



# Unionville High School Weekly Parent/Guardian Bulletin

**November 22, 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)

UHS Website: [Unionville High School](http://Unionville High School)

Principal <a href="#">Susie Nunes</a>	Vice-Principal (R - Z) <a href="#">Patrick Belmonte</a>	Vice-Principal (A - I) <a href="#">Catherine Clarke</a>	Vice-Principal (J - Q) <a href="#">Raymond Luong</a>	Superintendent <a href="#">Kien Nam Luu</a>	Trustee <a href="#">Ron Lynn</a>
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## TECH REQUEST FORM – 2024-2025      CLUBS      GUIDANCE UPDATES

### Character Matters Trait of the Month: Responsibility

“Courage, my friends; 'tis not too late to build a better world.”  
- Tommy Douglas

### Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
November 18 - November 29	UHS OSSLT Administration Window
November 25	School Council Meeting #3 (7:00 pm)
November 25 - December 12	Grad Photos by Appointment
December 2	<u>UHS Arts Fundraiser at Pizza Pizza</u> (Markham Town Square location)

# NOVEMBER

### Family Dashboard- All Students

The **Family Dashboard** will give you secure one-stop access to information and applications related to your child's education. It is designed to make it easier for families to engage with their child's education.

In this first phase, the dashboard will include secure access to report cards and links to useful information for parents/guardians.

### Setting up your account

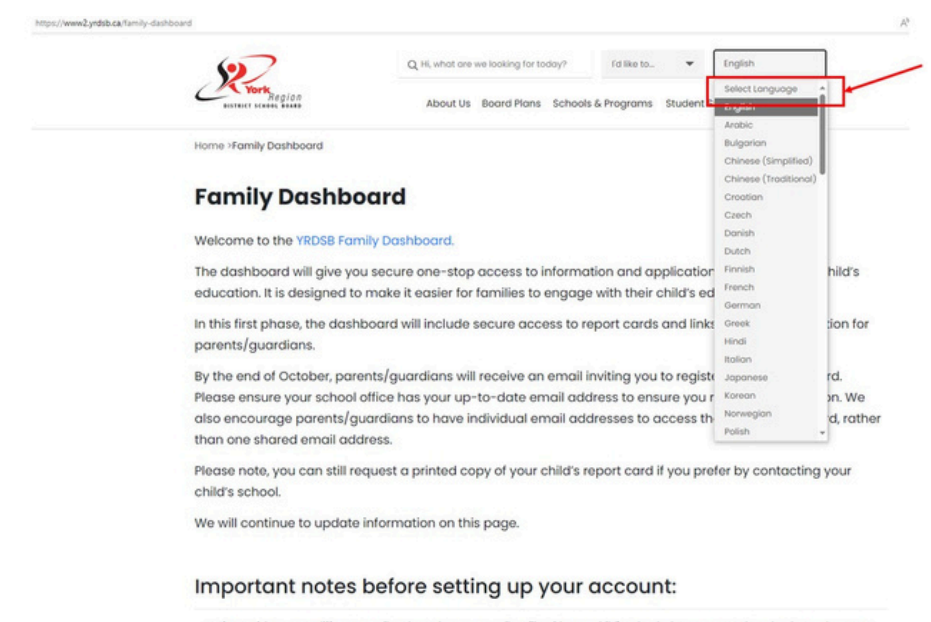


1. Visit [family.yrdsb.ca](http://family.yrdsb.ca) to set up your account.
2. Click “**No account?** Create one” under the email
3. Enter this email address into the email field and click the Next Button
4. Check your email, you will receive an email with a one-time code that expires within 30 minutes in order to confirm your identity.
5. Return to the account creation screen and enter this code
6. Once your email has been validated you will be asked to create a password, enter a Display Name (Parent/Guardian name) and enter the following information about your child or one of your children for further verification:
  - a. Student Number
  - b. Student Birthdate
  - c. Student Home Address Postal Code

A **call centre** is also available to support you with setting up your account.  
The call centre will be available:

- **November 26 and 28 – from 5:00-8:00 p.m.**
- Contact:
  - Newmarket and Northern York Region: 289-340-0036
  - GTA/Toronto: 647-749-4324

For additional support, you can also email: [FamilyDashboardHelp@yrdsb.ca](mailto:FamilyDashboardHelp@yrdsb.ca)





## Message from UHS School Council Chair



Dear Parents/Guardians

亲爱的家长/监护人

- Please consider paying your child's **Student Activity Fee**.

