.

[JVS Toronto](#) offers individual counselling for children, adolescents and adults addressing symptoms related to mental health such as anxiety, depression or anger. They also offer counselling to parents as they



strive to provide the best for their children while dealing with their own stressors.

[Khalil Center](#) is a psychological and spiritual community wellness center advancing the professional practice of psychology rooted in Islamic principles. Khalil Center utilizes faith-based approaches rooted in Islamic theological concepts while integrating the science of psychology towards addressing psychological, spiritual and communal health

[Muslim Family and Child Services](#) (416) 910-1253 is a not for profit organization using an integrated network of professional consultants and community support services including crisis intervention

[Naseeha](#) (1-866-627-3342) provides an anonymous, non-judgmental, confidential and toll-free peer support helpline for Muslim and non-Muslim youth experiencing personal challenges. Naseeha's services are open to all regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, family makeup, social status, income, ability, physical and mental health, and religion.

[PCHS - Punjabi Community Health Services](#) offers mental health and addictions, geriatric, settlement, child, youth and family services.

[Pflag York Region](#) (Anonymous Support Line: 1-866-977-3524) is York Region's LGBTQ2 support, resource and education network – bringing together all members of the community.

[Sikh Family Helpline](#) (1-800-551-9128) is a non-emergency helpline providing support and connecting individuals to service providers in English and Punjabi

[SOCH Mental Health](#) aims to empower South Asian community members to recognize and accept mental health as an essential part of their wellness through education, prevention, and building resilience.

[TAIBU Community Health Centre](#) provides intersectional, equity-based and culturally affirming practices for YRDSB students who self-identify as Black, including Individual Therapeutic Counselling with a referral via a school Social Worker or Psychology Services Professional

[York Rainbow Support](#) (1-888-967-5542) provides Individual, Couple and Family counselling services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Two Spirit, Queer & Questioning individuals.

General Supports for Emotional Well-Being (Alphabetized):

[310-COPE](#) provides crisis counselling for all. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[Kids Help Phone](#) provides support for children and youth. Professional counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[MOBYSS](#) (The Mobile Youth Walk-In Clinic) offers a safe space to talk to a medical or mental health professional in a warm, welcoming, and friendly environment. Services are 100% free and confidential with staff who are caring and non-judgemental. A health card is not required and there are no referral requirements.

[Victim Services of York Region](#) provides crisis counselling and referrals for longer-term support. Advice and support for families and educators on best practices for providing support can be found here.



THE ALLIANCE OF EDUCATORS
FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS

January 24, 2022

Please [click here](#) to visit the live links.

ESCS Public Survey Consultation

York Region District School Board will be conducting the Every Student Counts Survey with students in Grades K-12 from April 24, 2023 - May 12, 2023. As part of the survey development, we are asking families to review our [draft surveys](#) and provide their feedback.

Student and family feedback is critical to the survey development process and helps to ensure that the survey is an accurate reflection of our school communities. Responses made through the feedback form are voluntary, confidential and anonymous.

The feedback form will be available from February 3, 2023 - February 10, 2023.

To learn more, please visit www.yrdsb.ca/escs

YRDSB Student and Family Surveys

We will be inviting all students in Grades 4-12 and students in Grades K-3 to participate in the 2022-23 Every Student Counts Survey in the Spring of 2023. Surveys will be available online and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

You and your child should have received a letter from the Board notifying them that the survey will be taking place. The surveys will provide the Board and our schools with valuable information about the learning experiences of students and families this year that are used to inform Board and school planning and to support student achievement and well-being.

Students in Grades 4-12 will be given class time to complete the survey at schools. Students in Grades K-3 are encouraged to complete the survey at home with their family. Families who do not want their child(ren) to be sent an invitation to participate in the survey will be given a chance to opt their child out of receiving the survey in the new calendar year.

As our first partners in education, we value input from families and encourage parents/guardians to complete the survey. The information provided will be confidential and kept in strict accordance with all relevant legislation.

Please contact Research Services at research.services@yrdsb.ca if you have any questions or visit the Board website to learn more.

What Indigenous language revitalization looks like in northern Ontario



We'd like to share an interesting article regarding the importance of sustaining and revitalizing Indigenous languages to preserve culture and tradition. Mike Parkhill, Arleen Ash and Cassandra Spade, are fighting to preserve Indigenous languages for the generations to come. They have created an initiative to encourage the younger generations to practice storytelling through an Anishinaabemodaa App language learning app.

