

# UGDSB TOGETHER

*Monthly communications updates from the Upper Grand DSB*

## Complete the Student Census by October 9!

The UGDSB is conducting a Student Census this fall. The Student Census is a confidential and voluntary survey for all parents/ legal guardians of students in Kindergarten to grade 8, and all students in grades 9 to 12. Learn more about the importance of this data, how we are protecting privacy and examples of ways that we will using the data to direct our resources and supports at [ugdsb.ca/census](http://ugdsb.ca/census). Everyone counts - complete the census today!

## School & Board Information

### National Truth and Reconciliation Week

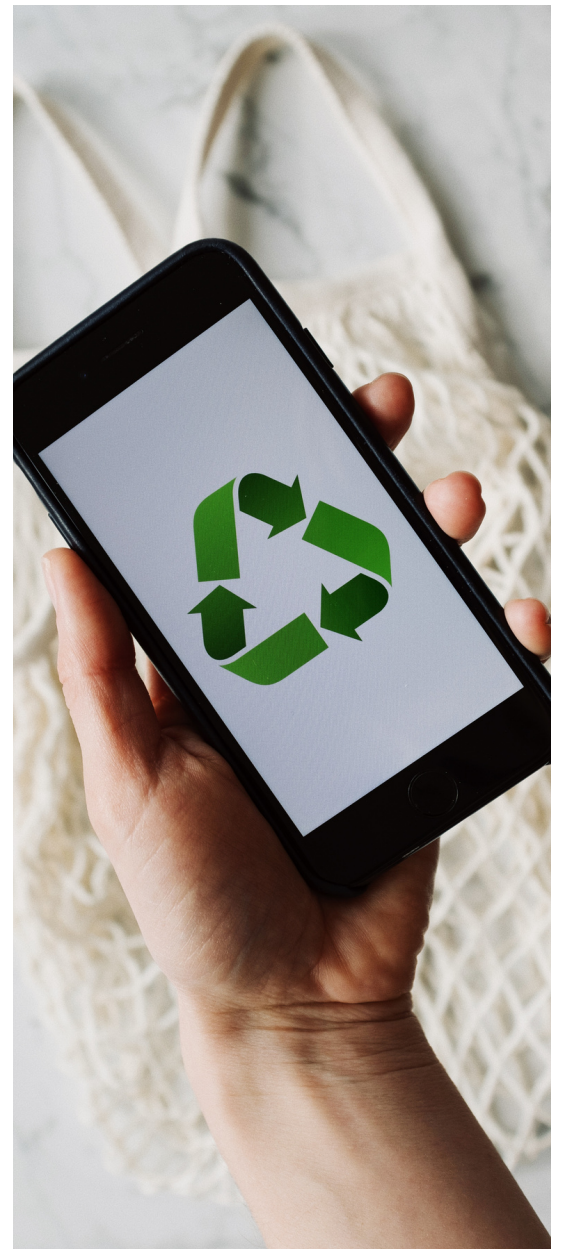
The federal government of Canada recognizes September 26 to September 30 as Truth and Reconciliation Week, capping off the last day as Orange Shirt Day. National Truth and Reconciliation Week is to commemorate the violent and traumatic history and legacy of Residential Schools in Canada, and to honour the children who never returned home, the survivors of residential schools, as well as recognizing the pain left with families and communities. All through the week, UGDSB staff have created numerous resources to support staff and student learning. You can learn more [here](#).

### Facility Services Sustainability Plan

Learn more about the UGDSB's Sustainability Plan! The Climate Action Plan consists of three pillars: conservation, renewable and alternative sources of energy, and environmental adaptation. At the end of last month, staff gave a presentation to the Board of Trustees that outlined the UGDSB's past conservation goals and projects, detailed conservation projects from the 2021-2022 school year, and discussed future sustainability plans. Learn more [here](#).

### Learn about who's running for school board trustee

As municipal elections quickly approach, now is the time to get to know what each school board trustee candidate is running on before election day on October 24. School board trustees have a big impact on shaping the education system for Upper Grand students. They are members of a team and play a vital team role. They are community leaders. They are responsible for establishing policy direction. They are individuals who are accountable to the province of Ontario, to the electorate and to themselves. Lastly, they are champions for equity in education. [Learn who is running in your community here](#).





## Policy updates

For all UGDSB policies visit [www.ugdsb.ca/policy](http://www.ugdsb.ca/policy)

The following protocol has been reviewed and updated:

- [P.01 Crisis Communication Protocol](#)

Don't forget to visit our website for all [UGDSB policies](#) as well as [protocols](#) and [procedures manuals](#). When policies are up for review and revision we will notify you on this website.

## News around the UGDSB

### *Spencer Ave PS develops Makerspace in library*

Spencer Avenue Public School has developed a space where students can create, tinker and play. The makerspace that staff and students developed in their library is where science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (S.T.E.A.M.) skills develop and grow. The purpose of the Makerspace is that students engaging with it will wonder, design, test, build and gain confidence at exploring problems. You can learn more about what's going on in the Makerspace [here](#).

### *John F. Ross CVI alumni develops "Wellness 4 All" initiative*

Former John F. Ross, Alexandra Elmslie, created the online database Wellness 4 All to provide mental health resources for students with intellectual developmental disabilities (IDD) across the UGDSB. Elmslie came up with the idea for Wellness 4 All as a response to the mental health crisis caused by COVID-19. A program that started off in three classrooms is now used by over 200 students in the UGDSB. Read the full story [here](#).



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[HTTPS://WWW.UGDSB.CA/COMMUNITY/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS-NEWSLETTER/](https://www.ugdsb.ca/community/communications/communications-newsletter/)

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