- 请支持学校活动并考虑支付您孩子的学生活动费。

The link to pay is: [SchoolCash Online](#)

付款连结为: [SchoolCash Online](#)

- Do you have **Fundraising** experience? We are looking for 3 or 4 parents to join our team.

- 您有筹款经验吗? 我们诚挚邀请 3 或 4 位家长加入我们的团队。

Email: [OurSchoolUHS@gmail.com](mailto:OurSchoolUHS@gmail.com)

请电邮我们: [OurSchoolUHS@gmail.com](mailto:OurSchoolUHS@gmail.com)

Anoosh Sharif  
Chair  
UHS School Council

Anoosh Sharif  
校务理事会主席

## School Council Meeting

Hello families,  
Our third School Council Meeting will be on **Monday, November 25 at 7:00 pm**. Translation services from English to Mandarin will be available. Please feel free to fill out **the School Council Pre-Registration Form - Monday, November 25, 2024**

### Agenda:

- Welcome
- USAC Updates
- Subject Department Presentations:
  - \* Music - Mr. Wigglesworth
- School Council Forum Report
- Student Activity Fee Participation (1245 students have purchased)
- Grade 8 Open House
- Fundraising Team
- ADMIN Updates
- Hong Fook MHA: Parenting (Family Communication)



**Location:** Unionville HS Library

### Speaker from Hong Fook Mental Health Association:

Have you struggled with parenting? We all have.

On Monday November 25 @ 7 PM in the library UHS School Council meeting we will host Hannah Xu, MPH, Youth Program Worker/Coordinator and Lead of Youth and Family Services from the Hong Fook Mental Health Association.

Join us and spend only 50 minutes receiving guidance and learning concrete skills to help you with your parenting concerns. These are some of the questions we will be addressing:

- "I feel that my child's lack of motivation is holding him/her back"
- "I've been struggling with how to raise my child well and I am disheartened"
- "My child whose English is not very strong has scored C-/D+ in math and I'm worried this is impacting his/her understanding of the subject"
- "I'm worried that my child is addicted to playing computer games and how this will affect him/her"
- "How can we inspire our children to be more willing to learn?"

A Question and Answer session will follow.

(Mandarin translation/中文翻译)

您在养育孩子的过程中遇到困难吗? 相信我们多少都有经历过。

11月25日星期一晚上7点, 在UHS图书馆举办的校务委员会的会议中, 我们邀请到来自康福心理健康协会的青年项目工作人员/协调员兼青年和家庭服务负责人, 公共卫生硕士Hannah Xu莅临主讲。

只需50分钟, 就可以获得指引并学习到具体的技能, 以帮助您解决教养问题。以下是我们将要讨论并试着解决的一些议题:

“我觉得我的孩子缺乏动力这件事阻碍了他/她的进步”

“我一直在纠结如何教养我的孩子, 十分心灰意冷”

“我的孩子英语不太好, 数学成绩为 C-/D+, 我担心这会影响他/她对这门学科的理解”

“我担心我的孩子沉迷于玩电脑游戏, 不知这会对他/她产生什么影响”

“我们怎么样能激发孩子更愿意学习呢?”

