



# UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol.17

Friday, January 8, 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](mailto:suelyn.cheong@yrdsb.ca)  
 Brian Schouten (interim)  
[brian.schouten@yrdsb.ca](mailto:brian.schouten@yrdsb.ca)

**Vice-Principal**  
 Andrew Gazaneo (A-L)  
[andrew.gazaneo@yrdsb.ca](mailto:andrew.gazaneo@yrdsb.ca)

**Vice-Principal**  
 Patrick Belmonte (M-Z)  
[patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca](mailto:patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca)

**Superintendent**  
 Becky Green  
[becky.green@yrdsb.ca](mailto:becky.green@yrdsb.ca)

**Board Trustee**  
 Ron Lynn [ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca](mailto:ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca)

**Email:**  
[unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca](mailto:unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca)

School Website:  
[Click here](#)

**Tweets**  
[@UHSupdates](#)

Rotation - 7	Dec 15 - Jan 13	Rotation - 8	Jan 14 - Jan 29
Morning Block (virtual) 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 3	Morning Block (virtual until Jan 25) 8:30-11:00	Period 4
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch	11:00 - 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch
Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 4	Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 3
Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 1	Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 1
Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 2	Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 2

11 <b>3B</b>	12 <b>3A</b>	13 <b>3B</b>	Rotation #8 14 <b>4A</b>	15 <b>4B</b>
18 <b>4A</b>	19 <b>4B</b>	20 <b>4A</b>	21 <b>4B</b>	22 <b>4A</b>
25 <b>4B</b>	26 <b>4A</b>	27 <b>4B</b>	28 <b>4A</b>	29 <b>4B</b>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 11	
Tuesday, January 12	
Wednesday, January 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Rotation 7 Ends</li></ul>
Thursday, January 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Rotation 8 Begins</li></ul>
Friday, January 15	

### A Letter to Parents from the Minister of Education

Please access this [letter](#) to all Ontario families from the Minister of Education. The letter contains the following information:

- shutdown and reopening dates for elementary and secondary schools
- financial relief for parents
- mental health resources

### School Closures

We have received notice from the Ontario Ministry of Education that the closure of all Ontario schools will be extended as outlined below. During this period, all students will continue to participate in online learning. This is in an effort to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **All elementary schools will be closed to students until January 25, 2021.** All students will participate in online learning during this time. Elementary schools are expected to reopen to students for in-person learning on January 25, 2021.
- **All secondary schools will continue to be closed to students and reopen January 25, 2021 as previously announced.** Students will continue to participate in online learning during this time.
- Before and after care programs will not operate while schools are closed to students. For child care programs, please check with your child care provider.

Families looking for assistance in navigating online tools can find [resources available on the Board website](#). Families looking for virtual school IT support are encouraged to visit our [Virtual School IT Support page](#) for FAQs and a student tech help form. The provincial government has also established financial support for families during this temporary remote learning period through its [Support for Learners](#) program.

You may be concerned about your child's emotional well-being. You can find [tips on how to speak to your child about COVID-19 on our website](#) as well as [mental health supports](#).

Thank you for your ongoing support and patience. We will continue to share updates and information with you as it becomes available. You can also follow the Board's Twitter feed: [@YRDSB](#), or for information about YRDSB's reopening plan, visit: [www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening](http://www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening).

### Student Mental Health & Addictions Newsletter

As a result of a provincially mandated lockdown due to rising COVID -19 cases across the province, we end the Winter Break with a return to virtual learning. Although this will present a challenge for some and disappointment for others, our focus will be on how to keep one another physically healthy and maintain social connections and mental health while distance learning. This month's edition of our Mental Health newsletter will focus on ways to stay socially connected during this continued time of physical distancing. To view the January 2021 newsletter, please click [here](#).

## Student Trustee Election Dates

**Student Trustee Applications:** January 15 to February 1, 2021; closes @ 11:59 am

**Interview Selection of (4) Area Representative Candidates:** February 17-19, 2021

**The Campaign Period:** February 22 - March 7, 2021; closes @ 11:59 p.m.

**Online Voting:** March 8-11, 2021; closes @ 8 p.m.

**Election Results Announced:** March 12, 2021

For further information and election resources, please visit the [Student Trustee website](#). Questions may be submitted to [trustee.services@yrdsb.ca](mailto:trustee.services@yrdsb.ca).

