



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol. 4

Friday, September 24, 2021



201 Town Centre Blvd.
 Markham, ON
 L3R 8G5
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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	27	28	29	30	1 Oct
Week 1 (periods 1, 2)					
----- Health & Safety Week ----- Truth & Reconciliation Week	School Council 7:00 pm			Orange T-Shirt Day	
October	4	5	6	7	8
Week 2 (periods 3,4)					

School Council Meeting: Monday, September 27

We will be hosting our first virtual School Council Meeting of the year on Monday, September 27 at 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Virtual link to follow on Monday, September 27th.

The Agenda is as follows:

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Agenda**
3. **School Council Overview and Elections**
4. **Principal Update - Health and Safety, Parking Lots, Staffing Updates, Hybrid Learning**
5. **Other**

If you are interested in being an active member of the School Council Executive, please fill out the nomination form that is included in the Start-Up Package and will be due by Friday, October 1 at 4:00 pm. Further information will follow.

Arts Unionville Cellist Michelle Tang

On October 1st at 7:00 pm, Confluence Concerts presents the first of three online programs celebrating the Cello Suites by J.S. Bach. One of the cellists performing is Arts Unionville grade 11 student **Michelle Tang**, who will play the Suite No. 3 in C major, BWV 1009. The program will be available for two weeks on the Confluence Concerts YouTube channel. Congratulations Michelle!

Guidance Information

Guidance Appointment Bookings

Guidance appointment bookings will begin by early October. Students may schedule an in-person or virtual appointment with their alpha counsellor (see below). Appointments can be booked via Teachassist (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb>). Please remember to email the counsellor if the appointment is 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 this school year!

2021-2022 Grad Google Classroom

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

Scholarship & Enrichment Opportunities

Students interested in learning more about scholarship, bursary and enrichment opportunities are asked to join the Scholarship Google Classroom. Join Code: **bzs6yex**

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 community involvement activities will be deemed eligible 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>. (Please notify the alpha counsellor when this has been completed.)

- 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).

For Information on available community involvement opportunities, students are encouraged to join the Community Involvement Google Classroom. **Join Code: gsrz264**

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Requirement

- Students graduating in 2022 are exempt
- Students in Grade 10, 11, and non-graduating, 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).

Post-Secondary Application Information Presentation and Scholarship Presentation

The Guidance Department will be hosting....

1. *Post-Secondary Application Information Presentation:*

There will be 2 Google meet presentation dates. Students should attend the presentation based on their last name.

Students with the last names **A – L** are asked to join **Wednesday October 6 starting at 11:15 am**.

Students with the last names **M – Z** are asked to join **Thursday October 7 at 11:15 am**.

Google meet info will be posted to the grad google classroom on the day of the event.

2. *Scholarship Presentation:*

- Wednesday October, 13 starting at 11:15 am
- Only one presentation
- Google meet info will be posted to the grad google classroom on the day of the event.

****Students will need to be logged into their GAPPS account to attend both presentations.****

Student Verification Forms

On Monday, September 27, students will receive their registration verification forms in homeroom. Remote students will receive theirs via a secure link. Please check the verification form to ensure accuracy of contact information. If there are changes, please make them right on the sheet. **All sheets, with or without changes, must be signed and returned to the school no later than Friday, October 1.** Thanks for your cooperation.

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. The City of Markham will start patrolling and ticketing any unauthorized vehicles on Wednesday, September 29. [Please click here for more information.](#)

COVID-19 Daily Screening - Changes Beginning Monday, September 27

While self-screening continues to be a daily requirement for all students, beginning Monday, September 27, parents/guardians and students are no longer required to complete the confirmation form each day.

Secondary school students and parents/guardians of elementary school students are still required to review and complete the [COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool](#) (click on check for symptoms daily) on a daily basis, prior to their child entering the school. Daily screening is an essential step in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Please ensure you review this screening tool each day and follow instructions as outlined.

