

UGDSB TOGETHER

Monthly communications updates from the Upper Grand DSB

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year!

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year UG! We are excited to welcome all students, families and staff back and welcome all those who are new to the school board. As you prepare to enter the halls of your school and gear up for the 2023-2024 school year, there are some helpful things to know! Please check the [UGDSB website](http://WWW.UGDSB.CA) for information on School Operations, School Directory information, Registration details, and so much more!

School & Board Information

9 Days of Reflection for a Healthy Back to School

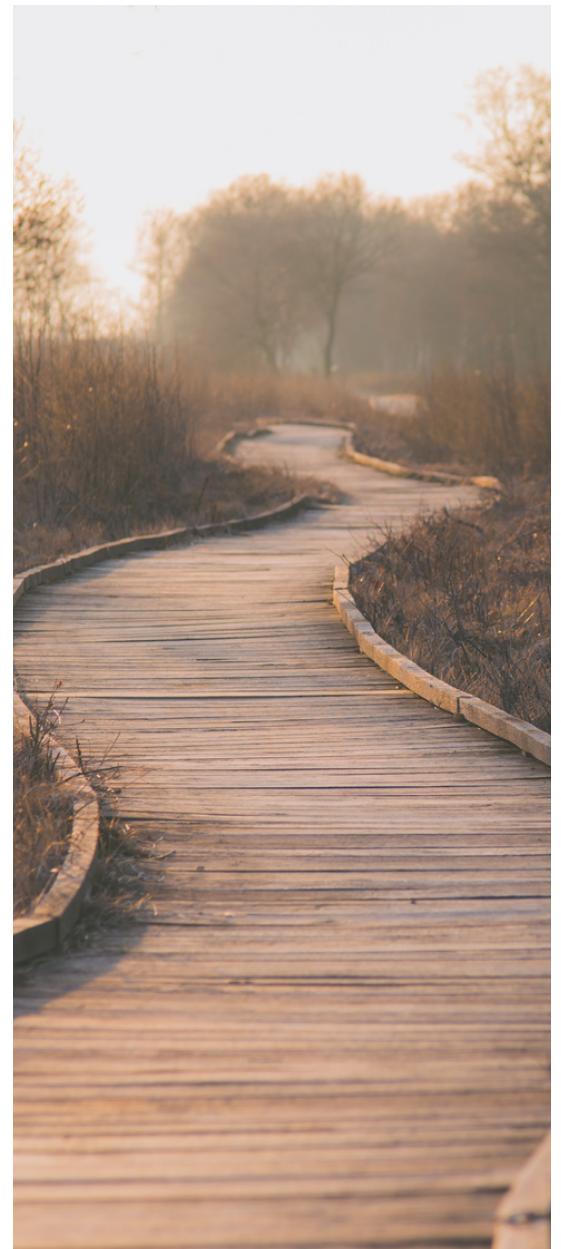
For the first 9 days of school, the Upper Grand Mental Health Team will be sharing information with students and staff at their school and on social media. Topics will focus around things such as awareness, a sense of community, respect, collaboration and more. For all the tips and prompts, follow [UGDSB on social media](#) and share your thoughts using the hashtag #MHUG.

UGDSB Pathways Website

This year, we have launched a brand new website for UGDSB Pathways. The UGDSB is committed to all students, K-12+, having equitable opportunities to explore and experience diverse pathway options. Through these opportunities, we aim to support student optimism for a rich and vibrant future, regardless of which initial pathway they choose, and how their plans might shift and change throughout their lives. This website has great information for students in grades 7 and 8 who are thinking about planning for high school, resources for high school students and information on making the transition out of school. There is also a lot of great information about different career pathways and experiential learning opportunities. [Check it out](#) and stay tuned for more information this fall.

Professional Activity Day - September 18, 2023

Throughout the school year, the UGDSB will be posting information regarding upcoming Professional Activity Days. To view the description of the September 18th PA Day, please visit the [UGDSB website](http://WWW.UGDSB.CA) or your child's school website.





Policy Updates

The UGDSB is currently seeking feedback on Policy 208 Smoke and Vape-Free Environment. Policy 208 is important to students, staff, parents, guardians, and the community as everyone has a role in maintaining a smoke-free and vape-free working and learning environment while respecting the Indigenous cultural practices of the board's students and staff. [To review the draft policy and provide your input, click here.](#)

News around the UGDSB

UG students reveal urban garden

This summer, students of the Upper Grand District School Board revealed their urban community garden as part of their cumulative project for the Young Farmers Summer School Program. The unique style of experiential learning taught the students a lot about gardening, food stability and food scarcity, sustainability and community services. [Learn more!](#)

John F. Ross teacher wins 2023 Mike Elrick Environmental Leadership Award

Congratulations to Jenny McGregor, a secondary teacher at John F. Ross Collegiate Vocational Institute, for being this year's recipient of the Mike Elrick Environmental Leadership Award. This award goes to staff and volunteers who have demonstrated environmental leadership within their school community or our school board. [Read more about Jenny's work in her school community on the UGDSB website.](#)

