



Community Newsletter

Phone: 604-713-8258 Website: uhill-sec.vsb.bc.ca

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwatał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

Congratulations to our Graduates of 2024! It was a delight to celebrate at our Graduation Ceremony this week. Our sincere gratitude to the many UHill staff and student volunteers that worked together to organize and plan for the ceremony, as well as to our Grade 12 family, friends and honoured guests that joined us for this special celebration.

As we approach the end of the school year, there are many upcoming events to highlight. Thank you to our Physical and Health Education (PHE) Leadership students for organizing a school-wide sports day next Wednesday, June 12th. Students can find the schedule and information posted in the "All-Students" MS Team. We also invite everyone in the UHill Community to come to the PAC Yard Sale happening on Thursday, June 20th after school. Our last day of regular classes this year will be on Tuesday, June 25th, which will include our Year-End Celebration Assemblies.

We also take a moment to celebrate the career of our School-Based Resource and Strategies Program Teacher, Diane Heine. Diane is retiring at the end of this school year, and we are most grateful for her leadership across the school and dedication to our students, staff, families and community. We wish Diane all the very best in retirement!

In this newsletter, you will find information about Communicating Student Learning, Counselling, Athletics, Graduation Dinner & Dance, PAC, and School Office Reminders. Thank you for taking the time to go through this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning.

With Appreciation,

Michelle Wood
Principal

Administrative Team:

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

Office Staff:

Holly Low, Accountant
Tina Matsalla, Office Admin Assistant
Mandana Shojaat, Receptionist & First Aid Attendant
Charlene Wang, Student Records

Mission Statement and Goal Summary

We are on a mission to inspire an ethical and caring community of evolving global citizens who live meaningfully, creatively, and mindfully.

University Hill Secondary, a multicultural school community, is committed to the pursuit of excellence through the provision of teaching and learning environments based on co-operation and social responsibility. University Hill staff, students, and parents/guardians are guided in their efforts to fulfil the school mission by the following goals and principles:

- Well-qualified and dedicated staff is crucial to the efficient delivery of outstanding educational programs.
- Quality learning is fostered in safe, respectful, encouraging, and creative settings.
- The school curriculum, programs, and activities are student centred for active learning.
- Teachers, parents/guardians, and students co-operate in important ways to ensure effective communication in the process of achieving academic and social goals.
- Recognition is given for the achievements of students and staff, and positive reinforcement for self-reliant and co-operative behaviour.
- The school community and culture are characterized by concern for equity, fairness, school spirit, environmental awareness, and global issues.

Communicating Student Learning

The purpose of assessment is to move learning forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps us answer the following 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. These reports will be available from the MyEducation Family Portal. In addition to written reports, communication about student progress takes place by telephone and parent teacher interviews. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to contact individual subject Teachers or Counsellors for information on student progress via email [UHill Contact Information](#)

2023 – 2024 REPORTING TIMELINE

Semester 1

Informal Learning Update (Interim) published **October 13, 2023**
Written Learning Update (Mid-Semester Report) published **November 24, 2023**
Summary of Learning (Final Report) published **February 9, 2024**

Semester 2

Informal Learning Update (Interim) published **March 8, 2024**
Written Learning Update (Mid-Semester Report) published **April 26, 2024**
Summary of Learning (Final Report) published **June 27, 2024**

Full Year Courses

Informal Learning Update (Interim) published **November 24, 2023**
Written Learning Updates published **February 9 and April 26, 2024**
Summary of Learning (Final Report) published **June 27, 2024**

Counselling Corner



PARENT & CAREGIVER RESOURCES

FAMILY SMART

FamilySmart has a variety of parent support, webinars, workshops and resources for families. <https://familysmart.ca>

KELTY MENTAL HEALTH

Kelty helps families navigate the mental health system, connect with peer support, and access resources and tools to support wellbeing. keltymentalhealth.ca

FOUNDRY

Foundry Virtual BC offers virtual groups & workshop for young people ages 12-24 and their families. <https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/groups-workshops/>

TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

Resources and information designed to help families support their teens, while ensuring caregivers take care of themselves as well. <https://mentalhealthliteracy.org/parents/>

ERASE = EXPECT RESPECT & A SAFE EDUCATION

erase is all about building safe and caring school communities. This includes empowering students, parents, educators and the community partners who support them to get help with challenges, report concerns to schools, and learn about complex issues facing students.

