

May 03, 2024

UNIVERSITY HILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

OUR VSB



# Community Newsletter

Phone: 604-713-8258 Website: [uhill-sec.vsb.bc.ca](http://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,

With the end of the school year approaching, we gear up to celebrate student learning. In particular, our Grade 12 Capstone presentations will be showcased on Thursday, May 23rd. The Capstone is a year-long, individualized passion project that gives graduating students the opportunity to demonstrate their culmination of learning and emphasizes competencies, process, and reflection. Our Grade 8, 9, 10 and 11 students will be participating as audience members during the Grade 12 Capstone presentations, giving them an opportunity to learn from the projects and be inspired for when they will create their own. Grade 8-11 students, please see more information posted on the 'all-students' team and make sure you register for the session of your choice by Tuesday, May 7th. Congratulations in advance to our graduating students for sharing their Capstone presentations in our school-wide event!

We also have our UHill Carnival coming up on Wednesday, May 29th after school. Our appreciation goes out to our student council for organizing this community event. Please stay tuned for more information that will be posted in the 'all-students' team.

In this newsletter, you will find information about communicating Student Learning, Parent-Teacher Conferences, Immunization Clinic, Counselling, Athletics, Graduation, and 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**

## Parent-Teacher “Virtual” Conferences – On Teams

The first of two Virtual Parent Teacher Conference Evenings was held on **November 30<sup>th</sup>** and the next one will be:

Date: **Thursday, May 9, 2024**, for Semester 2.

Time: 4:00 – 6:30 pm, by appointment

Reminder that the on-line booking scheduler is open till Tuesday, May 7 – please review the [Parent Teacher Appointment Booking Instructions](#).

A friendly reminder that there will be an early dismissal for all students at 2:05 pm on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the conferences and that Friday, May 10 is a Collaborative Day. The adjusted bell schedules are as follows:

Thursday, May 9, 2024 (Early Dismissal)	
Period 1	8:40 – 10:00
Period 2	10:05 – 11:25
Lunch	11:25 – 12:20
Period 3	12:20 – 1:10
Period 4	1:15 – 2:05

Friday, May 10, 2024 (Late Start)	
Staff Collaborative Time	8:40 – 10:00
Period 1	10:00 – 10:40
Period 2	10:45 – 11:25
Lunch	11:25 – 12:20
Period 3	12:20 – 1:40
Period 4	12:45 – 3:05

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## Immunization Clinic #2

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Reminder of the upcoming Immunization Clinic on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at UHill in the LLC. There are approximately 150 students that have been given consent forms or reminder notices. Signed consent forms are due to the office as soon as possible. The schedule will be done alphabetically, and it will be posted for students on Teams. Students should eat breakfast beforehand and wear a short-sleeved shirt. If you have any questions regarding this clinic, please contact the nurse, Katie Wanamaker-Briggs at 604-261-6366 extension 3333 or by email at [katie.wanamakerbriggs@vch.ca](mailto:katie.wanamakerbriggs@vch.ca).

## Counselling Corner

Please check the counselling website (<https://uhillcounselling.weebly.com/>) for counselling resources as well as upcoming post-secondary events.

### Summer School Reminder:

Summer school registration opened at noon on May 1, 2024. We understand that many courses were full within minutes. Please see <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5211/summer-learning> for more detailed information and updates.

**IMPORTANT: Please keep your counsellor up to date with the most accurate information about your summer learning plans so we keep a seat for you in the correct course for next year! This includes confirming plans reported in course planning and any changes to plans as they unfold.**

### Mental Health Resources:

**Parent and Youth Resources:** Anxiety Canada - <https://www.anxietycanada.com/>

- Anxiety Canada provides practical CBT evidence-based resources for both youth and adults. Parent resources are also available on how to support youth.
- <https://www.anxietycanada.com/free-downloadable-pdf-resources/>
- Wellbeing.gov.bc.ca/youth  
<https://helpstartshere.gov.bc.ca/blog/youth-mental-health-and-substance-use>

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

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

### Post-Secondary Resources for Students and Families:

**Post-Secondary BC Resources for Parents** – Resources on how parents/guardians may support students to make the best and well-informed post-secondary choices - <https://www.postsecondarybc.ca/for-parents/>

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

## Athletics – Spring Update

### **Badminton:**

The senior team has done very well to date and is battling to finish in the top 3 in hopes of making the city playoffs, can't wait to see the last push of the season for them.

