



# Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

**February 16, 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 (Shek - Z) Patrick Belmonte    Vice-Principal (A-J) Catherine Clarke    Vice-Principal (K-Shas) Raymond Luong    Superintendent Kien Nam Luu    Trustee Ron Lynn

**TECH REQUEST FORM – 2023-2024**

**CLUBS**

**GUIDANCE UPDATES**

## Character Matters Trait of the Month: Perseverance

“ It always seems impossible until it's done. ”  
— Nelson Mandela

### Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
February 20	Sem 2 & Grad Retake Photo Day at Room 219
February 21	UHS Orchestra Celebrates Black History Month in the Atrium (7:55 am)
February 22	Immunization “Catch Up Clinic” at UHS Library
February 26	UHS School Council/ Library (7:00 pm)
February 28	Pink Shirt Day (Support Anti-bullying) Arts Unionville Music Recital/ UHS (7:00 pm)

## BUBBLE TEA Is Coming to Unionville High School!

It is a perfect treat to enjoy while supporting UHS programs and initiatives. **Indulge in a cup and contribute to our school's efforts to fundraise towards upgrading our computer lab.** Order now and enjoy!

Click the picture below for more ordering details. You can also order directly from : <https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>



**QQ Mango – 30% sugar, no ice, regular size**

A tropical paradise of sweet and fruity mango. Topped with QQ, our topping that includes both our pearls and coconut jelly!



**QQ Lychee – 30% sugar, no ice, regular size**

Refreshing tropical fruitiness of lychee topped with QQ, our topping that includes both our pearls and coconut jelly!



**Mango green tea coconut jelly – 50% sugar, no ice, regular size**

A tropical paradise of sweet and fruity mango topped with coconut jelly!



**Pearl Milk Tea – 50% sugar, no ice, regular size**

Tapioca pearls add a pleasant texture to our signature milk tea, a best-selling fan favourite.

**ORDER HERE**

**Order now and enjoy!**

**<https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>**





## Course Selection--from Guidance Office

Course selection submissions **begin February 15@9am** and **close on February 23@4pm**. **This is not first come, first serve!** Once submitted, course selections are locked, and changes cannot be made.

Students will receive information about course selection through grade assemblies taking place on **Monday, February 12 and Tuesday, February 13**

Students and families can access the presentation google slides **after** the assemblies.

**Current Grade 9:** <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs/guidance/Pages/Grade-9-Courses.aspx>

**Current Grade 10:** <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs/guidance/Pages/Grade-10-Courses.aspx>

**Current Grade 11:** <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs/guidance/Pages/Grade-11-Courses.aspx>

**Current Grade 12:** <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs/guidance/Pages/Grade-12-Courses.aspx>

When selecting courses, students are encouraged to check their Student Status Sheet (SSS). This will help them complete their course selection and ensure they are not missing compulsory requirements to graduate. **Students will receive a copy of their SSS from their homeroom teacher on Monday, February 12. Students without a homeroom can pick up their SSS from the Guidance office.** We encourage students to carefully consider their course choices and to research program requirements prior to selecting their courses. Students can access Ontario university program information through [ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca](http://ontariouniversitiesinfo.ca). Ontario college program information can be found on [ontariocolleges.ca](http://ontariocolleges.ca). Students are encouraged to connect with each department if they have any questions or would like to learn more about the courses offered.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rWvpV\\_9bTa8sD2s8lyPOb4PZy5ehanljfh-6c5GccqY/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1rWvpV_9bTa8sD2s8lyPOb4PZy5ehanljfh-6c5GccqY/edit#gid=0)

If students have questions or concerns, we ask that they schedule an appointment in Teach Assist with their alpha Guidance Counsellor starting **the week of February 20th**. The Guidance office be accepting walk-in's and the Guidance pop-up will be stationed in the cafeteria to address student questions or for troubleshooting tips.

Ms. Sukdeo (A - F)  
Mr. Rafik (G - J)  
Ms. Riolo (K - Ma)  
Ms. Hawkins (Mac - V, X)  
Mr. Tam (W, Y - Z)



In early spring (after March break), students, parents and guardians will have an opportunity to request changes through the course verification process. **Please note that that elective course changes will NOT be completed after the verification process is completed.**

## UHS School Council Meeting

A friendly reminder, we will be hosting our 4th School Council Meeting on **Monday, February 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Translation services from English to Mandarin will be available. Please feel free to fill out the **School Council Pre-Registration Form - Monday, February 26, 2024.**

We are pleased to have a speaker from the Canadian Mental Health Association join us for 1 hour at our Feb 26 School Council meeting in our library. For more details, please click [here](#).

