



Unionville High School Weekly Parent/Guardian Bulletin

January 31, 2025

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

Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458

Email: unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

UHS Website: Unionville High School

Principal Susie Nunes	Vice-Principal (R - Z) Patrick Belmonte	Vice-Principal (A - I) Catherine Clarke	Vice-Principal (J - Q) Raymond Luong	Superintendent Kien Nam Luu	Trustee Ron Lynn
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TECH REQUEST FORM – 2024-2025

CLUBS

GUIDANCE UPDATES

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Initiative

“Initiative is doing the right thing without being told.”
- Victor Hugo

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
February 17	Family Day (No classes)
February 18	In Class Instructional Day (Full Day) Lunar New Year
January 30	School Council Meeting #5 (7:00 pm)
February 27	Professional Development Day (No classes)



january



The weekend between semesters is a great time to relax with an e-book or audiobook. These are both available through Sora. Students sign in using 0 followed by their student number.

Students can also take some time to read our Globe and Mail subscription, which will launch when you click the link.

Wishing everyone a great start to semester two!

YRDSB Museum & Archives - Standing in the Doorway New Opportunities

Curriculum and Instructional Services (Contact: museum@yrdsb.ca or rebekah.mitchell@yrdsb.ca)

Panel: All

FYI: All Staff

YRDSB Museum & Archives is excited to announce upcoming opportunities for schools to view the award-winning exhibition, “Standing in the Doorway: Lived Histories & Experiences of the Chinese Community.”

SUMMER CO-OP

2024-2025

www.yrdsb.ca/summer-pathway

SHSM 2-Credit Co-op

Mackenzie Health & Scarborough Health Network

The SHSM Summer Co-op Program is for SHSM students in the Health & Wellness or Business sectors (for non-clinical positions), interested in working at Mackenzie Health or Scarborough Health Network.

Application is limited to SHSM students

entering Grade 12 who could not schedule Co-op into their regular timetables.

Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on February 24, 2025.

2-Credit Co-op

The 2-credit summer co-op program is a blended learning model running from May 6, 2025 to August 1, 2025. Pre-placement classes will take place in-person and virtually from 5:00-9:00 pm. In-person classes will take place at Richmond Green Secondary School at 1 William F. Bell Pkwy, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 2T9. **Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on March 7, 2025.**

REGISTRATION

PROGRAM



PROGRAM

REGISTRATION

1-Credit Co-op

Students will participate in virtual and in-person learning with their Co-op teacher and in-person/virtual Co-op placements in their community from July 2, 2025 to July 25, 2025. Location of the in-person classes is to be determined at a later date. **Registration opens February 14, 2025 and closes on March 7, 2025.**

1-Credit ALEP

1-Credit ALEP is available to students in grades 10-12 interested in earning a credit in July through paid employment. Employers must meet with the summer

ALEP teacher for a placement assessment before students are accepted into the program.

Registration will happen through My Pathways Planner in April.



Summer Co-op Information Session

February 12, 2025 4PM - 5PM

Register at: yrdsb.cc/summercoopinfo

Guidance

NEWS

Semester 2 Course Change Requests:

Students looking to make changes for semester 2 must contact their alpha Guidance counsellor (in-person or via email), prior to the start of Semester 2 (Wednesday, January 22 until Friday, January 31).

Changes to semester 2 timetables during the first week of semester 2 will only be processed for students who were unsuccessful in a semester 1 course. Final semester 2 timetables will be available to students via Teach Assist on Sunday, February 2, 2025.

Please note, students who have already been added to a wait list will only be contacted if space is available in the course and they are next on the list.



Course Selection Information:

From Monday, February 3 to Friday, February 21, the Guidance office will be open to walk-ins only, to support all students with course selection. A Guidance pop-up station will also be available in the cafeteria during the lunch periods (periods 3 and 4).

Course selection submissions will be completed through myPathway Planner and will open for submissions on Thursday, February 13 at 9am and will close on Friday, February 21, 4pm. This is NOT a first come, first served. Course requests will only be processed once course selection closes.

