



# P A R E N T B U L L E T I N

**VOLUME 07**  
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## U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

<b>Monday October 15 Day 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sr. Girls Basketball to William Mulock SS (2:40- 5pm)</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday October 16 Day 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AU Dance/ Photography collaborative at Alexander Muir Park (9am-1:30pm)</li> <li>Sr. Boys Soccer at Thornlea SS (2:45-6pm)</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday October 17 Day 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BB120 to Toyota Factory (10am-3pm)</li> <li>Jr. Boys Volleyball to Bur Oak SS (2:20-5:20pm)</li> <li>Sr. Girls Basketball hosts Markham District SS (3:30-5pm)</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday October 18 Day 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Athletic Council Flag Football Tournament (3:30-5pm)</li> <li>Music Department Hospital Fundraiser (7:30-9:30pm)</li> <li>BB120 to Toyota Factory (7:45am-1:30pm)</li> <li>AU Music to TSO (7:45am-2pm)</li> <li>Sr. Boys Soccer to Langstaff SS (2:45-6pm)</li> <li>Sr. Boys Volleyball home game (3:30-5:30pm)</li> <li>Swim Team to Pan Am Centre -Meet #1 (7:30am-3:00pm)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday October 19 Day 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Picture retake day</li> <li>Parents teachers Interview Scheduler opens</li> </ul>

### 24th Annual Take Our Kids to Work Day! November 14, 2018

On Wednesday November 14<sup>th</sup>, all grade 9 students will spend the day at work, job shadowing a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host.

Grade 9 students have received a parent information brochure which explains the benefits of this program and contains the Parent Consent Form.

Please ensure that the consent form is signed and returned to your child's homeroom teacher by Thursday November 1<sup>st</sup>.

For more information on this program, please visit The Learning Partnership website at <http://www.thelearningpartnership.ca>



Check out the latest school announcements by following us on twitter [@UHSupdates](https://twitter.com/UHSupdates)



# PARENT BULLETIN

## MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE

### Scholarships

Loran Scholarship

Due: October 24th - Direct Pool Deadline (8pm)

University of Toronto

National Book Award

Due: October 16th - School Sponsored deadline to submit to Guidance

Horatio Alger Scholarship

Due: October 25th

University of Toronto - National Scholarship Program

Due: November 1st

The Scholarship Report has been updated on the Guidance Moodle. Various scholarships are listed with due dates between September and November 2018.





# PARENT BULLETIN

## MESSAGE FROM THE GUIDANCE

### Volunteer and Program Opportunities

The Guidance Department is developing a new UHS Volunteer and Program Opportunities site via Google Classroom for all students interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities within the school and community. As well, we will also be posting information regarding upcoming programs and educational events. To become a member of this Classroom, students will need to follow these steps:

1. Log into their GAPPS account;
2. Select the Google Classroom icon from the top menu;
3. Select "Join Class"
4. Enter the enrollment key "bf1jq7"

You can also follow the link here: [Volunteer and Program Opportunities](#)



### Special Education Department

Please note that IEPs (Individual Education Plans) will be coming home on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Parents:** please sign one copy and **return** to the school to room 218 as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's IEP please contact your child's SERT (Special Education Resource Teacher) whose name will be indicated on page one of the IEP.

Thank you for your continued support.



# PARENT BULLETIN

## **Parents Teachers Interview Night**

Unionville High School will continue to use EDSBY to manage our Parents' Night scheduling. Parents' Night is on Thursday, October 25th.

Edsby is a cloud-based platform that allows families to easily reserve times to meet with your child(en)'s teachers.

If you have not already done so, families will need to create an Edsby account to access the online appointment scheduler for their child's teachers for Parents' Night. For help signing up for Parent-Teacher interviews, please visit <https://edsby.com/help/parent-teacher-interviews-parents/>

If you have not created an account, you will receive an email from York Region District School Board in early October with instructions on how to create an Edsby account. If you do not receive the email, please check your junk mail folder to ensure you do not miss this opportunity.

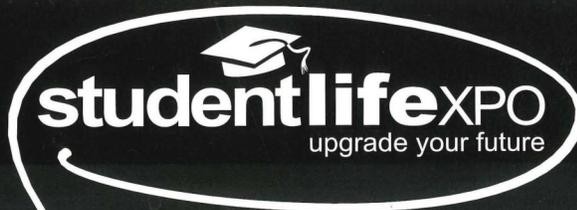
If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office. Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact the teacher directly.

### **Important Timelines:**

<b>Early October</b>	Parents/guardians to create Edsby accounts (if they have not done so)
<b>October 12</b>	Interim Report Cards sent home
<b>October 19</b>	Parents' Night schedule opens for booking. An invitation to book appointments will be sent to your Edsby inbox with a notification to your email.
<b>October 24</b>	Interview Scheduler closes at 4 PM
<b>October 25</b>	Parents' Night (6:30 PM - 8:30 PM)



# UPCOMING EVENTS



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upgrade your future



UNIVERSITIES FROM ACROSS CANADA  
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STUDENT LIFESTYLE  
AND MUCH MORE!

ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES  
(Ontario University Fair)

**Explore ALL Pathways!**

Since 2003, **OVER 700,000** students (and their parents) have attended Student Life Expo to explore the widest variety of career path and post-secondary school options under one roof.

**OCTOBER 27-28, 2018**  
Metro Toronto Convention Centre

FREE ADMISSION and chances to **WIN \$2000** towards tuition at

**studentlifeEXPO.com**

## Ontario College Information Fair

We will be visiting the **Ontario College Information Fair on Wednesday, October 24th 2018**. There will be **NO COST** and transportation will be provided. If your **grade 11 or 12** son/daughter is interested in attending, please send them to **Room 304/301** to see Ms. Choi, Ms. Elliott or Ms. Sun to pick up a permission form. There are limited spots available. The deadline to return the forms is **October 15**.



