



Wednesday, August 30th, 2023

Hello, Bonjour Argyle Families,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We want to extend a special welcome to all incoming grade 8 students and any new students to Argyle. We are excited to start another year with such an outstanding community. This newsletter is unusually long as it contains a great deal of important information.

The Argyle community has grown to 1430 students and 125 staff. Our staff are here to help and are committed to your student's growth and success. Our ongoing mission is to provide students opportunities to learn and grow by fostering resilience, building self-efficacy and developing critical and creative thinking skills. We encourage students to advocate for their own learning and growth as much as possible. Students are also encouraged to get involved in extracurricular activities, be they clubs, athletics, drama productions, or volunteering. Student involvement plays a significant role in overall student success.

This year Argyle will be on a four block per day semester schedule again. The block rotation is attached to this email. The schedule includes a daily flexible learning time for students to access additional support outside of class time. This year all students in B.C. are required to complete goal-setting throughout the year. To support this change we will be adding a few earlier starts during flex time. We will share these dates with families well in advance.

Argyle is fortunate to have several parent groups who support our students and programs throughout the school. Please consider any one of these groups when looking to get involved:

- [Argyle Parent Advisory Council](#) (PAC)
- [Argyle Music Association](#) (AMA)
- [Argyle Drama Association](#) (ADA)

This email contains the following attachments:

1. Opening day schedule
2. Argyle monthly calendar
3. Block rotation



École Argyle Secondary

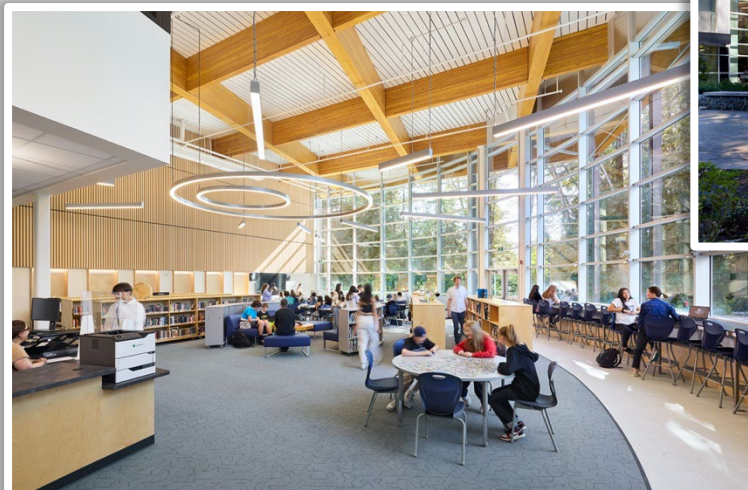
We look forward to seeing students next Tuesday. Until then we hope you enjoy the last few days of summer break.

Warm regards,

Kim Jonat, Principal (gr. 12 & international)

Laura Ames, Vice Principal (gr. 8 & 10)

Tim Ireland, Vice Principal (gr. 9 & 11)





2023-2024 École Argyle Secondary

Start-up Information

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Opening Day Schedule

Please see the attached schedule *Opening Day - Tuesday, September 5th*.

Daily Schedule

Argyle's [daily schedule](#) is attached to this email. Students who wish to have a paper copy can pick one up from the office on September 5th.

Homeroom

A homeroom list will be posted inside the building next Tuesday. The only homeroom next week is on Tuesday, September 5th. Students will be notified via the PA if a homeroom is called during the year.

Flex Time

Flex time is from 8:31am to 9:10am. Students are encouraged to access support from their teachers during this time, complete group projects, and work in specialized spaces such as the textiles room, fitness centre, metal shop, art room, and digital media labs. Attendance is not required during flex but students are strongly encouraged to access this support.

Year-long Argyle Calendar

The [year-long calendar](#) is posted on our website and attached to this email. There is also a [live calendar](#). Please note events and activities are subject to change.

Student Schedules

Students will receive their schedule (timetable) on Tuesday, September 5th in their homeroom.

Course Change Requests

The timetable was built based on student course requests made last Spring. Argyle is full and many classes are full so changes are unlikely.



Students wishing to request a change must complete a [paper form](#). Copies will be available on the table outside of counselling during the first week. This form must be signed by a parent/guardian. Once complete students drop off the form to the grade appropriate box outside counselling. Students need to continue attending the classes listed on their timetable until a counsellor meets with them and changes are made, if possible. Course change requests may result in changes to student's other courses.

