



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol.13

Friday, November 27, 2020



201 Town Centre Blvd.
 Markham, ON
 L3R 8G5
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Extensions:
 Reception - 431
 Attendance - 230
 Guidance - 458

Principal
 Suelyn Cheong
suelyn.cheong@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Andrew Gazaneo (A-L)
andrew.gazaneo@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Patrick Belmonte (M-Z)
patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent
 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](#)

Rotation - 6	Nov 27 - Dec 14	Rotation - 7	Dec 15 - Jan 13
In Person 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 2	In Person 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 3
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch	11:00 - 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch
Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 1	Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 4
Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 3	Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 1
Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 4	Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 2

2B ³⁰	2A ¹	2B ²	2A ³	2B ⁴
2A ⁷	2B ⁸	2A ⁹	2B ¹⁰	2A ¹¹
2B ¹⁴	Rotation #7 3A ¹⁵	3B ¹⁶	3A ¹⁷	3B ¹⁸

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, November 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Council (7:00pm) ELL Anthology Launch
Tuesday, December 1	
Wednesday, December 2	
Thursday, December 3	
Friday, December 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waubgeshig Rice - Virtual Guest Speaker in ENG2D
Monday, December 7	
Tuesday, December 8	
Wednesday, December 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waubgeshig Rice - Virtual Guest Speaker in ENG2D
Thursday, December 10	
Friday, December 11	

Virtual Clubs

Name of Club:	Staff Supervisor:	Accepting new members:
The UHS Gender and Sexuality Alliance	Ms. Sara Faulkner sara.faulkner@yrdsb.ca	YES
Computer Club	Mr. Jey Anandarajan jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca	YES
UHS Robotics Team	Mr. Brian Cho & Mr. Jey Anandarajan brian.cho@yrdsb.ca jey.anandarajan@yrdsb.ca	YES
DECA	Mr. Don Pan & Mr. Wes Guldemon kuo.pan@yrdsb.ca wesley.guldemon@yrdsb.ca	membership closed
Student Wellness Council	Ms. Michelle Farwell michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca	YES
Environmental Council	Mr. Michael Johnston & Ms. Polina Di Francesco michael.johnston@yrdsb.ca polina.difrancesco@yrdsb.ca	YES
The Unionville Howl (Newsletter)	Ms. Ann Choi yu-kyung.choi@yrdsb.ca	membership closed
Film Club	Mr. Shiraz Rafik shiraz.rafik@yrdsb.ca	YES
Music Council	Mr. Jeff Wrigglesworth jeff.wrigglesworth@yrdsb.ca	YES

Relay for Life	Ms. Jennifer Zamperin jennifer.zamperin@yrdsb.ca	YES
Science Club	Ms. Elaine Howard Mr. Jeffrey Chan elaine.howard@yrdsb.ca jeffrey.chan@yrdsb.ca	YES
STEM for Girls	Ms. Deborah Radbourne deborah.radbourne@yrdsb.ca	YES
Math Club	Ms. Daniela Panacci daniela.panacci@yrdsb.ca	YES

Message from Our Trustee

December 2020 – Trustee Greetings for School Newsletters

Message from Our Trustee

Dear families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and well. 2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, and the global pandemic has affected individuals and families in different ways.

I want to reassure you that we continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, staff members and families. It continues to be important that we adhere to the health and safety measures in place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can learn more about what schools are doing at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

While we have seen cases in some of our schools, we continue to work with public health to respond quickly, identify cohorts that need to self-isolate as a precautionary measure and take all appropriate measures. I want to thank all of our students, families and staff members for their diligence in adhering to the public health recommendations and health and safety measures in place in our schools.

One of our priorities in our [Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#) is to foster well-being and mental health. As a result of the pandemic, many of us are facing changes and new challenges that can take a toll on our mental health. It is more important than ever that we check in on one another and practice self-care. There are [mental health resources for students and families](#) on our Board website that address the unique nature of our current situation. You can also find information about our [Mental Health and Addiction Strategy](#) and the [work we are doing in schools](#) to promote positive mental health and provide support for students.

