



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin

Volume 8

Friday, October 22, 2021

201 Town Centre Blvd.
 Markham, ON
 L3R 8G5
 (P) 905-479-2787
 (F) 905-479-1539

Extensions:
 Reception - 431
 Attendance - 230
 Guidance - 458

Principal
 Suelyn Cheong
suelyn.cheong@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Andrew Gazaneo (A-L)
andrew.gazaneo@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](#)

2021-2022 Student Schedule

School begins:	8:30 a.m.
Homeroom (5 min):	8:30 a.m. - 8:35 a.m.
Block One (150 min):	8:35 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.
Travel time (5 min):	11:05 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.
Lunch (50 min):	11:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Travel time (5 min):	12:00 p.m. - 12:05 p.m.
Block Two (150 min):	12:05 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.
School ends:	2:35 p.m.

October	25	26	27	28	29
Week 1 (periods 1,2)	JR Boys Soccer to Richmond Green SS (2:20-5:10 PM)	Sr. Boys Soccer to Richmond Hill HS (2:20-5:10 PM) HNB4M1-01 World of Fashion - Virtual Guest Artist Laura deCarufel (9:15 - 10:15 AM)			
	School Council (7:00 pm)				
November	1	2	3	4	5
Week 2 (periods 3,4)			Parent/Guardian Interview Night (Virtual) (4:00 - 8:00 PM)	Diwali	

School Council Meeting: Monday, October 25th at 7:00 pm

We will be hosting our second virtual School Council Meeting on Monday, October 25 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Agenda is as follows:

- Welcome and Introductions
- USAC Student Rep./Staff Rep.
- School Improvement Plan 2021
- Staff Presentation by Ann Choi
- Staffing Updates
- Breakfast Program
- Fall into Arts
- Facility Updates - Portables, Prayer Room
- Guidance Updates
- Upcoming important dates

Zoom meeting details will be emailed to all our families on the morning of Monday, October 25th.

We look forward to seeing everyone.

UHS Photo Days

YRDSB, after consultation with YRPH, has advised schools that they may proceed with student photos according to specific health and safety guidelines. As a result, we have booked Edge Imaging on the following days:

- **Monday, November 29, 2021 (week 2)**

Period 3: Grade 9 classes

Period 4: Grade 10 classes

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm: Remote learners

- **Tuesday, November 30, 2021 (week 2)**

Period 3: Grade 11 classes

Period 4: Grade 12 classes

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm: Remote learners

Please be advised that retakes and graduation photos are not being booked at this time.

Arts Information Night

The Arts Unionville Information Night will be held virtually on November 10, 2021.

If you'd like to join us, please register using this Google Form: [Arts Unionville Information Night](#).

The Arts Unionville application will open on November 15, 2021 and close on Monday, December 6, 2021.

Please refer to our [Arts Page](#) for additional information.

OSSLT Fall Administration

This year, there will be two administrations of the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test).

The first administration is scheduled to take place between November 18 and December 1. This fall administration is reserved for grade 11 students and for any non-graduating grade 12 students. Students who plan to graduate next year will be expected to have earned the literacy requirement as per the Ministry of Education. Administrations of the test will be digital and will take place at the school with technology supplied by the Board. Remote students will be expected to write at school. A specific date for our administration will be announced soon. In order to prepare for the test, our Literacy Teacher, Mr. Rafik, will be scheduling visits with classes and conferences with individual students.

Prayer Room

Classroom 327 will be our dedicated prayer room. Families who have requested the prayer room accommodation will be contacted by administration. In turn, teachers will be notified of any circumstances that affect instructional time.

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Interviews

Parent/guardian-teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, November 3. Families will be able to begin booking virtual interviews on Wednesday, October 27.

Wednesday, November 3: Take Our Kids to Work Day for Grade 9 Students

"Take Our Kids to Work" (TOKW) is a national initiative that provides grade 9 students with the opportunity to observe a work environment or engage in pathway planning for one day. As suggested by the Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report, the Take our Kids to Work program will support students to begin planning their future career path by helping them better understand the world of work.

On Wednesday, November 3, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., grade 9 students will take part in activities that will support them with their pathway planning. Grade 9 students, with the support of their parent/guardians, will have the opportunity to participate in one of the following TOKW opportunities:

- For students who wish to arrange for a virtual/in-person job shadow placement, we ask that parents/guardians review this [Family Guide](#) with their child. We also ask that the student provide their selected work location with the [Workplace Guide](#); or
- Students, who would like to participate from their home in a series of dynamic and engaging "Live Stream" webinars on a variety of Career pathways, will be invited to join the Learning Partnership and the Pathways Team, Curriculum and Instructional Services, for a live streamed session. Students will also engage in reflection activities and learn how to use the Pathways Planner and their IPP. For more information, please visit the YRDSB Take Our Kids to Work Day events page at www.yrdsb.ca.

