



Unionville High School Weekly Parent Bulletin

September 13, 2024

201 Town Centre Blvd. Markham, ON
905-479-2787

Reception 431/Attendance 230/Guidance 458

Email: unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

Tweets: [@UHSupdate](https://twitter.com/UHSupdate)

Principal Susie Nunes	Vice-Principal (R - Z) Patrick Belmonte	Vice-Principal (A - I) Catherine Clarke	Vice-Principal (J - Q) Raymond Luong	Superintendent Kien Nam Luu	Trustee Ron Lynn
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TECH REQUEST FORM – 2024-2025

CLUBS

GUIDANCE UPDATES

Character Matters Trait of the Month: Respect

“One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.”
- Bryant H. McGill

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
September 16	School Photo Day (Gr. 9 & 10) School Council Meeting (7:00 pm)
September 17	School Photo Day (Gr. 11 & 12)
September 25	Camp Day (Gr. 9)



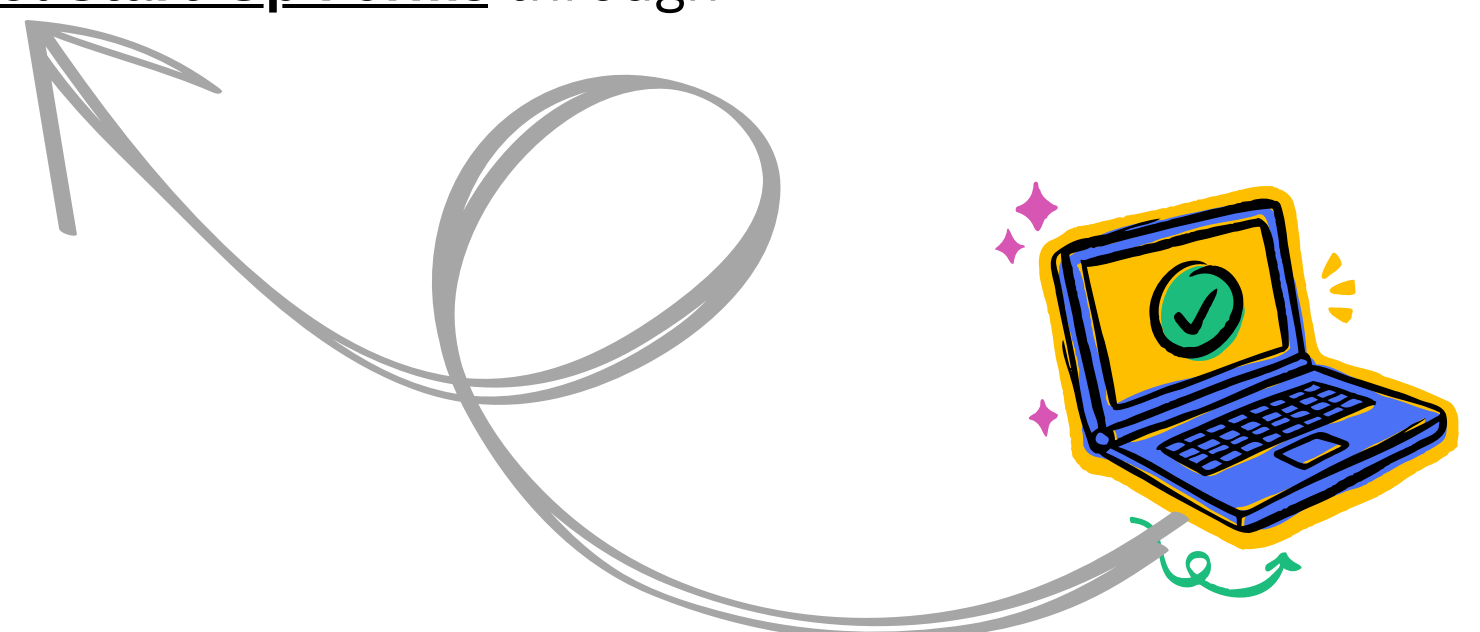
Online Start-Up Forms

Message to Families

Dear parents/guardians,
Each year, we ask all parents/guardians to complete important forms. These forms are available online. **Please complete and submit these online School Start-Up Forms** through your child's YRDSB Google account.

