



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 x̣ʷməθkʷəỵəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh Nation).

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

Next week is Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Week, with SEL Day on Thursday, March 8th, a day to celebrate all the wonderful social and emotional learning initiatives that are taking place around the globe. We also celebrate our Spring into Music Concerts next week, with our Junior and Senior Band performing on Tuesday, March 5th at 7pm and our Junior and Senior Orchestra, Concert Choir, and Chamber Choir performing on Wednesday, March 6th at 7pm. We are also grateful to our Student Council for organizing our upcoming school dance on Wednesday, March 13th at 7pm; info about ticket sales is posted on the all-student team.

On Friday, March 8th, Semester 2 Informal Learning Updates (Interim Reports) will be published for students and families. Thank you for taking the time to ensure that you can log on to the [MyEd BC student and family portal](#) MyEd BC student and family portal so that you are able to access these Informal Reports. If you need help accessing MyEd BC, please [click here for instructions](#) or contact our school office. Informal Learning Updates are an opportunity for an early check in as to how learning is going for our students. When reviewing as a family, here is a reminder of helpful questions to get conversations started:

- What are you learning and why is it important?
- How is it going with your learning?
- What are your next steps?

Please know that if students and families have any questions about how learning is going, you are always welcome to connect with teachers and counsellors.

In this newsletter, you will find information about Communicating Student Learning, Counselling, Athletics, PAC and Graduation. Thank you for taking the time to go through this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning. With Spring Break just around the corner, we wish all our students, families and staff a restful, relaxing and rejuvenating upcoming holiday.

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**

Parent Teacher Conferences

The first of two Virtual Parent Teacher Conference Evenings was held on **November 30th** and the next one will be on **Thursday, May 9, 2024** from 4:00 – 6:30 pm for Semester 2.

Counselling Corner



Who Can I Talk To?

- Talk to Someone Now
- Chat and Texting Options
- Counselling Services
- Medical Services
- Substance Use Services
- Sexual Assault Supports
- Programs and Places



SCAN ME

For more information, please visit:
<https://bit.ly/vancouverlat>

Mental Health March

Parent Resources: Family Smart at <https://familysmart.ca/>

- Family Smart is a source of videos, handouts and online events for parents about parenting through difficult times.

Youth Resources: Foundry BC <https://foundrybc.ca/>

- Foundry BC provides online and in person resources for youth mental health.

Course Selection

- Course selection for next year is nearly complete. Thank you for all of the timely input from students and families.

Summer School Reminder

A reminder to **be sure to inform your counsellor** about summer learning plans. Please let us know if there are any changes to plans as summer approaches so we can make every effort to have a seat in the correct desired course next year. Information about summer school options and registration usually is available in late April or early May.

Have a lovely Spring Break!

Emily Chen

Susan Hornby

Elizabeth Watanabe

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

Grades 8 – 12, Last name Kj – 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

Winter Season: Our basketball teams and table tennis teams are finished, with some strong play from all teams. Our table tennis teams made it to the 2nd round of playoffs and our bantam boys' basketball team made the quarterfinals of the league playoffs!

Spring Season: We have begun spring sports tryouts, with a few more still to come (Coed Badminton, Ultimate, Bantam and Juvenile Boys' Volleyball, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Rugby, Coed Tennis, Coed Golf and Track). Please connect with Mr. H if you have interest in any of these sports ASAP! GO HAWKS GO!

Mr. Hodgson, PHE Department Head & Athletic Director

Graduation 2024 Information

2024 Graduation Ceremony – will be held at the Chan Centre of Performing Arts at UBC on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024**.

- Graduates must arrive at 3:00 pm
- Seating doors open at 3:30 pm
- Ceremony Begins at 4:00 pm

Graduation Dinner / Dance – will be held at the Pan Pacific Hotel - 999 Canada Place on **Friday, June 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm**

For more information about the Ceremony, and other Grade 12 events please review the [Grade 12 Events and Important Information](#) letter that was distributed to all Grade 12 students in February with their Graduation Ceremony – Attendance, Name Announcement and Graduation Items Order Form.

Office Reminders

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 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.

Medical Alerts

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

Absences

Parents/guardians 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:

- **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 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, 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 for Semester 1 were due on January 31, 2024. If there are any discrepancies, please email Mrs. Low hlow@vsb.bc.ca. 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 for your attention and consideration in this method of payment.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

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

PAC Meetings for the 2023 – 2024 school year will be on the following Thursdays at 7:30 pm:

- **April 18**
- **May 30**
- **June 20, 2024**



Calendar Dates to Note

March 2024

- 5 Jr & Sr Band Spring Concert 7:00 pm
- 6 Concert Choir and JR/SR Orchestra Spring Concert 7:00 pm
- 7 Grade 12 Assembly During FIT
- 8 Semester 2 Informal Learning Update published
- 12 Grade 12 Assembly During FIT
- 15 Last day before Spring Break
- 18 to 29 Spring Break

April 2024

- 1 STAT – Easter Monday
- 2 School Reopens after Spring Break
- 9 & 11 Homeroom Class during FIT
- 16 & 17 Numeracy & Literacy Assessments for Grade 10
- 18 Collaborative Planning Day – Classes end at 1:45 pm
- 18 PAC Meeting 7:30 pm
- 22 Non-instructional Day (District Wide)
- 26 Semester 2 Written Learning Update and Full Year Written Learning Update Published
- 29 Parent Teacher Conference Appointment Scheduler opens till May 7

May 2024

- 1 to 24 Grad Tickets Sale Dates on School Cash On-line
- 6 to 17 AP Exams (May 6, 7, 13, 16 & 17)
- 9 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal at 2:05pm)
- 10 Collaborative Planning Day – Classes begin at 10:00 am
- 14 Immunization Day #2 – AM session only.
- 17 Non-Instructional Day (School Based)
- 20 STAT – Victoria Day
- 21 Grade 12 Assembly During FIT
- 23 Grade 12 Capstone Presentations during FIT and Period 4
- 30 PAC Meeting 7:30 pm
- 30 Grade 12 Assembly, TVR Verification, Grad Rehearsal and Gown Package Pick up Period 3 and Fit

June 2024

- 5 Graduation Ceremony at Chan Centre a 4:00 pm
- 10 & 11 Numeracy & Literacy Assessments (Make-up session for Grade 10 students)
- 11 & 13 Homeroom Class during FIT
- 18 Collaborative Planning Day – Classes end at 1:45 pm
- 20 PAC Meeting 7:30 pm
- 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
- 27 Last Day of Student Attendance
- 27 Semester 2 and Full Year Summary of Learning Published