



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol. 2

Friday, September 10, 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
[@UHSupdates](#)

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.

September	13	14	15	16	17
Week 1 (periods 1, 2)				Yom Kippur	
	20	21	22	23	24
Week 2 (periods 3, 4)					

Health and Safety Measures

Daily Student Screening

Please note that morning block teachers will be checking student screening confirmation on a daily basis:

Students are to complete the online self-assessment [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) at home, prior to entering the school on a daily basis.

Upon completion of the self-assessment, the student answers the question, “Have you completed the self-screening test?” using the [Confirmation Form](#).

The student will receive an email response when they answer “Yes”. The email will include a colour code specific to the day of the week:

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY

At the beginning of first period, students are to provide the teacher with confirmation of completion of this self-screening by way of:

- Phone – email or photo of email from their computer
- Hard copy print-off of email
- If neither option is available, they can provide a verbal response confirming completion. Classrooms have been equipped with screening posters to support this option. Students experiencing difficulties with their GAPPS account can provide a verbal confirmation.

Any students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as identified in the screening tool (not related to a COVID-19 vaccine) or answer yes to any of the screening questions, must not enter the school and should follow the guidance in the screening tool.

Ventilation in Schools

YRDSB is optimizing air quality in schools through improved ventilation and filtration. This is a key element in the protective strategies being employed to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission and support healthier and safe learning environments.

- Classrooms with a mechanical ventilation system have been fitted with MERV13 filters.
- Fresh air rates will be increased to the maximum the system can provide before discomfort.
- Schools will be ventilated with maximum outdoor air two hours before and after school occupancy.
- Classrooms without mechanical ventilation, isolation rooms and Kindergarten classes will be provided with standalone Portable HEPA Air Purifiers.

[For more information, please click here.](#)

Vaccinations

The Ministry of Health and York Region Public Health encourage all those eligible to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as one of the best measures to mitigate the spread of this virus. Vaccine appointments and information are available on [Public Health's website](#).

In accordance with requirements from the Ministry of Education, York Region District School Board is implementing a mandatory vaccine disclosure protocol for staff members, including all school staff members. Disclosure by staff members commenced on September 7, the aggregate (Board total) depersonalized statistical percentage of vaccinations will be made public by September 15 and updated monthly. Staff members who are not vaccinated, and do not have a medical reason, are required to attend an education session on the benefits of the vaccine and will undergo minimum weekly testing for COVID-19. The [Board's Immunization Disclosure protocol](#) is available on the Board's website and will be subject to updates as more information becomes available.

Masking

Properly fitted masks are required for all students.

Parents/guardians should provide their child with at least three personal masks (non-medical) to wear at school. [Public Health Agency of Canada](#) recommends Canadians wear three-layer masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. For more information about how to use face coverings properly, visit www.york.ca/covid19. All school staff will wear a medical mask and other personal protective equipment as required.

Letter from the Minister of Education

The Minister of Education has asked school boards to share a [letter to families](#).

Our Health and Safety Presentation for Students and Staff at UHS

On September 9th and 10th, our UHS safety measures were shared with all staff and students.

We invite you to view this presentation also by clicking below:

[COVID-19 Safety Protocols Fall 2021](#)

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) – All Grades

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. All students who were issued a Board device as a result of previous remote learning should now bring this device to school for continued daily use. If your child does not already have a personal or Board laptop or chromebook, please complete this [Technology Request Form](#). We will commence distribution of devices the week of September 13th.

Student Activity Fee (\$25) – All Grades (optional)

The student activity fee is an optional fee that families can pay using [School Cash Online](#) in order to support extra-curricular activities. In previous years, the student activity fee has supported a variety of school activities including Student Council spirit events, clubs, dances, motivational speakers and competitions. Students who pay their activity fee will have reduced fees for school events throughout the school year.

Phys Ed Clothing (Shorts & T-Shirts)

The Phys Ed uniform is mandatory for those students taking Phys Ed courses. Shorts and t-shirts are available in different sizes. Single-item and combination purchases are available using [School Cash Online](#) as follows:

- T-Shirt: \$10
- Shorts: \$16.50

- Combination (2 T-Shirts & 1 pair of shorts): \$36

Please print the receipt so that students can bring it to their Phys Ed class in order to retrieve their clothing. Any request for an accommodation can be brought to the attention of an administrator.

Continuing Education Services

Continuing Education Services is pleased to offer credit programs for students who cannot get the course during day school.

