



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin

Volume 22

Friday, February 18, 2022

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
 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	21	22	23	24	25
	Family Day No Classes		Pascal Grade 9, Cayley Grade 10 and Fermat Grade 11 Math Competition (Outside School Hours) Pink Shirt Day Wear Your Pink Shirt		
Feb	28	Mar 1	2	3	4
	School Council Meeting (7:00 PM)				

On behalf of UHSs Admin Team

Greetings, UHS family!

As an Administration Team, we wanted to share how absolutely wonderful it is having so many of our students and staff in the building in a Face-to-Face capacity. We understand that many of our families are trying to cope with the various challenges of Online learning, but we are very excited that we have so many members of the UHS community back with us, adhering to the Health & Safety Protocols set forth by the York Region Public Health and supported by the YRDSB.

We would like, however, to apologize to those students and families who have been in classes that have been impacted by a seemingly endless cycle of Occasional Teachers. We want you to know that our Admin Team has been working nights, weekends...in short, around the clock, to interview potential candidates in hopes of securing consistent teachers for our students. We really and truly appreciate everyone's patience, understanding and continued support as we continue to interview and attempt to find the most suitable and qualified candidates to teach our students.

We recognize that these are frustrating and trying times for students and families; we are optimistic that our attempts at solving our staffing puzzle will be fruitful, and we will continue to do our utmost to have suitable and qualified teachers in place for our students.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to any one of our Administrators for further support.

We wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy Family Day Long Weekend and we will see our students on Tuesday.

Ms. Cheong, Mr. Belmonte & Mr. Gheewala

Update to COVID Screening Tool

[Updates to the COVID-19 Screening Tool](#)

On the recommendation of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, updates have been made to align with current guidance and to provide clarity on isolation requirements for confirmed and presumed positive cases, and their household members and close contacts.

For those completing the screening tool who are fully vaccinated and/or 11 years old or younger, the screening tool will ask for symptoms and test results in the last 5 days. Those completing who are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated or immunocompromised will complete the screening tool using a 10 day measuring period.

Schools should have an **updated**, downloaded and printed copy of the screening tool accessible for visitors reference.

School Council Meeting - Monday, February 28th at 7:00 p.m

Dear families,

We would like to welcome everyone to our next virtual School Council Meeting on Monday, February 28th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

You will have a chance to meet our new Vice-Principal, Mr. Amol Gheewala, who recently joined our Administration Team and he will be sharing a few things about himself.

We are also excited to share with you the opportunity to get to join in the conversation with our guest speaker, Ms. Gen-Ling Chang, Deputy Executive Director of Alpha Education. She will be speaking about identity and belonging starting at 7:15 p.m. The link to sign up below.

Looking forward to seeing everyone. Our agenda and the zoom link will be shared with all our families at a later date.

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.



[UHS School Council Invitation](#)

Course Selection Information

To implement further improvements, there will be scheduled downtime and server maintenance this weekend from 10 pm EST Friday, Feb 18 to 6am EST Saturday, Feb 19.

Students can begin submitting their course selection starting on Wednesday February 16 at 9am and course selection will close on Friday February 25 at 4pm using My Pathway Planner. Please note this is not first come, first serve, so we ask that students carefully consider their course selections and consult with teachers, Guidance Counsellors and their parents/guardians prior to submitting. Once they submit their course, they are locked in.

To support students with the course selection process, the Guidance Department has put together pre-recorded presentations and PowerPoints for each grade. This past Thursday in Period 2 classes, students were provided time to view these presentations. They were also provided an enrolment key to a Google Classroom where they can revisit the presentation if required (enrolment key: us43vmc). These same presentations can also be accessed [here](#), (select the left side bar tab: course selection).

In addition, to help students learn more about specific courses offered at UHS, departments have shared dates/times and google meet links for students to virtually meet with them. This link can be found on the Google Classroom (students must be logged into their GAPPS account).

Students who are graduating this year and not returning to UHS must select 'Not Returning' in my Pathway planner.

A new feature this year requires parents/guardians to approve their student's course selection. Upon submitting courses in My Pathway Planner, students will be required to enter in the email of a parent/guardian. Parents/guardians will be able to view the student's course submissions and can either approve or reject the courses. Guidance Counsellors will be reviewing these submissions on a daily basis.

Should your student require support with course selection, please have them schedule an appointment in TeachAssist with their alpha Guidance Counsellor.