Translations are available in:

- [Arabic - العربية](#)
- [Farsi - فارسی](#)
- [Gujarati - ગુજરાતી](#)
- [Hebrew - עברית](#)
- [Korean - 한국어](#)
- [Punjabi - ਪੰਜਾਬੀ](#)
- [Russian - Русский](#)
- [Simplified Chinese - 简体中文](#)
- [Tamil - தமிழ்](#)
- [Traditional Chinese - 繁體中文](#)
- [Turkish - Türk](#)
- [Urdu - اردو](#)
- [Vietnamese - Tiếng Việt](#)



- Please note:
- You can access your child's YRDSB Google account via a web browser. For best results, use a **computer** rather than a mobile phone.
 - The username is **your child's YRDSB Student Number**. Your child will receive their login information from the school at the start of the year. If you or your child do not know the password to log in to their Google account, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.
 - Frequently asked questions and additional information on **how to complete the forms** are available on the Board website under **Family Resources** (click on the “Need Help” link for Family Start-Up Forms).

It is important that these forms are completed as soon as possible at the start of the school year. There are both mandatory and optional forms. The forms are to be completed for all students. Your child's school will access the information.

Please complete a separate form for each child attending our schools. Secondary school students will also be asked to review important school and Board policies and to indicate that they have reviewed this information on forms sent to their student GAPPs account.

If you prefer to complete the forms on paper or have questions about the information in the forms, please contact your school office.

School Year Information

At the start of the year, schools share with families a package of information about the school. Please ensure you review this important information. Families are also encouraged to review the online **Guide to the School Year**.

Message to Secondary Students (Forms email)

Each year, we ask secondary school students to review important school and Board policies and to indicate that they have reviewed this information. Students, please **complete this form** online. If you have any questions about the information in the form, please speak with your teacher, principal or vice-principal.

It is important that all students complete and submit these forms as soon as possible at the start of the school year.

School Photo Day

Hello UHS Students and Families,

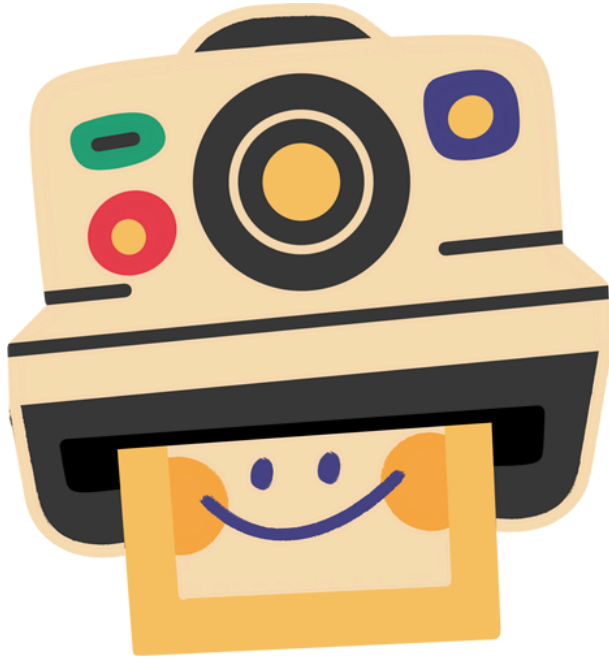
This is a reminder that the Photo Day at Unionville will be on **Monday and Tuesday September 16-17.**

Please click the **Photo Day flyer** for more information.

Monday, **September 16th – all grade 9’s and grade 10’s**
Tuesday, **September 17th - all grade 11’s and grade 12’s**

Location: **Small Gym**

This is very important, because all the students must be photographed to receive their student ID.



