



# 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) & salilwatał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

## Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

Congratulations to all our students for a fantastic year!



June has been an exciting month with our Graduation Ceremony, Graduation Dinner & Dance, Sports Day, Athletics Banquet, Music Performances, Pride Picnic, Yearbook signing and Year End Celebration Assemblies. It has been wonderful connecting and celebrating the year together. A special congratulations to our Grad Class of 2025!

In this newsletter, you will find information about communicating student learning, athletics, counselling, school office reminders, key information for the first week of school and important dates for the 2025-2026 school year. Thank you for taking the time to go through this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning.

We wish all our students, families and staff a restful, relaxing and rejuvenating summer.

With Appreciation,

Alec MacInnes  
Principal

**Administrative Team:**

Alec MacInnes, Principal  
David Bach, Vice Principal  
Alfred Chien, School Trustee  
Rick Lopez, Director of Instruction

**Office Staff:**

Holly Low, Accountant  
Tina Matsalla, Office Admin Assistant  
Mandana Shojaat, Receptionist & First Aid  
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.

---

## Communication 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?

The purpose of assessment is to facilitate learning and move it 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. All reports will be published to the MyEducationBC Information System. Please ensure you are able to log on to MyEducationBC using the instructions below. The final report for Semester 2 was published on **Thursday, June 26, 2025**.

---

## MyEducation BC Accounts and Summer Access

Reminder that all **MyEd BC Student Family accounts will be suspended by 11:59 PM on August 8, 2025**. There will be **NO** access to the published learning updates after **August 8, 2025**. This timeline is to accommodate students attending the summer learning program, allowing them to view/download their Learning Update upon courses completion. If you foresee the need to access your published Learning Update during the summer, we suggest printing a hard copy or saving a digital copy to a medium that you can access.

**All Grade 12 Graduates and students who are leaving the Vancouver School District accounts will be disabled and locked after August 8, 2025.**

All students' Accounts (returning and new) will be enabled for **September 1, 2025**. They will be accessible by their last successful login ID and password.

## Notice of Late Return for September 2025

Please complete the [Notice of Late Return Form](#) for September 2025 if your student is expecting to return to school LATER THAN noon on **Friday, September 5, 2025, but prior to September 29, 2025**. Click on the “notice of late return link” or see the last page of this newsletter for the form. Please note: If the school cannot verify your child’s attendance at school by **noon on Friday, September 5, 2025**, your child’s space will be given to another student on the school’s waitlist.

---

## Reminders for Grade 12 Students

### Two important dates:

- **June 30** - Last Day to access your MS Teams/Email/Office Account
- **August 8** - Last Day to access your MyEducation BC Account

### Graduation Certificates:

To ensure the safe delivery of your graduation certificates, we are going to be requesting that they are picked up directly from the school office at the end of the summer.

We will send a reminder email when the graduation certificates are available for pickup, which will be either the last week of August or in early September. The certificates are sent to the school from the Ministry of Education and there is no set date of arrival.

If you are unable to come to the school to pick up your graduation certificate, you can assign someone to pick it up for you. Please notify Ms. Wang by email in advance ([cwang@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:cwang@vsb.bc.ca)) with the name of the person who will be picking up the certificate on your behalf. The designated person must present their ID when they come to pick up the certificate.

---

## School Office Reminders

### Summer office Hours

During July and August, the office hours will be **9:00 am – 2:00 pm Monday to Friday**. The office and building will be closed **July 1** and **August 4** for the Statutory Holidays. If you are planning to come to UHill during the summer, please call first as the office may close on short notice due to limited staff working in the summer.

### Yearbooks

If students haven’t picked up their yearbook, they should pick them up before July 4th in the office from Ms. Low, otherwise the only other pick up would be in September. The yearbooks will not be available for pickup after Oct. 1, 2025. If students have any outstanding books, they will need to be returned or paid for using School Cash-on-line.

### School Fees/School Cash Online


Reminder all school and class fees are now due. If you have any discrepancies, please email Mrs. Low [hlow@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:hlow@vsb.bc.ca).

### School Fees - 2025-2026

The University Hill Secondary School Fee Schedule for the 2025-2026 school year has been approved by the Vancouver School Board. The fee schedule may be found at the following [2025 2026 School Fees](#)



## Counselling Corner

Here is a reminder of some resources for youth and families from SACY. The counselling Department wishes you a healthy and enjoyable summer break.



**Supporting and Connecting Youth**

A partnership initiative of the

### 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](http://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.bgc.bc.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 – Ki & Strategies  
Grades 8 – 12, Last name Kj – T  
Grades 8 – 12, Last name U – Z & Whitecaps FC

Email: [ehchen@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:ehchen@vsb.bc.ca)  
Email: [shornby@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:shornby@vsb.bc.ca)  
Email: [ewatanabe@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:ewatanabe@vsb.bc.ca)

## Athletics

Well done to all Uhill athletes that competed on a team this school year. Work hard and practice over the summer to improve for next year. Congratulations to the graduating UHill athletes. Come back and support our teams by volunteering to help coach! Enjoy your well-deserved summer break. GO HAWKS GO Jeff Hodgson, PE and Athletics Dept Head

### Whitecaps FC Academy

Congratulations on completing another exciting season! A special congratulations to Rayan Elloumi and Johnny Selemani on signing their Whitecaps FC2 contracts and beginning their professional soccer careers. These two young men have also made their professional debuts with the Whitecaps at BC Place in June!

