

## **UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol.25**

Friday, March 5, 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 Brian Schouten (interim) brian.schouten@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

Term 1 - Rotation 2	March 1 - 10	Term 1 - Rotation 2	March 11	
In Person 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 2	Online 8:30 - 9:05 AM	Period 1	
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch	Online 9:10 - 9:45 AM	Period 2	
Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 1	Online 9:50 - 10:25 AM	Period 3	
Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10 PM	Period 3	Online 10:30 - 11:05 AM	Period 4	
Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 4	Online Feedback		

8	В	9	А	10	В	11	A&B	12	А
						<ul><li>AM - W</li><li>Online</li><li>Synchro</li><li>PM - Fo</li></ul>		T1- ● Interim Distribu Begins	Report
15	В	16	А	17	В	18	Α	19	В

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, March 8	
Tuesday, March 9	
Wednesday, March 10	
Thursday, March 11	Feedback Day
Friday, March 12	Rotation 3 Begins

#### Cap & Gown Orders - A Message for Graduating Students and their Families

As we approach spring, we want to update you on our planning for the year-end celebration of our graduating students for the 2020-2021 school year. This is an important milestone, and we look forward to recognizing the achievements of our graduates.

#### Scheduling and Format:

We can confirm that our graduation celebration will still take place in June. However, due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, we are unable to confirm what format the ceremony will take. Depending on the conditions in June, the ceremony could be a virtual celebratory event, an in/at-school smaller event or some form of hybrid event. Our priority continues to be the health and safety of our students, families and staff members. The format of our graduation ceremony in June will depend upon the direction and advice we receive from York Region Public Health. We want to assure you that we will continue to work with Public Health closely throughout the next few months, and we will confirm our plans for graduation when we get closer to the month of June with a clearer understanding of what is feasible and safe.

#### **Students Attending Virtual School:**

Please note that students attending the Secondary Virtual School (SVS) will graduate with their homeschool peers.

#### **Graduation Photos:**

Understanding the importance of being able to offer an opportunity for graduation photos, we are working with Public Health to establish a protocol which will ensure the safety of our students and staff in the process. Each school will work with their vendor to share the protocols as required by Public Health and determine how the photos may be facilitated on site. More information is forthcoming.

#### Caps & Gowns:

While at this time we are unable to confirm if we can hold any kind of formal, in-person graduation ceremony, we understand that you may wish to purchase a cap and gown for family pictures, celebrations and as a memento. It is recognized that this decision is challenging with so many unknowns, but we wanted to ensure the opportunity to purchase a cap and gown was available to each student.

The cost of a cap and gown package is \$17 and includes a gown, cap with maroon tassel and silver year charm, and a V-stole in maroon. Once the graduation cap and gown packages are received by the school, students will be notified of the distribution model. We are working to arrange for graduation photos on site after delivery of these packages. More information is forthcoming. To order a cap and gown package, please visit School Cash Online. The Grade 12 cap and gown package goes live as of today. Orders must be submitted by March 17, 2021.

Please email us at <u>unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca</u> if you have any inquiries, including if you have any financial support questions.

The UHS Administration

#### **Education Career Fair Student Event for Grade 10 & 11 Students**

#### Dear Parents/Guardians:

Education Career Fair (ECF) events are national initiatives that provide grade10 and 11 students with the opportunity to engage in pathways planning for one day with exhibitors from Ontario: national post-secondary institutions, career training institutions, industry associations, local employers and volunteer/non-profit organizations. As suggested by the *Premier's Highly Skilled Workforce Expert Panel Report*, the ECF event will support students to begin planning their future career path by participating in seminars, engaging in one-on-one discussions with school recruiters and industry experts, and reflecting on their experience and learning in MyPathways Planner. Due to COVID restrictions, on **Thursday, March 25, 2021**, students will take part in virtual opportunities that will support them with pathways

planning. The day will provide new, dynamic and engaging experiences delivered virtually by the Education Career Fair in partnership with the YRDSB Pathways Team, Curriculum and Instructional Services.

#### Students will participate in a virtual education career fair event that features:

- A pre-fair day for students to see the opportunities available and plan their experience;
- Opportunities to connect with exhibitors, download brochures, live chat with representatives, watch videos and enjoy virtual tours;
- Seminars from speakers on a multitude of topics such as paying for school to work/life balance; and,
- Information about volunteer opportunities.

Students will be excused from classes if they choose to participate in some or all of the sessions. Parents/Guardians must complete this permission form in order for their child to participate in the Fair.