Information regarding the course selection process will be shared with students during the grade assemblies taking place on Monday, February 10 (Grade 9 and 10) and Tuesday, February 11 (Grade 11 and 12).

Students are encouraged to speak with departments if they require more information about courses. A schedule for meeting department representatives will be shared with students during the grade assemblies.

Please note, graduating students are required to submit the 'Not Returning' and Exit Survey in myPathway Planner.



The Guidance office will resume appointment bookings after course selection closes on **February 21**.



What's happening in the school

UHS STEM Expo - Feb 19, 2025 at 3:15 PM

This is your time to show off those **STEM projects** and to **explore STEM** your way.

Registration: [Google Form](#)

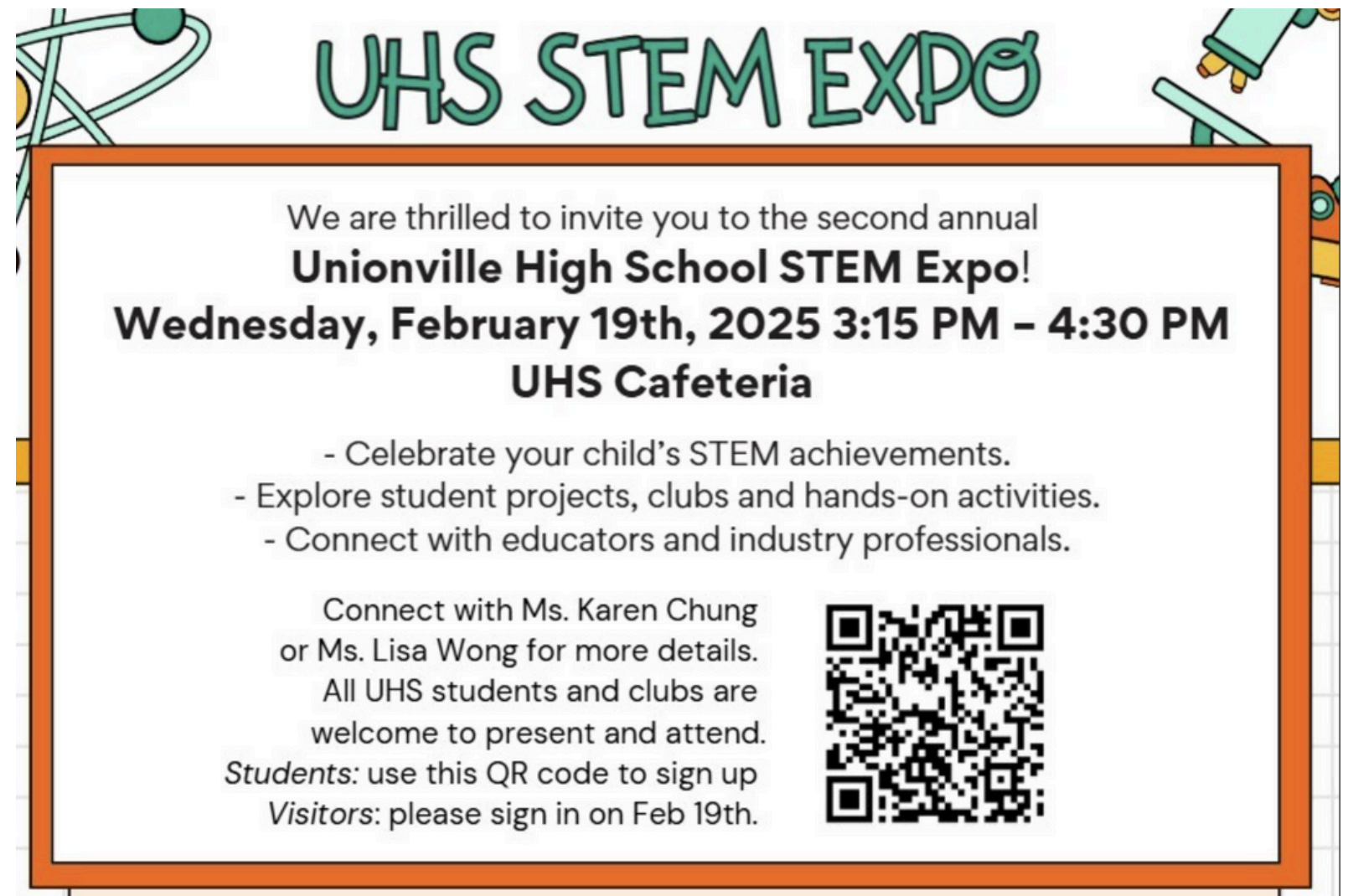
Deadline for this Form is **Feb 10 at 8:25 AM**

All presenters / clubs are responsible for bringing all required materials + a poster board on Feb 19 to the cafeteria.

Feel free to ask your teachers about your STEM Expo project and how you can best demonstrate it.

You can also email karen.chung@yrdsb.ca or lisa.wong@yrdsb.ca


Expo



We are thrilled to invite you to the second annual
Unionville High School STEM Expo!
Wednesday, February 19th, 2025 3:15 PM – 4:30 PM
UHS Cafeteria

- Celebrate your child's STEM achievements.
- Explore student projects, clubs and hands-on activities.
- Connect with educators and industry professionals.

Connect with Ms. Karen Chung
or Ms. Lisa Wong for more details.
All UHS students and clubs are
welcome to present and attend.
Students: use this QR code to sign up
Visitors: please sign in on Feb 19th.



Yearbook 2025 -- Order Now!

Yearbooks are selling out fast and we ordered a limited quantity. There is so much that goes into the Unionville High School yearbook this year and every year. It's an important part of your journey. Each year you are in high school is a different experience. Your friends, your courses, your involvement in school life will change. These times will become treasured memories. Go to [School Cash Online](#) to order a copy today before they are all gone.

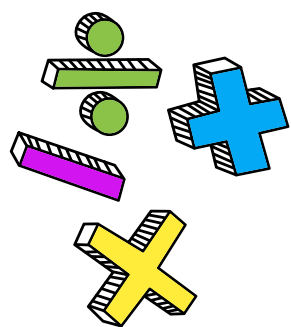
100 BOOKS
LEFT

**ORDER A
YEARBOOK**

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

VARSITY TV YEARBOOK

MATH



CONTEST

Math Contests for the second semester:

The Pascal, Cayley, and Fermat math contests for students in grades 9 to 11, will be written on Wednesday, February 26th. The cost of the PCF is \$6.50. There will be a limited number of seats available for each contest. The registration will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Contest registration will open up on School Cash Online on Monday, February 3rd at 8:30 am and close on Friday, February 7th at 4:00 pm. There will be a reminder on the Google Classroom (code: 2mmm25) on January 30th to remind students to sign up.

Only students who have paid their Student Activity fee (SAC fee) will be eligible to participate in these contests. If your child hasn't paid their SAC fee and would like to participate in any upcoming math contests, please pay it on School Cash Online as soon as possible. If SAC fee is not paid, you will not see these contests on School Cash Online at all. They will only be available to students who have paid their SAC fee.

EUCLID (APR 2nd) / FRYER, GALOIS, HYPATIA (APR 3rd)

Registration for Euclid, Fryer, Galois, and Hypatia will open up on February 24th and end on February 28th. More details to come! "

COURSES AND PROGRAMS



Aquatic Leadership Program - Registration

If you are interested in joining the Aquatic Leadership Program, please view the flyer attached here and visit the [registration link](#).



Black History Month Event

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

Dates:

Monday, February 3, 2025, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Registration: Please fill out the [Google Form](#)

Black History Month Celebration

Join us for an inspiring evening as we celebrate Black History Month with interactive performances, student showcases and dinner.

Dates: **Monday, February 3, 2025**, at Dr. J.M. Denison H.S.

Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at Bill Hogarth S.S.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at Alexander Mackenzie H.S.

Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Tommy Douglas S.S.

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

This event will feature:

- Interactive Performances
- Student Showcases
- Dinner will be provided

Please join us to celebrate the rich history and contributions of the Black Community while creating meaningful connections and memories together. Looking forward to celebrating together!

To Register

Please fill out a registration form by **January 31, 2025**.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca



FEBRUARY

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH



Registration for Night School is Open Now!

Students will **register** on **MyBlueprint/My Pathway Planner**.

If you would like more information, you can view the poster inside the guidance office.

Night School

REGISTRATION

Night school (semester 2) runs from February 13th 2025 - June 5th 2025

Classes follow the Remote learning delivery model and will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous).

Classes are held on **Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 p.m.**

You can visit the following link for more information.

<https://www2.yrdsb.ca/schools-programs/adult-learning/night-school-credit-courses/night-school-courses-offered>



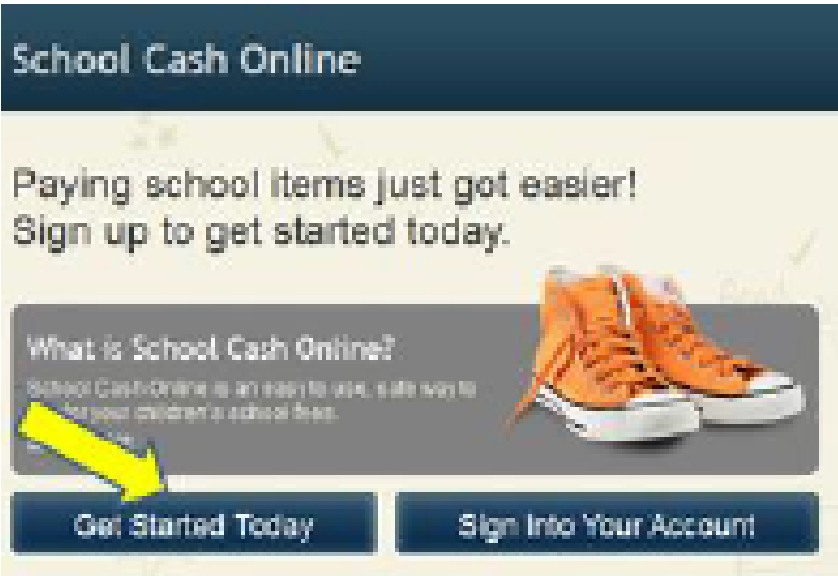


Online Payments (School Cash Online)

All YRDSB schools are now using School Cash Online as an online payment system. School Cash Online is an easy, safe and convenient way for families to pay online for extracurricular items or events, including yearbooks and field trips. It helps to reduce paper and the amount of cash/cheques handled by parents and students. Families may make payments using School Cash Online, or by cash or cheque.

How do I access the tool?
You can register for **School Cash Online** at any time by visiting the website. Once you are registered, you will be notified of any new items available for your child.

How do I register? Please click [here](#) for instructions.



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.



Safety First - Message from UHS Administration Team

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.
 - 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.

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



semester 2

Welcome to the start of the second half of the school year.

Congratulations to secondary school students who have completed exams and culminating activities and are ready to start a new semester, and to elementary school students for all their hard work in the first term. I want to remind families that when report cards are available, you can now access your child's report card through the Family Dashboard.

For students looking at course selection for next year, the Experience YRDSB pages on our website will let you explore the areas that interest you and learn more about the courses, programs and opportunities available in your secondary school.

At the end of January, we recognized Lunar New Year, commemorating the first day of the Lunar calendar. Throughout the month, we also recognized Tamil Heritage Month. In February, we recognize Black History Month, I encourage you to check the Board calendar for upcoming events to celebrate Black excellence and recognize the contributions made by Black Canadians. You can also find information about other upcoming significant dates and events for families.

The Student Trustee election process is underway for the 2025-2026 school year. Student Trustees play an essential role in our system, representing student voices at the Board table when we are making important decisions, and we greatly appreciate their contributions to our discussions. I would like to congratulate all of the students who put their names forward for the position and encourage all students in Grades 5-12 to take the time to vote.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank current Student Trustees Hayden Lai and Mitusaan Kugathasan and Indigenous Student Trustee Natalie Pitawanakwat for their hard work, leadership and commitment to student voice.

As a Board of Trustees, we have several important roles that affect the daily life in our schools and Board.

One of those responsibilities is to set the policies that govern the operation of schools in YRDSB. Policies cover important topics, such as assessment and evaluation, field trips, homework, dress code, caring and safe schools, health supports, student leadership and more.

We regularly review Board policies to ensure they are updated and reflect the current context, priorities and needs of our community and system. An important part of this process is inviting feedback from the community, including families. You can find a list of all policies and those currently out for comment on our Board website and I encourage you to take a look.

Trustees are also responsible for setting the Board budget. As we prepare to plan for the 2025-2026 school year budget, we will be once again reaching out to families and inviting you to share your input and feedback. Please take the time to review this information when you receive it; your voice is an important part of the process.

We are also working through the District Action Plan to reflect and align with the new Multi-Year Strategic Plan. This plan outlines how we will achieve the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan and focus on serving all students

I wish everyone all the best as we go into the second half of the school year.

Ron Lynn

Trustee, Markham Wards 2 and 6

Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - January 2025

Continuing the Journey: Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being:

As we step into this new season together, we are reminded that every journey is unique. Whether we're celebrating milestones, tackling challenges, or simply finding our rhythm after the winter break, this time of year offers a chance to reflect and grow.

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

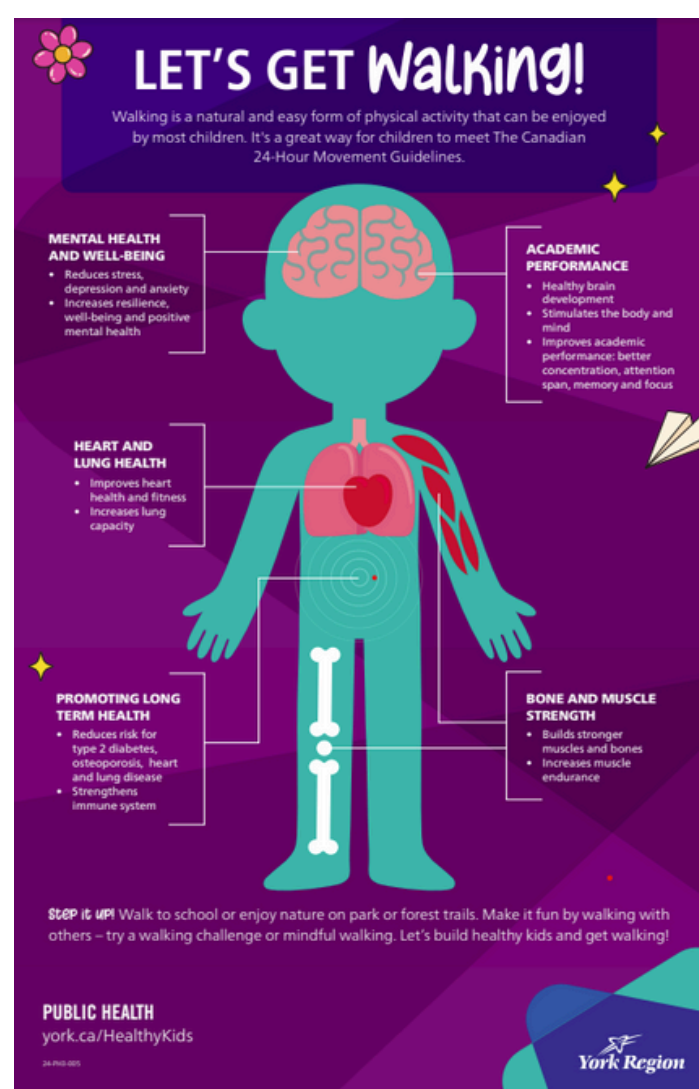
"you are"
NOT ALONE
• in this •

LET'S GET Walking!

