



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin

Volume 20

Friday, February 4, 2022

201 Town Centre Blvd.
 Markham, ON
 L3R 8G5
 (P) 905-479-2787
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Extensions:
 Reception - 431
 Attendance - 230
 Guidance - 458

Principal
 Suelyn Cheong
suelyn.cheong@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Amol Gheewala (A-L)
amol.gheewala@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Patrick Belmonte (M-Z)
patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent
 Michael Cohen
michael.cohen@yrdsb.ca

Board Trustee
 Ron Lynn
ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca

Email:
unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

School Website:
[Click here](#)

Tweets
[@UHSupdate](#)

Block 1	8:30 – 9:50 AM
Break	9:50 – 9:55 AM
Block 3	9:55 – 11:10 AM
Lunch	11:10 AM – 12:00 PM
Block 2	12:00 – 1:15 PM
Break	1:15 – 1:20 PM
Block 4	1:20 – 2:35 PM

Feb	7	8	9	10	11
	First Day of Semester 2				
Feb	14	15	16	17	18
		Michael Smith Challenge Science Contest (Virtual and Remote) (after school)	Canadian Computing Contest (Virtual and Remote) (12:00 - 3:00 PM)		

Accessing Online Classrooms

We look forward to welcoming back both our remote and in-person learners to semester two. Below is some important information for you and your child who will be learning remotely.

Accessing Online Classrooms

- Students will receive information from their classroom teacher outlining how to access their online classroom.
- **Online Learning Platforms** - [Resources for accessing and using Google Classroom](#) and [Brightspace/D2L](#) can be found on the Board website in addition to other [family resources](#) and [student tools and resources](#). If your child does not know their GAPPS login information, they can contact the teacher.
- **Technology** - If your child requires technology to access remote learning, please contact the main office.

We appreciate that families have many questions. We will continue to share information with you, and work with you to support your child. Additional information is also available on the Board website, including health and safety measures, frequently asked questions and resources at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

We look forward to seeing our in-person and remote learners next week.

Report Cards

We hope this message finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. York Region District School Board believes in the importance of assessment, evaluation and communication of student learning and achievement. They form the basis of an effective educational program.

Final reports are part of our ongoing communication to support student achievement and well-being. We hope that the final report will provide valuable feedback for your child while supporting conversations about learning at home.

Your child's final semester one report card will be distributed between February 10 to February 14, 2022.

These reports will be distributed using the same process used for mid-semester via student Board Google GAPPs accounts.

Thank you for supporting your child in adapting to the shift to remote learning and the subsequent return to in-person learning. We recognize that some students, staff and families may have concerns about student learning and achievement. Teachers continue to review all student assessment data and use their professional judgment to gather evidence of student achievement to support evaluation through the culminating days. Staff will continue to support and prioritize conversations with families and students and will take into account the effects of learning model changes on student learning. To address concerns and to ensure that fair, valid and accurate assessment data is gathered, our semester schedule was designed to:

- provide students with equitable opportunities to demonstrate understanding in an in-person (face-to-face) and remote (online) setting
- provide increased support for student well-being and mental health
- provide increased opportunities for student success, and
- maintain fair, valid and accurate evaluation of student achievement

Student assessment is mandated by the provincial Ministry of Education. YRDSB has implemented several supports allowed by the Ministry to provide greater flexibility and opportunity for students, including:

- No formal exams are being held. Culminating days replaced formal exams.
- Culminating days allow students to complete culminating activities, engage in student-teacher conferencing, and engage in other activities that support student achievement and well-being.
- Flexibility was provided to teachers to change the weighting of the term (70%) and final evaluation (30%) of a course. This may result in various weighting such as 80/20, 90/10 or 100/0.
- In review of student data, teachers continue to exercise their professional judgment to gather evidence of student achievement for evaluation. As noted in [Growing Success](#), a report card grade will involve teachers' professional judgement and interpretation of evidence and should reflect the student's most consistent level of achievement.
- Returning after the winter break provided additional challenges for students, families and staff. The later part of the semester, January 5 - February 4, 2022, offers continued opportunities to improve student learning, the primary purpose of assessment and evaluation.
- Teachers continue to use their professional judgement to review students' achievement given the additional pressures school startup presented in 2022. Families are also encouraged to connect with their child's teacher directly about their challenges to ensure the teacher is aware and can address concerns.