Click the [link](#) to learn more.

Wishing you a happy start to second semester

Yours truly,

Michelle Teh and Katie Major
UHS Indigenous Education Liaisons

Semester 2 Timetables

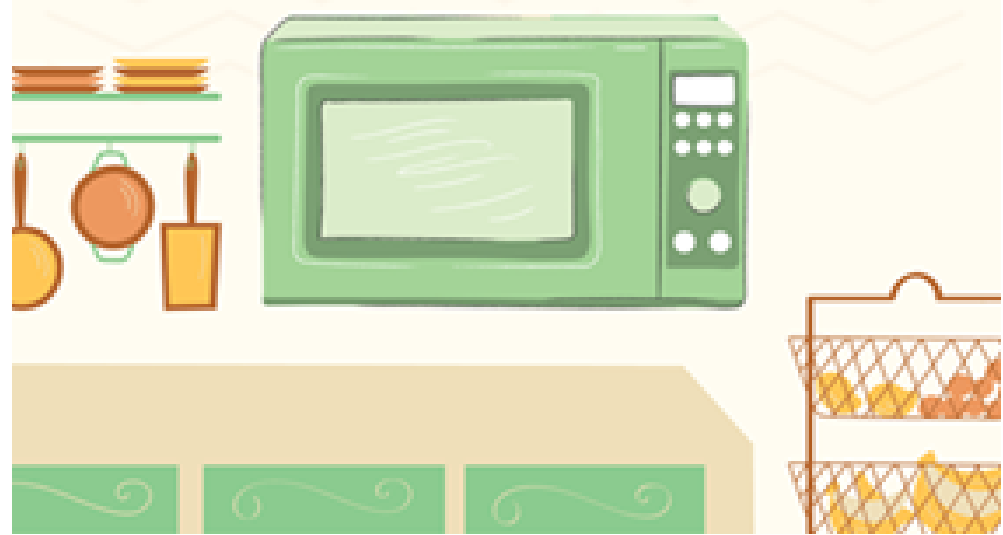
The Guidance department recognizes that many students still have incomplete timetables for semester 2. We are aware of the courses required for each student and are working as quickly as possible to complete timetables. Just a reminder that elective course changes will not be accepted. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

What Do You Need to Graduate from High School?