Night School

A remote learning model will replace in-person Night School this fall as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Classes will occur online using a synchronous model.
- Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.
- October 5, 2021 to February 3, 2022
- Contact continuing.education@yrdsb.ca for more information.

Online Learning Night School (formerly eLearning)

Our Night School Online Learning courses are initially offered to adult learners. Once program offerings are determined, space may be available to current YRDSB secondary school students.

- These courses are specifically designed to be delivered in a fully online format. Classes will be delivered online using an asynchronous model. Weekly synchronous opportunities with teachers are available.
- September 21, 2021 to January 17, 2022
- Contact online.learning@yrdsb.ca for more information.

MyPathwayPlanner

YRDSB Students will register for both programs using MyPathwayPlanner and will be processed pending Guidance Counsellor approval.

International and Indigenous Languages

Registration is now open for International and Indigenous Language courses until September 16th through My Pathway Planner. All courses will be online and teachers will give live language lessons in real time using Google Classroom to provide both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities during the regularly scheduled language class. Guidance approval will be required. For more information please visit the YRDSB website.

Information from the Guidance Department

Timetable Concerns

Many thanks to all students, parents and guardians for your patience and support while the Guidance team and school administrators have been tirelessly resolving students' timetable issues. Please be assured that students will not be penalized for joining courses after the first few days of school. The Guidance department will continue to address all incomplete timetables and timetable concerns that were submitted via the google form. Students can submit a course concern request until **Tuesday September 14 at 3 pm**. Please follow the instructions below.

Instructions for Completion of Timetable Conflict Requests

- 1) The form is available here: <http://bit.ly/2ojqgbm>. (Be sure you are logged into your gapps account.)
- 2) Complete the entire form. Please ensure you provide a correct email address.

3) A PDF form will be emailed to you. Please print and have a parent/guardian sign the form. If the form cannot be printed, please have a parent/guardian email the counsellor permission to make the course change.

*****This signed form will need to be emailed to the Guidance counsellor upon request.*****

4) Only **one** form can be submitted by each student.

5) The timetable change request form will **close on Tuesday September 14 at 3:00 pm. This is your last day to submit the form.**

6) If you need help accessing this link, please contact the Guidance office and we will be more than happy to help you.

Please note: As indicated during the course selection process and in previous parent/guardian bulletins, course elective changes will NOT be completed for the 2021-2022 school year.

If you have a conflict Semester 2, please wait until October to make a Guidance appointment with your alpha counsellor.

Best of luck to all students for this semester!

Guidance Appointment Bookings

Guidance appointment bookings will begin late September to early October. Students may schedule an in-person or virtual appointment with their alpha counselor via TeachAssist (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb>). Please email the counsellor if the appointment is to be virtual. Students or families requiring assistance can contact the Guidance secretary, Ms. Simtikidis (nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca).

A - He Ms. Farwell (michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca)

Hi - Lo Ms. Riolo (rita.riolo@yrdsb.ca)

Lu - V Ms. Hawkins (stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca)

W - Z Mr. Tam (jonathan.tam@yrdsb.ca)

We look forward to working with you and your students this school year!

2021-2022 Grad Google Classroom

Grade 12 potential grads have been asked to join the Grad Google classroom. Information regarding graduation information, post-secondary programs, scholarships/bursaries and much more will be posted here. Classroom code: **ijra6wp**

Volunteer Hours

In 2021-22, the required number of hours for community involvement activities will be reduced from 40 hours to a minimum of 20 hours for graduating students. This is consistent with changes made in the 2020-21 school year.

At the principal's discretion, the following activities will be deemed eligible for all secondary students for their community involvement activities in the 2021-22 school year:

- Activities that take place during the time allotted for the instructional program on a school day (e.g., walking a younger neighbour or sibling to and from school, helping younger siblings with their homework)
- Activities that include up to 10 hours of paid work, with the requirement to complete a reflection exercise indicating how their work contributed to service for others (e.g., grocery work during the pandemic). This will need to be completed by clicking on the following link: CI Reflection Form - <https://bit.ly/ciReflection>

- Activities that consist of duties normally performed in the home (e.g., students could help an elderly relative with errands, provide after-school care for a sibling)

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Requirement

- Students graduating in 2022 are exempt.
- Students in Grade 10, 11, and non-graduating students, including those who are learning remotely, are required to work towards the literacy graduation requirement through participating in the OSSLT or if eligible, the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC).