

Ursula Franklin NewsFlash – Friday May 8th

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1. Accommodation for Ramadan (message from: David)

This message is directed toward our student's that are in the midst of celebrating Ramadan. We all recognize the strain that fasting all day may have on your ability to concentrate – whether it be attending a Google Meet Class or being able to concentrate on that assignment/project etc. We also recognize that waking at 4 am for “daily” prayers can have the same effect – even if you get the opportunity to go back to sleep. We encourage you to connect with your teachers and make whatever arrangements are necessary to facilitate you being able to meet your commitments to school. If you feel uncomfortable approaching your teacher directly – don't hesitate to connect with Ali, Heather and or Hillel to have them advocate on your behalf.

2. TDSB “Thought Exchange” (message from: Robin Pilkey)

From the Director's May 1 letter:

Have Your Say

As we come to the end of our first month of remote learning, we want to hear from you. What has worked well? What hasn't? What are your suggestions? Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts about your child's experience with remote learning. Your opinion is important as we try to better understand the needs of our students and families. Join us in this [ThoughtExchange](#) to add your voice to the conversation.

We encourage all of our parents to complete the survey. The information gained will be invaluable as we go forward with “remote learning”. The survey can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

<https://my.thoughtexchange.com/#189578056>

3. SAC News Update (submitted by: Sanja)

SAC will hold a virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 26th. We are proposing two time periods for 1.5 hour block, starting at either 3 PM or 7 PM. Please email us at ufa.sac@gmail.com if you want to attend and what time works better for you. As we approach that date a link will be sent out via a special NewsFlash item on Tuesday Morning. The agenda and the topics will be distributed a week prior the meeting.

Ward 7 held a virtual meeting on May 4. The main topic of the evening was a Q&A session about Online Learning. The summary of the meeting will be distributed in next SAC Newsletter.

Please subscribe to SAC Newsletter at ufa.sac@gmail.com, for all updates, if you are not member already.

4. Refunds For Prom, Athletic Banquet etc. (message from: David)

Refunds were processed this week. For those parents/students who made a deposit via “Cash-On-Line” refunds will be made through that account. Deposits that were submitted via cash or cheque are being reimbursed to the parent via an EFT (electronic fund transfer). You will receive an email with instructions on how to deposit the funds in an account of your choice. We are getting feedback from both Cash-on-Line and EFT and expect that all refunds should happen within the standard 5 to 7 business days. If you don’t hear by next Friday – contact us and we will look into what happened.

5. Graduation/Commencement Ceremony (message from: David)

We are hearing that there seems to be some confusion, out in the community, with regard to whether or not UFA will have a Graduation/Commencement Ceremony this year. I can state unequivocally, we are going to have a ceremony, the only point that is not clear is when we will be able to hold the ceremony. The Grade 12 students have lost a number of “rite of passage” events due to the pandemic – this is not one of them. We are looking at both an end of June and Fall date – the decision will be based on when schools are allowed to re-open and what parameters the Government will put in place for large gatherings. Once we have the information – we will send out a special announcement to all Grade 12 students and parents outlining the details. The important thing to keep in mind is that the opportunity to walk across the stage, with family and friends in attendance, to celebrate the conclusion of their High School Experience will happen.

6. Wednesday Session Update (submitted by: Greg)

Hello UFA!

The Wednesday Program Continues May 13th!

Wonderful sessions continue to be offered by both staff and students! Fill out the form and pick something to enjoy! Remember, the form will be emailed Sunday afternoon and will stop accepting selections Tuesday morning at 8am.

7. **Yearbook Request** (submitted by: **Yearbook Committee**)

Hello everyone!

We hope everyone is healthy and well. Due to a huge time loss caused by a certain virus going around, we are sadly unable to complete the yearbook with all of its usual pages. Instead, we are asking for your submissions to create new pages!

The new pages will be a collection of photos covering what UFA students have been doing during quarantine. These photos can cover anything as long as you are practicing self-isolation. Some examples may include cooking, books/tv shows, drawing, online learning, virtually connecting or any activity you've been doing etc. You can also just send us a selfie!

The yearbook is an important memoir to a lot of people (especially grads of 2020). All students have already paid \$60 at the beginning of the year for these books to be printed with a set number of pages. Let's make the most of our memories and include fun pictures of the UFA community in quarantine.

If you would rather share a few sentences about a funny moment or project, or add a caption to your photo, we will include those on the page.

Make sure your submission is school appropriate. There are separate drop boxes for the different grades to upload their photos along with a spreadsheet for your captions and stories. Please send it to your correct grade by **May 18th**.

From,

The Yearbook Team :)

P.S. We are also looking for pictures from Semi Formal!

The link to submit material is:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1IglS9y_gG5v_Jt4N7a66W9mTDD_vD1qk