



# University Hill Secondary School

3228 Ross Drive Vancouver, B.C V6S 0C6 Tel: (604)713-8258 Fax: (604)713-8257 Website: uhill-sec.vsb.bc.ca

## Community Newsletter

### Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人为您翻译

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Información importante - Por favor traducir

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

重要な情報-翻訳してください

اطلاعات مهم - لطفا ترجمه کنید

Acknowledging that we live, work, play and learn on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and selílwitlh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

December 2, 2022

Dear Students and Families,

Happy December! As the holiday season approaches, we take a moment to highlight fun events happening at University Hill Secondary over the next couple of weeks.

This evening (Fri, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>) is our Junior Band and Orchestra Winterfest in our Gym at 7pm. Next week is our Theatre Company Production of The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet (Mon, Dec 5<sup>th</sup> – Thurs, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm); early bird tickets are on sale at the school during lunch and tickets are available at the door. We also have our Concert Choir, Senior Band and Orchestra Winter Concert coming up on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Thank you to Mr. Chris Dewreede and Ms. Karen Penney as well as our music and theatre company students for putting together these fun, celebratory events at University Hill. In addition, we would like to extend our gratitude to PAC for organizing the upcoming [PAC Staff Appreciation lunch](#) on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

We would also like to take a moment to welcome Ms. Karyn Armstrong who has joined our Teaching Assistant team at University Hill Secondary. It is wonderful to have Ms. Armstrong join this team of excellent Teaching Assistants. We are grateful for the work they do every day connecting with our students.

In this newsletter, you will find information about Communicating Student Learning, Counselling, Athletics, PAC, Graduation and the one-time [Student and Family Affordability Fund](#). Thank you for taking the time to go through this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning.

We wish all students, families and staff a joyful December and a restful, relaxing and rejuvenating upcoming winter holiday.

With Appreciation,

Michelle Wood, Principal

*Inspiring an ethical, caring community of evolving global citizens who live meaningfully, creatively, and mindfully.*

## COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

The purpose of assessment is to facilitate learning and move it forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps us answer the questions: Where am I now? Where am I going? How do I get there? Each Reporting Period is an opportunity to celebrate learning and offer feedback for future learning. All reports will be published to the MyEducationBC Information System. Please ensure you are able to log on to MyEd using the instructions on the next page of this newsletter. Semester 1 Reports will be published on the following dates:

- November 25, 2022 – Mid Semester 1 Report - Please check the MyEducationBC Family Portal for the Mid Semester Report. See below for login instructions.
- February 10, 2023 – Final Semester 1 Report

There will be two Virtual Parent Teacher Conference Evenings one for each Semester. Both will be from 4:00 – 6:30 pm

- Semester 1      Wednesday, November 9, 2022 - Thank you to Parents and Teacher for a successful evening!
- Semester 2      Wednesday, April 19, 2023

## SCHOOL/OFFICE REMINDERS

### MyEducationBC Accounts

Reminder that MyEducationBC is the student information system for the Vancouver School Board. A Student/Family Portal Account has been created by the district for all students at University Hill Secondary School. This account is a shared account where students and parents can access student schedules, daily/class attendance, course grades and report cards. It is imperative that you share the account information (password) as a family (with your child). Your login for this account is your child's student number.

Please use the website to login: [MyEducationBC Account](#) and the instructions for set up of account: [MyEd BC Student Family Portal](#)

Click on the link to UHILL's [School Technology Guide](#) if you require assistance.

### Absences

Parents/guardians reminder you should now be reporting absences to the office by email at [uhillswitchboard@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:uhillswitchboard@vsb.bc.ca). Emails should be sent using a parent/guardian email address and should provide the **students name, date of absence, grade, student number and reason for the absence**. **For extended absences** parents/guardians must email the student's counsellor. A student should also be provided a note for their teachers. Students must be reminded that falsifying attendance notes is unacceptable. It is the student's responsibility to make up any work that is missed, regardless of the reason for the absence. Exceptions to this may be granted due to unforeseen circumstances. If a student becomes ill while at school, or has an appointment during school time, student's must sign out at the office. Students will only be released with parent permission. Students who are ill should not come to school and if they attend school and is deemed to be unwell, parents/guardians will be contacted to pick up their child.

### Medical Alerts

If your child has important health alerts, please update the school office with written documentation.

### **School Fees/School Cash Online**

If you haven't already done so, please check and register for "School Cash Online" and pay for any outstanding or new school fees or items. The following link will take you to the website: <https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com/>. This is the preferred method for paying for all items for school including: yearbooks, school fees, workbook fees, etc. This method is also a quicker way to receive a refund if one is required. Thank-you your attention and consideration in this method of payment.

### **U-Hill Parking Lot:**

Our school parking lot is an incredibly busy place especially before school and at the end of the school day. We would like to take a moment to remind everyone that school buses drop off and pick up at that time and to ensure the safety of the students we ask you to please not park and idle in the designated bus zone. If there is a way to organize with your child to dropout and pick up in the Westbrook Village parking lot or in the two-hour parking on Ross Drive that would be greatly appreciated.