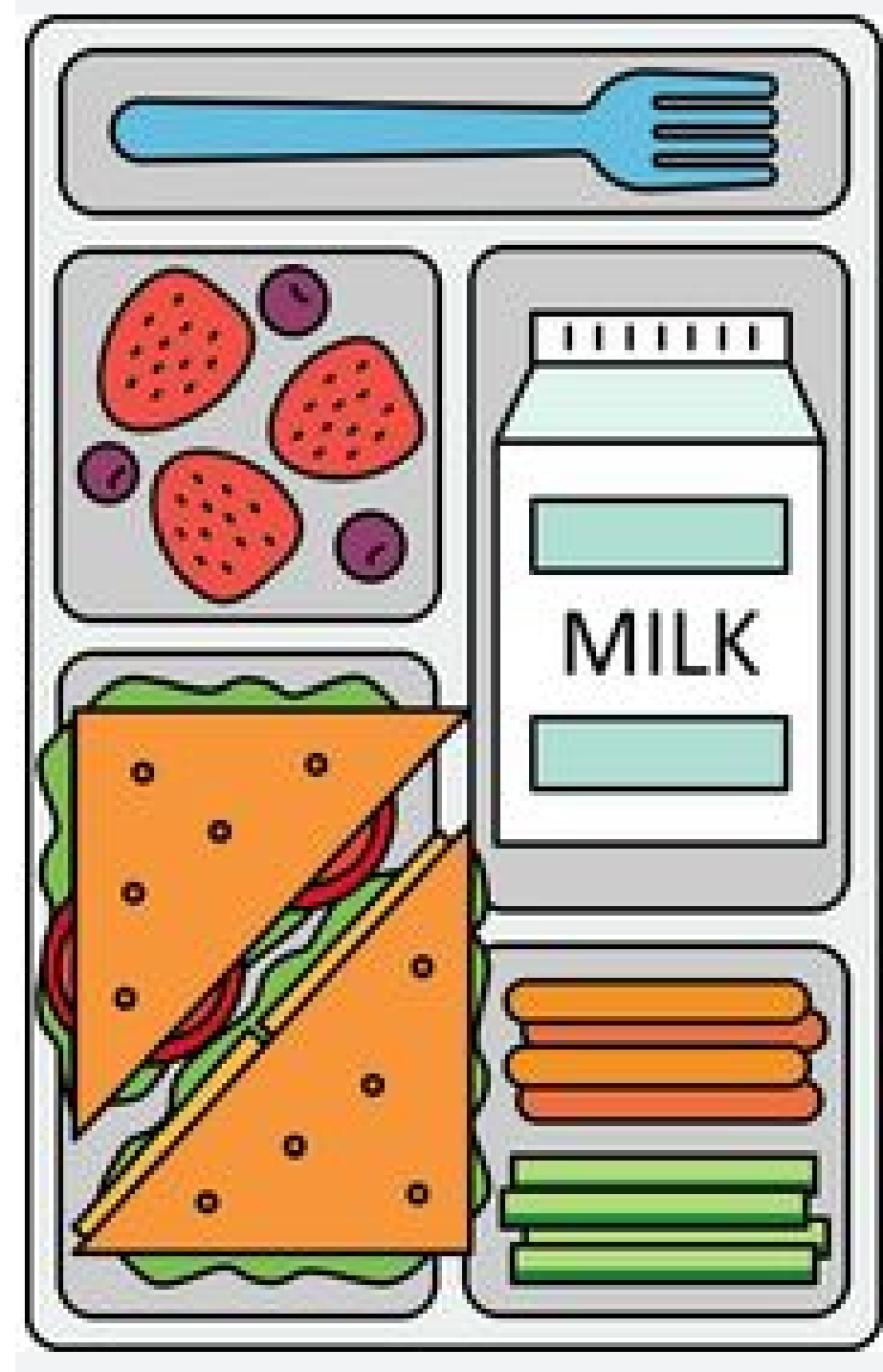
[What do you need to Graduate?](#) – Click the link to see what courses and requirements you will need to graduate.

MICROWAVE GUIDELINES:

1. **Please clean the microwave after EVERY use.**
2. **ONLY** use microwave-safe containers.
3. No tin foil or other metals.
4. **Ensure your food is covered.** If you don't have a lid, take a piece of paper towel to cover your food.
5. Only **ONE** container per use.
6. **Be mindful** of how long you're using the microwave.
7. **Never** leave your food unattended.
8. **Please clean after every use!**



Hey UHS! Great News!
Our cafeteria is now open between the hours of:
9:50AM – 1:45PM
(Periods 2- 4)
Come down to the cafeteria and check it out!
NOW ACCEPTING CASH AND DEBIT



Grad Photo Retake

Attention Grade 12 students!

Edge Imaging will be here to take graduation photos on **Tuesday, February 21 and Wednesday, February 22, 2023.**

If you haven't taken your grad photos already, this is your last chance to do so and be included on the graduation composite. Please sign up for a grad photo on-line at:

www.bookmygrad.ca, our school code is: WUH

Congratulations class of 2023; we look forward to seeing you for your grad photos.

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/BecomeTutorUHSO>

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](#)

Interested in the Aquatic Leadership Program?

The YRDSB runs an Aquatic Leadership Program in partnership with the Town of Aurora, The City of Markham and the City of Vaughan during 2nd semester. For more information, please see [here](#).

Morning Music Requests

Hey wolves, want to suggest your favourite school appropriate songs and have them played in the mornings? Students can submit music requests via their gapps accounts now through the following [Google form](#) - or they can also access the form on our instagram @uhs_announcements! Remember that songs must be school appropriate! Looking forward to hearing from you!"



Night School

Night school is available to students who cannot get the course during day school. Remote learning night school registration is now open and synchronous learning will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30pm to 9:45pm beginning **February 16th**. Registration for Online night school (which is asynchronous learning) will open on **January 31st**. Registration for either format is on My Pathway Planner under "Continuing Education" and will require Guidance approval. Check out the YRDSB website for more information at: <https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/adult-learning/night-school>

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.

Did You Know!

On the York Region District School Board website, you can translate the webpage to almost any language!

Please see below for an example!