UHS School Council Meeting

Dear families,

We will be hosting our first School Council Meeting for the 2024-2025 school year on Monday, **September 16th** at 7:00 pm. Translation services from English to Mandarin will be available. Please feel free to fill out the **School Council Pre-Registration Form**

Location: Unionville HS Library

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. USAC Greetings
3. Guidance update
4. School Council Overview and Election
5. Administration Update - Staffing and Timetable updates, Enrollment and projections, Plant and Facility (parking), Start-Up Packages, SAC Fees

If you are interested in being an active member of the School Council Executive please fill out the nomination form that will be included in the Start-Up Package. These forms are available online. **Please complete and submit these online School Start-Up Forms** through your child’s YRDSB Google account. The nomination form is due by Friday, September 20th at 4:00 pm.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in person.

Message from Caretaking

Please help keep UHS clean! Please do not put anything sticky on the floors (tape, gum, adhesive, etc).

Please continue to stack all chairs at the end of the day. Thank you for keeping our space pleasant and ready for the next class to use !



Upcoming UHS Events

We are excited to announce a series of school events for our UHS Wolves!

Mark your calendars for these exciting events:

- Terry Fox Run (October 1 during Period 2)
- 2024 Fall Fest (October 1 during Periods 3 and 4)
- Fall Dance (October 17 in the evening at UHS)
- Semi-Formal (November 20 in the evening at Crystal Fountain)

More details about each event to follow.



Grade 9 Day Presentaion

The Grade 9 Day Presentation for the Parents/ Guardians and the students was held on September 3, 2024, and we were really grateful for all of the new UHS families participated. Please click [here](#) for the presentaion, if you have missed it or you would like to review what was presented in the event.

If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 905-479-2787.

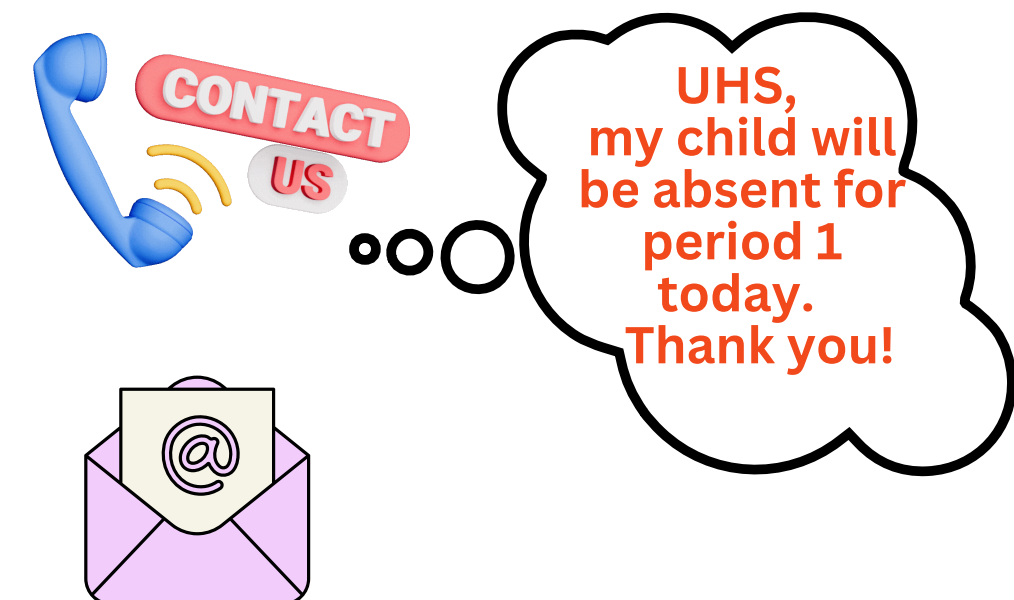
Attendance

Strive for Perfect Attendance: Try to book appointments for after school or during lunch.

Student Absences: Parents/Guardians are **to call or email** the attendance office **before 8:25am** at (905) 479-2787 ext. 431 or unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

Daytime Appointments: Send a note or call the office – students must **be signed out through the main office**

Extended Absences: Students must complete an **Extended Absence Form**, signed by parents and your child's teachers. The form is to be returned to the attendance office prior to the absence. Please avoid scheduling vacations during school.