Thank you again for helping keep our schools safe and open to in-person learning by screening your child/ren and encouraging them to follow the COVID-19 protocols. As always, student mental health supports are available regardless of the learning model. Please reach out to your school principal for assistance and mental health resources. We remain committed to supporting students and families as we continue to navigate the effects of the pandemic on student learning.

Model Change Requests

Thank you for your semester two model change requests. To support families still making decisions, we have reopened the change request Google Form for a few more days.

[Complete this form ONLY to request a model change](#). If you are continuing in your semester one model, submission of this form is NOT required.

Your request will be approved, and you will receive a copy of your response form as a receipt. **Model changes submitted through this form will apply starting from Monday, February 7 up to and including Friday, March 11, 2022 (March Break).**

Once the form closes, please contact the alpha vice-principal for change requests. By the second week in March, we will be in contact with all families asking them about model changes for after March Break.

Aurora Black Community Association

ABC has been actively engaging the community and creating programs to meet the needs of Black families. Visit their website for more information and to register for Black History Month events in February: <https://bit.ly/3H9VQPp>.

The Michael Smith Challenge - Science Competition

The Michael Smith Challenge is a national competition written by students in Grade 10 Science or lower. It emphasizes logical thinking and covers material in the Science curriculum common to all provinces. The challenge

fosters an appreciation of Science as a career for talented young people and promotes national excellence in STEM related fields.

This challenge will be a one-hour, timed contest to be started and completed on **Tuesday, February 15, 2022**. Students will complete the challenge individually at home and not during school hours. The recommended time to complete the one-hour challenge is after 6:00 pm when school work has been completed for the day. The challenge will consist of eight timed sections of randomized questions on the following topics:

- Astronomy
- Earth Science
- Biology
- Physics
- Chemistry

Each question will be randomized in some fashion so that each student's set of questions will be unique.

The cost is \$6.18. **Please pay using [School Cash Online](#) and complete the permission form by Wednesday February 9, 2022. Both are required to participate in the contest.**

Canadian Computing Contest - February 16, 2022, 12-3 pm

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 test their ability to present coding solutions to five progressively challenging programming questions. Please see [Canadian Computing Competition](#) for more information.

The Computer Club has been allocating time on a weekly basis to coach and prepare students for this Contest. Please join the Computer Club Google Classroom to find out more information using the following code: [2tdolqc](#).

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

Any student may choose to write at either level (Junior or Senior) of the contest.

Date: Wednesday February 16th, 2022 from 12 noon to 3 pm (virtually & remotely)

Based on the current circumstances, this contest will not take place in-person but remotely; thus, students will need to make the necessary arrangements to be at home in the afternoon to participate in this contest as in-person classroom supervision will not be provided. Your child will be missing their afternoon face to face or remote learning classes.

Parents are required to ensure that their child is completing this contest on their own, virtually, without any collaboration or assistance.

Process & Deadline for Registration: Sunday February 6th by 11:59 pm

Parents are asked to register their child and pay the \$8.25 fee by February 6th at 11:59 pm via [School Cash Online](#).

For students who register, additional information will be provided in order to access the competition.

Student Trustees

Student Trustee Election Key Dates:

The Campaign Period	January 31 – February 11, 2022, closes @ 11:59 p.m.
All-Candidates Debate	February 2, 2022
Online Voting Period	February 14-22, 2022, closes @ 8 p.m.
Election Day	February 23, 2022
Election Results Announced	February 24, 2022

Indigenous Student Trustee Election Key Dates:

The Indigenous Student Trustee will represent the voice of all self-identified Indigenous students at YRDSB Board meetings, alongside student trustees who are elected by the wider student body in a separate process. We encourage all self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students going into Grades 11 and 12 next year to consider running for this position. More information about the role and the responsibilities of the Student Trustee can be found [on YRDSBs website](#).

Process	Date
Declaration of intent to run Deadline	Friday, February 11, 2022
Notification to Candidates	Tuesday, February 15, 2022
Campaign Period Begins	Thursday, February 17, 2022
All-Candidate Meeting: Live streamed on Google Stream	Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Campaign Period Ends	Wednesday, February 23, 2022
VOTING DAY	Thursday, February 24, 2022
Announcement of Results	Friday, February 25, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

*Note: Timelines are different for the Indigenous and general student trustee election processes



Unionville High School's School Council Presents...