The counselling suite will be closed to drop-ins during the first week. Counsellors will reach out to students who submit paper forms. This may take several days depending on the volume of requests.

Counsellors will not accept course change requests through Teams or by email.

Course requests will be reviewed in order of priority. Highest priority is given to students who are:

1. New students without a timetable
2. Incomplete timetables
3. Timetable does not meet graduation and/or post-secondary requirements (based on requests from last spring).
4. Course was completed or is in progress online or failed previously.

Lower priority changes – period changes, changed mind for elective courses.

Requests for teacher changes or changes to be with friends will not be granted.

The deadline to change courses for semester 1 is **Friday, September 15th**.

Study Blocks

We also realize that students may now wish to request a study block but did not do so last spring. If you wish to have a study block, please complete a course request change form and a [study period application](#) (under programming information) . Except in extraordinary situations we do not approve study blocks for grade 8 and 9 students.



Grade Counsellors & Grade Administrators

Counsellors will be available to students at Argyle throughout the year.

If your student needs additional social-emotional support, feels anxious about school, or if you are uncertain at this time if your student will return to in-person instruction, please contact your student's counsellor.

Argyle's counsellors can also help students connect with outside services such as the Foundry. Although students may see any counsellor they wish, the school assigns the following grade responsibilities to specific counsellors:

At Argyle the first point of contact is your student's classroom teacher and/or grade counsellor, followed by the grade administrator.

Grade	Counsellor	Grade Administrator
8	Ms. Katherine Sigurdsson ksigurdsson@sd44.ca 604-903-3618	Mme Laura Ames Lames@sd44.ca
9	Ms. Jessa Peers Jpeers@sd44.ca 604-903-3628	Mr. Tim Ireland Tireland@sd44.ca
10	Ms. Erin Malone emalone@sd44.ca 604-903-3617	Mme Laura Ames Lames@sd44.ca
11	Ms. Vikki Dashkevich vdashkevich@sd44.ca 604-903-3629	Mr. Tim Ireland Tireland@sd44.ca
12	Ms. Shawn White Swhite@sd44.ca 604-903-3638	Ms. Kim Jonat kjonat@sd44.ca
International students	Ms. Katherine Sigurdsson ksigurdsson@sd44.ca 604-903-3618	Ms. Kim Jonat kjonat@sd44.ca



Attendance Procedures

Please report student absences by email: argyle_attendance@sd44.ca. Put the word “absence” in the subject line and your student’s full name and grade in the body of the email. You can also notify the school of a student’s late arrival or early dismissal by email. Students who are late should go directly to their class and **not** report to the office.

Students cannot email in their own absence; only messages from parents and legal guardians are accepted.

For all absences, please include the following information:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Grade
- Date of absence & whether it is full day or what portion of the day
- Reason for absence (e.g.: ill, appointment, vacation)

What to do if you receive a phone call stating your student was absent for a class:

Have a conversation with your student. If your student says they were in class, they must speak with the teacher who marked them away. Only the classroom teacher can verify and change the attendance.

Leaving school once classes have begun:

If a student is leaving the school for any reason, parent permission is required, and students must sign out at the office. Please email argyle_attendance@sd44.ca in advance if a student needs to leave early for an appointment.

Health Awareness

Health awareness reduces the likelihood of a person coming to school when they are sick. This includes checking regularly for symptoms of illness to make sure you or your student does not come to school while sick. **Please help us keep everyone safe & healthy!**

Students, staff and other adults should follow [public health guidance](#) and the recommendations of their health care provider when they are sick. Health information is also available from [Healthlink BC](#) or by calling 811.



If your student develops symptoms of illness they need to let their teacher know and then report to the office immediately. Office staff will then contact parents/guardians to come and pick up their student.

Visitors

Staff are busy working with your students throughout the day and teachers are generally not able to meet with parents during instructional hours. Please make an appointment with staff prior to coming to the school. All visitors must sign in at the office during instructional time.

Parents/guardians are welcome to spectate at athletic games, concerts, and other performances open to the public.

SCHOOL STARTUP INFORMATION

School Start-up Forms

You will be receiving an email from the NVSD this week with instructions on completing the 3 online forms through School Cash Online. Please fill these out as soon as possible. If you have any questions about these forms, please call our office at 604-903-3300.

These forms do not require any payment. [School Cash Online](#) is simply the platform the school district uses to collect this information.

See these [instructions](#) on how to create a School Cash Online account.

Once you have completed the forms on SchoolCash Online and added each one to your cart (again, there are no fees to pay), press "Continue" to reach the "Review Your Order" page. Remember to press the "Complete Your Order" button, as the process is only complete once you receive a receipt.

