



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol.2

Friday September 25 2020

Mission: Unionville High School is a community of learners dedicated to excellence and opportunity for all students and staff, the promotion and appreciation of creativity and the arts, and personal and social responsibility in an increasingly complex and interdependent world.

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

Becky Green

becky.green@yrdsb.ca

Board Trustee

Ron Lynn

ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca

Email:

unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

School Website:

[Click here](#)

Tweets

[@UHSupdates](#)



Course Rotation 2—September 28th—October 9, 2020

Rotation - 2	Sept. 28– Oct 9
In Person 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 2
11:00 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch
Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 1
Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 3
Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 4

October 2020--21 Instructional Days

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Rotation #2 28 2A	29 2B	30 2A	1 2B	2 2A
5 2B	6 2A	7 2B	8 2A	9 2B

The order of the periods will change for each rotation and students will receive reminders regarding their rotation through TeachAssist. In TeachAssist, students will be placed in new cohorts every rotation. Teachers will be able to identify the cohorts by the students' assigned section numbers. Students will receive their information directly from TeachAssist.

Period Two Rotation

Students are now in their 2nd in-person rotation. This means they are in person for their period 2 classes, every other day. Afternoon classes are periods 1, 3, and 4 classes. [Here is a handy link](#) for students to see all the cohorts and rotations.

Interim Reports

Interim reports will be distributed electronically to parents, guardians, and students over 18 during the week of October 19. Parent/Guardian virtual interviews will be planned for the week of October 26th. More information about parents' night will be featured in a future bulletin.

Graduation

Graduation will be virtual and is scheduled to take place in late October or early November.

Grade 9 Presentation

We want to thank all of the parents who joined us online using the GoToMeeting app. Our Grade 9 Parent Presentation is available on our website in both English and Chinese.

English Version:

[Welcome Grade 9 Parents](#)

English/Chinese Version:

[English and Chinese Version](#)

International and Indigenous Languages

International and Indigenous Language (IIL) classes will be held online. There will be no in person classes operating in the school buildings.

To find out more, please visit the ConEd webpage: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/International-Languages-ElementaryProgram.aspx>

If you have any further questions, email international.languages@yrdsb.ca or call (905) 884-2046 ext. 242.

Orange Shirt Day: Wednesday, September 30

The annual Orange Shirt Day on September 30th opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind.

[Find out more about the story of orange shirt day.](#)

TVO's Learning Resources

TVO offers Ontarians free digital learning resources to unleash the potential in students from JK to Grade 12. [For one-to-one Math tutoring please visit tvomathify.com.](#) To support learning at home, tutors are available online Monday-Friday 9am to 9pm ET and 3:30pm to 9pm ET Sunday. To learn more about all of TVO's tools and resources, please visit the following:

Terry Fox Fundraiser 2020

This year, UHS is proud to celebrate the "One day, Your Way" campaign. Although we aren't doing a traditional school run this year, we are proud to raise money online for the Terry Fox Foundation! To all staff, students, and families, please make your donations in denominations of \$2, \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20 using **School Cash Online**. For donations of \$25 and above, please use the link below as it will automatically generate a tax receipt upon donation.

<http://www.terryfox.ca/UnionvilleHSUnionville>

Thanks for your support!

Health Care Plans

Dear families,

Supporting your child's health and well-being is our priority. If your child has a medical condition, please complete the applicable form(s) below and submit them electronically to priscilla.chan@yrdsb.ca. Also, if your child carries an epi-pen or inhaler, we would like to reserve a second one in our main office (Note: Please check the expiry date). Once we receive your child's health care plan, your child will be notified to supply us with a second epi-pen or inhaler in case of emergency. If you would prefer a hard copy of one or more of these forms, please let us know. Any questions regarding health care plans can be sent to patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca. Thank you for providing us with this important information in a timely manner.

[Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)

[Asthma Health Care Plan](#)

[Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)

[Epilepsy Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan](#)

[Health Care Plan \(Other\)](#)

[Staff Administration of Medication](#)

[Self Administration of Medication](#)

Virtual School

Virtual Secondary School contact information:

Phone: 905-900-1163 or 647-749-4328

Email: secondary.VS@yrdsb.ca School

Website: <http://yrdsbsvs.yrdsb.ca/>

Any concerns or inquiries should be directed to the administration team at Virtual School:

Principal: Maria Maiato

Vice-Principals:

North: Pamala Agawa

Central: Patrick McQuade

East: Tanya-Lynn Paul

West: Hubert Brard

Guidance Appointment Booking

Although Guidance counsellors are not seeing students in person, students and parent/guardians can still speak to a counsellor by booking an appointment with the student's alpha counsellor through Teach Assist (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb/>).