Ms. Farwell (A – He)

Ms. Riolo (Hi – Lo)

Ms. Hawkins (Lu – V)

Mr. Tam (W – Z)

1. Log into your TeachAssist account. <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb>
2. Under the sub-heading select, 'Appointment Bookings'.
3. Choose your counsellor (based on your last name).
4. Click on the day and time you want to have your appointment.
5. Remote learners, please indicate 'virtual Online requested'. A Google Meet link will be shared with you by the counsellor. **Please note, parents/guardians who would like to attend the appointment can do so virtually. Students are to indicate this upon booking so that a zoom link will be shared.**
6. If you need to cancel your appointment for any reason, click 'Cancel'. If you have any trouble making your appointment, please let the Guidance Department know. Students or families requiring assistance can contact the Guidance secretary, Ms. Louie (linda.louie@yrdsb.ca).

Newly Added Links

[International Women's Day 2022](#)

[Grade 10 SHSM Promotional Event - STEM CHALLENGE: Build Your Own DIY Prosthetic](#)

[Summer Company 2021 - Apply Now](#)
[Pitch Your Biz Markham](#)

[February 23rd - Sex Trafficking Presentation](#)

2022 - 2023 YRDSB Student Trustee Elections Finalist

UHS has our very own finalist for the 2022-2023 YRDSB Student Trustee Elections!! As was announced during our morning announcements, Meihuan Yu, a UHS grade 10 student, is one of four finalists for the 2022-2023 YRDSB Student Trustees Elections. Elections will take place on Feb 14 -22 and we would like to ensure every UHS student casts their vote for Meihuan.

Please scroll to the bottom of the page to see her bio and take 2 minutes to view her video using the link below:

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees/Pages/default.aspx>

Voting will begin on Monday, February 14, 2022 and we need all of the support possible for Meihuan. Please encourage our students to vote - even give them gentle reminder to cast their votes if you can! - so that Meihuan is successful in this very special and unique opportunity! Go Meihuan Go!!

Student Trustee Elections

February 14 - February 22, 2022, 8:00 p.m.

www.yrdsb.ca/studenttrustees

Voting is now open for the 2022-2023 student trustees. Each year, students in Grades 5-11 have the opportunity to vote for the two student trustees who will represent their voice across York Region District School Board.

Voting closes February 22, 2022 at 8:00 p.m.

Information about how to vote has been sent to student GAPPS email accounts, and is also available on the [Student Trustees website](#). On the website, students can also find information about the four student trustee candidates and a recording of the all-candidates debate.

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

Pink Shirt Day



Pink shirt day is a globally recognized day in support of anti-bullying, upstanding behaviour and simple acts of kindness. **On February 23, 2022, we are encouraged to practice kindness and wear pink to show that we do not tolerate any form of bullying.**

In honour of Pink Shirt Day, YRDSB's, Caring and Safe Schools is looking to celebrate the every upstanders. Upstands are those students who:

- Stand up to bullying;
- Exemplify kindness in their schools; and/or
- Contribute to anti-bullying initiatives in their schools;

To recognize upstanders and acknowledge Pink Shirt Day, please consider engaging these activities:

1. Social Media posts to Twitter or Instagram

Change profile image to pink or a pink shirt, write a message of support, share a picture, share a story about an upstander. Don't forget to tag @CaringSafeYRDSB and @YRDSB.

2. Submit a story of an upstanding student or complete this form sharing the name of the Upstanding Student and what they have done.

Students will be recognized by receiving a YRDSB Pink Shirt and certificate for their actions, sent to your school in the near future.

Guess Who!? Trivia Game

Complete this trivia quiz to test your knowledge on Black Canadians. Only one submission per student is allowed. You must use your gapps YRDSB account in order to access and submit the quiz. :

<https://forms.gle/53bm2nqSMLYeJahdA>

Students with the top score will get a shoutout after February!

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 will 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.](#)

Students requiring a parking pass for Semester 2 can fill out the following Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/MDqFtrMazbYWfBzJA>

Model Change Requests

Thank you for your semester two model change requests. At this time, we will not be taking any more requests. We will be pausing on all requests until March Break (March 11, 2022).

By the second week in March, we will be in contact with all families asking them about model changes for after March Break.

Lunch is on UHS

Hello Face-to-Face Learners! Next week we are providing lunches to all students who have completed the "Lunch is on UHS" Google Form. Lunches will be delivered to Period 2 classes (right before lunch); they will be pre-packaged with a label on it with the student's name and teachers will distribute lunches to students as they leave P2 for lunch.