All grade 9 students will receive an email in their GAPPS account with the required links and the schedule for the day.

Please be advised that permission forms to participate in Take our Kids to Work Day will be sent to your child's GAPPS account. We ask that you review the form with your child and then sign off as per the instructions.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. If you have questions, please contact us at unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca or call us at 905-479-2787.

Breakfast Program

Healthy food items will be available in the cafeteria from 8:10 – 8:30 am. Students will be expected to consume these items while seated in the cafeteria according to all health and safety protocols. These food items may not be eaten in class. However, students have the option of taking a snack on their way to class and consuming it during a scheduled outdoor movement break.

Student Registration Verification Forms

All students are required to return their verification forms. These forms must be signed by a parent and returned to the school, with or without changes. Please review all contact information carefully to ensure that it is accurate. Changes of address will need to be verified by submitting a utility bill. All forms can be brought directly to the main office.

Scholarships

Please continue to check the Scholarship and Enrichment Opportunities classroom (Code: bzs6yex). As more information becomes available from different organizations about their new due dates for 2021-2022, we will be updating the classroom accordingly.

Please make sure you read all application instructions and eligibility criteria carefully for any scholarship you are planning to apply to.

Upcoming school sponsored:

- Lester B Pearson (for International students - U of T) - November 12th, 2021 by 3:00 pm
- Queen's Chancellor Scholarship - November 12th, 2021 by 3:00 pm
 - For school designate, please use Ms. Hawkins - stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca.
 - These can be submitted via email to Ms. Hawkins or submitted in hard copy to the drop box outside the Guidance Office.

Upcoming direct application:

- TD Bank Community Leader Scholarship - November 12th, 2021

Reporting and Full Disclosure

Semester 1 Midterm Reporting - All students

York Region District School Board will be issuing electronic copies of the Semester 1 midterm report cards between November 25-30. The electronic copy will be sent to the student's GAPPS email and instructions on how to access the report will be emailed to all families prior to their release.

Full Disclosure for Grade 11 and Grade 12 Courses

For 2021/2022, the course withdrawal date (Full Disclosure) will be 5 instructional days after the mid-semester report is issued. The Full Disclosure date for Grade 11 and Grade 12 courses is December 6, 2021. If a student withdraws from a Grade 11 or 12 course prior to December 6, 2021, then the course 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 at the time of withdrawal will be recorded as a percentage in the achievement column of the transcript.

OUAC and OCAS Upload for Potential Graduates

Identifying information will be shared through a secure transmission to the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) and the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) to support students with their application to post-secondary institutions. Potential graduates who are not planning to apply to an Ontario college or university this school year, and who do not wish to have their data shared must notify their guidance counsellor by Thursday, October 7, 2021.

Semester 1 midterm marks will be shared with OCAS and OUAC on November 19, 2021. Students in Grade 11 and 12 courses will be notified of their report card mark by their classroom teacher by November 15, 2021. Potential graduates who are applying to an Ontario College and/or University who are planning to drop a course are encouraged to connect with their guidance counsellor in advance of these dates. Guidance appointments can be booked through Teachassist.

Please review the timelines below:

November 15	Teachers will share mid semester mark updates with students in Grade 11 and 12 courses.
November 11 - 18	Potential graduates applying to an Ontario College or University that are planning to drop a course, and do not wish to have the course mark shared with OUAC/OCAS are advised to connect with their Guidance Counsellor.
November 19	School to submit Semester 1 midterm and/or final marks (for quadmester courses) to OUAC and OCAS.
December 6	This is the full disclosure date which is the final day that a student, in a grade 11 or 12 course, may drop a course in order that it not be recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript.

We recognize that you and your child may have questions regarding this information. If it is helpful for you to connect with a staff member from the school, please contact a teacher, guidance counsellor or administrator to discuss your questions.