School Council Meeting Tentative **Agenda:**

1. Welcome
2. USAC Updates
3. Subject Department Presentations
  - o Ms. Sharma & Ms. Panacci – Math
  - o Mr. Geronikolos & Ms. Bettio – Drama/Dance
4. Supporting Our Youth - Teen Stress and Anxiety - Dr. Mary Louise Ireland Presenting
5. ADMIN Updates

We are all looking forward to seeing everyone in person!

Location: **UHS Library**

## Peer Tutoring

All students **interested in becoming a peer tutor** for the 2023-2024 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**





## Tips For Secondary School Course Selection

Here are some tips and reminders for students and families planning their course selection.



1. You do not need to make decisions alone. Consult with your family. Teachers, guidance counselors, student success teachers, graduation coaches and other school staff are there to help you.
2. Plan. You can use My Pathway Planner to track your courses, find post-secondary pathway options and look up course descriptions and prerequisites. Learn how to create your plan.
3. Explore your options. There are many courses, programs and opportunities available at all YRDSB secondary schools that let you gain skills, experience, credits and certifications in the fields that interest you. You can now search for these opportunities by sector. There are also other ways to earn credits, including summer school, night school, online learning, Indigenous and International languages and more.
4. Review graduation requirements. You are responsible for ensuring you select courses that meet diploma requirements.
5. Review course types. Selecting courses that meet your needs is the first step to experiencing success in secondary school. Your guidance counselor will help you to choose appropriate courses throughout secondary school as students plan for their initial post-secondary destination.
6. Be aware of course prerequisites. This is a course that must be successfully completed before taking the course that follows. You can use My Pathway Planner to look up course descriptions and prerequisites.
7. Know where to go if you have questions. Speak with your guidance counselor or other staff members at the school. Talk to your family members. Learn more about course selection, graduation requirements and options available to you in secondary school on the Board website.

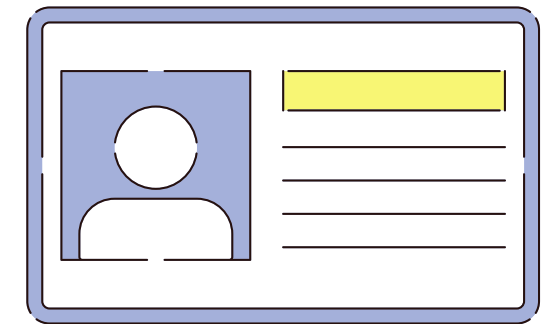
## Grad Photo Retake Day

Attention **Grade 12 students!**



Edge Imaging will be here to take graduation photos for only one more day on **Tuesday, February 20, 2024** in room **219**. 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](http://www.bookmygrad.ca), our school code is: WUH



Congratulations class of 2024; we look forward to seeing your grad photos.

## New Students/Absent Students Photo Day

Edge Imaging will be available to take photos of our **new semester 2 students** on **Tuesday, February 20, 2024** in room **219** (**between 9:00 and 10:00 am**). It is important that ALL students take their photo for their **student ID card**.

## UHS School Council Chair: Invest in the Students' Future

Dear UHS Families,  
Publicly funded schools benefit from our support, whether it is our time volunteering or directly through financial contributions. Our generosity has a direct impact on the type of high-quality educational resources and unique activities that Unionville High School can offer our students to support their development, interests, and talents. This year we hope to raise enough funds to upgrade our outdated computers that students learn and rely on. We ask you to take a moment to consider investing in our school, demonstrating the value of community involvement, and taking pride in supporting UHS for the benefit and enrichment of all our students. <https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

Anoosh Sharif  
Chair, School Council UHS

For the easy 5 steps to donate and the Mandarin translation: [UHS School Council Invest in Our Students](#).

## Orchestra Celebrates Black History Month in the UHS Atrium

The Unionville High School Orchestra will be performing works by Joseph Boulogne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges and Scott Joplin in celebration of Black History Month on **Wednesday, February 21** before school at **7:55 am** in the **Atrium**.

Please join us. All are welcome!

## Celebrating Black History Month

We are pleased to share with you several events that are taking place within York Region District School Board and our broader community to recognize Black History Month and beyond.

This school year, we are continuing to grow and expand some of our Centre for Black Student Excellence programs, including Ascending Sisters+, RISE Brothers and the Black Excellence Program.

We also want to invite and welcome you to visit our Centre for Black Student Excellence on the website where you can find information about our programs, Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy, Black History Month resources for students and families, and links to community partners.