随后将进行问答环节。

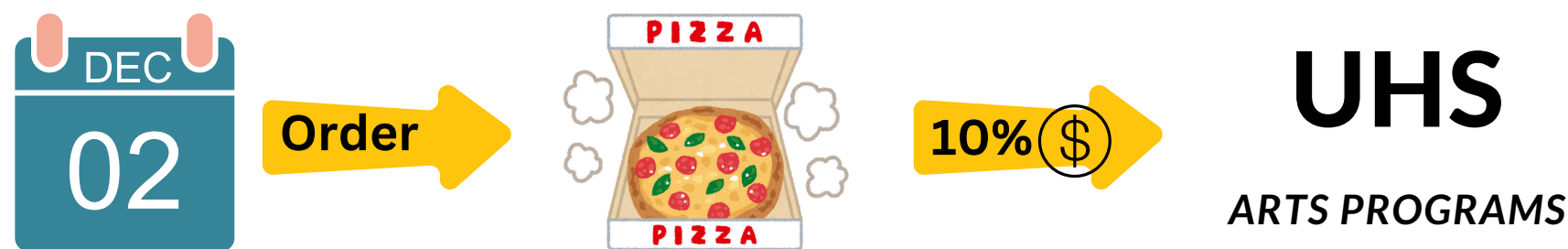


# ANNOUNCEMENT

## Buy a Pizza, 10% of Your Purchase Will Be Donated to the Arts at UHS

On **Monday, December 2nd**, support Unionville High School's Arts programs - dance, drama, music, and visual arts - by ordering from Pizza Pizza at Markham Town Square, 8601 Warden Ave. Please mark your calendar to support UHS Arts programs.

Whether you **pick up, eat in, or get delivery** from this location, 10% of all purchases on this day will go directly to UHS Arts. The Arts and Pizza -- Yummy! Call to order at 416-967-1111.



## UHS ARTS FUNDRAISER



**On Dec 2nd  
Buy a Pizza  
10% of your purchase  
will be donated to the Arts at UHS**

On Monday, December 2nd, support Unionville High School's Arts programs—music, dance, drama, and visual arts—by ordering from Pizza Pizza at Markham Town Square, 8601 Warden Ave. Whether you pick up, eat in, or get delivery from this location, 10% of all purchases on this day will go directly to UHS Arts. The Arts and Pizza—Yummy! Call to order at 416-967-1111.

## Arts Unionville Dance Presents..."Beyond the Frame"

Arts Unionville Dance Presents..."Beyond the Frame"

Place: **Flato Markham Theatre**

Date: **December 11th, 2024**

Time: **12:40 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.**

Step inside the world of all things art, as the unexpected, inspirational, and vivid world of three dimensional art is depicted in this hour long journey. Witness "the frame" being broken in unconventional ways, as we break literal barriers and set free from enclosures. We can't wait to share this original creative take on dance with you!

- You are invited to purchase adult tickets to this matinee performance through your child's account, which is now available on **School Cash Online**.
- For external public tickets (those without a YRDSB school cash online account), click the following link:

**<https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/356431/72/False/True>**

Purchased tickets will be distributed in classes for dancers to bring home the week prior, or if purchased after December 6th, will be available for pick up before the show in the foyer of the theatre lobby.

Please note, **Flato Markham Theatre will not be selling these tickets**, it is only through school cash online that they can be purchased. They are general admission seating, but we will be reserving a centre orchestra section for parents/guardians. We recommend you purchasing your tickets at your earliest convenience as this show is also being opened for our UHS students to attend as well. We would hate for you to be disappointed!



## Grad Photo Sign Up Announcement

Attention **grade 12 students**: Grad photos are coming!



Edge Imaging will be here to take grad photos **beginning Monday November 25**.

Don't forget to book your appointment!

Please **sign up online** at **[www.bookmygrad.ca](http://www.bookmygrad.ca)**. Our school code is: WUH

Sign up early to get the time that works best for you.

**Congratulations** class of 2025; we look forward to seeing you for your graduation photos.



## UHS OSSLT Administration Window: November 18 - November 29, Period 3 and Period 4

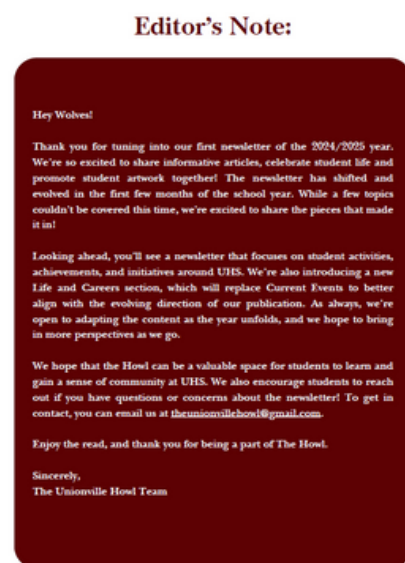
**November 18 - November 29, 2024** starting from period 3, Unionville HS students who have not fulfilled their literacy requirement for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) will write the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) for two days. It will also be written by students who were previously eligible but have not yet written the test or who were unsuccessful on their previous attempts.