While there are challenges, we also continue to have so many reasons to feel positive. Our students continue to impress us with their kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, courage and perseverance. Visit us on [YouTube at YRDSBMedia](#) to see just some of these stories.

In the coming weeks and months, many of our students and families will be celebrating days of significance and holidays, and I wish you all the very best for the season. While we may be celebrating a little differently this year, I hope everyone has a safe and happy winter break and we look forward to welcoming students back into our in-person and virtual schools in January.

School Council Agenda

Our next School Council meeting will take place on Monday, November 30, 2020 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

School Council Agenda:

1. Minutes from October meeting
2. Guidance – Rita Riolo
 - a. My Pathway Planner and course offerings
3. ELL Anthology launch - Ann Choi and students
4. Student engagement and community events
 - a. Youth Connect - Andy Shen and Justine Lin
5. Wellness - Michelle Farwell and Nadine Cyr
6. Updates from admin team:
 - Staffing Updates
 - Virtual clubs
 - Assessment and Evaluation
 - OSSLT update
 - USAC update
 - Upcoming dates
 - Future meetings and Head of Dept. presentations
 - Arts Unionville Subcommittee

We look forward to seeing you virtually. An invitation to the meeting has been sent to your email.

School Council Subcommittees

Arts Unionville Subcommittee

Role: to keep the school council informed of issues and developments related to the Arts Unionville program (Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Art).

Objectives:

- to focus on the interests of the students enrolled in the Arts Unionville program
- to be a liaison between the parents and the Arts Unionville program
- to assist the Arts Unionville program when required
- to call upon parents to join our subcommittee when extra help is required

Parent Social Engagement Subcommittee

Role: This Subcommittee provides a platform for parents to engage with one another in the community, share ideas and work as a team.

Objectives:

- Welcoming new parents to the High School community; work on “get to know your school” template
- Relationship building amongst parents; create an inclusive environment recognizing the diversity in the community
- Overcome language barriers amongst parents and elevate parent voice
- Encourage and look for opportunities for parents to be involved in school life as partners
- Liaise with the Graduation Committee for Grade 12 parents
- Expand communication and outreach strategies such as Pro Grants to increase parent engagement

STEM Subcommittee

Role: find resources and speakers among UHS parents and the city of Markham that would enhance STEM programming

Objectives:

- share current job market trends with STEM students to support their pathway planning
- help augment UHS learning experiences for STEM students with activities, resources and/or speakers related to the following topics that would be of benefit to the instructional program:
 - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
 - Quantum Computing
 - Math Concepts and Problems
 - Robotics
 - Bio-Technology
 - Engineering

Health & Wellness Subcommittee

Role: to support the health and well-being of all members of the UHS community

Objectives:


- to develop, promote, and implement health and wellness initiatives that will help support student, parent and teacher physical and mental well-being
- to collaborate with the student Wellness Council to create and implement health & wellness projects and strategies including those listed below that will benefit all members of the UHS community:
 - Stress tool kit
 - Virtual Wellness Summit
 - Gratitude Project
 - Healthy body, healthy mind & mood
 - Sleep challenge
 - Eat smart
 - Mindfulness meditation
 - Let’s Talk (Bell Canada)

Inclement Weather

For the 2020-2021 school year, when an inclement weather day is announced and all Board transportation is cancelled, **all face-to-face elementary schools and secondary schools will be closed to students.** All credit classes will be taught synchronously online for that day (a change only for Block 1 as afternoon Block 2 – 4 classes are already online). The schedule for the day will remain as set for that rotation. Teachers of Community Classes will provide asynchronous learning by posting/sharing age, grade, learning appropriate activities and/or assignments aligned with current student learning, while being available to students through the day as per their schedule.