However, families will no longer be required to complete the self-screening confirmation form. The Ministry of Education required families to complete a confirmation for the first two weeks of school only. Screening confirmation will continue to be required for staff members and visitors only.

Additional information on [health and safety measures](#), as well as additional information and resources on the 2021-22 school year can be found on the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

Start-Up Consent and Permissions

We also want to remind you to complete the [school start-up forms](#) that were sent to families last week. It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year 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, you must be signed in to your child's student GAPPS account to complete the form. You can access your child's YRDSB Google account via a web browser. For best results, use a computer rather than a mobile phone. The username is your child's YRDSB student number. Students received their login information from the school at the start of the year. If you or your child do not know the password to log in to their Google

Introducing the brand new student liife

UHS Website

Scan the QR code using your phone's camera or go to the website linked below



bit.ly/uhs2021

Make sure to use your gapps account.

More Branches Opening Sept. 22

Aaniin/Angus Glen/Thornhill C.C.

WELCOME BACK!

We are excited to let you know that Aaniin, Angus Glen and Thornhill C.C. Libraries are reopening on September 22! Not just that, we will be offering additional in-person services at all 6 open branches, including browsing physical collections, booking study rooms, using the children's area and more.

Please visit our website for more detailed information on our hours of operations, in-person services offered and how to plan for a visit. We look forward to seeing you back at the library!

[Please click here for more information.](#)

Here's a Quick Look at What's Available Starting on September 22

Markham Public Library SERVICE UPDATE

AVAILABLE IN-PERSON	AVAILABLE ONLINE	NOT YET AVAILABLE
 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pick up holds & return items• Browse physical collections• Book study rooms• Access the children's area• Pickup 3D prints• Use the computers & printers• Use the scanners & photocopiers• Pick up Grab & Go Bags• Sign up for a library card• Curbside pickup (on demand)• Use the washrooms	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual programs for all ages• Digital Library• Online learning• eCard signup• Live Chat	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-branch library programs• Meeting rooms• Makerspaces• Business Hub• Lendery• Toy Library

NEED HELP?



Live Chat



Book a Librarian



Plan a Visit



MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

[Live Chat](#)
[Book A Librarian](#)
[Plan a Visit](#)

Engagement Matters

Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PEAC)

Advisory Committee Newsletter



Welcome Back!

- School Council Forums
- PEAC Meetings
- Chalk the Walk
- Supportive Resources for New Families
- Fundraising Ideas
- Contacting Us
- Policy Review

Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! Learning continues, even during a pandemic. Schools play a critical role in supporting students' learning, as well as children's emotional health and overall well-being. Throughout the pandemic, YRDSB staff, teachers, students and their families showed resilience and an incredible ability to overcome many challenges. With this experience, we are hopeful that together we will be able to make the most of this upcoming year and enjoy it to the fullest!

Save the date...

School Council Forums - please save the date for your respective area. Events run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. More details will be posted on the [PEAC website](#) closer to the date, and shared with your school administrators and school council chairs.

North/Georgina	Wednesday, November 3, 2021
North/Newmarket	Monday, November 8, 2021
East	Wednesday, November 10, 2021
Central	Monday, November 15, 2021
West	Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Join our PEAC Meetings

PEAC meetings are public events, and all are welcome to attend. Do you and your school council have a positive practice that you would like to share with our Board and other school councils? Let us know, and you may have an opportunity to speak at one of our upcoming meetings, or be featured in a future edition of Engagement Matters.

2021

September 23, 2021

November 25, 2021

December 9, 2021

(Joint EIAC and PEAC meeting)

2022

January 20, 2022

March 10, 2022

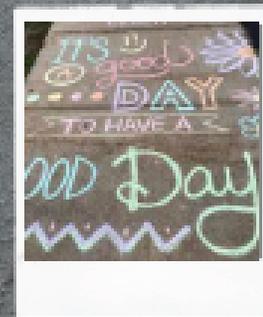
May 19, 2022

Chalk the Walk

Chalk the Walk is a fun community event where people come together to write positive messages and draw pictures with a simple sidewalk chalk.