Tips for UHS Daily Lives

1. **Locker usage:** please always lock your locker and only use the lock school provided. No personal lock. No sharing the combination to others. No switching the lockers. No overnight food and drinks.
2. **Survival items:** please bring your own water bottles, cutlery (spoon, fork or chopsticks), lunch and snacks. School do have water fountains, but the students need to bring their own water bottles.
3. **Personal possessions:** please don't leave things unattended and bring all your belongings with you when you switch classes, especially the electronic devices.



Technology Requests

We are encouraging all students to bring their own laptop or chromebook to school on a daily basis to assist in their learning. If you are bringing a personal laptop or chromebook, please ensure that it is clearly labelled for ease of identification. If your child does not already have a personal or Board laptop or chromebook, please complete the [Technology Request Form 2024-2025](#). The link will be posted on the parent bulletin top left corner for the whole school year.



Ministry Survey: Launch of Life Skills Consultation

On May 30, 2024, the Ministry of Education announced that it would be launching consultations in fall 2024 with students, parents, job creators, educators and other stakeholders on the practical life skills students need to build a strong foundation for future success through modernized home economics education. To learn more visit [Province Introduces New High School Graduation Requirements for a Stronger Ontario Diploma](#).

The Ministry has asked school boards to assist in the promotion and collection of feedback on the practical life skills that parents, students and educators think could be included or strengthened.

The anonymous [Ministry Survey: Launch of Life Skills Consultation](#), designed by the Ministry, will take approximately 10 minutes to complete and will remain open until September 24, 2024. Administrators can share this link in their communication with families.

Online Payments (School Cash Online)

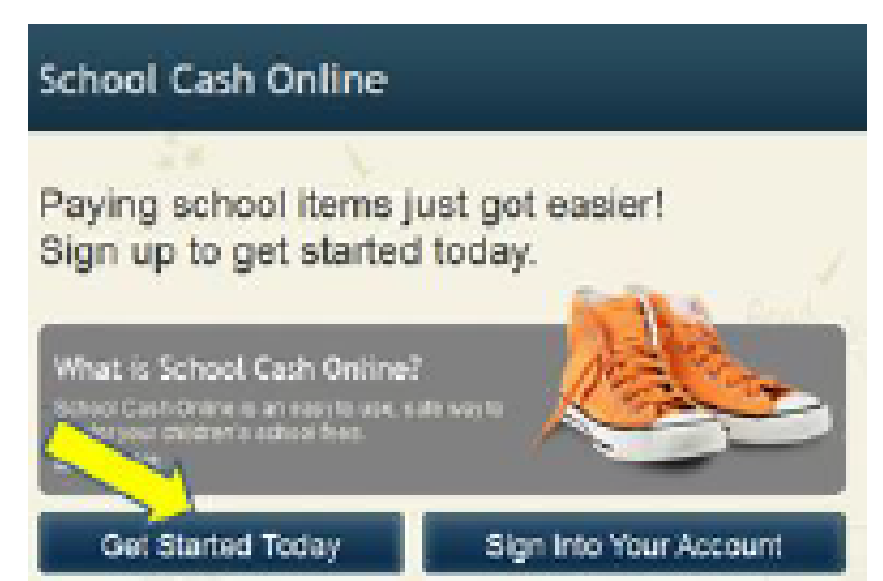
All YRDSB schools are now using School Cash Online as an online payment system. School Cash Online is an easy, safe and convenient way for families to pay online for extracurricular items or events, including yearbooks and field trips. It helps to reduce paper and the amount of cash/cheques handled by parents and students. Families may make payments using School Cash Online, or by cash or cheque.

How do I access the tool?

You can register for **School Cash Online** at any time by visiting the website. Once you are registered, you will be notified of any new items available for your child.

How do I register?

Please click [here](#) for instructions.



YRDSB News Links

York Region Transit Student Safety Tips

2024 Royal Agriculture Winter Fair Save The Date

2024 GIVE Fall Flyer



Indigenous & International Language (ILIL) Credit Courses

In support of students who may be inquiring about changing courses or looking for an additional credit as the school startup begins to settle, please find attached information about our ILIL Credit Course Programmes and opportunities in both the poster format and flyer for ease of distribution to your students, families, and Guidance team.