We ask that once the appointment is scheduled, an email to the counsellor be sent sharing contact information (e.g. phone number).

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

Ms. Riolo (Hu - Ma): rita.riolo@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Hawkins (Mc - Wr): stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca

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

You can also contact Ms. Simtikidis, the Guidance secretary if you are having any difficulty with appointment bookings or have general questions.

Ms. Simtikidis: nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca

Appointment bookings will begin in October. We look forward to working with you and your student this school year!

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 timetable concerns that were submitted via the google form. Best of luck to all students for this semester!

2020-2021 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: **fdae3qe**

Guidance Moodle:

Students can join the Guidance moodle to learn about scholarships, bursaries and other enrichment opportunities.

Please visit: www.moodle2.yrdsb.ca.

Search: UHS Guidance

Username: UHS student number

Password: UHS login

Volunteer Hours

Students are encouraged to continue working on completing their community involvement hours. A minimum of 40 hours is required to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Community involvement opportunities can be completed in person and virtually.

To ensure their activity is eligible, students are asked to receive approval for their activity from their alpha counsellor prior to completing their hours.

Students can still pick up community involvement tracking forms outside the Guidance office. Completed forms can be submitted by scanning or taking a picture of the complete form and sending it to the student's alpha counsellor:

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

Ms. Riolo (Hu - Ma): rita.riolo@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Hawkins (Mc - Wr): stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca

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

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, students are encouraged to join the google classroom Code: **gsrz264**

Additional information can be found here: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Guidance/CommunityInvolvement/Pages/default.aspx>

Requesting copies of transcripts and other documents from the Guidance department:

Students, parents and guardians requesting hard copies of transcript documents, etc. must email the Guidance secretary, Ms. Simtikidis (nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca) first. Ms. Simtikidis will schedule a time with the student as to when the documents can be picked up.

Parking

Please be aware that the school driveway is very busy in the mornings between 8:00 and 8:30 am. Do not stop your car in the "No Idle Cars" zone. This is also a **Fire Route**. Cars left idling may be ticketed. As well, parking passes are required for all cars. Cars that do not have a parking pass will be ticketed by the City of Markham.

Screening

Students must self-screen every day before coming to school.

[For more information please visit COVID-19 School Screening](#)

International & Indigenous Languages

The International and Indigenous Languages (IIL) program provides elementary and secondary students with the opportunity to speak, read and write a new language or maintain heritage language and culture. Due to the pandemic, International and Indigenous Language classes for grades 9 to 12 will take place **online**, not in the school buildings. Teachers will teach live language lessons in real time using Google Classroom to provide both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities during the regularly scheduled language class.

More information is also available on our [International & Indigenous webpages](#). To learn more about secondary credit programs, click on [credit programs](#). Below you will find information on how to register for secondary credit (grades 9 to 12) language classes.

- Secondary Program Registration:

Credit classes begin September 26, 2020. Secondary (Grades 9 to 12) IIL registration will not be accepted after the third class. Refer to our revised [brochure](#) for the most up-to-date information about class start dates and times.

- YRDSB Students

- ⇒ Please register on [myPathway Planner](#) before September 26.
- ⇒ For assistance, view the myPathway Planner [tip sheet](#).
- ⇒ After September 26, please download the [Registration Form](#) and send it by email to international.languages@yrdsb.ca.

- NON-YRDSB Students

- ⇒ Please download the [Registration Form](#). Email the completed registration form to international.languages@yrdsb.ca.
- ⇒ We will contact you for additional documentation if required.
- ⇒ No consumable fees will be collected at this time.

More information on the [elementary](#) program and [secondary](#) credit program is available on our webpages. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (905) 884-2046 ext. 242 or email us at international.languages@yrdsb.ca. Thank you for your interest in our programs.

Public Transit

YRT has updated its bus route times to support this year's school schedule. [Please check the YRT website for more information](#). Some buses have been rescheduled to coincide with the 11:00 am dismissal.