The screenshot shows the York Region District School Board website. At the top, there is a search bar with the text '嗎, 我們今天要找什麼?' and a dropdown menu for language selection. The dropdown menu is open, showing a list of languages including English, Afrikaans, Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Basque, Belarusian, Bengali, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Catalan, Cebuano, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional) (which is highlighted), Croatian, Czech, Danish, and Dutch. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: '關於我們', '董事會計劃', and '學校'. The main content area is titled '在線學習畢業要求' (Online Learning Graduation Requirements). It includes a breadcrumb trail: '家 > 中學 > 體驗中學 > 畢業要求 > 在線學習畢業要求'. On the left, there is a sidebar with links: '畢業要求', '社區參與', '數字要求', '34 信用門檻', and '在線學習畢業要求'. The main text states: '從 2020-21 學年進入 9 年級的每位學生開始, 學生現在需要獲得 34 學分才能從中學畢業。' (Starting from the 2020-21 school year, every student entering grade 9 will need to earn 34 credits to graduate from high school.) It also lists graduation requirements: '畢業要求旨在支持學生發展:' (Graduation requirements aim to support student development:). The requirements are: '熟悉並舒適地在完全在線的環境中工作和學習' (Familiarity and comfort working and learning in a fully online environment), '數字素養' (Digital literacy), and '其他重要的可轉移技能, 這些技能將幫助他們為畢業後和生活的各個方面的成功做好準備' (Other important transferable skills that will help them prepare for success in various aspects of life after graduation). A paragraph at the bottom states: '滿足在線學習畢業要求不應成為學生畢業的障礙。與所有學習一樣, 參加在線課程的學生將可以通過學校獲得所需的支持 (例如, 針對英語學習者的個人教育計劃、指導和服務) 。' (Meeting online learning graduation requirements should not be a barrier to student graduation. Like all learning, students participating in online courses will be able to receive the support they need (e.g., individualized education plans, guidance, and services) through the school.)



Unionville High School's School Council Presents...

Life-Proofing Our Kids for Success:

A Four-Part Series

Dr. Lin & Associates <https://www.dr.linandassociates.com/>

Monday, February 27, 2023—Stress and Our Kids @ 7:30pm to 8:30pm – Senait Litchmore

Senait is a Registered Psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario, and has provided therapeutic support for individuals and families for over 10 years. She is trained in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Dialectical Behavioural Therapy, Solution-Focused Therapy, Family Systems and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. As an Enneagram Life Coach, accredited practitioner with Integrative 9 Enneagram solutions, Senait uses the iEQ9 assessment as a roadmap to understand clients clearly and help to unlock their full potential, increase self-awareness and improve their relationships. Senait's passion to empower others was birthed from her lived experience and is sustained by her desire to break toxic generational cycles and guide people to rewrite their narrative, impacting themselves, their families, communities and future generations.



Monday, April 24, 2023—Resiliency for Life @ 7:30pm to 8:30pm — Jackie Robertson

Jackie Robertson is a Registered Psychotherapist with over 30 years of experience working with families, adolescents and children. Jackie is a passionate speaker, educator, facilitator and consultant. Jackie has a wealth of experience in the areas of mental health, familial issues, trauma and adoption as she also provides training for the Adoption Counsel of Ontario. She has travelled internationally to build partnerships, coach leaders, provide clinical expertise, and facilitate teaching and workshops. She is engaging, down to earth, humorous and highly motivating in her work approach. She finds her work in supporting others on their journey to reach their full potential is extremely enriching.

Unionville High School
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To join the third conversation with Senait Litchmore, registered psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario, please complete the google form: [UHS School Council Invitation](#) (Space is limited to 250)

We hope to see you there!

To join the third conversation with Senait Litchmore, registered psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario, please complete the google form: [UHS School Council Invitation](#) (Space is limited to 250)

NBE3U Announcement

We are pleased to announce that all sections of ENG3U next semester will be changed to NBE3U as of February 6.

Students who had ENG3U on their timetable for semester two will now see it replaced by NBE3U.

NBE3U is equivalent to ENG3U and intended to prepare students for the compulsory Grade 12 English University course.