In a separate email in student GAPPS accounts, students will receive the date, time, and classroom location where they will write the OSSLT. More details will be sent to their GAPPS accounts.

For information about the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Requirement, please click **[here](#)**.




The Unionville Howl is proud to present it's first newsletter of the 2024-2025 school year! The UHS community is invited to read the publication here (insert link). A special thank you to Ms. Wu and the Howl student leadership creative and editorial team for their work on this publication!






# Post-Secondary Transition Information Night




**November 26, 2024**  
6:00-7:00pm



**Virtual Presentation**

The Regional Assessment and Resource Centre (RARC) promotes equity and access for students with neurodevelopmental disorders in post-secondary education, by providing evidence-based services and supports to students, practitioners, and educators across Ontario. Our vision is to enable students with neurodevelopmental disabilities to thrive in post-secondary education.

In this presentation, we will discuss programming, accommodations, and supports that equip secondary students with disabilities with the necessary knowledge and skills to access post-secondary education. Presenters will highlight the important role of transition planning to help students feel more confident and prepared to meet educational challenges. The role of assessment and appropriate determination and implementation of accommodations will also be central to the discussion. This training is appropriate for grade 11 and 12 students with learning disabilities, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, and/or Mental Health Disorders, parents/guardians, and resource teachers. There is no fee or registration required for this event.






### Objectives:

- 1 Identify the skills required to successfully transition to post-secondary education and the resources available to teach your students these skills.
- 2 Appreciate the differences between rights and responsibilities of a student at the various levels of education.
- 3 Recognize how assessment can be used as part of transition planning and the determination of appropriate accommodations.

**Join via Microsoft Teams:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/42pde9dr>

**Meeting ID: 278 204 256 553**  
**Passcode: bEjZix**

 [rarc.transitions@queensu.ca](https://rarc.transitions@queensu.ca)
 [www.queensu.ca/rarc](https://www.queensu.ca/rarc)
 613-533-6311



# The Nutcracker by Victoria Ballet Company

Date & Time:

- Saturday December 14th, 2024 6:00PM
- Sunday December 15th, 2024 2:00PM

Location

- Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts  
10268 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, ON

Buy tickets: **The Nutcracker at Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts**

Join us for an unforgettable holiday tradition as Victoria Ballet Company presents The Nutcracker, a magical journey through Clara’s enchanted world of wonder and imagination. Featuring world-class dancers, local and international guest artists, and talented students, this spectacular performance has captivated audiences for over 15 years.

Inspired by the Mariinsky (Kirov) Theatre’s rich tradition, this rare gem of The Nutcracker is a unique experience to witness in North America. Having sold out every season since 2009, this breathtaking production combines stunning choreography, dazzling costumes, and Tchaikovsky’s iconic score, making it a must-see for the entire family. Don't miss your chance to be part of this beloved performance at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts!



## TCC Heritage Month Video Essay Competition

### Tamil Community Centre’s Tamil Heritage Month Video & Essay Competition 2025 Call for Entries

Theme: **Meeting Together, Meeting Place** – Celebrating the Tamil Community Centre and Preserving Our Culture. We’re excited to announce the launch of our Tamil Heritage Month Video & Essay Competition as part of the Tamil Community Centre’s mission to celebrate and preserve Tamil heritage! Students from all schools are invited to participate in this exciting contest.

Age Groups:

Category 1: Students aged 10-13 Category 2: Students aged 14-18

Prizes: First Prize: \$1,000 Second Prize: \$750 Third Prize: \$500

How to Enter:

Submit your video or essay via email to [info@tamilcentre.ca] with the subject line: Tamil Heritage Month Video & Essay Submission – [Your Name]. Please include your full name, age, school, and contact details in the body of the email. If you are attaching a video, please send a Google Drive link with the correct access settings for anyone to be able to view your video.



## Autism Parent Support Group (Chinese)

Please see the poster for the Parent support group flyer for Autism’s Parents. These workshops are designed to provide support and resources for parents navigating the journey of raising a child with Autism.

Services Offered:

- Information about autism services and interventions,
- Network of supportive families and experts,
- Confidence and strategies to help your child succeed,
- Community engagement in activities that promote cultural understanding.