Various services and information topics are available at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase>

PARENTS TOGETHER & PARENTS IN THE KNOW

Parents Together is for caregivers of youth 12-24yrs. These are professionally facilitated education and support programs for caregivers who are experiencing challenges parenting a teen. <http://www.bgcabc.ca/counselling-support-services/parent-group-support/>

MOSAIC

MOSAIC offers a wide-range of newcomer services to further the success and sense of belonging of individuals and families from diverse backgrounds. <http://mosaicbc.org>

YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES (VCH)

Vancouver Coastal Health's free youth substance use services are designed to meet the needs of youth struggling with substance misuse or addiction to drugs or alcohol. They include prevention, counselling and treatment services. <https://www.vch.ca/en/health-topics/youth-substance-use-services>



Emily Chen

Susan Hornby

Elizabeth Watanabe

Grades 8 – 12, Last name A – K & Strategies

Grades 8 – 12, Last name K – T

Grades 8 – 12, Last name U – Z & Whitecaps FC

Email: ehchen@vsb.bc.ca

Email: shornby@vsb.bc.ca

Email: ewatanabe@vsb.bc.ca

Athletics – June Update

Badminton:

The senior team (full of all grades actually) had a good season overall, just missing out on playoffs. A good group of young athletes will support this program for years to come, looking forward to seeing them improve next year!

Track & Field:

We had our biggest turnout yet for the prelims and they were so fun. Our sole entrant for the provincials was grade 10 Deemah Almegbel who competed this past weekend in the Heptathlon and came 4th overall! Good luck to Deemah in the main provincials in Nanaimo this weekend!

Tennis:

The Tennis season was led by a former Uhill student and recent grad Siugen Goh. She really made this group gel and made tennis fun for this group. Looking forward to seeing this young group improve next year!

Ultimate:

The Senior Ultimate team came 3rd in their pool and played a play in match to make it to playoffs. They had a great season and lost in the first round of playoffs. A great season overall, another young team that will surely make noise next year.

Golf:

Our A and B teams had a good year this year. Overall, we have a core group that will certainly impress next year.

Rugby:

We have 6 students that are part of a joint team with 3 other schools. Hoping that we can find more athletes to make a single UHill team in the future!

GO HAWKS GO

Jeff Hodgson, PE and Athletics Dept Head

Update from the Sustainable Union of Clubs

The Sustainable Union is a group to connect all the environmental-related clubs in the VSB and beyond to share resources and knowledge, as well as to celebrate projects. It was founded in 2023 by Milian Chen (student at University Hill Secondary School) and Alexandra Chow (student at Eric Hamber Secondary School).

One of our projects is pilot-testing sugarcane paper in 7 schools (including UHill!) across the VSB for about a month! Sugarcane paper has the same performance, quality, and price as wood-based paper, but for every 10 boxes, it saves up to 6 trees, \$50 in carbon offsets, and 2,360 kg of carbon emissions! The overall goal of this project is to encourage the VSB to consider switching to sugarcane paper.

Another project we are working on is the Sustainable Corners, which creates parts of school libraries that compile sustainability-related books to promote sustainability and literacy hand in hand! We are currently establishing Sustainable Corners in 5 schools across the VSB, with UHill being one of them! UHill has our newly established Sustainable Corner, with more new and exciting books to come!

Give a Home to One of the Whitecaps FC Stars of Tomorrow.

The Whitecaps FC MLS Academy program is looking for host families in the UBC surrounding areas to host players for the duration of the upcoming school year. Becoming a Billet host in the MLS Academy program is a unique and rewarding experience, sharing day-to-day life with a young player developing towards their professional soccer career in the MLS Academy and continuing his education at University Hill Secondary School.