Please be advised that there will be no teacher supervision for students who are participating in the event. Parents/Guardians take full responsibility for their child, if they choose to participate in the Education Career Fair. Parents/Guardians will need to complete a separate permission form for each of their children who are eligible to participate.

#### **Registration Information**

Once parents/guardians complete the google permission form, they will receive information on how to register in the ECF platform. ECF will then send parents/guardians information on how students can access the event.

When students are scheduled to attend an ECF event, they will be asked to register.

At that point, the following data will be collected:

- First Name
- School Email Address
- Grade of study

The first name and school email address will only be used to send log-in information. This will allow the students to access the ECF events. Grade of study will only be used for ECF Management data records.

#### **ECF Privacy Policy**

This privacy policy pledges the following:

- We do not use the personal information of K-12 students for any marketing or targeted advertising.
- We store all data for K-12 students on dedicated servers located in Canada.
- All data storage will be managed utilizing technical and administrative safeguards designed to protect against
  unauthorized access to, or disclosure or use of, such data and against reasonably anticipated third party
  threats to the security of such data.
- We do not sell information to third parties.
- We do not own personal information.
- All data will be wiped within (1) one month of completion of event interaction.

#### **Wellness Corner**

International Women's Day (IWD), marked annually on March 8th, is one of the most important days of the year to:

- celebrate women's achievements
- raise awareness about women's equality
- lobby for accelerated gender parity
- fundraise for **female-focused charities**

This year, the IWD's campaign theme is #Choose to Challenge.

We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality. We can all choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world. From challenge comes change, so let's all choose to challenge.

To celebrate this day, on **Monday March 8**, the UHS Health and Wellness Council will be hosting an **Instagram Live Q & A with female leaders in our communities.** 

Make sure to check them out @uhshealthandwellness for informative posts about women's health and resources!

#### "Journey to the O.R." by Dr. Cheang - Organized by UHS STEM - An Impactful Session

On Thursday, February 25, 116 students and co-ordinating teachers had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Timothy Cheang, General Surgeon at Markham Stouffville Hospital as a STEM guest speaker. Despite returning from an 'on-call' night shift, Dr. Cheang delivered an enthusiastic presentation of his 'Journey to the OR', in which he discussed his path to a career in general surgery. He showed a fascinating video of a recent laparoscopic (minimally invasive) surgery and demonstrated the ways that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics disciplines are so vital to the medical field. Moreover, he shared valuable and practical advice with students as they explore STEM-related career opportunities. Our thanks goes to Dr. Cheang, the participating students and the coordinating UHS staff for organizing this event.

#### Report It

Our schools should be safe, welcoming and inclusive places for everyone. It is important that students know what to do if they witness or experience inappropriate behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination.

- There may be situations when you can safely step in and intervene and help.
- Talk to an adult at school, family member or other trusted adult.
- Report the event without the person involved knowing using our online reporting tool, Report It.

Report It lets you share information about inappropriate student behaviour or incidents of hate or discrimination. You can use the online form to report:

- bullying, drugs, cheating, vandalism, harassment, violence or any other inappropriate behaviour
- incidents of discrimination or hate, including anti-Indigenous racism, ableism, anti-Asian racism, anti-Black racism, antisemitism, classism, homophobia, Islamaphobia, sexism, transphobia or other forms of hate

You can report events that happen at school, at school-related events, online or off school property if it negatively affects a student or the school climate. You can also choose to make a report anonymously.

Complete reports are shared with the school to investigate and respond. Acts of discrimination, hate and bullying are never acceptable. Using the Report It tool is a way of standing up for each other and for ourselves.

You can find Report It on the homepage of the Board website at <a href="www.yrdsb.ca">www.yrdsb.ca</a> and on the homepage of every school website, or watch this <a href="short video">short video</a> to learn more.

#### **Scholarship News**

Continue to check the Guidance Moodle for upcoming scholarship information as well as application and eligibility details. Please note: Scholarship information is intended for graduating students that plan to attend a post secondary institution in 2021-2022.

#### **Upcoming Scholarship Information:**

The Scholarship Report (February - May) - (PDF located on the Guidance Moodle)

University Listing Scholarships - Fall 2021 Entrance - (PDF located on the Guidance Moodle)

College Listing Scholarships - Fall 2021 Entrance - (PDF located on the Guidance Moodle)

Black Foundation of Community Networks (BFCN) - 2021 Scholarship Directory

A.B.L.E. Scholarship Opportunity: <u>Application Form</u> & <u>Candidate Letter Selection Criteria</u>; application deadline has been extended to March 22, 2021 at 5:00 pm.; for any questions, students may contact the Scholarship & Awards Committee Chair at ablescholarship@gmail.com.