All Secondary offerings are virtual and occur on either Saturday morning or Wednesday evening running for the full year from late September to June.

Registration continues to remain open for all secondary credit courses. Our registration deadline is 3 weeks after the first day of classes.

Location	First Day of Class	Day of Class	Class Time
Online	September 21	Saturday	8:45 AM - 12:25 PM
Online	September 25	Wednesday	5:45 PM - 9:25 PM

ILIL Secondary Credit Program Poster

ILIL Programs PDF

Supporting East Asian Students Family Engagement Evening

Welcome to our first SEAS “Family Engagement Evening” workshop, designed in collaboration with Family Services York Region, aimed at supporting East Asian families in understanding the importance of establishing and using effective communication with your child. In this session, we will explore:

- Building stronger parent-child connections through intercultural and intracultural lens
- Strategies for effective communication
- Encouraging open dialogue within the family
- Resources for developing a positive and supportive home environment

Presentations will be available in English and Mandarin, with support available in Cantonese. Wednesday, October 9, 2024 6:30 - 8:00 pm Bill Crothers Secondary School, 44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4 Please click bit.ly/3Zdrkjr to register.

SEAS Family Engagement Evening

Family Ties: Building Stronger Bonds with Your Child

Welcome to our first SEAS "Family Engagement Evening" workshop, designed in collaboration with Family Services York Region, aimed at supporting East Asian families in understanding the importance of establishing and using effective communication with your child. In this session, we will explore:

- Building stronger parent-child connections through intercultural and intracultural lens
- Strategies for effective communication
- Encouraging open dialogue within the family
- Resources for developing a positive and supportive home environment

Presentations will be available in English and Mandarin, with support available in Cantonese.

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Bill Crothers Secondary School,
44 Main St Unionville, Unionville, ON L3R 2E4

Please scan the QR code or click bit.ly/3Zdrkjr to register

Childminding services will be provided for children ages 5 to 13.
For additional inquiries, please contact: ics@yrb.ca

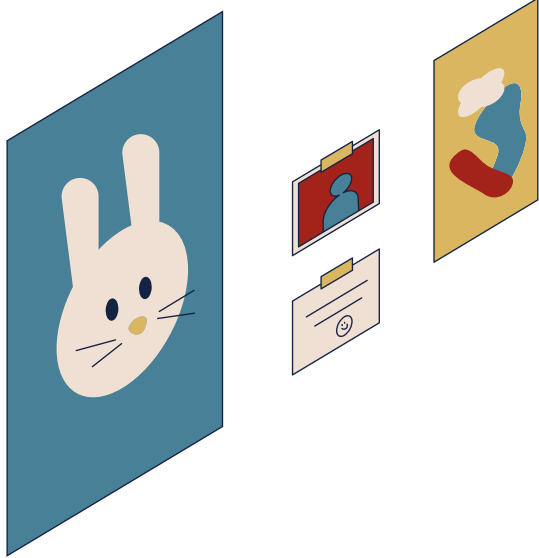
This event is co-hosted by YRDSB Inclusive Schools & Community Services (ISCS), Community and Partnership Developers and Supporting East Asian Students (SEAS) in collaboration with the community partner Family Services York Region (FSYR)

Posters in the Hallway

A gentle reminder that **any poster displayed in the hallway needs to be signed by the admin team**. Please drop off your posters at **Effie's** desk for signatures before hanging in the hallways.

When hanging posters, please only place posters on the **concrete walls and pillars without artwork**. Please refrain from hanging posters on any artwork (including pillars in the cafeteria and end of locker banks) or on display cases. The tape from the posters damages the artwork and display cases.

If there are any questions, please reach out directly to a member of the **admin team**.



Library Information

Many ebooks and audiobooks are available to students through Sora. Students sign in using 0 followed by their student number.

The Globe and Mail is available to all students.

If they have not already done so, students are invited to join the Library’s Google Classroom using code **dus2klz**.



GUIDANCE OFFICE

Guidance Counsellors Student Alphas (by last name)

Guidance Counsellor	Alpha
Ms. Felicia Sukdeo	A - F
Ms. Keyan Wu	G - J
Ms. Rita Riolo	K - Mac
Mr. Shiraz Rafik	Mad – V, X
Mr. Jonathan Tam	W, Y - Z

Unionville High School Peer Tutoring Program

<p><i>Do you enjoy helping others?</i> <i>Do you want to earn community service hours?</i></p> <p>BECOME A PEER TUTOR!!</p> <p>We are now accepting applications to become peer tutors! Use your GAPPS email to submit your application here:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/BecomeTutorUHS</p> <p>Please click here for the poster</p>	<p><i>Need some extra help in class?</i> <i>Do you learn better with a buddy?</i></p> <p>REQUEST A PEER TUTOR!!</p> <p>If you feel you could benefit from having a peer tutor, please use your GAPPS email to submit your request here:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/RequestTutorUHS</p> <p>Please click here for the poster</p>
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Markham Public Library Programs

Get Ready for **University and College Fair!**

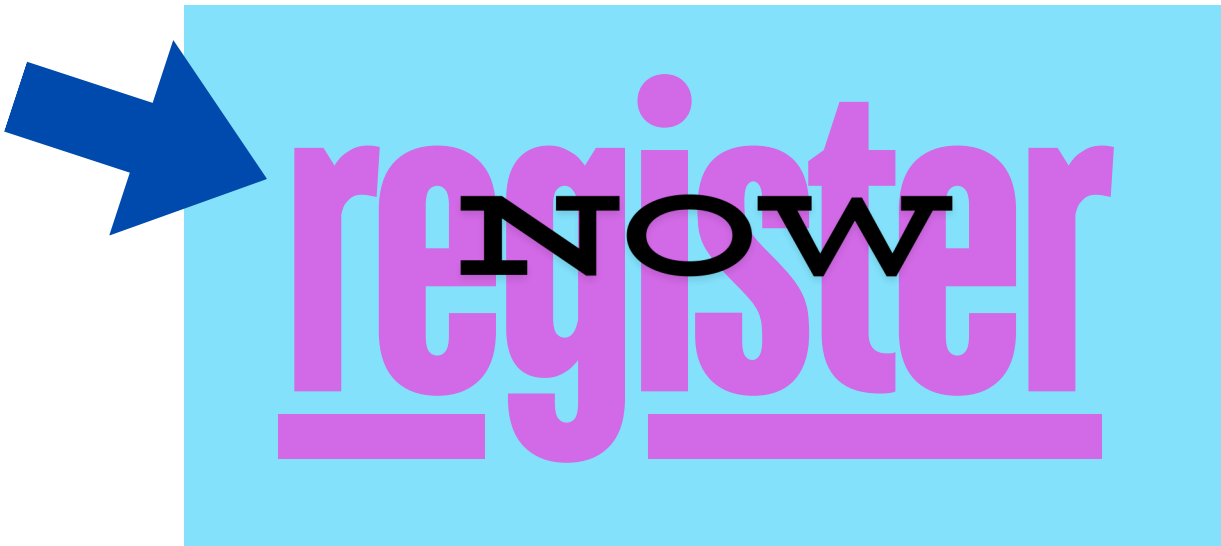
Thinking of Applying to University or College?

Join us at the University and College Fair and explore your options! Talk to representatives from various post-secondary schools and discover the programs they offer. Learn about admission requirements, campus life, and much more. Check our [website](#) to see a list of schools attending.

Date: September 21, 2024
Time: 12 - 3 PM
Location: [Milliken Mills Library](#)

Special Guest Speakers:

- Top Ranked US Universities: To Apply or Not to Apply?
 - Presented by Imbert from Future Reach Education
 - 12:30 - 1:15 p.m. | Sept. 21 | Milliken Mills
 - How to Win Scholarships for College or University
 - Presented by Chris Grafos from BridgesEDU
 - 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. | Sept. 21 | Milliken Mills
- These are drop-in sessions with limited seating, so make sure to arrive early.
- Don't miss this opportunity to kickstart your academic journey!