3 Forms to complete:

1. *Impromptu Walking Field Trip Informed Consent* – this allows your student to leave the school property with staff on a fieldtrip that is within walking distance. e.g.: a PHE class walking to a local park
2. *Personal Information Consent for School District Publications* - this allows your student to have their picture printed in the yearbook, and in school publications such as a newsletter or the website.



3. *Student Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement* – this is required by all students to login and use technology while on the school network.

Student Verification Forms

Students will receive a student verification form during homeroom on Tuesday, September 5th. Parents/guardians are asked to review the information on the form. All forms need to be reviewed and returned in the first two weeks of school.

If changes are made:

1. Make the changes directly on the form.
2. Sign the form on the signature line.
3. Have your student return the form to the office.

If NO changes are made:

1. Sign the form on the signature line. This confirms you have reviewed the form and there are no changes.
2. Have your student return the form to the office.

Demographic Changes During the Year

If any of your demographic information changes during the year, please email our office at argyle@sd44.ca so we can update our records. This could be a change in address, phone number, parent/guardian contacts, email, or emergency contacts. Note that documentation is required for address changes.

Life-threatening Medical Conditions

If your student has an anaphylactic allergy and keeps an epi-pen in the office, please ensure you provide an updated one to the office as soon as possible.

If your student has a life-threatening medical condition, please contact the office to confirm/update the current information on file.



Allergy Awareness

If your student has an allergy, we encourage you to have a conversation with your student about how to keep themselves safe at school.

We have several students with severe allergies at Argyle, including food allergies. Please remind your student not to share their food with anyone at school, to wash their hands frequently and to clean up after eating.

MyEd Parent & Student Portal

The parent and student MyEd portal are currently closed. Parents & students will be notified when the portal reopens. Report cards are published on the portal four times a year.

Argyle's Code of Conduct

All students and parents are requested to review the [Argyle Code of Conduct](#) published in the student agenda and on the school's website.

Grade 8 Start up Info

Families of grade 8 students will be receiving a welcome letter and [permission forms](#) for the grade 8 Cheakamus Retreat later this week.

We look forward to welcoming the Argyle Grads of 2028 next week at our opening assembly at 9:00am. The assembly will take place in the large gym. Senior leadership students will be on site to help students find their way to the gym and welcome them to Argyle. A detailed schedule for opening day is attached.

There is a grade 8 parent night on Tuesday, September 12th at 7:00pm (immediately following the Cheakamus Retreat pre-trip meeting).

Grade 12 Start up Info

Grads and parents/guardians of grads will soon be receiving a graduation newsletter full of information about the grad year.



The first priority for grads is to double check that they are on track to meet graduation requirements. Grad information will be posted on the school website as it becomes available under *Students > Grad*.

All grade 12's are enrolled in Career Life Connections 12 (CLC 12). Grad information will also be posted in each CLC 12 Teams page throughout the year. **This course is a graduation requirement and finishes in April with the Capstone Project assignment.**

We look forward to welcoming grads at the grad and staff BBQ next Tuesday after the grade 12 assembly and distribution of timetables. There is no cost for grads to attend the BBQ. **There is a Grade 12 parent night on Monday, September 18th at 7:00pm.**

SCHOOL SERVICES

School Photos

Argyle's school photos will be taken on **Friday, September 8th** by GradsBC. Students will be called to the small gym to have their photo taken during the morning.

Please note that one of the start-up forms on School Cash Online is required to have your student's photo included in the school yearbook.

Cafeteria Service & Lunch Time

Canuel Caterers will once again be providing cafeteria service this year. The cafeteria will be open during flex time, breaks and lunch. Service begins on Wednesday, September 6th. The menu is posted above the servery in the multipurpose space.

Students who leave campus during lunch time are responsible for returning in time for the start of their afternoon class.

Students may eat in the multipurpose space, in learning communities, in student breakout rooms, in hallways, and outside. Students may not eat in the library, turf areas, or classrooms without teacher permission. We ask all students to use the appropriate bins to recycle or dispose of waste.



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Argyle's Library

Argyle's Teacher Librarian, Ms. Black, loves helping students with research, projects, bibliographies, and finding the perfect book. Students are encouraged to view the [Argyle Library webpage](#) and [online catalogue](#). Grade 8 students will receive a library orientation in the first few weeks of school. Ms. Black can be reached at kblack@sd44.ca. Ms. Cargill is the library assistant.

