

# UHS School Council Meeting

October 22, 2024/7:00 PM

## **Agenda:**

- Welcome to our new 2024-2025 School Council Executive
- USAC Updates
- Subject Department Presentations
  - Library - Ms. Lawton
  - Visual Arts – Mr. Clodd
- Family Dashboard Notification and Setup
- Other

## **Location**

- Unionville HS Library

## **Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Land acknowledgement video was shared at the beginning of the meeting.

- **Welcome to our new 2024-2025 School Council Executive**

Anoosh Sharif welcomed and introduced the 2024-2025 school council executives:

- Anoosh Sharif - Chair
- Patrick Xie - Secretary
- William Sun - Treasurer
- Bin (Betty) Liu - Community Member - Arts
- Jassen Zhang - Community Member - STEM

- **USAC Updates**

Evelyn Wong/Dora Zhang highlighted various upcoming school activities which included haunted house and spooky events for Halloween, Semi Formal at Crystal Fountain, Fall Fest., other new clubs and promotion of school merchandise and SAC fee.

- **Subject Department Presentations**

### **Library**

- Ms. Lawton presented the details of 4 key areas to cover the library operations:
  - Library space
    - open 5 periods a day
    - library supports curriculum for a variety of classes
    - reading for pleasure: fiction, non-fiction, manga, graphic novels
    - popular during lunch and spare
    - puzzles, colouring, and other creative stations are well-loved
    - cozy reading area and whiteboard tables get a lot of use
    - very busy throughout the day!
  - Library website
    - access through main UHS website or the link provided in today's council meeting deck
    - search for a book

- GALE and EBSCO databases
- Encyclopedia Britannica online
- Universalis (French encyclopedia online)
- request a book or other resource for the collection
- Sora
  - access through the link provided in today's council meeting deck or book search page
  - sign in using 0 followed by student number
  - request an e-book or audiobook for the collection
  - often no waiting list for popular titles
- Google classroom
  - join with code dus2klz
  - passwords for databases are here
  - link to the Globe and Mail subscription
  - ask the teacher-librarians questions
  - writing contests promoted here
  - access research support

### **Visual Arts Program**

- Mr. Clodd introduced the Visual Arts program at UHS and highlighted the upcoming UHS 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025 at the beginning of the presentation.
- Arts Unionville Visual Arts Program 2024/2025
  - 6 sections: 160 students
  - Core Program 2024/2025
  - 21 sections: 588 students
- Selection process
  - AU Info Night: Tuesday October 29th 2024
  - Online application opens November 4th (2024 dates tbd)
  - Online application closes November 30th (2024 dates tbd)
  - Auditions are held at UHS during exam week - Late January TBD
  - Selection workshop format explained; demonstration by teachers; a uniform process  
Selection process also includes portfolio review and audition
- A list of Community projects completed by UHS Visual Arts Program was introduced:
  - COVID - Community Projects 2019 - 2022
  - Anwebi Aki project
  - Portraits for a Cause
  - Unionville BIA – 'Instagramable' Murals
  - "Thank You" Cards – Shared on the Mayor's Twitter Account
  - Main street Unionville light pole banners – 2020
  - Anthology publication – A snapshot in Time
  - Warden wall murals
  - Publicly exhibited multimedia artworks
  - Diversity action plan banners – 2022
  - Kingdom development hoarding mural – 2023
- Next steps
  - Currently designing a pilot program for elementary schools to support underserved students in applying to the Visual Arts program at UHS

- Donald Chrétien (Indigenous artist) will be conducting a painting workshop for the grade 9 NAC classes
- Dorsey James (wood sculptor and Melanie Kidd (Glass artists) will facilitate a fused glass project pertaining to archetypes (contingent on grant)
- Noora Rizvi (Canadian Art Council Program Manager) will be speaking to students about formatting Resumes / CV and grant applications
- Student design team is currently creating graphics for the City of Markham new Accessibility Multi-Year Plan and for the MAAC (Markham Accessibility Advisory Committee)
- Key dates
  - Alchemy performance – March
  - Art show Jazz Café - June
- **Family Dashboard Notification and Setup**

Mr. Belmonte presented the upcoming family dashboard setup which will be introduced this week.

  - He emphasized the importance of having a correct email address on record at UHS
  - The dashboard is designed to create one-stop access to important information and applications.
  - It will provide a secure and accessible way for families to connect with tools and information, such as report cards. More features will be added over time.
  - Families will be encouraged to access the midterm report card using the dashboard. However, students will still receive links to their report card directly to their GAPPs email. Links will be temporarily available in the Family Dashboard in the same way as they are for students.
  - Report Card distribution: November 18 – 20

Ms. Clarke presented a few upcoming key activities at UHS:

  - Parent-Teacher Interview Night: Oct 24<sup>th</sup>
  - AU Info Night: Oct 29th
  - Take Our Kids to Work day: Nov 6th
  - Grade 8 Open House: Nov 7th
- **Other**

Anoosh Sharif spoke about the importance of fundraising activities at high school and past fundraising event experiences. There were active interactions and feedback from parents in the meeting to share fundraising ideas. Anoosh encouraged all parents to reach out and actively participate in fundraising activities and continue to share ideas.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – Monday, November 25th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.