### **Track & Field:**

The preliminary track meets were a huge success with many athletes performing very well. The city final meet is May 9<sup>th</sup> at UBC from 3-7pm, looking forward to watching all the athletes compete at our home track!

### **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. They are playing in a match this week to try and qualify for the zone tournament, good luck!

### **Ultimate:**

The Senior Ultimate team came 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Hoping they can enter zones and make some impact. Well, done!

### **Golf:**

A team will be playing in playoffs later in May and in Zones, hoping to qualify for provincials in Victoria, good luck all!

B team finishes their season next week, and hopefully will land in the top 5 in the league. A great year for this group, hoping several of the players will work on their game over the season and be a part of the A group next year!

### **Rugby:**

We have 6 students that are part of a joint team with 3 other schools. They are still in season and doing well.

GO HAWKS GO

Jeff Hodgson, Athletic Director

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## 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
- Doors open for seating at 3:30 pm
- Ceremony Begins at 4:00 pm

Reminder that each Graduate will receive two tickets to the Graduation Ceremony for their guests. Additional tickets are \$10 each and are now available for purchase on [School Cash On-line](#) until **May 24, 2024**.

**Graduation Dinner / Dance** – will be held at the Pan Pacific Hotel - 999 Canada Place on **Friday, June 14, 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.

## 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](mailto: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 for Semester 1 were due on January 31, 2024. If there are any discrepancies, please email Mrs. Low [hlow@vsb.bc.ca](mailto: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.

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## 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:

- **May 30 – On-line at 7:30 pm**
- **June 20, 2024 – In person in the Lower Learning Commons at 7:00 pm**

## Calendar Dates to Note

### May 2024

- 1 to 24 Grad Tickets (Additional) available for purchase on School Cash On-line
- 6 AP Chemistry Exam in LLC at 12:00 pm
- 6 Rotation #2 Choir 8 Concert 6:30 pm at Grand Staircase
- 7 Parent Teacher Conference Appointment Scheduler Closes at 10 pm
- 7 AP Microeconomics Exam in LLC at 8:00 am
- 9 Early Dismissal at 2:05 pm
- 9 Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:00 – 6:30 (Virtual)
- 10 Collaborative Planning Day – Classes begin at 10:00 am
- 10 Applied Skills & Fine Arts 8 Last Day of Rotation #2
- 13 Applied Skills and Fine Arts 8 Rotation 3 – May 13 to June 25
- 13 AP Calculus AB & BC Exams in LLC at 8:00 am
- 14 Immunization Day #2 – AM session only (forms or consent reminders)
- 16 AP Biology Exam in LLC at 12:00 pm
- 17 Non-Instructional Day (School Based)
- 17 AP Physics 1 Exam in LLC at 8:00 am and AP Physics 2 Exam in LLC at 12:00 pm
- 20 STAT – Victoria Day
- 21 Grade 12 Technical Practice in assigned event rooms during FIT (Re: Capstone)
- 23 Grade 12 Capstone Presentations during FIT and Period 4
- 24 Last Day to purchase Additional Grad Tickets
- 29 School Carnival 3:00 pm
- 30 PAC Meeting – On-line at 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 at 4:00 pm
- 10 & 11 Numeracy & Literacy Assessments (Make-up session for Grade 10 students)
- 13 Homeroom Class during FIT
- 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 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
- 27 Last Day of Student Attendance
- 27 Semester 2 and Full Year Summary of Learning Published