**-Free of charge**

Please register from the link: <https://forms.gle/LT2ik39n9P8KAYch6>

**Date:** Every Tuesday

**Time:** 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Location:** 50 High Tech Rd, Richmond Hill, L4B 4N7 (In-Person)

**Language:** Mandarin or Cantonese

For more information, please contact: KC Tsang 289-317-3741, ktsang@ccsyrr.org





## Library Information

### New in Your Library

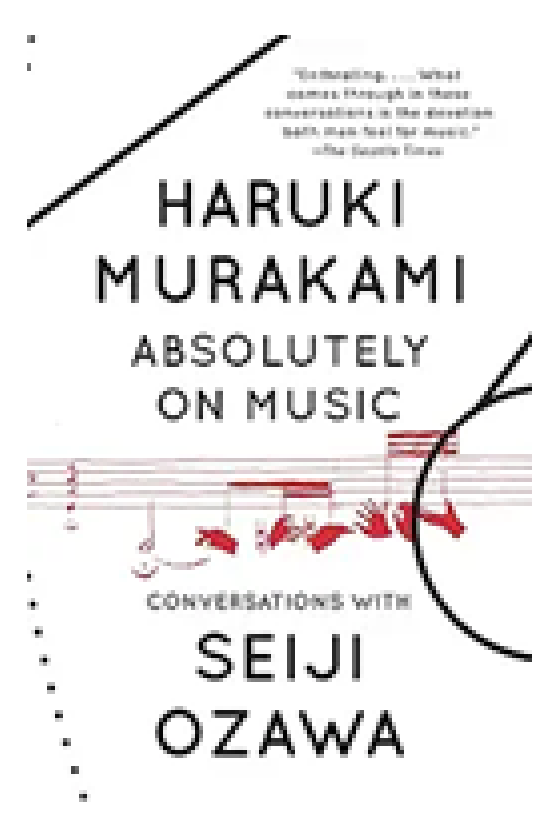
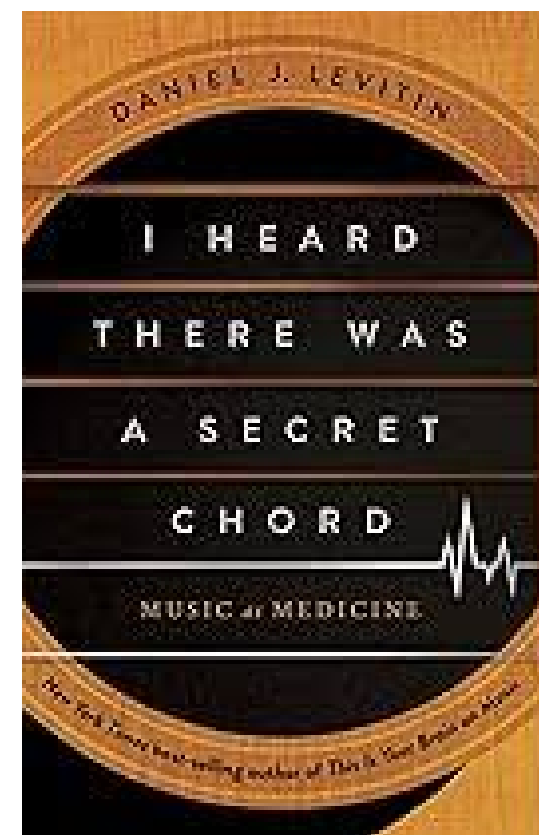
Explore the power of music with these titles, now available to borrow in the UHS Library.

#### I Heard There Was a Secret Chord: Music as Medicine

by Daniel J. Levitin

#### Absolutely on Music: Conversations with Seiji Ozawa and Haruki Murakami

by Seiji Ozawa



## BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop for Black YRDSB Students

**Black students and their families in the York Region District School Board (YRDSB)** are invited to join us for a virtual edition of the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024, from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST.**

This is a **free** workshop in collaboration with YRDSB designed to guide Black students and their families on how to prepare, search, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. Our main goal is to share collective knowledge so that Black students and their families can make informed decisions about post-secondary education and the various available funding options.