## Scholarship News

Continue to check the Guidance Moodle for upcoming scholarship information as well as application and eligibility details, including the November - January Scholarship Report.

Please note: Scholarship information is intended for graduating students that plan to attend a post secondary institution in 2021-2022.

Black students and their families are invited to join us for another online edition of the BFCN Scholarship Application Workshop on **Friday, January 22, 2021** from 7 PM - 9 PM. The workshop is offered free of charge as the goal is to share our collective knowledge so that Black students and their families can make informed decisions about post-secondary education. Note that the Scholarship Program Coordinator will also be present to answer any questions. Please share with your friends and family and encourage them to save the date. The online workshop is free but there is limited space available so please register via Eventbrite ASAP: [bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary22](https://bit.ly/BFCNWorkshopJanuary22).

Registration via Eventbrite is mandatory. A Zoom link and further details will be sent to all those who register.

For more information or to share accessibility needs, please contact us at [info@bfcn.ca](mailto:info@bfcn.ca) or 416-566-2731.

## Movember Update

Our Movember event has come to an end, and we want to congratulate this year's winner...**Mr. Rayner!**

Mr. Ricci's Rec Leadership class wishes to thank everyone for participating, helping us promote the fundraiser, and spreading awareness about men's health. This year's Movember event was a **HUGE** success with donations reaching **\$1500**, in comparison to last year's **\$840**.

Thank you again for all your support and happy new year!

Sincerely,

**Crystal, Katie, Katrina & Saharra**

The Movember Team

## Continuing Education

- A. **Night school** is now open for registration through My Pathway Planner. Only students who cannot get the course at UHS qualify. All courses will be offered through the virtual synchronous (real-time) platform. Interested students must print off a registration form and submit it to Guidance for approval. The first class begins on February 18th. More information can be found here: [Pages - Night School Credit Courses](#).
- B. Registration is now open for students to take **Night School E-Learning**. Students who are enrolled in courses worth less than 4 credits in a given semester might be eligible. **Note:** Night School e-Learning + Day School

credits cannot exceed a total of 8 credits in a school year. Students who are interested **must contact their Guidance Counsellor first** in order to receive permission to register.

- Registration Details:
- **Registration period:** December 7, 2020 – February 10, 2021
- **Course dates:** February 17- June 10, 2021
- **Registration fee:** No fee; the \$20 fee has been waived for the winter 2021 session
- **More information** can be found at: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/e-learning/Pages/default.aspx>

### Crisis Mental Health Support for Students

For a variety of support services and agencies, please refer to the following list:

- 310-COPE [www.yssn.ca](http://www.yssn.ca): 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) - available 24/7
- [www.KidsHelpPhone.ca](http://www.KidsHelpPhone.ca): 1-800-668-6868, text 686868 - available 24/7
- Mental Health Helpline <https://www.ontario.ca/page/mental-health-services>: 1-866-531-2600 - available 24/7
- York Hills Help Phone Line: 905-503-9561 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30-4:00 pm; for children & youth (0-18 years), parents, caregivers or adult supporters. Visit [www.yorkhills.ca](http://www.yorkhills.ca) for more information.
- Markham Stouffville Hospital [www.msh.on.ca](http://www.msh.on.ca): 905-472-7000
- Poison Control [www.ontariopoisoncentre.ca](http://www.ontariopoisoncentre.ca): 1-800-268-9017
- Lesbian Gay BI Trans Youth Line [www.youthline.ca](http://www.youthline.ca): 1-888-687-9689
- Trans Lifeline [www.translifeline.org](http://www.translifeline.org): 1-877-330-6366
- Black Youth Helpline [www.blackyouth.ca](http://www.blackyouth.ca): 1-833-294-8650
- York Region Children's Aid Society [www.yorkcas.org](http://www.yorkcas.org): 905-895-2318
- York Region Abuse Program [www.centralhealthline.ca](http://www.centralhealthline.ca): 905-895-3646
- Police-Fire-Ambulance 911

### Virtual Clubs

Name of Club:	Staff Supervisor:	Accepting new members:
<b>The UHS Gender and Sexuality Alliance</b>	Ms. Sara Faulkner <a href="mailto:sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca">sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Article Club</b>	Ms. Alyssa Chankseliani <a href="mailto:alyssa.chankseliani@yrdsb.ca">alyssa.chankseliani@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Announcements Team</b>	Mr. Nathan Struk <a href="mailto:nathan.struk@yrdsb.ca">nathan.struk@yrdsb.ca</a>	membership paused
<b>Computer Club</b>	Mr. Jey Anandarajan <a href="mailto:jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca">jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>UHS Robotics Team</b>	Mr. Brian Cho & Mr. Jey Anandarajan <a href="mailto:brian.cho@yrdsb.ca">brian.cho@yrdsb.ca</a> <a href="mailto:jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca">jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES

<b>DECA</b>	Mr. Don Pan & Mr. Wes Guldemond <a href="mailto:kuo.pan@yrdsb.ca">kuo.pan@yrdsb.ca</a> <a href="mailto:wesley.guldemond@yrdsb.ca">wesley.guldemond@yrdsb.ca</a>	membership closed
<b>Student Wellness Council</b>	Ms. Michelle Farwell <a href="mailto:michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca">michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Environmental Council</b>	Mr. Michael Johnston & Ms. Polina Di Francesco <a href="mailto:michael.johnston@yrdsb.ca">michael.johnston@yrdsb.ca</a> <a href="mailto:polina.difrancesco@yrdsb.ca">polina.difrancesco@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>The Unionville Howl (Newsletter)</b>	Ms. Ann Choi <a href="mailto:yu-kyung.choi@yrdsb.ca">yu-kyung.choi@yrdsb.ca</a>	membership closed
<b>Film Club</b>	Mr. Shiraz Rafik <a href="mailto:shiraz.rafik@yrdsb.ca">shiraz.rafik@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Music Council</b>	Mr. Jeff Wrigglesworth <a href="mailto:jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca">jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Relay for Life</b>	Ms. Jennifer Zamperin <a href="mailto:jennifer.zamperin@yrdsb.ca">jennifer.zamperin@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Science Club</b>	Ms. Elaine Howard  Mr. Jeffrey Chan  <a href="mailto:elaine.howard@yrdsb.ca">elaine.howard@yrdsb.ca</a>  <a href="mailto:jeffrey.chan@yrdsb.ca">jeffrey.chan@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>STEM for Girls</b>	Ms. Deborah Radbourne <a href="mailto:deborah.radbourne@yrdsb.ca">deborah.radbourne@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Math Club</b>	Ms. Daniela Panacci <a href="mailto:daniela.panacci@yrdsb.ca">daniela.panacci@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>Social Justice Club</b>	Mr. Manny Sanchez <a href="mailto:manuel.sanchez@yrdsb.ca">manuel.sanchez@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES
<b>French Club</b>	Mr. Peter Lansing <a href="mailto:peter.lansing@yrdsb.ca">peter.lansing@yrdsb.ca</a>	YES

### Community Partnership Developers

The Community Partnership Developers (CPD) provide direct support for students and families through partnerships with community organizations and social service agencies. We support students and families with:

- community outreach and engagement
- nutrition and food supports

- parenting supports and education
- student and parent engagement
- early years and transition to high school
- locating services and/or community resources
- mental health
- basic needs (food, clothing, shelter)

If at any time, you are facing difficulties or challenges, we invite you to contact a member of your CPD East Area Team directly. We support all students and families of elementary and secondary schools in the Markham area.

Community Partnership Developers (CPD) East Area Team:

NAGESWARY SRIKUMARAGURU - Specialization (Regional): Tamil Community

Email: [nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nageswary.srikumaraguru@yrdsb.ca); Phone: 905-727-0022 Ext. 2449

SHANI BLAKE - Specialization (Regional): Performance Plus Schools

Email: [shani.blake@yrdsb.ca](mailto:shani.blake@yrdsb.ca); Phone: 416-554-0362

SHARON ZHANG - Specialization (Regional): Chinese Community

Email: [sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca](mailto:sharon.zhang@yrdsb.ca); Phone: 905-884-2046 Ext. 2447

YASMIN MAWANI - Specialization (Regional): South Asian Community

Email: [yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca](mailto:yasmin.mawani@yrdsb.ca); Phone: 416-727-8179

### Financial Support for Parents/Guardians

The government is providing financial support to help parents and guardians with additional costs during the 2020-2021 school year during the second wave of COVID-19.

Eligible parents or guardians will receive a one-time payment of...

- \$200 for each child up to age 12;
- \$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 years with special needs.

This is a new program, and all parents or guardians who are residents of Ontario with eligible children will need to submit a new application for each child.