YRDSB Night School 2024

Registration for Night School is open on MyBlueprint.

Night school (semester 1) runs from September 24th 2024 - January 21st 2025

Classes follow the Remote learning delivery model and will be delivered virtually in real-time (synchronously).

Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30-9:45 p.m.

You can only ENROLL in ONE Night School Course.

MyBlueprint/My Pathway registration instructions are here:



General Night School Information and Course Offerings are here:



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.

Google Classroom Enrolment Code: [npegu46](#)

A Note from Student Services (Special Education) to Students & Families

We look forward to welcoming back all of our students this fall!

Students who are enrolled in Learning Strategies courses (GLE) your child's teacher for that course is their Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) for this school year.

If your child is not taking Learning Strategies, their SERT will be in contact shortly. Students are always welcome to drop by the Resource Room (216) or our office (218) to check in and receive support.

You can expect your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP) for this year to be sent home mid October, in the meantime teachers will follow last year's IEP. A IEP consultation form should be coming home shortly as your contributions are important to the creation of the IEP.

If your child received a new diagnosis or completed an assessment over the summer please reach out to [Melissa Caufield](#) or [Beckey Serwaa](#) so we may create or add to your child's IEP.

Community Class families should be hearing from their child's teachers regarding bussing and class information. Your child's teacher is also their SERT for this school year. Parents are reminded to refer to the Late Bus Report on the Student Transportation Services website at www.schoolbuscity.com prior to leaving for the bus stop in the mornings and afternoons and understand the need to make alternative arrangements for their child/children if the school bus is late or canceled.

Melissa Caufield
Student Services Department Head
(melissa.caufield@yrdsb.ca)

Beckey Serwaa
Student Services Assistant Head
(beckey.serwaa@yrdsb.ca)



SUPPORT
SUPPORT
SUPPORT

Caring and Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations

Dear Families,

As the new school year is beginning, students will be attending Caring and Safe Schools Start-Up Presentations on **September 23 and 24, 2023**. These presentations are designed to underscore behaviour expectations as we create a caring, safe and inclusive school environment. As families are critical partners, please continue discussions about school safety at home by asking your child what they have learned in the Start-Up Presentation.

Presentation topics include:



- Racism and types of discrimination;
- Bullying;
- Progressive discipline; and
- Standing up for each other, including methods of reporting incidents of racism, discrimination and bullying.

Mental Health

We will stress to students the importance of connection as we return to school. Students are learning about who they can talk to if they need support. In addition, positive mental health is closely tied to each individual's sense of identity and safety. As such, mental health initiatives are aligned with equity and safety in mind, which includes culturally specific supports. YRDSB student mental health services are delivered by Board social work and psychology staff. These services are accessible through the school principal. Mental health resources for families are also available on the Board website.

Inappropriate Behaviour

In the Start-Up Presentation, students are learning about anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination, and bullying. This learning will continue throughout the school year. Instances of anti-Black racism, other forms of racism, discrimination and bullying are not acceptable and are addressed through progressive discipline. In some cases of racism and discrimination, York Regional Police may be involved.

Students will also be reminded about safe school behaviours, including what items must never be brought to school, such as peanut products, vape products/drug paraphernalia, weapons/replica weapons and knives/replica knives.

Reporting Behaviour

Standing up for one another and reporting when something does not feel safe is part of a caring and safe school environment. Students should report incidents that make them or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, including acts of racism, discrimination and bullying. Students can report incidents by:

- Telling a caring adult;
- Using the YRDSB's "[Report It Button](#)" (Located on our school's website, the online Report It button allows students and families to share information about inappropriate behaviour and incidents of hate or discrimination. Please see [this video](#) for additional information);

Contacting [Kids Help Phone](#) (1-800-668-6868).