SCHOOL ENTRY & DISMISSAL

Classrooms will be opened 15 minutes before the first bell. Students will be allowed entry to the building as of **8:15 a.m.** Students may enter through one of four entry points below in a single file fashion while maintaining social distance:

1. **Town Centre Blvd. (main entrance)**
2. **Warden (Cafeteria)**
3. **Caretaking (Music)**
4. **Small Gym/Tech Wing**

All students must be wearing a mask and sanitize their hands as they enter. Doors at all four entry points will be locked at 8:45 am. Students who arrive before 8:45 am should proceed directly to class. **Students who arrive after 8:45 am must enter from Town Centre Blvd. only and report to the office prior to going to class.** Parents/guardians cannot enter the building unless they have a pre-arranged appointment that has been approved by the principal.

Students are expected to leave the school and school property after their last scheduled class is completed at 11:00 am. Students may not socialize in corridors or the cafeteria and must leave the school directly. Students are expected to continue wearing a face covering until they leave school property. All students must sanitize their hands as they exit. Students can exit at one of five exit points:

1. **Town Centre Blvd. (main entrance)**
2. **Warden (Cafeteria)**
3. **Caretaking (Music)**
4. **Small Gym/Tech Wing**
5. **New wing (stairwell 13)**

Please note that dismissal may be staggered by grade or floor beginning at 10:50 in order to prevent crowding.

Mental Health Resources

To find out how to support your child's mental health during COVID-19 and the return to school please click the link below:

[Mental Health Links](#)

Scholarship News

Continue to check the Guidance Moodle for upcoming scholarship information and application details.

Loran Awards

<https://loranscholar.ca/becoming-a-scholar/>

October 2nd by 3pm - submit to Guidance for consideration for school nomination (see application on Guidance Moodle)

Oct 22nd - Direct Pool Application due

University of Toronto Book Award

October 2nd - Due to Guidance by 3pm (application on Guidance Moodle)

Volunteering Opportunities:

Spelling Bee Canada- Markham Event (online)

Please contact cynthia.vilvarajah@gmail.com if you are interested or have any questions by Monday, September 28 (volunteering takes place October 31st)

Lunch & Study Hall

The purpose of Study Hall is to provide a space for students who do not have consistent access to broadband Wi-Fi at home and are in school that day for their in-person morning class. Students who need to stay at school to work on afternoon online courses will be supervised by a staff member, but they will not have access to their afternoon online teachers. Students must sign up using Teachassist in advance (the day before by 11:59 pm) every time they wish to stay for study hall the next day so that a seating plan and attendance can be created.

School Council Meeting

We will be hosting our first School Council Meeting of the year on **Tuesday, September 29 at 7:00pm-8:30pm**

The Agenda is as follows:

Welcome and Introductions

Agenda

Hot topics

School Council Overview and Elections

Principal Update

STEM

Health and Safety

Staffing numbers

Secondary Virtual School or SVS

Guidance appointments

Synchronous expectations

Mental Health Resources

Other

If you are interested in being an active member of the School Council Executive and have not completed the nomination form that was included in the Start-Up Package, please click the form below and email to unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca by Friday, October 2 at 4:00pm.

School Council Candidate Nomination Form

We welcome all parents and hope to see you virtually.

Please join the GoTo meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/926430613>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Canada: [+1 \(647\) 497-9373](tel:+16474979373)

Access Code: 926-430-613

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/926430613>

Night School

Please be advised that our traditional in class face-to-face [Night School program](#) (Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:45 pm) will move to a remote learning delivery model for the Fall session. The program will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronous). Please be advised that the start date has changed from Tuesday September 29th to Tuesday October 6th. Course selection approval by a Guidance counselor is required. Registration is now open through my Pathway Planner.

Please note course offerings are not guaranteed as they are subject to sufficient enrolment, classroom and teacher availability. Course offerings will also be updated at <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/Courses.aspx>. Should a course be cancelled, YRDSB students will receive an email through their gapps account while non YRDSB students will be contacted by phone. Kindly encourage students to check their gapps account or my Pathway Planner profile and visit our website to see if their selected course has been cancelled.

A Time Together

While we're keeping physical distancing in the current situation, let's get together to play badminton and table tennis!



Date: Sep 10 - Dec 17, 2020
Thursdays
Time: 3:30 - 5:30pm
Age: 14 - 22

Fee: FREE
ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Registration:
<https://105gibson.com/online-registration>
Participants bring your own gears

Youth Success Initiatives



DATE: Sep 19 - Dec 12, 2020 Saturdays
Time: 10 :00 am - 11:30 am
Grade: 9 - 12
Location: Online
Registration: www.105gibson.com/online-registration

Youth Success Initiatives offers **FREE** tutoring on Math, Science and ESL for **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**. Register online!