NBE3U explores the themes, forms, and stylistic elements of a variety of literary, informational, graphic, oral, cultural, and media text forms emerging from First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures in Canada, and also examines the perspectives and influence of texts that relate to those cultures. In order to fully understand contemporary text forms and their themes of identity, relationship, and self-determination, sovereignty, or self-governance, students will analyze the changing use of text forms by Indigenous authors/creators from various periods and cultures in expressing ideas related to these themes. Students will also create oral, written, and media texts to explore their own ideas and understanding, focusing on the development of literacy, communication, and critical and creative thinking skills necessary for success in academic and daily life.

“The history of Canada begins with Indigenous peoples; this land’s development and its future are inextricably linked to its first inhabitants. In this unique position, Indigenous peoples have perspectives on and knowledge of this land and of humanity that can inform how Canada addresses global challenges in the twenty-first century. Exploration of Indigenous cultures, ways of knowing, and contributions to society is therefore essential for students as the global citizens and problem solvers of tomorrow.” (The Ontario Curriculum Grades 9 to 12: First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Studies Revised 2019).

If you have questions regarding this change, please contact a school administrator.

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.

Trent University Grade 10/11 Students & Parents Info Night

Trent University is hosting a virtual information session for Grade 10 and 11 students on Wednesday, February 15. Students who are looking ahead to university and want to know where to start are encouraged to attend. You'll learn about academic programs, the application process, scholarships, and student life at Trent in Peterborough and Durham GTA. Register at [//trentu.ca/infonight](https://trentu.ca/infonight).”



Applications are due on March 1, 2023.

We will be holding two online information sessions for students interested in learning more about Science School, including details about our new, streamlined application process. Join us on **February 21, 2023**, at 7 p.m.

Do you know any curious, hard-working grade 11 students who are passionate about science? Encourage them to apply for a spot at Science School next year! Applications are now open for the 2023-24 school year.

Grade 12 students will spend a full semester in person at the Science Centre, where they'll collaborate with like-minded classmates from across Ontario, engage with staff and visitors, and earn science and math credits along the way.

[Click to learn more.](#)



Inclusive School and Community Services is hosting A Guardian/Parent Engagement Event

Advocacy and Allyship

YRDSB is hosting a 3 part Information series that looks at how to engage and help build shared solutions. Families will build on knowledge about discrimination, racism, bias, stereotypes and how to advocate and become an ally.

1. Recognizing and Responding to Hate

Learn how to recognize and respond to hate and discrimination, through looking at data, talking through examples and further understanding bias.

Presented by: Shafiq Aziz from Harmony Movement

When: February 22nd 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

2. Becoming an Ally

Learn how to become an ally through engaging and listening to lived experiences of discrimination and hate.

Presented by: Soha Mohammad from Working Women

When: March 22nd 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Registration at <http://bit.ly/3VZpttx>

Please reach out to Harpinder Kaur or Kenzie Wass if you have any questions

Harpinder.kaur@yrdsb.ca, Kenzie.Wass@yrdsb.ca



ASSOCIATION OF SRILANKAN GRADUATES OF CANADA
In Partnership with York Region District School Board

Date: Saturday February 11 2023

Time: 9:30 am -1:30 pm

Venue: Milliken Mills HS, Markham, 7522 Kennedy Road

Admission: Free

Looking for information on...

- Career Choices
- University/College Selections
- Scholarship & Grant Applications
- Secondary School Course Selections



To register please use the QR code or [register here](#)

Contact:

Dr. V. Manivannan: 647-949-5205

Suganja Sinnathamby: suganja.sinnathamby@yrdsb.ca

Nageswary Srikumaraguru: nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca

Canadian Tamil Professional Association (CTPA)
Canadian Tamil Medical Association (CTMA)
Sri Lankan Accountants Association of Canada (SAAC)
Educators For Tamil Students Success (YRDSB)

Do you need a computer?

Renewed Computer Technology (RCT) is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that empowers learners, educators and not-for-profit organizations with increased access to information and communications technology (ICT), skill development and learning opportunities, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Working with **York Region District School Board** we are offering affordable, renewed computer packages.



1. Open camera on phone
2. Hold camera up to QR code above
3. Click link that appears on your screen

You can apply for this program if you are:

A resident of Ontario and you are an individual with limited income.

Parents or legal guardians may apply on behalf of a child or youth under the age of 18.

We offer 1 computer, per family, with a limit of 2 per household per year.