As of today, eligible parents or guardians can go to [Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners](https://Ontario.ca/SupportforLearners) for more information and to apply for the one-time financial support. The deadline to apply is January 15, 2021.

### Arts Unionville

We want to thank everyone who registered to apply for our Arts 2021-2022 program. Registration is now closed. The e-portfolio instructions for each discipline have been shared with all applicants. Applicants requiring an interview will be contacted by the school for an appointment. The e-portfolio submission deadline is Monday, January 11.



**APPLY TODAY FOR THE**  
**John West Memorial "Leaders of Tomorrow"**  
*Scholarship Award*

The Town of Aurora believes in recognizing our Leaders of Tomorrow, who have made a positive impact in our community and inspire and give us hope for the future. This award honours youth contributions to the advancement and well-being of our community.

Graduating students who are residents of Aurora or who attend school in Aurora can win

**\$1,000**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:**  
**MAY 1, 2021**

**To Be Considered:**

- Submit a completed application by the deadline
- Be a graduating secondary student
- Be a resident of Aurora or attend school in Aurora
- Be entering your first year of full-time secondary study (college, university or equivalent)

**How To Apply:**

- Applications can be downloaded from [aurora.ca/leadersoftomorrow](http://aurora.ca/leadersoftomorrow)
- Completed applications can be submitted to [youth@aurora.ca](mailto:youth@aurora.ca) or the Department of Community Services at Town Hall, 100 John West Way, Aurora ON, L4G 6J1, Attention: Youth Division

Questions About Applying?



[youth@aurora.ca](mailto:youth@aurora.ca)



[aurora.ca/leadersoftomorrow](http://aurora.ca/leadersoftomorrow)



# **NACCA**

est.2018

## **Black History Month 2021**

### **CALL FOR YOUTH ART SUBMISSIONS GR 1-12**

Theme:  
**Standing on strong shoulders**

### **3 Prizes of \$200 each!**

**Youth identifying as Black or of African descent**



The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA) in partnership with The Town of Newmarket is hosting a virtual showcase of youth artworks during Black History Month 2021 – February 1 – 28, 2021.

The virtual show will feature artworks from youth who identify as Black or of African descent in grades 1 – 12, and may include painting, photography, sculpture, and other media. Deadline for submission is January 11, 2021 at 6:00p.m.

Prizes of \$200 each will be awarded to three students based on originality, creativity and relevance of the artwork to the theme: "Standing on Strong Shoulders".

For more information, visit: <https://www.naccacommunity.ca/nacca-youth.html>



# COLLEGE INFORMATION WEEK

The YRDSB Graduation Coaches for Black Students, in partnership with various colleges, are hosting two College Information Nights for Black Students.



## Two Nights of Information

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

*Humber College and George Brown*

Thursday, January 21, 2021

*Seneca College, Sheridan and Centennial*

January is Tamil heritage Month in Canada. It is an occasion to recognize the many achievements and contributions of Tamil Canadians to Canadian society.

# REMEMBRANCE RESILIENCE RESISTANCE

தமிழ்  
மரபுத்  
திங்கள்  
2021



On October 5, 2016, Motion M-24 was passed in the Federal Parliament, officially proclaiming January of every year as Tamil Heritage Month (THM). Thus, we are pleased to invite you to join us in acknowledging and celebrating Tamil Heritage Month in Canada. Tamil Heritage Month aims to celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and its literature, as well as to highlight the vibrant traditions, histories, arts, and cultures of Tamil Canadians. In addition, it seeks to recognize the significant contributions of Tamil Canadians in key areas of social, cultural, economic, and political spheres.

According to the Tamil calendar, January 14 begins the month of "Thai" and the start of the Tamil New Year. On this day Tamils around the diaspora will be celebrating Tamil New Year and Thai Pongal, the Tamil harvest festival. Thai

Pongal is the most important and widely-celebrated festival amongst Tamils around the globe. Thai Pongal is a time to give thanks for the blessings of the previous year and a time to look forward to the New Year.

Pongal refers to rice cooked in milk and sweetened with chakkarai (brown cane sugar). On Thai Pongal, members of the family wake up early in the morning, dress in new clothes and gather together to cook the traditional Pongal meal. Additional ingredients used in this special dish include milk-roasted green gram (payaru), raisins, cashew nuts (optional), and cardamom. Pongal is served with fruits (banana and mango) on a banana leaf, and the family gives thanks to the sun and the farmers for a bountiful harvest before sharing the special dish with family members, friends and neighbours.