It is a low cost event because everyone can bring their own chalk. You can safely follow COVID protocols and social distance requirements by inviting students, staff and families to come throughout the day to avoid a large crowd.

Simply make a drawing and wait until the next day to see the smiles on everyone's face as they enter the building. It is very easy to organize. Just spread the word and watch the miracle happen!



Supporting New Families with a Family Ambassador Program

Each year, we welcome new families to our schools, and we can all relate to the feeling of when you are new to a school and there is so much unknown and uncertainty ahead. In addition, having English as your second language, or being a newcomer to Canada, can be a stressful time.

To help our new families, consider launching a Family Ambassador Program at your school. This program is aimed to connect families seeking support in the new community to families who are willing to give them that support. To do that, you will need to create a database to connect volunteers with new families and support the process.

Steps to creating a Family Ambassador Program

- Set up two Google forms (one for Ambassadors and one for the new families seeking support)
- Have a volunteer maintain a database of people and connect them to one another
- Include information about the program in the school information package, and promote it in your school newsletters
- Seek feedback on what is working and what is not, and adjust the program accordingly

Examples of the Forms

Use these forms to help guide you when setting up your program.

- [Ambassador Form](#)
- [New Family Form](#)



Fundraising During a Pandemic

Many schools engage in fundraising as a way to help enhance their students' academic experience. Fundraising during a pandemic may require some creative thinking, but it is still a fun and potentially profitable way to engage your school community. Here are some tips, ideas and guidelines to help you with your efforts.

Guidelines and tips...

- o At this time, lunch programs are not permitted.
- o If you are selling packaged goods, find vendors who can deliver the product directly to the consumer's home through the mail or a courier company.
- o Remember that Public Health safety guidelines must be followed when planning and hosting a fundraiser or event.
- o Guidelines to inform the school's fundraising plan and activities can be found in the YRDSB Policy and Procedure #676, School Fundraising and Administration of School Generated Funds

Fundraiser Ideas

Have a virtual Read-a-thon

Hold a technology fund drive

Setup a Mabel's Labels account for your school and receive a portion of the sales

Create a digital yearbook, cookbook or creative arts book

Host a virtual games night (bingo, trivia)

Promote everyday essentials, such as detergent and socks, and receive a portion of the sales

Plan a virtual walk, run and ride

Join an online fundraising program with a retail outlet, such as Chapters

Host an art night and sell kits from (art kits) or make your own

Start a Scholastic catalogue book sale

Help sprout a green thumb with the sale of fresh, local, organic vegetables for the garden with Plantables.ca

Be creative! Reach out to your school's staff and families for new and exciting ideas specific to your community.

You got this!
Best of luck with your fundraisers!

Communicating with School Councils and PEAC



Your voice matters, especially when it comes to your child's education. Finding ways to be involved, sharing your ideas, and learning more about how to support your child are just some of the ways that you can enhance your engagement with the school. Here are some access points to help you connect with your school council or PEAC. You may also contact your school office for information that is specific to your school council.

Who...	What...	How...
PEAC	Great for board-wide resources, Ministry documents, calendar of events, meeting links, newsletters, inspiring ideas	Email: leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca Website: YRDSB PEAC Website Phone: 905-727-0022 ext. 3650 Twitter: @leadershipyrdsb Instagram: ld_yrdsb
School Councils	Great for activities and resources specific to your school, volunteering, staying up-to-date with your school community, sharing your ideas.	Email: "schoolname"@sc.yrdsb.ca Website: link on school's webpage

Supporting Policy Review

Policy #238, **Parent, Family and Community Engagement**, and Policy #262, **School Councils**, are currently under review, and we are asking for your feedback. Share your ideas and suggestions by following this link, [Policy Review and Feedback](#).

Unionville High School



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.