If you are in Grade 8 or high school, this workshop is especially for you! Note that you will receive your unique Zoom link via email upon registration. A reminder email and further details will also be sent to registrants on the day of the event.

For registration, please click [here](#).

For more information please contact us at [info@bfcn.ca](mailto:info@bfcn.ca) or 416-566-2731.

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN)
York Region District School Board (YRDSB)




### Scholarship Application Workshop

The Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN), in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB), is providing a free online workshop to guide Black students and their families on how to prepare, search, and apply for scholarships and bursaries. If you are in Grade 8 or high school, this workshop is especially for YOU!

**Tuesday, November 26, 2024**  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EST | ONLINE (ZOOM)

Learn more and register at:  
<https://bfcn.ca/WorkshopNovember26>

To participate, Black students and their families must be from YRDSB. For questions contact Cheryl Yarde at [info@bfcn.ca](mailto:info@bfcn.ca).

Learn more about our work and how to support at [bfcn.ca](http://bfcn.ca).



## Kwanzaa Celebration Invitation

Students, staff and families, please join us on Monday, December 9, 2024, as we come together to celebrate Kwanzaa!

This special event will honour African heritage, unity and culture and will be a time to reflect on the seven principles of Kwanzaa, enjoy cultural traditions and foster community spirit.

Please see the [flyer invitation](#) for more information.

## Kwanzaa Celebration

Students, staff and families, please join us as we come together to celebrate Kwanzaa! This special event will honour African heritage, unity and culture and will be a time to reflect on the seven principles of Kwanzaa, enjoy cultural traditions and foster community spirit.

**Date:** Monday, December 9, 2024  
**Time:** 6:00 - 8:30 P.M.  
**Location:** Dr. Bette Stephenson, 36 Regatta Avenue, Richmond Hill

**Event Details:**

- Storytelling on Kwanzaa's history and principles
- Music and performances celebrating African heritage and culture
- Crafts and activities for all ages
- A community feast

We look forward to celebrating this cultural holiday with you.

**To Register**  
Please fill out a [registration form](#) by **December 2, 2024**.  
If you have any further questions, please reach out to [Blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Blackstudentexcellence@yrdsb.ca)




## 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.

### School Cash Online

Paying school items just got easier!  
Sign up to get started today.

**What is School Cash Online?**  
School Cash Online is an easy to use, safe way to pay your children's school fees.

[Get Started Today](#) [Sign Into Your Account](#)





# City of Markham School Zone Safety Guide - The City Wants to Hear from You Survey



Your opinion matters in making school zones and routes safer! Share your thoughts on the challenges of travelling to and from school, and how the City can improve safety in the neighbourhood.

Please take a moment to complete the [survey](#) (External link). The survey will close on **November 30, 2024**.

Together, we can create a safer environment for school communities!

## Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - November 2024

Dear Families and Caregivers,

Today, technology and more specifically screens are everywhere and are a part of most of our daily lives. As we continue to adjust to this new reality, there are opportunities to explore our relationships with our devices, how you can model a balanced relationship with them, and support your children in doing the same. This year, in alignment with the Ministry of Education's School Board Policy on Enforcement of Restrictions to Student Mobile Personal Device Use, the Central Mental Health Team would like to draw your attention to the connection between screen-time and mental health.

For more resources and information, please check YRDSB website:

### Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter - November 2024 Digital Wellness and Screen Time Balance



## Board Website

Helpful information can be found on the YRDSB website at [www.yrdsb.ca](http://www.yrdsb.ca). A translation tool at the top of each page can translate content into over 80 languages. On the website, you can find information about board programs and student supports, as well as online tools for students, community supports and family resources such as translation information and the Guide to the School Year.



## School Start-Up Forms Reminder

You must sign in to your child's student GAPPS account to complete the form.

In case you have not yet completed school start-up forms, please submit them as soon as possible as they contain permissions and consents. The forms can be found at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/>. Translated versions are also available.

**Tips are available** on the Board website if you need additional information on how to login to the Student GAPPS account to complete the forms.

You must complete a separate form for each child attending school. Please ensure you logout of one student account before logging into another.

If you'd prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact the school office.

Secondary school students must also complete the secondary school student form at <https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students>. They would have received this link in their student GAPPS account.