For more information, please contact:

Alexander Oliver
RCT Community Engagement Lead
AOliver@rcto.ca

All systems include our
STANDARD 1 YEAR DEPOT WARRANTY

*batteries not covered by warranty

We have Desktop Packages from \$60.00 to \$250.00.
Plus \$50.00 to ship the computer to your home.



You get - a desktop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software, monitor, keyboard and mouse

We have Laptop Packages from \$200.00 to \$350.00.
Plus \$40.00 to ship the computer to your home.



You get - a laptop complete with Windows 10 and MS Office 2019 - Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneNote plus learning software

*Computers may not appear exactly as shown

Club	Teacher Supervisors
Artisans Club	jessica.li@yrdsb.ca
Book Club	celeste.lawton@yrdsb.ca
Business & Sports	neil.sareen@yrdsb.ca
Charis Club	peter.lansing@yrdsb.ca
Chess Club	TBD
Chinese History Club	shan-chen.yu@yrdsb.ca
Club de Français (French Club)	peter.lansing@yrdsb.ca
Community Council	james.campbell@yrdsb.ca - felicia.sukdeo@yrdsb.ca
Computer Science Club	raymond.do@yrdsb.ca
Cooking Club	anna.dilorenzo@yrdsb.ca - frances.tom@yrdsb.ca
Dance Council	melissa.bettio@yrdsb.ca - kathleen.maion@yrdsb.ca
DECA	kuo.pan@yrdsb.ca - wesley.guldemon@yrdsb.ca - neil.sareen@yrdsb.ca
Dramatic Arts Council	lazaros.geronikolos@yrdsb.ca
Eco-Council	michael.ihonston@yrdsb.ca
Film Club	lauren.fridman@yrdsb.ca - shiraz.rafik@yrdsb.ca - zachary.layton@yrdsb.ca
Gender & Sexuality Alliance	sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca - zachary.teitel@yrdsb.ca
Guitar Ensemble	niloufar.barazesh@yrdsb.ca
Historical Club	laura.fong@yrdsb.ca
Jazz Band	niloufar.barazesh@yrdsb.ca
Light Music Club	jennifer.porter@yrdsb.ca
Math Club	daniela.panacci@yrdsb.ca - shan-chen.yu@yrdsb.ca liubov.chulkova@yrdsb.ca - shama.sharma@yrdsb.ca
Mock Trial	dustin.cash@yrdsb.ca - nathan.struk@yrdsb.ca
Muslim Students Association	farhan.baig@yrdsb.ca
Narrative Arts Club	shiraz.rafik@yrdsb.ca
Newcomers Club	tara.kapeluch@yrdsb.ca
Philosophical Studies Club	laura.fong@yrdsb.ca
Prom Committee	zafirah.damji@yrdsb.ca - daniela.panacci@yrdsb.ca - melissa.bettio@yrdsb.ca
Robotics	brian.cho@yrdsb.ca
Science Club	elaine.howard@yrdsb.ca - jeffrey.chan@yrdsb.ca
Show Choir	melissa.bettio@yrdsb.ca - julia.fong@yrdsb.ca - michelle.teh@yrdsb.ca
Social Justice Club	felicia.sukdeo@yrdsb.ca - jennifer.porter@yrdsb.ca
Special Events Club	zafirah.damji@yrdsb.ca - shuai.sun@yrdsb.ca
STEM Beyond	georgina.mantelos@yrdsb.ca
Tamil Students Association	shama.sharma@yrdsb.ca
Target Alpha	wesley.guldemon@yrdsb.ca - mathew.himelson@yrdsb.ca
UHS Architecture Club	zachary.layton@yrdsb.ca
UHS Black Excellence	sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca - zachary.teitel@yrdsb.ca - beckey.serwaa@yrdsb.ca
UHS Wellness Club	michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca
UHS Writers Club	zachary.layton@yrdsb.ca
Unionville Howl	keyan.wu@yrdsb.ca
Yoga Club	jennifer.zamperin@yrdsb.ca - sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca
Zoology Club	yiulun.leung@yrdsb.ca - daniel.dietrich@yrdsb.ca

[Please click here to contact teachers.](#)

Upcoming Events - March 2023

DATE	EVENT
MARCH 13 - 17	March Break (No Classes)
THURSDAY, MARCH 23	Start of Ramadan