Here is the schedule for when students will receive their free lunches:

Tuesday, February 22 – GRADE 9

Wednesday, February 23 – GRADE 10

Thursday, February 24 – GRADE 11

Friday, February 25 – GRADE 12

We will send an email out by grade the day before your lunch will be provided – Grade 9s, please be on the lookout for a reminder email to come your way sometime Monday, February 21.

Thank you to everyone who completed the Google Form...bon appetit!

Black Excellence Celebration in Student Mental Health

March 7, 2022 is the third annual Black Mental Health Day in Ontario. Black Mental Health Day is a day to raise awareness and draw attention to the impact that anti-Black and systemic racism has on the mental health of Black people, and the importance of structural change across social systems to improve the mental health and well-being of Black Canadians.

[Memo](#)

RCTech Outreach - Computers for Students



UNIONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

201 Town Centre BLVD., Markham, Ontario L3R-8G5 Tel: (905) 479-2787

February, 11, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of a partnership between YRDSB and Renewed Computer Technology (RCT), families with children enrolled in our Board have the opportunity to purchase quality-refurbished computers at a reduced cost. Applicants must live in Ontario, have a student enrolled at the school and either receive government assistance payments or qualify as a limited income earner under the limited income cut-off standards*.

Below is a limited income grid for your reference.

Family size	Annual income*
2 people	\$30,286
3 people	\$37,234
4 people	\$45,206
5 people	\$51,272
6 people	\$57,286

7 people +	\$64,381
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This year, there are different packages available for purchase. Please reference the RCT flyer for the current available package offerings. Please note that there are two options for delivery. If you would like the computer to be delivered directly to your home, there is a \$40 charge for laptops and a \$50 charge for desktops. Families who choose this delivery option will have their order shipped when it is ready. If you would like the device shipped to your child's school there is a \$20 delivery charge and you will need to wait to receive your computer until after the application period closes and it will be delivered to your child's school.

Parents and legal guardians may apply for one computer per student, with a limit of two per household. Please see below for a full list of device specifications.

If you are interested in applying, please complete an online application at <https://form.jotform.com/210054491659255> using the group code on the attached program flyer. The application period is from February 8 - March 4, 2022 with delivery to schools taking place prior to the end of the school year.

Please note - There are sections in the RCT Online Application that are no longer applicable:

- Requirement of Proof or Documentation of Income
- Requirement to participate in training prior to receiving your computer/laptop

The Section on Course of Study can pertain to elementary or secondary. If you do not have access to a computer or the Internet, please contact the administration team at your school for assistance.

For inquiries related to the RCT application process, devices and delivery, please contact Alexander Oliver (Aoliver@rcto.ca) and for inquiries related to support from YRDSB, please contact Yvonne Kelly (yvonne.kelly@yrdsb.ca)

For more information, including complete application and payment instructions, please refer to the attached program flyer and checklist.

Sincerely,



Principal

Markham Public Library Links

[Black Inspiration: Making History](#)

[Spoken Word Poetry Workshop](#)

[York University: Scholars' Hub](#)

[Discover Your Digital Library](#)

[What To Read Next](#)

ATTENTION ALL GRADE 12 STUDENTS!!

Starting off the New Year strong with this amazing scholarship opportunity by CFLI and Eekai Foundation (eekai.org) for grade 12 students entering university or college in September 2022 to receive a one-time scholarship of \$1,000 for their higher education!

Eligibility Requirements:

Must be in grade 12 at the time of application and entering university or college in September 2022.

Scholarship recipients must complete a workshop held by CFLI with all other recipients prior to University / College entrance.

Must have completed at least 40 hours of documented community service

YLP graduates are allocated to receive number of guaranteed spots

Click here to apply: <https://cflicanada.ca/yjobs/>.

Deadline: Feb-28-2022

Kind regards,

CFLI Team.

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.

Archived Links

1. 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>.
2. [Who Do We Listen To? COVID 2022](#)
3. [Family Cookout With Chef Maxine Knight](#)
4. Nurturing Healthy Self Esteem - [Register](#) - [Contact](#)



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.

Unionville High School
201 Town Centre Blvd.
Markham, ON L3R 8G5

Phone: 905-479-2787
Fax: 905-479-1539
Email: unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

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](#)