Student Discipline

We use a progressive discipline approach for inappropriate behaviour on and off school property. This means we consider various options to determine the most appropriate response to each situation to help students learn from their choices. In some cases, suspension or expulsion may be necessary. The Ontario Education Act and the Board's Caring and Safe Schools Policy (found on the Board's Caring and Safe School Page) outline situations where suspension and expulsion must be considered. These infractions are also outlined in the Guide to the School Year. In addition, when inappropriate behaviour occurs, information will be shared with the student(s) who were harmed and the families of the student(s) who were harmed to the extent that legislation allows.

Tobacco/Alcohol/Drug-Free Environment

The use of tobacco, electronic products (such as [vaping](#), [electronic cigarettes](#) and related products) and student possession of alcohol/illegal and restricted drugs, including cannabis, are **prohibited on school property or within 20 metres of school boundaries**. This complies with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, enforced locally by York Region Community and Health Services. A progressive form of discipline may apply, including suspension from school and fines (up to \$5,000). In accordance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act (SFOA), exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture and spirituality.

Online Safety and Appropriate Use of Technology

Students are reminded about the Appropriate Use of Technology agreement, including the importance of using respectful language and making positive choices when using electronic communications and social media tools. This agreement is also included in the start-up package that all families receive at the beginning of the year.

Students are reminded that online threats and comments are taken seriously and may have consequences, including potential criminal charges. Where there are concerns for the safety of students, staff, community members or Board property, the school board works with York Regional Police and appropriate actions are taken. The safety and well-being of students remain our top priority.

For More Information

For more details on these items, please read the Guide to the School Year or visit the [Caring and Safe Schools](#) section on the YRDSB website for more information and to access family resources to continue these conversations at home.

Thank you for helping us create a caring, safe, and inclusive school community.



YRDSB Expectations for Personal Mobile Devices

We want all UHS students to feel safe, included, and cared for during the school day.

We can do this by connecting with our peers, teachers and school staff.

Let’s power down our mobile devices and tune into school!



All mobile devices, including cellphones, smartwatches, and tablets, must be **powered off** or **set to silent mode** during **the school day**, including **recess and lunch**, unless students leave the school during lunch.

If an educator sees you using a mobile device without permission:

- You will be asked to power the device off or set it to silent mode.
- You may also be required to hand in your mobile device to the office for the school day.
- Your parent(s)/guardian(s) may also be notified.



Unionville High School Daily Schedule

SCHEDULE	START	END
Homeroom (5 min)	8:25 am	8:30 am
Period 1 (75 min)	8:30 am	9:45 am
Travel Time	9:45 am	9:50 am
Period 2 (75 min)	9:50 am	11:05 am
Travel Time	11:05 am	11:10 am
Period 3 (75 min)	11:10 am	12:25 pm
Travel Time	12:25 pm	12:30 pm
Period 4 (75 min)	12:30 pm	1:45 pm
Travel Time	1:45 pm	1:50 pm
Period 5 (75 min)	1:50 pm	3:05 pm

New Traffic Calming Measures for Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre Sept. 3 to Oct. 4

Effective **September 3 to October 4, 2024** between the hours of **8:00 to 9:00 AM** and **2:30 to 3:30 PM** Monday to Friday only, traffic control measures will be in place at the Markham Civic Centre (101 Town Centre Blvd). This will impact Unionville High School-related vehicular traffic, and anyone visiting the Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre during these times.

School-related traffic: all vehicles **must access** the school parking lot and drop-off area from **Wallis Way**.

Visitors and staff to Markham Civic Centre and Flato Markham Theatre: recommended that all vehicles enter the parking lot entrance at Cox Boulevard and Town Centre Boulevard.

These new traffic control measures are necessary to manage efficient flow of traffic and to prioritize everyone’s safety.

Thank you in advance for your patience and please ensure you plan your travel time ahead.

If you have any questions, please email CustomerService@markham.ca



Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
September 27	Professional Development Day (No classes)
October 1	Terry Fox Run (Period 2) 2024 Fall Fest (Period 3 and 4)
October 14	Thanksgiving (No classes)
October 17	Fall Dance at UHS (Evening) Photo Retake Day
October 21	Professional Development Day (No classes)