Conversations on Identity & Belonging: A Three-Part Series

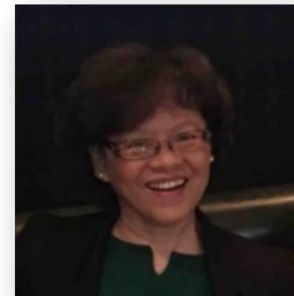


Monday, January 24, 2022 @ 7:45 to 8:30 PM – Dr. Brenda Wastasecoot

Dr. Brenda Wastasecoot, Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies, Arts & Science Faculty at University of Toronto. Brenda is Ininu (Cree) and a member of the York Factory First Nation. She was raised in Churchill, Manitoba, in a little village known as The Flats. After studying and teaching at Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba, she came to Toronto to do her PhD at OISE - Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. Her thesis dissertation tells the story of her family and the impacts of Indian Residential schools. "Showing and Telling the Story of Nikis; Arts Based, Auto-Ethnographic Journeying of a Cree Adult Educator."

Monday, February 28, 2022 @ 7:15 to 8:00 PM – Ms. Gen-Ling Chang

Gen-Ling Chang is the deputy executive director with ALPHA Education committed to social justice, humanity and global peace; after she retired as associate director, Toronto District School Board. She also serves as chair of school and community relations with the Asian Canadian Educators Network. With years of experience on addressing the impact of systemic racism in policy and practice on individuals and communities, Gen-Ling continues to work with youth, educators, leaders, and communities on authentic inclusive participation, representation, and diversity.



Monday, April 25, 2022 @ 7:15 to 8:00 PM – Dr. Ann E. Lopez

Dr. Ann E. Lopez, is a professor of educational leadership and policy in the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. She is the Director of the Center for Leadership and Diversity and Provostial Advisor, Access Programs. Dr. Lopez is the immediate past president of the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME). Her research and teaching focuses on antiracist education, school leadership across contexts, decolonizing and socially just leadership, issues of equity in education and schooling, and most recently developing concepts of what she describes as "ProLovePedagogy". Dr. Lopez has published several articles and written 5 books including her most recent book entitled *Decolonizing Educational Leadership: Alternative Approach to Leading Schools*. Dr. Lopez is co-Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of School Leadership, Co-Series Editor, Studies in Educational Administration, and the recipient of the 2020 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Teaching at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

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To join the second conversation with Ms. Gen-Ling Chang on Monday, February 28, 2022, please complete the google form [UHS School Council Invitation](#) (Space is limited to 250) by noon on February 28, 2022. The meeting link will be shared with you by email.

We hope to see you there!

[UHS School Council Invitation](#)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

📅 Register on Eventbrite

📺 Live on Zoom

Black Excellence in STEM Careers and Research

Featuring Black Excellence in the field of STEM. Margaret Ikape, PhD candidate at University of Toronto, shares her passion for science, her journey, and research interests in the fields of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

Monday, Feb 7 | 7 pm



Celebrate with Stories, Music and Dance

Join us for a special African Voyage featuring uplifting and energizing stories, music and dance with Njacko Backo. For grades 3-6.

Friday, Feb 11 | 10 am



STUDENT AND FAMILY ADVOCATE PROGRAM PRESENTS
2022 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION: BUILDING FAMILY & MICRO-ENTERPRISES



FEBRUARY VIRTUAL EVENT
SCHEDULE



Tuesday February 1 @ 6:30pm

Candle Making Workshop
- Catherine Chambers- Let'sMakeIT



Thursday February 3 @ 7pm

Parents & Guardians Wellness Workshop - Kamilah Clayton



Saturday February 5 @ 6:30pm

An evening of Musical Giants - DJ Benjamin



Tuesday February 8 @ 6:30pm

Caribbean/African Folklore- Sandra Whiting



Thursday February 10 @ 6:30pm

Tie & Dye Workshop - Catherine Chambers- LetsMakeIT



Tuesday February 15 @ 6:30pm

Mental & Emotional Health



Thursday February 17 @ 6:30pm

Keeping the Family Safe- Chief Adam Grant -
Markham Fire Emergency Services

EACH EVENT IS AN INFORMATIVE INTERACTIVE HOUR FILLED WITH PRIZES AND SURPRISES
VISIT MACCA1987.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

[More Information](#)