### **Yearbooks**

Only 33 Yearbooks are still available to order. The Yearbook is packed full of memories to cherish for a lifetime. The book will be filled with pictures of staff, students, events, holidays, etc. Don't forget to purchase one as soon as possible.

## **STUDENT AND FAMILY AFFORDABILITY FUND**

As you know, the Ministry of Education has provided all school districts in BC with a [one-time fund](#) for this school year to help support students in accessing nutritional food and clothing as well as offsetting costs for students and families. Thank you to all families that were able to give us input and feedback through the survey we sent out last month. Thank you as well to our student council and finance committee for your input. We have taken all the feedback and made the following plan in consultation with your PAC Executive:

- As part of the universal nutritional support for students and families, we are going to send home a \$50 Save-on-Foods gift card with every student. If a family decides that they would like to pass the gift card onto another student and family, there will be a process to do so. Before we send home the gift cards, we will send a message to families to let you know what day they will be distributed.
- We have also set aside some targeted funds to further support students and families. If your child and family could benefit from additional support with accessing food, clothing and/or offsetting school fee costs, please complete [THIS FORM](#). Please know that all requests for support will be treated as private information and will only be shared with staff who need to know.

If you have any questions about this the Student and Family Affordability Fund, you are welcome to connect with Michelle Wood, Principal ([mwood@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:mwood@vsb.bc.ca)).



## COUNSELLING CORNER

**Course Planning** - Next year's Course Planning will take place beginning in February. Please watch for information coming from the Counselling Department regarding this in the new year.

**Wellness Tips** - As we all continue managing life, we wanted to take a minute to remind parents to be practicing good self-care. Self-care cares were given out to all students. We hope you have seen them.

We would like to encourage everyone to be:

- Eating Healthy
- Getting enough sleep and rest to regenerate
- Exercising Regularly...outside if possible so you get fresh air
- Maintaining social connection virtually
- Reaching out for supports/offering support...both when needed
- Practicing mindfulness...we recommend the apps Mindshift and Headspace as well as Mindfulness.com but there are many useful apps out there
- Practicing gratitude—we are really encouraging students to be aware of the things/people/experiences that they are grateful for and why. There is a lot of evidence that this helps our mindset

With that in mind, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to the parent community of U-Hill. We are so grateful for the support you provide to the students and staff of University Hill Secondary School.

Finally, we would like to wish you a happy, healthy holiday and we look forward to connecting again in 2022. Stay safe and be well.

Emily, Susan, and Elizabeth

Emily Chen	Grades 8 – 12, Last name A – Ki, & Strategies	Email: ehchen@vsb.bc.ca
Susan Hornby	Grades 8 – 12, Last name Kl – T, & Transitions	Email: shornby@vsb.bc.ca
Elizabeth Watanabe	Grades 8 – 12, Last name U – Z, & & Whitecaps FC	Email: ewatanabe@vsb.bc.ca

## ATHLETICS

All sports for the fall season have finished. We had some strong results from many of our teams. The senior boys' soccer team lost in the first-round match; they had an excellent season. Our Senior girls' volleyball team came 3rd in the city championships, narrowly missing out on the championship game! Our juvenile girls' volleyball came 5<sup>th</sup> in the city and showed tremendous progress throughout the season. All the rest of the volleyball teams played hard and should be proud of their accomplishments and represented UHILL well.

We are now entering the Winter sport season, with basketball and table tennis competitions. We have a team for every grade for the boys' basketball teams, and two teams on the girls' side (senior team and grade 8 team). The most UHILL has EVER HAD!!! We have three teams running for table tennis (2 boys' teams and 1 girls' team) and we are looking forward to a strong showing from all our winter sports teams. Spectators will be allowed for the winter season!

GO HAWKS GO!

## GRADUATION 2023 INFORMATION

**Advance Notice of the Graduation Ceremony** - The 2023 Graduation Ceremony will be held at the Chan Centre at UBC at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. (Graduates must arrive by 3:00 pm). Each Graduate will receive three tickets to the Graduation Ceremony (1 for the Graduate and 2 for their guests). These 3 tickets are included in the Graduation Fee which is \$100 and is due as soon as possible. Additional tickets (no limits) are \$10 each and available for purchase on School Cash-online **May 1 to 26, 2023**. More information about the Ceremony, rehearsal and Grad gown size requests and pick up will follow in the new year.

**Graduation Dinner / Dance** – Information to be announced soon

**Graduation Photo Session Dates are January 22 to 24, 2023**

Reminder that Grade 12 students can now book their 30 minute appointment at <https://artona.com/schools/UHIL/programs/graduation>. If you have any questions in regard to school or graduation photos please contact Artona Studio directly - click on "contact us" on their website or call 604-872-7272.