105 Gibson Drive
 Markham ON L3R 3K7
 905.946.8787
 info@105gibson.com
 www.105gibson.com



Get hands-on and transform "trash" like plastic bags or an old shirt, into treasure!

ONE'S TREASURE

An online workshop on repurposing used items into something fun and functional

Term 1: Sept 12 - Oct 3, 2020 Saturdays
 Term 2: Oct 31 - Nov 21, 2020 Saturdays

Time: 2-4pm

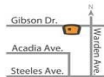
Age: 14+

Fee: \$10 per 4 week term

Registration: www.105gibson.com/online-registration



105 Gibson Drive
 Markham ON L3R 3K7
 905.946.8787
 info@105gibson.com
 www.105gibson.com



LET'S HIKE

This program is for young people to go hiking together: appreciate the nature, strengthen our bodies and have fun with friends!



TERM 1 Sep 12 - Oct 3, 2020 Saturdays

TERM 2 Oct 17 - Nov 7, 2020 Saturdays

Time: 9am - 12pm

Age: 14 - 25

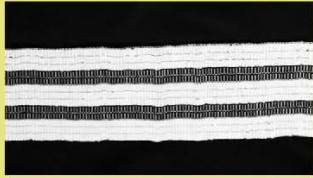
Fee: Free

Registration: <https://105gibson.com/online-registration>



105 Gibson Drive
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 www.105gibson.com





INTRODUCTION

I am grateful to have been entrusted with the role of “Indigenous Education Designate” at UHS for the 2020-2021 school year. The irony of this position being filled by a white settler is not lost on me and I have to admit that it brings a certain level of embarrassment. However, I have made a number of sincere commitments in my personal and professional life to prioritizing reconciliation work and I am excited to dive into that work at UHS in a good way, until the moment that this important position can be more appropriately filled by someone with a First Nations, Inuit or Métis background. I will endeavour to produce this Bulletin to coincide with the weekly school staff/parent bulletin with a view towards increasing the profile of Indigenous Education within the York Region District School Board, drawing particular attention to the Indigenous communities of Turtle Island, their languages, artists and elders. In addition, I will highlight each week one of the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Report of 2015 who’s ongoing goal it is to discover and reveal past injustices, particularly as they occurred in Canada’s reprehensible Indian Residential Schools and to establish and maintain a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples in this country. Three of these Bulletins were published in June. We are beginning this year with the 4th Call to Action.

FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES IN TURTLE ISLAND: THE BLACKFOOT CONFEDERACY

The Blackfoot Confederacy is a Regional Managing Organization for the Blackfoot Confederacy Nations of Kainai-Blood Tribe, Siksika, Peigan-Piikani and Aamskapi Pikuni. Since time immemorial, the Children of the Plains, the Blackfoot, have roamed a traditional territory that stretched from the North Saskatchewan River in Alberta and Saskatchewan to the Yellowstone River in the state of Montana, from the Continental Divide in the west to the Great Sand Hills in the province now known as Saskatchewan. The Blackfoot Confederacy Tribes entered into Inaistsyi (Peace Treaties) with the American and Canadian governments. Inaistsyi was a sacred covenant that was to last for the lifetime of the parties. These treaties were intended to establish peace and prosperity for both sides. The International boundary (49th Parallel) between Canada and the United States of America (USA) arbitrarily divided the Blackfoot Confederacy resulting in restricted access to our traditional territories as well as interference with our Spiritual, Economic, Social and Political relationships.



INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES IN TURTLE ISLAND: Atikamekw

Atikamekw is an Algonquian language closely related to Cree; indeed, some consider it to be a dialect of Cree. Like Cree, Atikamekw is a polysynthetic language with long, complex verbs. Most people in the Atikamekw tribe (four to five thousand in total) speak their native language, but few are literate in it, and the lack of printed materials in Atikamekw has some Indian language advocates concerned about the future of the language. French, rather than English, is the second language of choice among the Atikamekw.

CALLS TO ACTION (FROM THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION REPORT, 2015)

#4. We call upon the federal government to enact Aboriginal child-welfare legislation that establishes national standards for Aboriginal child apprehension and custody cases that 1) Affirm the right of Aboriginal governments to establish and maintain their own child-welfare agencies. ii. Require all child-welfare agencies and courts to take the residential school legacy into account in their decision making. iii. Establish, as an important priority, a requirement that placements of Aboriginal children into temporary and permanent care be culturally appropriate.