For more detailed, please check the poster: [2024 Celebrating Black History Month \(yrdsb.ca\)](#)

## Pink Shirt Day

**February 28, 2024**, is **Pink Shirt Day** which is a globally recognized day to support anti-bullying, upstanding behaviour, and simple acts of kindness. UHS would like to share it with our parents, students and the staff to promote community and a sense of belonging while actively working to prevent bullying



## Summer Pathways Programs 2024

There are several Summer Pathway Programs students can participate in and earn one to two credits, such as Cooperative Education (Co-op), Alternative Learning Experiential Program (ALEP), OYAP-Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, College Dual Credit courses and the Innovation Course at Y-Space in Markham.

### 2024 Summer Pathways Flyer

## SEAS Family Engagement Evening

Welcome to our first “Family Engagement Evening” supporting families and caregivers to develop a deeper understanding of the Ontario Education System. In this first session, we will provide an overview of the K-12 Ontario Education System with an emphasis on **transitions, pathway planning, the OSSD** and the **course selection process**.

Presentations will be available in English, Mandarin, Korean and Cantonese.

This event is brought to you in partnership with Community and Partnership Developer for East Asian Families, YRDSB Inclusive School and Community Services, CCSYR Settlement and Education Partnership in York Region, NEKS (Network of Educators for Korean Students) and Curriculum and Instructional Services of YRDSB.

**Date:** Wednesday, **February 28**, 2024

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8:00pm

**Location:** Markville Secondary School, 1000 Carlton Road, Markham, ON L3P 7P5

Please register by Monday, February 26, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3Ot1p0X>

For additional inquiries, please contact: [pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:pauline.guo@yrdsb.ca) or [bronson.chu@yrdsb.ca](mailto:bronson.chu@yrdsb.ca)

## Youth Workshops at Aaniin Community Center or Online

We would like to share with you upcoming Youth Workshops at Aaniin Community Center or Online. They are offered by NPO YRES in collaboration with Markham's community center (Youth workshops) and York Region (Anti-bully program). Students who live in other regions such as Newmarket, can also join these sessions via Zoom. All sessions are community programs and free of charge.

Please see the attached flyers and feel free to share them with the students G6-12.

Flyer and program details:

- [YRES Keva Planks and Anti-Bully Program \(yrdsb.ca\)](#)
- [YRES Youth Workshop Program Flyers \(English/French/Mandarin\) \(yrdsb.ca\)](#)

Thank you,  
York Region Educational Services

Web: [www.yorkeducation.org](http://www.yorkeducation.org)

Email: [Info@yorkeducation.ca](mailto:Info@yorkeducation.ca) (Preferred Communication Channel)

Phone: 416-475-6622 (Monitored Mondays - Saturdays 9 am - 5 pm)

Phone: 647-467-9121 (Monitored Sundays 9 am - 5 pm)

## Amazing Class Project Turned into Sensational Life Experiences

Join us on a fascinating journey where students from Unionville High School go through an experiential education program where they dive into the world of craftsmanship by crafting electric guitars from scratch. From learning the ins and outs of shop tools to cultivating perseverance, our students are gaining invaluable skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

In this video, you'll hear firsthand accounts from our students as they share their experiences mastering machines like the planer, jointer, and chisel. Safety is the top priority, thanks to the guidance of our dedicated teacher, Mr. Dennis. But it doesn't stop at guitars. We delve into the broader implications of our program, exploring how these newfound skills translate into future endeavours, whether it's crafting furniture, pursuing a career in architecture, or venturing into construction like our special guest, Andrew Edwards from Greenway Construction.

Andrew, a seasoned carpenter and advocate for hands-on learning, shares his journey from high school shop class to becoming a red seal carpenter, emphasizing the importance of this programs to shaping future professionals. Through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP), they're not just building guitars; they're building futures. Join us as we discuss the benefits of apprenticeships, the importance of patience, and the value of making mistakes as stepping stones to success.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kY5j3HYt83A>
- <https://www.instagram.com/reel/C2-RnX0ge2P/?igsh=ejlmdDhhaDBobDZk>
- [https://www.instagram.com/reel/C2-KWZ2Apv\\_/?igsh=djExYnRmM3VnOTA=](https://www.instagram.com/reel/C2-KWZ2Apv_/?igsh=djExYnRmM3VnOTA=)



## YRPH Student Immunization Clinic at UHS

Dear families,

A friendly reminder that the YRPH student immunization clinic will be at Unionville HS on **Thursday February 22nd, 2024** in the **UHS Library**.

Please see **SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINIC** for more information.

Feel free to contact the main office if you have any questions.

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

Phone: (905) 479-2787

## UHS Safety First and Cross with Care

 IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE FOR PARENTS: ENSURE SAFE CROSSING FOR YOUR CHILDREN! 