## U.S. College Expo

Markham District High School will be hosting the U.S. College Expo tour on Wednesday, October 24 from 3pm-3:45pm.

Students will get an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the U.S admissions process.

If students are interested in attending, they are asked to register. Please see the flyer for more details.



**WELCOME U.S. COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES  
FOR A 1-HOUR VISIT**



**Wednesday, October 24, 2018: 3:00pm - 3:45pm**

**Register & refer your friends for a chance to win a  
\$500 USCE Scholarship!**



**Speak with US College representatives and ask about Student life, the admissions process, tuition and so much more!**

**FREE ADMISSION | Pre-registration required**  
[www.USCOLLEGEEXPO.COM/school-tours-registration](http://www.USCOLLEGEEXPO.COM/school-tours-registration)

## How my kids won over \$20,000 in scholarships and bursaries in high school

By Glenda Healy on Oct 10, 2018 10:52 am

Today I am going to share my own story of how I helped my two teenagers raise funds for post-secondary education in the hopes that I can help you do the same!

Two years ago, my youngest child finished high school. Both of my children now attend university. My children had always worked at summer jobs and part-time jobs through high school, but when it came time for postsecondary education, they still needed to raise more funds to pay their way. In their final year of high school, we began to look for scholarships and bursaries.

The [average tuition fees for fulltime students in undergraduate programs in 2018-19 in Canada was \\$6,838](#). However, tuition is only one part of the cost of postsecondary education. There are also other expenses such as accommodation, food, textbooks, supplies, transportation, etc.

I decided to take on the challenge of looking for scholarships and bursaries with my children.

### **Where do we start??**

First, we checked out **private sources**: national, provincial, and local companies, clubs, banks, and professional organizations. Many of the scholarships I found were based on merit – a student's leadership activities or volunteerism and/or academic achievement. The bursaries however, were awarded based mainly on the economic circumstances of the family, although other factors such as community involvement were sometimes considered as well. Most applications required an essay as well as reference letters. Deadlines for these opportunities ran from February to June.

**Colleges and universities also offer scholarships and bursaries.** When they apply to attend a particular school, students are automatically considered (no application necessary) for entrance scholarships, based on their academic average. Other major admissions awards, worth thousands of dollars, are generally open to high-achieving students, although qualities like leadership may be required as well. Some of these awards had due dates early in the academic year, even before my children had thought about applying to university. Admission bursaries for students with financial need are sometimes offered as well. My kids didn't apply for any of the scholarships, but they did apply for the admission bursaries.

If I had the chance to do it over, I would have had my children each **visit the Student Awards Office** at their respective universities to gain a better understanding of what is offered at that institution, in first-year and beyond. Entrance scholarships aren't the only opportunity. Both my kids have continued, while at university, to apply for scholarships and bursaries that have deadlines throughout the year.

Finally, we researched **government loans and grants** (the latter do not have to be repaid). Although I was aware that my children could likely obtain a student loan, I was unaware that in Ontario, when applying for a student loan, you are automatically considered for a grant as well. You can also decline the loan if you don't want it — just select the [No Loan Option](#) on the application. Every province also has its own student aid programs, e.g., [Tuition is now free for those earning up to \\$90,000 in Ontario](#).

## **And . . . here is where the fun begins!**

Once we had compiled a list of scholarships and bursaries, we checked each one for its specific requirements. Then the work began. My kids made a running list of their extracurricular activities in school, including participation in clubs, sports, committees, and music. They noted any volunteerism in their church and community, and any leadership roles they had held. They recorded their achievements and awards. And then they organized and categorized the information. They recollected and documented stories of obstacles they had overcome. Their resumes were up-to-date. My children filled out applications and wrote dozens of essays, tweaking the composition to fit each scholarship application. References and transcripts were requested from their guidance counsellors, teachers, employers, and family friends.

Finally, we sent out the applications by courier, email, online, and snail mail.

## **Was it worth it?**

And then we waited – for weeks and sometimes for months. But in the end, it was worth the wait — and the work!

**My children were awarded over \$20,000 (over \$10,000 each) in scholarships, bursaries, and awards, each ranging from \$50 to \$3,000. They also received an additional \$13,000 in government grants.** This money meant they did not have to take jobs during their first year of university, making it easier for them to transition to this new chapter in their lives. It meant being able to pay for four months' rent. And it bought their books for the year. My kids (and their parents!) were grateful to have this money on hand when they needed it. It is also money that they won't have to pay back when they finish their schooling.

How did they win the scholarships and bursaries? Marks were important but not as important as you might think, so don't be discouraged if your student isn't top of the class. One strategy we used when looking for scholarships was to focus on smaller awards because there is less competition for those opportunities.

In terms of the application itself, there are a few elements that may have helped my children win. First, they had the bones of a good essay after writing so many of them – practice makes perfect! They did well in school and they participated in clubs, fundraising events, and in the school choir. Although my children both had held a few leadership roles, more hours – hundreds of them — had been spent volunteering at church and in their community, which gave them excellent references.

Holding down a job while going to school was a positive story to tell on their applications. Also, both of my children could speak to obstacles or challenges they had faced and managed to overcome. Any or all of these factors could have played a part in winning these awards.

I have spoken to many scholarship committees since and they have told me that a good essay – one that demonstrates your strengths as well as perseverance in overcoming a challenge – plus, consistent volunteerism and great references are key dimensions of a successful application.

As my kids head into their final years of university, we continue to look for scholarships and bursaries, but it is in those crucial **last years of high school when the applications are ripe for the picking.**

**Don't wait. Start looking. And start early. You may be surprised at what you can win!**