Inclement weather announcements will be communicated through local media outlets, the [Student Transportation Services](#) website, School Transportation Hotline: 1-877-330- 3001, the Board's website and Twitter account, and on the Board's and school's voicemail recording.

Visual Arts Murals



**HISTORIC MAIN STREET
UNIONVILLE
SETTLED IN 1794**

Join us on Unionville Main Street for all your holiday shopping and dining!

NEW UNIONVILLE 2020

Shop local, order takeout and delivery, grab a hot beverage and visit with our merchants - they'd love to see you!

Holiday Photos! Come take your holiday photos at our NEW Holiday Chair, decorated Gazebo and awesome Selfie Walls, painted by the talented students at Unionville High School!

@mainstreetunionville | unionvilleinfo.com

**HISTORIC MAIN STREET
UNIONVILLE
SETTLED IN 1794**

The Unionville BIA is thrilled to have collaborated with the Unionville High School Arts Department on two murals to enhance the streetscape of Main Street. We would like to recognize the very talented artists who created these works of art for everyone's enjoyment.

The Light Within
Student Artists: Karena Alrabai, Karis Cheng, Lindsey Li
Teacher: Shane Clodd

Beneath a cold dark sky, amongst a stand of silver birch trees, a splash of luminous colours resists winter's deep freeze. With the paint bucket, the audience can interact as if they brought life and snowy warmth to the grey birch woods, or art splashed awake with wondrous colours. There are infinite possibilities for the audience to maneuver and pose with the mural. Its energetic flow of paint pulsates empowerment when the bucket is thrown. The birds hidden in the paint symbolize and empowered spirit and transcendence. This mural serves as a reminder that winter is a nurturing season. It's a change the earth needs to transition for new life to spring forth, a reminder that during dark times we are the light our community needs to share.

Home for Christmas
Student Artists: Cynthia Liu & Victoria Zhou
Teacher: Shane Clodd

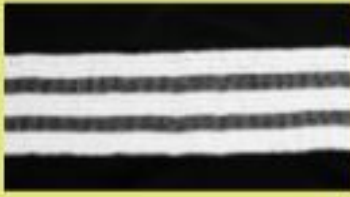
It's a misty winter night and in the distance, the Unionville Express' whistle can be heard as it arrives at Main Street Unionville Station. Mr. and Mrs. Squirrel are dancing for joy as this is their first holiday together, and the recently engaged nixie could not be more thrilled. Mr. Fox is annoyed at the train for running a little late, how typical. In the distance the snowy mountains are glistening, the stars are shining, and Baby Bunny is causing trouble again. As the train arrives, Operator Bear greets the crowd of passengers, though Mr. Polar Bear isn't done with his late evening snack of fish-on-a-stick. The animals get ready to board the warm train, excited to see their loved ones this Christmas.

This mural features a storybook-like scene inviting families to pose, photograph and share a memory during these challenging times when we are often distanced from loved ones.

The Unionville BIA invited our grade 10 AU visual art students to create six (8' by 8') digital, seasonal, and Instagram-able murals to enhance the streetscape. The murals are part of a larger strategy to support local business. The first two winter themed murals have been installed and feedback has been highly positive.

Health and Wellness Council

The Health and Wellness Council calls all students to contribute to "Post-It!", a virtual wellness board made to be a safe place for students to anonymously share their thoughts and advice for other students! Head over to the [@uhshealthandwellness](#) Instagram bio to submit your responses or see the virtual board come to life!



Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Nation

"The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in are a Yukon First Nation based in Dawson City. The citizenship of roughly 1,100 includes descendants of the Hän-speaking people, who have lived along the Yukon River for millennia, and a diverse mix of families descended from Gwich'in, Northern Tutchone and other language groups.

Yukon First Nations set the land-claims process in motion during the 1970s. Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in began negotiating their individual land claim in 1991. The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Final Agreement was signed on July 16, 1998, and came into effect on September 15, 1998.



Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre , Dawson City, Yukon

The Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in government ensures a strong and healthy future for citizens while maintaining connections to traditional knowledge and the land. The First Nation is governed by an elected Chief and four councillors, who rely on direction from the Elders' Council, a body comprising all Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in people aged 55 and over. The General Assembly—all voting-age citizens—gather at least once a year to pass extraordinary resolutions, approve legislation and provide direction to political leaders". (read more at www.trondek.ca)

WHY INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES MATTER

The following is the opening of a fascinating and important article on the Canadian Geographic site:

"In 1992 Michael Krauss, then head of the Alaska Native Language Center in Fairbanks, published *The World's Languages in Crisis*, one of the most disturbing scientific papers ever written. It began with a litany of loss. Among the Eyak of Alaska's Copper River, where Krauss had worked, there remained but two speakers of the language, both elderly. The Mandan of the Dakotas had but six fluent speakers, the Osage five, the Abenaki-Penobscot 20, the Iowá five, the Tuscarora fewer than 30, the Yokuts fewer than 10.

Some 600 languages, Krauss reported, had fewer than 100 surviving speakers. Half the world's languages were being kept alive by a fifth of one per cent of the global population. Of the 7,000 extant languages, fully half were not being taught to children. Every fortnight, some elder passes away and carries with him or her into the grave the last syllables of an ancient tongue. Every two weeks, another language dies. Krauss's paper was widely read. No linguist challenged his dire prognosis, an academic consensus that was itself haunting.

A language, of course, is not just a set of grammatical rules or a vocabulary; it's a flash of the human spirit, the vehicle by which the soul of a particular culture comes into the material world. Every language is an old-growth forest of the mind, a watershed of thought, an ecosystem of social, spiritual and psychological possibilities. Each is a window into a universe, a monument to the specific culture that gave it birth and whose spirit it expresses." (Read the full article [here](#))

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

#12 . We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Aboriginal families.

Arts Unionville Registration

The Secondary Arts Program online registration opened in Edsby on Monday, November 16. The deadline to register is Monday, December 7 at which time, instructions for the e-portfolio will be shared. The e-portfolio submission deadline is Monday, January 11. To register using EDSBY, [please click here](#).

[For more information, please visit our Arts Unionville webpage.](#)

Scholarship News

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

Upcoming school sponsored scholarships are due to Ms. Hawkins (stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca) by 3 p.m. or should be submitted to the drop box outside the Guidance office.

DUE: January 8th, 2021 (school sponsored) - Schulich Leaders Scholarship (student must be pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering or Math)

Volunteering Opportunities: Online/virtual opportunities have been added to the Volunteering Google Classroom. Please continue to look for eligible nonprofit organization volunteer opportunities to complete your hours.

MOVEMBER

Hey UHS! We are half way through our annual Movember campaign! This year, the campaign looks a little bit different as it is primarily virtual; however, we are still making an impact! Many staff members have chosen to support the Movember campaign by growing out moustaches including Mr. Johnston, Mr. Ricci, Mr. Rayner, Mr. Lansing, Mr. Sanchez, Mr. Struk, and Mr. Anandarajan and we are so grateful for their participation. The [@uhs.athletics](#) instagram page has a gallery of their marvelous moustache progress, as well as the link to donate to the UHS Movember campaign in the bio. Please take a moment to donate to this amazing cause raising money and awareness for men's health initiatives.

As well, the MOVE event that normally takes place in the gym during Movember has been transitioned to a virtual setting. On November 28 and 29 we are challenging staff and students to get outside and go for a walk, run or ride in support of men's health issues. Keep track of how many kilometers you moved so that it can be added to our virtual marathon! See details to follow on the [@uhs.athletics](#) instagram page.

Here's the link to the Unionville Mo's donation page: <https://ca.movember.com/team/2370293#>