Walking is a natural and easy form of physical activity that can be enjoyed by most children.

It's a great way for children to meet The Canadian 24-Hour

Movement Guidelines.

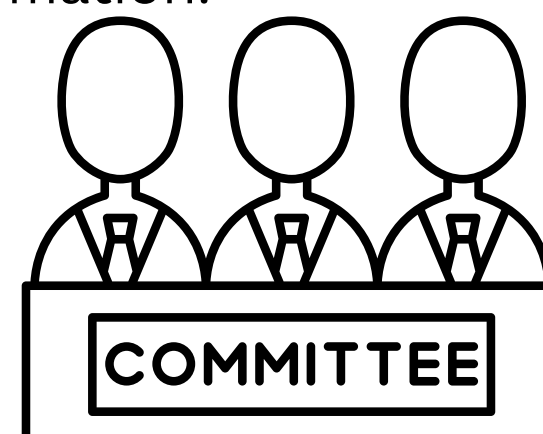


SEAS Family Engagement Evening Series: Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

In partnership with Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) Employee Affinity Group, families, parents and caregivers are invited to the Family Engagement Evening Series - Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection event.

Join us on **February 5, 2025, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.** at **Bill Crothers S.S.** for an evening to help gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System. Flyer with [registration](#) information.

School Council



Dear Families,

We are pleased to announce that the next School Council Meeting will take place on **Monday, February 24th, at 7:00 PM.** Translation services from English to Mandarin will be available.

To help us plan, please feel free to complete the form in advance. <https://forms.gle/KwybS5VZBEfz3iTC7>

School Council Meeting Feb. 24, 2025 校务委员会开会邀请通知
forms.gle

Location: Unionville High School Library

The agenda will be shared with everyone at a later date.

We hope to see you there!



Supporting East Asian Students
Family Engagement Evening Series

Understanding High School Pathways and Course Selection

Families, parents, caregivers please join us for this SEAS Family Engagement Evening to help you gain a deeper understanding of the high school pathways and course selection process in the Ontario Education System.

YRDSB teachers and Guidance Counsellors will be delivering information focused on:

- Understanding the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) requirements
- Exploring pathways and planning for post-secondary options
- Navigating high school course selection process in YRDSB

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

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

6:30p.m. - 8:30p.m.

Cafeteria, 3rd Floor

Bill Crothers Secondary School
44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

Please scan the QR code

or click <https://bit.ly/4flwbhs> to register



For additional inquiries, please contact: seas@ydrsb.ca
In partnership with YRDSB, Inclusive School & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developer team and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) affinity group.



Dear Families,

As the semester draws to a close, we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Patrick Belmonte, who has recently been appointed as the new Principal at Thornlea Secondary School.

We wish him all the best and much success in this exciting new role.

We would also like to wish Mr. Raymond Luong every success as he transitions to Markham District High School as their Vice Principal.

We are confident that both Mr. Belmonte and Mr. Luong will continue to make a positive impact on their new school communities, just as they have done here at Unionville High School.

We are very happy and excited for them.

Please join us in welcoming Ms. Joanne Tang as Vice Principal at Unionville High School.

Ms. Tang joins us from Bill Crother's Secondary School, where she held the role of Vice Principal.

We are thrilled to have her on our team. Welcome, Ms. Tang!

We would also like to warmly welcome Mr. Christopher Hilmer, a retired administrator with a wealth of experience, who will be joining our Unionville team until the end of the second semester. Welcome, Mr. Hilmer!



Reboot Your Routine This Winter -- Build Healthy Habits for Your Family

You are your children's biggest health champion, and York Region is here to support you every step of the way. york.ca/HealthyKids is your one-stop shop for building healthy kids with York Region Public Health.