Canadian Pediatric Stroke and Acquired Brain Injury Survivors Scholarship Application: <a href="https://www.achievingbeyondbraininjury.com">www.achievingbeyondbraininjury.com</a>

Scotia Bank/My Blueprint - Financial Wellness and STEM Scholarship Information

To apply for a Jean Lumb Award, please visit <a href="https://jeanlumbfoundation.ca/">https://jeanlumbfoundation.ca/</a>.

To learn more about The Public Property Assessment Network Scholarship for Central-East Region, click here.

#### **Summer Jobs**

Hey students! Looking for a summer job?

Have you considered working for the Ontario Government? Each year the Ontario Public Service targets up to 5,000 summer students to work in locations across Ontario in areas such as:

- Ontario Parks
- Environment
- Science
- Administration
- Business and Finance
- Research and Laboratories
- Communications
- Customer Service

Earn while you learn! All jobs were posted on February 25th. Closing dates will be between March 10 and June 1.

Apply early to have a chance to apply to the job types that interest you.

You can learn more at: ontario.ca/summerstudents.

#### **Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy Launch Event**

The York Region District School Board is committed to championing equity and inclusivity. In response to continued evidence of anti-Black racism in Canadian institutions, including in education, the Board has co-developed an <a href="mailto:anti-Black racism strategy">anti-Black racism strategy</a>.

The Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy: Creating anti-racist and Black-affirming learning and working environments was co-developed by York Region Black community leaders, YRDSB staff and in consultation with students. The launch of the strategy marks a coordinated effort to address anti-Black racism at the Board.

On March 8, 2021 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., students, staff and families are invited to the virtual <u>Dismantling Anti-Black</u> <u>Racism Strategy launch event</u> featuring guest presenter <u>Robyn Maynard</u>.

The program will examine anti-Black racism in educational institutions and unveil the Board's strategy. The strategy is designed to dismantle anti-Black racism in all its forms in our schools and workplaces.

The systemic nature of anti-Black racism requires that school boards act proactively to support equitable access to quality education and opportunities for all students, and to challenge the marginalization of Black students, staff and families.

Please visit www.yrdsb.ca for more details and to register for the event.

#### **COVID-19 Student Self-Assessment and Confirmation**

First, click here for the self-assessment.

Second, submit the Confirmation Form: http://bit.ly/UHSScreen.

Complete these two steps EACH DAY before you arrive at school.



Have your receipt ready to show at the door. The receipt is in your GAPPS email.

Staff will be checking for completed confirmation on your phone or printout each day.

Please note: You must enter through the main doors at Town Centre Blvd or at the cafeteria entrance on Warden.

#### Message to all UHS students:

Each day, you are required to complete...

a) the **REVISED** Online Self-Assessment: **COVID-19 School and Child-Care Screening Tool**.

**AND** 

b) the Confirmation Form for which you will receive an email receipt.

Before you come to school every morning, read the self-assessment tool. If you answer 'yes' to any of the questions, do NOT come to school.

Once you complete the self-assessment, then complete the Confirmation Google Form. It asks you, "Have you completed the self-screening test?" Answer 'yes.' You will receive a receipt that is sent to your gapps email once you have completed this confirmation form.

Scroll down to the bottom of the receipt which shows the colour-coded day of the week and have this ready as you approach the entrance.

When you get to the **Town Centre** or **Warden** entrance (**these are the only two entrances**), hold up your phone and have the bottom of your receipt ready to show the staff member at the door. We want to see the colour-coded day at the bottom of your receipt.

If you do not have a phone, you can provide us with a **printout**. Alternatively, you can read a hard copy of the self-assessment that has been posted and give us a **verbal confirmation** that you have completed the screening.

Students may start entering the school at 8:15 a.m.

Thank you for following our daily screening procedure.

#### Free Triple P Parenting Virtual Sessions

Click the link below to view the current schedule of virtual seminars, groups and sessions you can attend with other parents in Ontario. Click the individual session listing or the 'register' button for more details or any special instructions:

https://www.triplep-parenting.ca/ont-en/find-help/find-a-session/

#### **Student Trustee Elections**

Online Voting for students in grades 5 - 11: March 8-11, 2021; closes @ 8 p.m.