LET'S GO WHITECAPS!

## Schedule for the First Week of September 2025

### **Tuesday, September 2 – School Opening Day**

9:15 am Grade 8 Welcome Assembly (in the Gym) – For Students Only  
 10:00 am Grade 8 – 12 Homeroom Class  
 12:30 pm Whitecaps FC Students Homeroom Class

### **Wednesday, September 3**

8:40 - 8:55 Grade 8 – 12 Homeroom Class  
 9:00 - 10:10 Period 1  
 10:15 - 11:25 Period 2  
 11:25 - 12:20 Lunch  
 12:20 - 1:40 Period 3  
 1:45 - 3:05 Period 4

### **Thursday, September 4**

8:40 - 8:55 Grade 8 – 12 Homeroom Class  
 9:00 - 10:10 Period 1  
 10:15 - 11:25 Period 2  
 11:25 - 12:20 Lunch  
 12:20 - 1:40 Period 3  
 1:45 - 3:05 Period 4

### **Friday, September 5 - No HR Class and No FIT**

8:40 - 10:00 Period 1  
 10:05 - 11:25 Period 2  
 11:25 - 12:20 Lunch  
 12:20 - 1:40 Period 3  
 1:45 - 3:05 Period 4

### **Friday, September 5 is also photo day!**

Photos will be taken in the LLC (Lower Learning Commons) by grade and in alphabetical order. (Schedule to follow) - Please note that all students are required to have their photo taken on September 5 to obtain a School ID Card.

## 2025 – 2026 Calendar Dates to Note

### September 2025

03 First Day of Classes  
05 Photo Day (8:30 am – 3:00 pm)  
08 Welcome Assemblies Periods 2, 3 & 4  
12 Last day for course change requests  
19 CPT Day – Classes begin at 10:00 am  
26 Non-Instructional Day (School Based)  
30 STAT-National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

### October 2025

02 Photo Retake Day (12:30 – 3:00 pm)  
10 S1 Informal Learning Update Published  
13 STAT - Thanksgiving Day  
16 CPT – Classes end at 1:45 pm  
24 Non-Instructional Day (Province Wide)

### November 2025

04 to 07 Grad Assessments (Literacy 12)  
10 Remembrance Day Assemblies  
11 STAT – Remembrance Day  
12 Immunization Day #1-for Gr. 9's  
21 S1 Written Learning Update & FY Informal Learning Update Published  
21 Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)

### December 2025

11 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal at 2:05 pm)  
12 CPT – Classes begin at 10:00 am  
19 Last day before Winter Break  
22 to Jan 2 Winter Break

### January 2026

01 & 02 Winter Break Continues  
05 School Reopens after Winter Break  
13 to 16 Grad Assessments (Numeracy 10)  
15 CPT – Classes end at 1:45 pm  
23 Last Day of Semester 1  
26 & 27 Semester Turnaround Days  
28 First Day of Semester 2  
30 S1 Summary of Learning & FY Witten Learning Update Published

### February 2026

01 to 04 Grad Photo Sessions at Artona Studios – by appointment  
13 Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)  
16 STAT - Family Day  
20 CPT – Classes start at 10:00 am

### March 2026

06 S2 Informal Learning Update published  
13 Last Day before Spring Break  
16 to 27 Spring Break  
30 School Reopens after Spring Break

### April 2026

03 STAT – Good Friday  
06 STAT – Easter Monday  
09 CPT – Classes end at 1:45 pm  
20 Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)  
21 to 24 Grad Assessments (Literacy 10)

### May 2026

01 S2 & FY Written Learning Update Published  
06 Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal at 2:05 pm)  
07 CPT – Classes begin at 10:00 am  
15 Non-Instructional Day (School Based)  
18 STAT - Victoria Day  
20 Immunization Day #2 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)

### June 2026

03 Graduation Ceremony at Chan Centre  
09 CPT – Classes end at 1:45 pm  
10 Graduation Assessments – Make-up session  
23 Year End Assemblies Periods 2, 3 & 4  
23 Last Day of Classes  
24 & 25 IE Days  
25 S2 & FY Summary of Learning Published





## 2025 NOTICE OF LATE RETURN FORM – University Hill Secondary

This form is to be completed for any student expecting to return to school LATER THAN noon on Friday, September 5, 2025, but prior to Monday, September 29, 2025.

**Please note:** If the school cannot verify your child's attendance at school by noon on Friday September 5, 2025, your child's space will be given to another student on the school's waitlist.

The School Phone is **604-713-8258** The School Email is [uhillswitchboard@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:uhillswitchboard@vsb.bc.ca)

Dear Principal:

My child(ren) will be attending University Hill Secondary School for the 2025-2026 school year but will NOT be in attendance in the school before noon on Friday, September 5, 2025. Please reserve a space in your school for my child(ren).

\_\_\_\_\_, in Grade \_\_\_\_ (Sept. 2025)  
*Last Name First Name*

\_\_\_\_\_, in Grade \_\_\_\_ (Sept. 2025)  
*Last Name First Name*

\_\_\_\_\_, in Grade \_\_\_\_ (Sept. 2025)  
*Last Name First Name*

The expected DATE OF RETURN for our child(ren) is \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for late return: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: Space will not be held beyond September 30, 2025.**

Parent's Name or Legal Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone (Father): \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone (Mother): \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact/Phone Name & Number/e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_