## Attendance

**Strive for Perfect Attendance:** Try to book appointments for after school or during lunch.

**Student Absences:** Parents/Guardians are **to call or email** the attendance office **before 8:25am** at (905) 479-2787 ext. 431 or [unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca)

**Daytime Appointments:** Send a note or call the office – students must **be signed out through the main office**

**Extended Absences:** If the student is taking three and more days of absence, the Student must complete an **Extended Absence Form**, signed by parents and your child's teachers. The form is to be returned to the attendance office prior to the absence. Please avoid scheduling vacations during school.

## Technology Requests

We are encouraging all students to bring their own laptop or chromebook to school on a daily basis to assist in their learning. If you are bringing a personal laptop or chromebook, please ensure that it is clearly labelled for ease of identification. If your child does not already have a personal or Board laptop or chromebook, please complete the [Technology Request Form 2024-2025](#). The link will be posted on the parent bulletin top left corner for the whole school year.

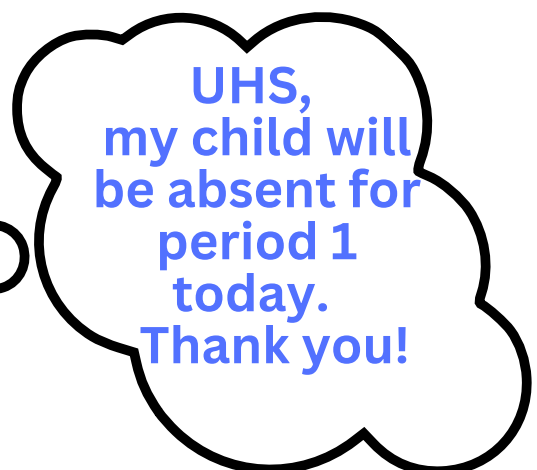
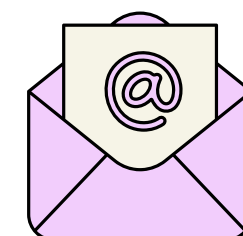
## Students inspire Us Every Day. Let Them Inspire You Too.

We believe that every student can be successful. That drives our work.

We are looking for individuals who share our commitment to student well-being and achievement.

Join our team of caring, innovative and dedicated professionals who are making a difference in the lives of students and families every day.

Please see the Board website for more information.





# GUIDANCE

## Pathways to Skilled Trades and Technology Open House

Do you want to learn more about the pathways to a career in the skilled trades and technology? Are you a student OR a parent/guardian of a student in Grades 9 - 11? If you answered yes to these questions, please join us at Richmond Hill High School (201 Yorkland Street, Richmond Hill, ON, L4S 1A2) on **Monday, December 9, 2024** from **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**.

Our exhibitors, including local employers, trade unions, colleges, industry partners and associations will be available to provide students and their families with information on the pathways to a career in the skilled trades and technology. In addition, there will be presentations throughout the evening by the Pathways Teams from York Region and York Catholic District School Boards along with local employers.

Come and learn about the pathways to a career in the skilled trades! Registration is required. A detailed agenda will be emailed to you the week prior to this event.

Click [here](#) to register!

If you have any questions about this event, please email the YRDSB Pathways Team at [pathways.yrdsb@gapps.yrdsb.ca](mailto:pathways.yrdsb@gapps.yrdsb.ca).



## Full Disclosure for Grade 11 and Grade 12 Courses

For the 2024-2025 school year, the course withdrawal date (Full Disclosure) will be at least 5 instructional days from the last possible date the mid-semester report is issued. **The Full Disclosure date for Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses is November 27.** If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course on or prior to November 27, then the course and mark will not be recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript. If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course after the Full Disclosure date, a withdrawal (W) is entered in the credit column, and the student's mark in the course at the time of withdrawal will be recorded as a percentage in the achievement column of the transcript.



COMING SOON

DATE	EVENT
December 5	Arts Unionville Music Recital at Atrium (6:30)
December 11	Arts Unionville Dance "Beyond the Frame" at Flato (12:40 pm - 1:40 pm)
December 23 - January 3	Winter Break
January 20	School Council Meeting #4 (7:00 pm)
January 22 - January 28	Exam Week
January 29	Exam Review Day