York Region professionals offer confidential information and advice on public health-related topics, resources, services and other community programs, including pregnancy, parenting, family health, infectious disease, sexual health, sexually transmitted infections, health protection and dental health.

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

1-800-361-5653

TTY 1-866-512-6228

AccessYork@york.ca

ChildFamily@york.ca

Health.Inspectors@york.ca

[York.ca/NurseChat](https://york.ca/NurseChat)

BUILDING HEALTHY KIDS

This winter reboot your family's routine!

A new year is here, and it's a great time to think about your family's routines!

As you start to think about your family's goals for 2025 be realistic. Make sure to incorporate things you already enjoy, build upon on what's already working well, and be patient with yourself and your kids.

Help your family to continue building healthy habits for 2025 through daily movement, nutritious meals, and mental health promotion strategies you can use with your children all year round! During the winter months, try foods to keep you warm including soups, stews, casseroles, curries, and chili. Enjoy some family meals together and cooking with your children – it's a great way to connect, spend time together, and learn new skills.

If you are thinking about getting more active, consider getting outdoors to play! When children and youth are outside, they move more, get curious, and find joy. Interacting with nature, even when it is cold outside, has many benefits. It helps restore our ability to concentrate and pay attention. It improves mood, focus and our stress response. Remember to dress for the weather, it's the first step to enjoying being outside and the best way to do this is to layer clothing you can remove easily when it is warmer or put back on when it becomes colder. Make sure gaps such as wrists, ankles, neck, back and waist are covered and even though it is winter - don't forget sunscreen and sunglasses!

If you find things are tough at the start of the new year for you or your family, you can try breathing, visualization, muscle relaxation, journaling, listening to music, practising gratitude to help you cope. Try a variety of activities to see what works best. As a parent or caregiver, it is essential to take care of yourself, so you can care and support others. Your self care will help improve your energy, focus, ability to cope with challenges and you will be a model to your children.

For more tips on how you can reboot your family's routine this winter routine visit york.ca/HealthyKids.



Canadian Computing Contest - Wednesday February 19, 2025, 12:00 pm-3 pm



Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

The Canadian Computing Contest (CCC), administered by the University of Waterloo is a programming challenge for high school students with an interest in programming. It is an opportunity for students to challenge their skills to present coding solutions to five progressively challenging programming questions. Please see: Canadian Computing Competition (<https://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/computing.html>) for more information.

The Computer Club of UHS, has been allocating time on a weekly basis to coach and prepare students for this Contest. Join the Computer Club Google Classroom for more updates! Code: **slwprdp**.

We encourage students who have taken any computer science course such as: ICD20, ICS3U or ICS4U, to consider doing the contest. Participating in the CCC is a great experience regardless of your level and counts towards one of the contest requirements for STEM as well.

Contest Details: (only for all registered students)

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Date: Wednesday February 19th, 2025 **Time:** 12:15 pm - 3:15 pm

Location: Computer Lab Room 102 & UHS Library **Cost:** \$10.50 (via school cash online)

Audience

Junior Level (Grades 9 or 10) – any student with elementary programming skills

Senior Level (Grades 11 or 12) – any student with intermediate to advanced programming skills

Students may choose to write at any level (Junior or Senior) of the contest of their choice.

Process & Deadline for Registration: Wednesday February 6 by 11:59 pm - via School Cash Online

Please first check with your child before registering them to participate in the contest, since refunds would not be possible once the student is registered. If your child is interested in participating, please register your child and pay the required fees of \$10.50, before February 6th, 11:59 pm via School Cash Online. The school cashonline link is already available for parents. Please ask your child to help you register them. Please share the receipt of payment, either as email or printed copy with your child, for them to have their logins validated to participate.