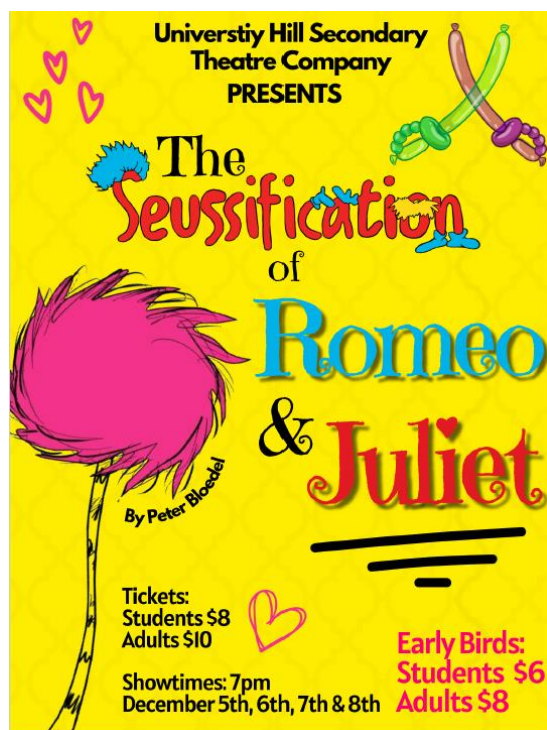
## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

The PAC encourages parents and guardians to get involved in PAC. It's a great way to meet other parents and to make a positive difference at your child's school and visit the [UHILL PAC Website](#) to keep informed.

Reminder of the 2022 – 2023 PAC Meetings dates:

- January 26, 2023
- February 23, 2023
- April 27, 2023
- May 25, 2023
- June 22, 2023

## THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS



## ADMINISTRATION AND OFFICE STAFF

### Administrative Team:

Michelle Wood – Principal  
David Bach – Vice Principal  
School Trustee – Lois Chan-Pedley  
Director of Instruction – Rick Lopez

### Office Staff:

Christine Chen – Student Records  
Holly Low - Accountant  
Tina Matsalla – Office Admin Assistant  
Mandana Shojaat – Receptionist & First Aid Attendant

## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

### **December 2022**

2 Junior Band & Orchestra Winter Concert 7:00 pm  
13 CPT in PM – Early Dismissal at 2:16 pm  
14 Concert Choir / Sr Band & Orchestra Winter Concert 7:00 pm  
19 to 30 Winter Break

### **January 2023**

02 Winter Break Continues  
03 School Reopens after Winter Break  
19 CPT in AM – Classes begin at 9:30 am  
22 - 24 Grad Photo Sessions at Artona Studios – by appt  
23 - 24 Gr. 10 Numeracy & Literacy  
24 Concert Choir 8 (Rotation #3) Concert 6:30 pm  
25 Gr. 12 Literacy Assessments (Make up session only)  
26 PAC Meeting – 7:30 pm  
31 Last Day of Semester 1

### **February 2023**

01 Cross Boundary Applications Accepted Feb 1 to 28 only  
01 Semester Turnaround Day  
02 Semester Turnaround Day  
03 First Day of Semester 2  
10 Semester 1 Final Report Cards Published at 3:00 pm  
14 CPT in PM – Early Dismissal at 2:16 pm  
17 Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)  
20 Family Day – School Closed  
23 PAC Meeting – 7:30 pm  
28 Last Day for Cross Boundary Applications

### **March 2023**

02 Junior & Senior Band Concert 7:00 pm  
08 Concert Choir 8 (Rotation #4) Concert 6:30 pm  
10 Interim Report Published at 3:00 pm  
13 to 24 Spring Break  
27 School Reopens after Spring Break  
30 CPT in AM – Classes begin at 9:30 am

### **April 2023**

04 Concert Choir / Jr. & Sr. Orchestra Concert at 7:00 pm  
07 Good Friday – School Closed  
10 Easter Monday – School Closed  
18 Vocal Solo Night 7:00 pm  
19 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Virtual) 4:00 – 6:30 pm  
19 Early Dismissal at 2:06 pm  
20 CPT in AM – Classes begin at 9:30 am  
24 Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)  
25 to 26 Gr. 10 Numeracy & Literacy Assessments  
27 PAC Meeting – 7:30 pm  
28 Mid Semester Report Cards Published

### **May 2023**

01 Grad Ceremony Ticket Sales on School Cash Online to May 26  
15 Concert Choir 8 (Rotation #5) Concert 6:30 pm  
16 CPT in PM – Early dismissal at 2:16 pm  
19 Non-Instructional (School Based)  
22 Victoria Day – School Closed  
24 Immunization Day #2 – for Gr. 9's  
25 PAC Meeting – 7:30 pm  
30 Junior Orchestra & Band Spring Gala Concert @ UBC 7:00 pm

### **June 2023**

01 Concert Choir/Sr Band & Orchestra Spring Gala Concert @ UBC 7 pm  
02 Grad Assembly/Rehearsal, Gown & Ticket Pickup at 1:45 pm - It is mandatory that all Graduates attend this Assembly  
07 Graduation Ceremony at Chan Centre 4:00 pm  
13 CPT in PM – Early dismissal at 2:16 pm  
19/20 Gr. 10 Numeracy & Literacy (Make up session only)  
20 Concert Choir 8 (Rotation #6) Concert 6:30 pm  
22 PAC Meeting – 7:30 pm  
26 Yearbook Distribution June 26 to 28  
29 Last day of Student Attendance  
29 Semester 2 Final Report Cards Published at 3:00 pm