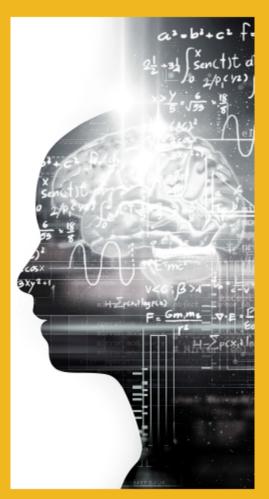
Election Results Announced: March 12, 2021

For further information and election resources, please visit the <u>Student Trustee website</u>. Questions may be submitted to <u>trustee.services@yrdsb.ca</u>.

#### **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: 905-310-COPE (2673) or 1-855-310-COPE (2673) available 24/7
- 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 <a href="www.yorkhills.ca">www.yorkhills.ca</a> for more information.
- Markham Stouffville Hospital <u>www.msh.on.ca</u>: 905-472-7000
- Poison Control <u>www.ontariopoisoncentre.ca</u>: 1-800-268-9017
- Lesbian Gay BI Trans Youth Line <a href="www.youthline.ca">www.youthline.ca</a>: 1-888-687-9689
- Trans Lifeline <u>www.translifeline.org</u>: 1-877-330-6366
- Black Youth Helpline <a href="https://www.blackyouth.ca">www.blackyouth.ca</a>: 1-833-294-8650
- York Region Children's Aid Society <u>www.vorkcas.org</u>: 905-895-2318
- York Region Abuse Program <a href="https://www.centralhealthline.ca">www.centralhealthline.ca</a>: 905-895-3646
- Police-Fire-Ambulance 911







# NACCA

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THE RIGHTSLINE COMPUTER SCIENCE 2021 SCHOLARSHIP



## THE RIGHTSLINE SCHOLARSHIP

We want to offer a supportive and holistic approach to advance the change we want to see in the world. With diversity, inclusion, and access at the core of our mission, we can transform the landscape of opportunity for youth in our communities. With a comprehensive strategy, we know we can support recipients through their post-secondary education experience. The scholarship includes yearly funding, networking, access, internship and the potential for employment opportunities.



## \$5K ANNUAL COMMITMENT

Scholarship recipients will be awarded \$5,000/per year (3-4 years depending on the Computer Science program. Maximum \$20,000 per recipient over a 4 years program).

Applications for new recipients will recur every 4 years (3 years if one city has a recipient who graduate from their program).

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY PLEASE VISIT naccacommunity.ca/2021-scholarship-award

## **HOW DOES THIS WORK?**

A step in the right direction for a more inclusive and diverse future. Big picture thinking with a strategy and support in place.

Rightsline would like to establish meaningful working relationships with various organizations that are community-motivated with anti-racism at their forefront. Together we would like to initiate a Rightsline Scholarship fund that will sponsor and support the recipient through the journey of post-secondary education and into their professional career.

## **HOW DO WE DO THAT?**

Application Process: work with leaders in the community to establish the Rightsline Scholarship. Pilot 2021: Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association (NACCA)

The application process is collaborative and geography-specific. Computer Science programs are an important criteria when selecting the recipient of the Rightsline Scholarship. We want to encourage students to apply into this ever-growing industry which has ample employment opportunities.

Paid Internship/Co-Op: Support in securing summer internship/co-op in the field of Technology. Depending on the program the recipient would work either with Rightsline or leverage their network to help in the search.

Mentorship and support: Quarterly mentoring session with CEO and executive leadership team throughout the program and quarterly mentoring session with Leaders in the field ((Technology/Entertainment) industries.

**Networking:** We believe in the power of a network and we want to support the recipient along the way. Upon graduation, we would like to continue to mentor and assist in finding a full-time role. The recipient will have the opportunity to come on board in a full-time capacity.

Corporate Training: Navigating a career can be a challenge. Rightline would like to provide corporate training, feedback and insights giving the recipient the experience in performance appraisals, growth opportunities and leadership skills.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY PLEASE VISIT naccacommunity.ca/2021-scholarship-award

For more information or to apply please click this link

## NACCA

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## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2021

The Newmarket African Caribbean Canadian Association is pleased to offer \$1000 scholarship to selected students in support of their post-secondary education. One student will receive the Iris Malcolm Memorial Award (\$2000). A total of ten students will be awarded for 2021.

Through our scholarship program, we recognize and celebrate students who are involved in building their community through volunteerism and leadership, and have demonstrated excellence in their academic pursuits.

