



Dear students, parents, staff and educational partners;

January 28, 2022

A belated Happy New Year to all members of the United Scholastic Academy Family.

We are all now in the home stretch of the inaugural semester of United Scholastic Academy. Our **Students** have been working on their culminating summatives; our **Teachers** are marking feverishly and coordinating to ensure that all overall expectations have been met for each of the courses they are providing prior to the end of Semester 1 on January 28th, 2022; our **Coaches** are tweaking what they saw over the first half of the season and during their Winter Break Tournaments so as to ensure our Teams can be as competitive as possible, as they head into the second half of the season; our **Site Managers** are collecting resources and creating inventories before moving the resources to the Campus that will require them for semester 2; our **Directors of Basketball Operations** are looking at our waiting lists to assess which players can be brought into the mix to fill any vacant spaces for Semester 2, without disrupting the existing chemistry on each of our eight Teams; our **Student and Family Advocate** is identifying and working with students who require one-to-one counselling; our **Head of Curriculum** is populating comment banks and working on supporting staff as they close off Semester 1 learning, while simultaneously preparing for the upcoming professional learning this coming Monday (**P.A. Day – no classes**); and our **Academic Advisor** is ensuring all Ministry compliance requirements around student data, mark submission, report cards, OUAC submissions, Clearing House submissions and SAT / ACT accommodations requirements are being met, and assisting students that have started their University application process. **The next OUAC transmission/upload will be made on February 10, 2022.**

Truly the staff and students of United Scholastic Academy continue to make herculean efforts to ensure that the focus is and will always be the development and growth of your children. As we move into Semester 2, I would like to take this opportunity to mention two staff who will not be with us this upcoming semester. A big thank you to Ms. Kim Lumkin (of our Brampton Campus), for all her efforts in supporting your children and whom I am sure will be with us again in the near future! Good wishes to Ms. Gayle Aitken (Of our Burlington Campus). Dr. Sam Hamarnah will be moving from our Concord Campus to our Brampton Campus to continue to teach math and science. We are excited to be welcoming Ms. Christina Chubb (Senior English & Philosophy & Business) to our Concord Campus, Ms. Maryam Jamil (Math & Science) and Ms. Kiana (Biology) Imani to our Burlington Campus!

We are very proud of how well all the Teams are doing in their respective leagues and that no matter what happens, players and coaches are always striving to maximize their potential on the court. A few reminders:

- Firstly, that training does not end with the end of the competition season, training continues right to June 30th, 2022, as players need to establish good habits and clear foci for their off-season development.

- Lastly, we are aiming to have report cards completed, signed and distributed by February 14, 2022.

The 5 months since opening day continue to see students realize a myriad of academic and athletic achievements. The blending of academics, training and competition, for the promising student-athletes that are the essence of the mission of United Scholastic Academy, are second to none!

As the new semester begins, I will be visiting each of the classes across all four Campuses, along with our Academic Advisor, to reinforce for students and staff the United Scholastic Academy Code of Behaviour (again - please review the link below):

[United-Scholastic-Academy-Policies-and-Procedures-Handbook-2021-2022.pdf \(usacademy.ca\)](#)

Specifically, that, “United Scholastic Academy believes that school promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment.” In essence this means that the expectations for our students are not only extremely high on the court and in the classroom, but at all times, on and off campus, because as a member of the United Scholastic Academy of Schools, they are representing United Scholastic Academy and always impacting the reputation of United Scholastic Academy. Students who engage in any conduct that brings disrepute to the vision, mission and integrity of United Scholastic Academy can be removed from the Team they are currently a member of and as such will be removed from the enrollment of United Scholastic Academy. Although it is my sincere hope that such actions will not be required, it is incumbent upon you, to sit down with your child, to reinforce this point.

Electronic attendance and marks programs are common practice, as are google classrooms, and classroom newsletters. As previously outlined if you have any questions or concerns, please follow the flow charts, previously shared with you, on how parents and guardians can address concerns related to academics as well as concerns related to the basketball programs. In the coming weeks and months, you will be learning more around what year two will look like at United Scholastic Academy, Team offers, course offerings, class placements and teacher and coaching assignments.

I wish you and your loved ones a healthy, safe and happy start to semester 2 on Tuesday February 1st. **Reminder that Monday January 31st is a P.A. Day, no classes.**

Sincerely,

Chris Sarellas

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