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety of our Unionville HS students is our top priority, especially when it comes to crossing roads. As we know, crossing busy streets such as Highway 7 and Warden, poses potential risks. Here are some essential reminders to ensure our students cross the road safely:

1. Understand and adhere to school zone rules. These areas often have reduced speed limits and additional safety measures to protect pedestrians. Please obey all the traffic signs, such as the speed limit signs, one-way signs and stop signs.
2. Ensure your child understands the basic rules of road safety - looking both ways before crossing, waiting for the signal, and only crossing at designated crosswalks.
3. Emphasize the importance of using designated crosswalks. Explain that these areas are specifically designed for safe pedestrian crossing, reducing the risk of accidents.
4. Discourage the use of electronic devices while crossing the road. Remind them that paying attention to their surroundings is crucial for their safety.
5. Student parking. Students should only park in the student parking lot on the Warden side.

Let's work together to create a community where our UHS students can navigate the roads confidently and safely. By reinforcing these simple yet crucial guidelines, we can contribute to a secure environment for all.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to the safety of our students at UHS!

  **#SafetyFirst #CrossWithCare**  



## Severe Weather Policy and Procedures

Winter is here! The York Region District School Board is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all students, staff, families and community members on days that are deemed to be severe weather. Please check the link for information on snow days at YRDSB.

## Guidance for Higher Studies- Career Information Workshop

Career Guidance workshop for high school students facilitated by the ASGC on **February 24, 2024** at **Milliken Mills HS**.

Detailed information about the workshop, please click the poster: **Guidance for Higher Studies**

## Virtual Consultations for Parents/Caregivers of the Tamil Diaspora Community

In the YRDSB's ongoing effort to support achievement and well-being for students who are racialized and/or marginalized by oppression, and in support of the actions and goals set out in the Director's Action Plan, as well as the Student Mental Health and Addiction Strategy, we are offering virtual Community Care Team Social Work consultations for parents/caregivers of Tamil identifying students across the board.

This year we are piloting consultations directly with parents/caregivers of the Tamil Diaspora Community to enhance service access and language-specific support when seeking mental health services for their children. Through culturally affirming consultations, we are hoping to reduce barriers to accessing mental health support and fostering stronger relationships between the students, families and schools.

For more detailed information about this service, please check the posters below:

[Coffee with Tamil Social Worker-English-2024 \(yrdsb.ca\)](#)

[Coffee with Tamil Social Worker-Tamil-2024 \(yrdsb.ca\)](#)

To book consultations and/or for any questions please contact Nijatha Subramaniam via email at [nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nijatha.subramaniam@yrdsb.ca) or by phone at 905-727-0022 ext. 4138 (voicemail only).

## Work Experience Newsletter

The following newsletter providing updates from the Work Experience team highlighting **student success stories**.

[Experience Works: Nineteenth Edition Newsletter: Winter 2023-2024](#)

## Message from the Board Trustee

The message is from your school trustee, Ron Lynn, Markham Wards 2 and 6. For the detailed message, please click [here](#).

## Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) - Challenge for Credit

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) is the formal evaluation and credit-granting process whereby students may obtain credits for prior learning. Prior learning includes the knowledge and skills that students have acquired, in both formal and informal ways, outside secondary school.

Detailed information, please check [PLAR Brochure - 2023-24 \(yrdsb.ca\)](#).

## Student Trustee Election - Campaign and Final Voting

The final four candidates have been announced and are identified on the [Student Trustee elections website](#).

### Campaigning

- Candidates will be participating in a campaign period February 12-16.
- Students can learn more about the four student trustee candidates on the [student trustee website](#).
- An all-candidates panel discussion will be posted on the student trustee election website by the end of the day Tuesday, February 13 so students can get to know the candidates.
- Educators can consider watching the debate with their classes.

### Voting:

- Final voting will take place February 20-22, 2023.
- All students in grades 5-12 will have the opportunity to vote in the final election.

A voting form will be sent to student GAPPS accounts once voting opens.

## 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.

## Library Information

February is Black History Month. [The 2024 theme for Black History Month](#) is “Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build”. Celebrate Black History Month at the UHS Library by borrowing one of these amazing books by a Black Canadian author. 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  
[Half-Blood Blues](#) by Esi Edugyan  
[The Illegal: A Novel](#) by Lawrence Hill  
[Fate of Flames](#) by Sarah Raughley  
[Frying Plantain](#) by Zalika Reid-Benta  
[Gutter Child](#) by Jael Ealey Richardson  
[Reproduction](#) by Ian Williams



## Student Mental Health & Addictions

Student Mental Health and Addictions is pleased to provide [monthly newsletters](#) that focus on various pertinent mental health topics and provides links to mental health supports.

### Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
March 4	Alchemy-Daytime at Markham Theatre
March 5	Alchemy-Evening at Markham Theatre (8:00 pm)
March 11 - 15	Spring Break
March 27	Arts Unionville Music Recital/UHS (7:00 pm)