Account Validation & Practise Sessions- Friday Feb. 7 & Feb. 14, 3:15 - 4:30, Rooms: 102, 118, 105

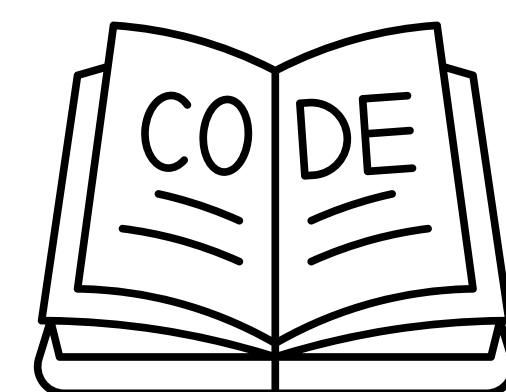
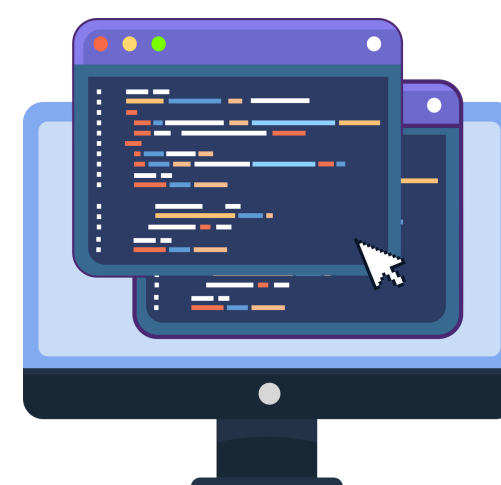
It is mandatory for all students who register to attend one of the above sessions to receive additional information and to have their logins setup, and validated to participate in the contest.

Thank you.

Sincerely

,J. Anandarajan

Teacher Supervisor - Computer Studies Departme



40 YEARS OF MUSIC @ UHS!



Join the UHS Music community of past and present to celebrate 40 years of excellent music making!

Sunday May 25, 2025 - 2:00pm

at

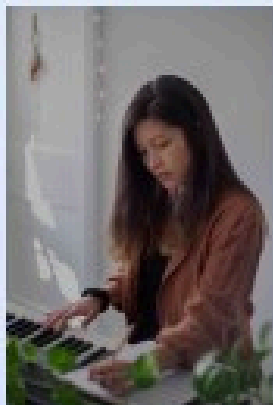
Flato Markham Theatre

Featuring current ensembles with special guest alumni and teachers performing our favourites, including music composed by UHS Music graduates

Reserve your tickets today at the **Flato Markham Theatre** Box Office

We want to hear from you. If you have a favourite memory, piece of music, story or special thought about your time with UHS Music, please consider sharing it [here](#).

Exciting news! Cait Nishimura (UHS 2009) has been commissioned to compose a piece of music in celebration of 40 Years of Music at UHS. The piece will feature all performing disciplines: Band, Choir, Strings and Piano and will be premiered at the concert on May 25, 2025. Join the consortium membership and support this world premiere performance. Consortium members will have their name appear in the introductory material of the score as well as the program for the concert.



Become a Consortium Member:

- up to \$50 - Ensemble
- \$50 - \$100 = Principal
- \$100 - \$200 = Conductor
- over \$200 = Artistic Director

caitnishimura.com

Joining is simple. Create an account (for tax receipts) on [YRDSB School Cash Online](#). Once registered, click "I don't want to add a student" and then click "Make a Donation". Select your amount and choose Unionville High School under "destination". Skip Tribute Information and type "40 Years of Music at UHS" under "Message to the Board". Once complete, please consider sending an email (jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca) so we can confirm receipt of your generous donation. Tax receipts will be sent immediately. Thank you for supporting new music at UHS.

Please contact Jeff Wrigglesworth - Head of Music: jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca with any questions or ideas.



For more UHS Music updates & photos, visit:
[@uhsmusicupdates](#) on Instagram



DATE	EVENT
March 4	Art’s Unionville _ALCHEMY
March 10	March Break (10th to 15th)
March 20	Arts Unionville Music Recital atCafe
March 25	OSSLT Library