City of Markham Ticketing

Please be aware that the school driveways and parking areas are very busy at Town Centre Blvd and Warden in the morning (8:00-8:30 am) and in the afternoon (2:00-2:35 pm). In the morning, please do not park in staff spaces at the Warden entrance. At Town Centre Blvd, you are advised not to park for an extended period in the "No Idle Cars" zone. This is also a Fire Route. This zone is intended only for "quick pick-up or drop-off." Cars that are parked or left idling in this zone can be ticketed by the City of Markham. As well, parking passes are required for all cars in our school lots. Cars without parking passes in our school lots will be ticketed by the City of Markham. [Please click here for more information.](#)

Start-Up Consents and Permissions

Please complete the [school start-up forms](#) that were sent to our families recently. It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible as they contain important information and permissions. They can also be

found on the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/familyresources under Family Start-Up Forms, along with some [information on how to complete the forms](#). Please note, parents must be signed in to their child's student GAPPS account to complete the form. If families would prefer to complete the forms on paper, please contact us at unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca.

Sankofa Mentoring Program

**Sankofa Mentoring Program - University and College Informaiton Night.
How to successfully prepare for University and College.**

Date and time

Thu, October 28, 2021
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM EDT

[Add to calendar](#)

About this event

Inviting students, parents and friends to a virtual University and College information night. Do you have questions on how to successfully navigate the University and College application process? Come and join us for a special information session where the following topics will be covered:

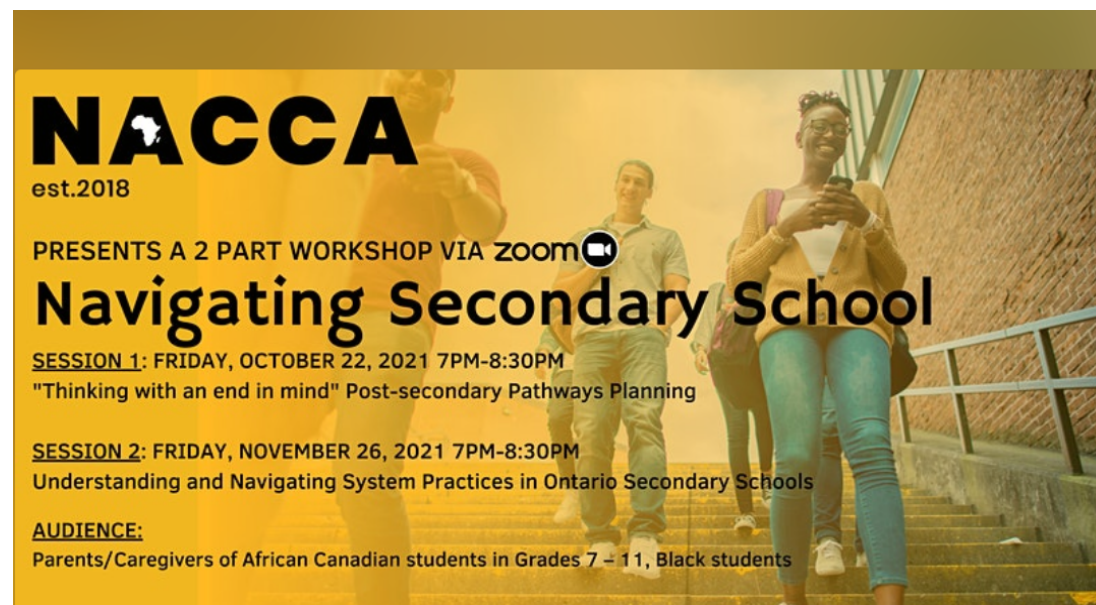
- How to access scholarships and grants
- Hear from past Sankofa Mentees sharing their University and College experiences
- Navigating the registration process for University and College
- Robust Question and Answer Session

Location


Online event

[Please register for this event here.](#)

NACCA: Navigating Secondary School



NACCA
est.2018

PRESENTS A 2 PART WORKSHOP VIA ZOOM 

Navigating Secondary School

SESSION 1: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021 7PM-8:30PM
"Thinking with an end in mind" Post-secondary Pathways Planning

SESSION 2: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2021 7PM-8:30PM
Understanding and Navigating System Practices in Ontario Secondary Schools

AUDIENCE:
Parents/Caregivers of African Canadian students in Grades 7 - 11, Black students

[Please register here](#) for Friday, November 26.

Hong Fook Youth & Family Program Calendar

Please click [here](#) to access the Hong Fook Youth & Family Program Calendar for October 2021.