Each family will be given two 2024/2025 MLS regular season tickets per player, as well as financial compensation to cover food & utility costs. As a family, you will provide a comfortable living environment and three nutritious, prepared meals per day, seven days a week.

A typical MLS Academy season will begin in mid-August for pre-season preparation and finish in late-June following the MLS NEXT Playoffs tournament. Players will travel home at Christmas & Spring Breaks and will travel to play MLS NEXT opposition up to twice per month throughout the regular season. Travel for such trips departs early Friday morning and returns late Sunday evening.

For more information on becoming a Billet host family for this upcoming season, please contact:

Max Corcoran
Director, Academy Operations
mcorcoran@whitecapsfc.com
(604) 349-5744

Graduation Dinner Dance

Graduation Dinner / Dance – Reminder it will be held at the Pan Pacific Hotel - 999 Canada Place on **Friday, June 14, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

Office Reminders

Medical Alerts

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

MyEducationBC Accounts

A 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 the account: [MyEd Student Family Portal](#). Click on the link to UHILL's [School Technology Guide](#) if you require assistance. Please do not use the BC Services Card option to log in, otherwise only one person in your family will have access.

Absences

Parents/guardians - a reminder you should now be reporting absences to the office by email at uhillswitchboard@vsb.bc.ca. Emails should be sent using a parent/guardian email address and should provide the following:

- **students name**
- **date of absence**
- **student number**
- **and the reason for the absence**

For extended absences

Parents/guardians must email the student's counsellor. A student should also be providing 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, students 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.

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. All school fees are now due. If there are any discrepancies, please email Mrs. Low hlow@vsb.bc.ca.

Calendar Dates to Note

June 2024

- 11 Grad Assessments (Make-up session) 8:00 – 11:00 am
- 12 Indoor Sports Day – In the Gym – P1 – Grade 10; P2 - Grade 11 & 12's; P3 – Grade 8 & 9's
- 13 Homeroom Class during FIT
- 13 Athletic Banquet 5:00 pm – in the Gym
- 14 Graduation Dinner and Dance at the Pan Pacific Hotel at 6:00 pm
- 18 Collaborative Planning Day – Classes end at 1:45 pm
- 18 Rotation #3 Choir 8 Concert 6:30 pm at Grand Staircase
- 20 PAC Sale and Art Auction 3:00 pm in the Cafeteria
- 20 PAC Meeting in person in Lower Learning Commons at 7:00 pm (*note time change*)
- 21 Grade 12 Yearbook Pick up 11:30 am – 12:15 pm
- 24 Grade 10 & 11 Yearbook Pick up 11:30 am – 12:15 pm
- 25 Yearend Grade Assemblies – P2 - Grade 8/9; P3 - Grade 10/11, and P4 - Grade 12
- 25 Grade 8 & 9 Yearbook Pick up 11:30 am – 12:15 pm
- 25 Lockers to be cleared out by the end of the day
- 26 "IE" Day
- 27 "IE" Day
- 27 Semester 2 and Full Year Summary of Learning Published
- 28 Administrative Day / School Closing Day



Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Parents can find information about the University Hill Secondary PAC at the [UHILL PAC Website](#).

The last PAC Meeting for the 2023 – 2024 school year will be on **Thursday, June 20, 2024** – In person in the Lower Learning Commons at **7:00 pm**.

The PAC is hosting a Community Yard Sale on **Thursday, June 20, 2024** as well. Please see the flyer below.

UHill Secondary

COMMUNITY

YARD SALE

2024

Gently Used Items

Donations

3:00-5:00PM
JUNE 20TH, THU

South Entrance of Uhill School Building

DONATE YOUR NEARLY NEW ITEMS FOR SCHOOL YARD SALE

- Gently used
- Portable size

2-4PM JUNE 18TH/19TH
AT SCHOOL ENTRANCE IN FRONT OF PARKING LOT

ALL SALES PROCEEDS GO TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY

contact:
uhillspac@gmail.com for more information