FOR FULL DETAILS, ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION PROCESS VISIT:

naccacommunity.ca/2021scholarship-award





Monday, March 22, 2021 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Panel Discussion and Q&A: COVID's impact on Mood Disorders including depression.

#### PARENTS' Support Group-All are welcome! VIRTUAL MEETING

Does your child's anxiety, ADHD, mood disorders, learning disability, or behaviour challenges make parenting difficult? Join us...

PCMH Chapter Support is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Aurora/York PCMH Meeting

Time: Mar 22, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/91372172338?pwd=N0hkWkVLalZRMytHakpRTlFGa1ZEZz09

Meeting ID: 913 7217 2338
Passcode: 902988
One tap mobile
+15873281099,,91372172338# Canada
+16473744685,,91372172338# Canada
Dial by your location
+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada
Meeting ID: 913 7217 2338

#### Benefits of PCMH Support Group:

- · meet other parents with children who have similar challenges
  - find encouragement and emotional support
- learn strategies to help your child or youth at home/school
  - learn how to access resources in the community

PCMH is the only provincial, family-led, non-profit organization that provides a voice for families who face the challenges of child and youth mental health issues. PCMH provides support, education, and linkage between families, communities, agencies and government. PCMH believes in the promotion of family-centred principles of care. PCMH envisions a future in which children and youth with mental illness enjoy a high quality of life in welcoming and supportive communities. For more information and resources, please visit <a href="https://www.pcmh.ca">www.pcmh.ca</a>.

Next Meetings: Monday, April 19 Topic Bullying at 6:30 pm – 8 pm. Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> Topic Community Resources 6:30 – 8 pm. Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> Building Healthy Relationships 6:30 – 8 pm



### CALLING ALL YOUNG WRITERS!

The Speaker's Award for Youth Writers invites Ontario youth in grades 7-12 to submit their short stories and personal essays to this writing contest.

Original fiction and non-fiction essay submissions are welcome, and a winner from each of the following three grade categories will be chosen: grades 7-8, grades 9-10, and grades 11-12.

Winners will be announced in autumn 2021 and have their work published on the Legislative Assembly of Ontario website.

## Visit our website for more information: www.ola.org/en/visit-learn

Online applications will be accepted from March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Questions? Contact us at youtharts@ola.org.



## **APPEL À TOUS LES JEUNES ÉCRIVAINS!**

Les élèves de la 7° à la 12° année de l'Ontario sont invités à soumettre leurs nouvelles et leurs dissertations dans le cadre du Prix du président pour les jeunes écrivains.

Les textes de fiction et les textes documentaires originaux sont acceptés. Un gagnant sera choisi dans chacune des catégories suivantes : 7° et 8° années, 9° et 10° années, et 11° et 12° années.

Les gagnants seront annoncés à l'automne 2021, et les textes gagnants seront publiés sur le site Web de l'Assemblée législative.

### Visitez notre site Web pour plus d'informations : www.ola.org/fr/visiter-apprendre

Les demandes sont acceptées en ligne du 1<sup>er</sup> mars au 18 avril 2021.

Questions? Contactez-nous à youtharts@ola.org.



# SPEAKER'S IDOL 2021

CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE SPEECH AT A TIME

Speeches Due: Friday, March 12, 2021



Prepare a 3-minute speech sharing your thoughts on how to make positive change while commenting on Holocaust survivor Simon Wiesenthal's quote:

"The history of humankind is the history of crimes and history can repeat. So information is a defense. Through this we can build, we must build, a defense against repetition."



## 15th Annual York Region Character Community Awards

Do you know a member of our community who has demonstrated great character? Why not honor them by submitting a nomination for a Character Award?



### **Award Categories**

Citizen of Character Award: All Ages Non-Profit Leader of Character Award School of Character Award: YRDSB Community Hero Award

**Business Leader of Character Award** School of Character Award: YCDSB Gianluca Cellucci Memorial Award Don Cousens Community Impact Award

The Character Community Awards recognizes individuals, groups, schools and businesses across York Region for demonstrating exemplary character attributes, including:

Optimism Respect Integrity Inclusiveness Initiative Responsibility Compassion Fairness

Perseverance Honesty Courage Humility

#### Please click here for the 2021 Nomination Form:

http://www.charactercommunity.com

Live each day with ...

Compassion, Courage, Fairness, Honesty, Inclusiveness, Initiative, Integrity, Optimism, Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility and Humility

Access the nomination form here.