Student Mental Health and Addictions Newsletter

November 2021

YRDSB Mental Health services are provided by YRDSB psychology and social work personnel

The ABCs of Mental Health: Acknowledging

In our September [Newsletter](#), we introduced the [ABCs \(Acknowledge, Bridge and Connection\) of Mental Health Framework](#) and mandatory mental health student lesson series. We are pleased to share some words from our students and staff regarding these [lessons](#). In this month's newsletter we will take a closer look at the ABCs, focusing on **A-Acknowledge**.

What does it mean to Acknowledge?

To acknowledge is to validate, honour and center feelings and experiences; to greet these feelings and experiences with understanding and compassion. To acknowledge is to be respectful of what is shared and the vulnerability it might take to share one's story, feelings and or experiences.

Why is Acknowledging Important?

Kristalyn Salters-Pedneault, PhD discusses [Emotional Validation](#) (Acknowledging) and invites us to consider the following:

Communicate acceptance: When you validate/acknowledge someone's emotions & experiences, you demonstrate care, understanding and acceptance.

Strengthen relationships: People who show each other acceptance are able to feel more connected and build stronger relationships.

Show value: When you acknowledge and validate someone's emotions & experiences, you are showing them that they are important to you.

Better emotional regulation: When people feel heard and understood, it can help lessen the intensity of strong emotions. This can be particularly important when it comes to strong negative or distressing feelings. Some research suggests that offering people emotional validation (acknowledgment) may help them better regulate their emotions.

Acknowledging in action

We invite you to consider the following ways of acknowledging others:

Listen with care & be present: If possible, pause what you are doing & avoid distractions.

Validate the emotion/experience: “Thank you for sharing; I can see (understand) why you would feel that way.”

Express empathy: Even if the emotion or situation is not something you necessarily understand, show that you care about the other person’s feelings. Words such as “I’m here for you or I am with you” can be great ways of showing empathy.

Do not minimize: Never minimize what someone is experiencing.

YRDSB Mental Health Acknowledges

We Acknowledge the lived and living experiences of our students, families & staff and the visible and invisible barriers that might accompany these experiences. We acknowledge that we exist in a society where factors such as systematic racism, discrimination, and other forms of oppression continue to negatively impact our students, families and staff, adversely affecting their mental health and well-being. We are aware that simply acknowledging is not enough. For this reason, we are intentional about creating learning environments that are identity-affirming, safe and inclusive. We are committed to providing learning opportunities that shift mindsets and ideologies that uphold oppressive practices. Most importantly, **we acknowledge the excellence and brilliance that stretch across all communities and are found within all our students.**

To learn more about the ABC Framework & lesson series, please visit [YRDSB ABCs](#)

We look forward to creating pathways for caring connections and meaningful relationships with you. Share your voice by using this [survey](#) and let’s pave the path forward together.

Mental Health COVID-19 Page

The link below is dedicated to supporting student mental health during this pandemic.

Resources for students, parents/guardians as well as community resources are listed. In addition, there are various links to YRDSB mental health supports as well as community supports available during the school closure. Please consider taking some time to familiarize yourself with the [Mental Health and Community Supports During COVID](#). Continue to check out the [YRDSB website](#) for updated information as well as the Twitter accounts [@YRDSB](#) and [@YRDSB_SS](#).

Patricia Marra-Stapleton, M.Sc., C. Psych. Assoc. Mental Health Lead

patricia.marra-stapleton@yrdsb.ca


Hoshana Calliste, MSW, RSW


Assistant Coordinator of Mental Health hoshana.calliste@yrdsb.ca



[Click to Register
Webinars & Groups](#)

[York Hills Homepage](#)

 905-503-9560

 www.yorkhills.ca

Find us on:



Peer Tutoring Program

*Do you enjoy helping others?
Do you want to earn community service hours?*

BECOME A PEER TUTOR!!

We are now accepting applications to become peer tutors! Use your GAPPS email to submit your application here:

<https://bit.ly/BecomeTutorUHS>

You will receive a **PDF** in your GAPPS email containing a form that needs to be signed by a parent/guardian. Please place the signed forms in the guidance department dropbox located outside the guidance office.

*****Signed forms are required!*****

*Need some extra help in class?
Do you learn better with a buddy?*

REQUEST A PEER TUTOR!!

If you feel you could benefit from having a peer tutor, please use your GAPPS email to submit your request here:

<https://bit.ly/RequestTutorUHS>

You will receive a **PDF** in your GAPPS email containing a form that needs to be signed by a parent/guardian. Please place the signed forms in the guidance department dropbox located outside the guidance office.

*****Signed forms are required!*****

If you have any questions about peer tutoring, please contact Mr. Tam at jonathan.tam@yrdsb.ca.