Lockers

Grade 8 students will be assigned a locker. They will receive their locker location and locker combination on September 5th.

Grade 9 to 12 students can request a locker during the first week of school using the QR code posted in the school. Students will need to sign in using their MS Teams login info. Lockers will be assigned in mid-September.

Gym lockers are available in the PE changerooms for day use only for students in PHE. Students must bring their own lock and remove it by the end of the day. Any locks that remain on the lockers will be cut and contents removed from the locker.

Agenda Books

Students will receive an Argyle agenda book in their homeroom on September 5th. Students are encouraged to use their agenda book to write down assignments, extracurricular activities, work/volunteer schedules, family commitments, and due dates. Regular agenda use helps students develop their time management and organization skills.

School Supplies

Students should have a:

- binder with dividers
- 3-hole lined paper
- pencil case with pens, pencils, eraser, & ruler
- calculator for math and science (teacher will share more info on type needed)
- athletic clothing, running shoes, & gym lock for physical & health education (PHE) class
- water bottle

Students need to **label supplies with their first and last name**. Subject teachers will communicate any additional supplies required for their class during the first week.



Lost & Found

There are two lost and found bins. One is located outside the library under the display cabinet. The other is outside the large gym.

Small lost and found items such as jewelry, electronics, wallets, etc. are held in the office. Please label items so we can get them back to you!

Athletics

Are you interested in joining an Argyle team? Our Fall athletics program begins immediately so it is important to sign up for a team as soon as possible. The teams we offer depend on student interest and availability of coaches and sponsors.

Students should check the Athletic notice board for team sign-up and information. Most teams are determined in the first two weeks of school so it is imperative to sign up as soon as possible.

If you have questions, please see our Athletic Director, Mr. Pearce. His Athletics office is by the large gym or send him an email at mpearce@sd44.ca. Listen for daily announcements about practices and meetings! Check out the Athletics bulletin board in the flex space at the top of the main staircase.

Fall sports at Argyle are:

- Girls' volleyball – see tryout info below
- Football – Junior (gr. 9-10) & Senior (gr. 11-12) (gr 8 is in the spring)
- Boys' soccer – Jr (gr. 8-10) & Sr (gr. 11-12)
- Girls' field hockey – Jr (gr. 8-10) & Sr (gr. 11-12)
- Grade 8 rugby
- Cheer – all grades (runs fall to spring)
- Cross country running – all grades
- Swimming – all grades

For more information including what sports are offered in the winter and spring seasons check out the [Athletics page](#).



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Girls' Volleyball Tryouts

**2023 ARGYLE PIPERS
VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS INFO**

The Volleyball tryouts will run the first week of school. See below for details:

<u>Bantam Girls (Grade 8s)</u>	<u>Tues Sept 5, Wed Sept 6, Thurs Sept 7</u>	<u>3-5pm</u>
<u>Juv Girls (Grade 9s)</u>	<u>Tues Sept 5, Wed Sept 6, Thurs Sept 7</u>	<u>5-7pm</u>
<u>Jr Girls (Grade 10s)</u>	<u>Tues Sept 5, Wed Sept 6, Thurs Sept 7</u>	<u>7-9pm</u>
<u>Sr Girls (Grade 11s/12s)</u>	<u>Tues Sept 5, Wed Sept 6, Thurs Sept 7</u>	<u>7-9pm</u>



For questions about girls' volleyball please contact Ms. Almeida (jalmeida@sd44.ca)

Clubs

Argyle has a number of clubs that are open to all students. For more information on up to date clubs, you can look at the [Clubs page](#) of the school website. Listen to the daily announcements for information on club meeting locations and events. Students looking to start a new club should start by completing the Club Application Package for Students on the Club page of the website.

OTHER INFORMATION

Construction Updates

A) Outdoor basketball court

The court was finished this summer and is open. Students are welcome to use the court outside of class time.



B) Artificial Turf field

The turf has arrived and will be installed in September. The contractor is completing the surface's field grading. The drainage, lights, concrete bleachers, curbs, fencing were finished over the summer. The anticipated completion date is early October.

A) Artificial Turf Practice Field

The turf was installed this week and the practice field will be opening next week.

Note: The upper parking lot beside the turf areas is closed during the turf installation. Once the lot reopens this will be for student and visitor parking.



Argyle Road & Mountain Highway

The District of North Vancouver has made safety improvements on Mountain Hwy at Argyle Rd. These include:

- Installation of a new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on Mountain Hwy at Argyle Rd. accompanied by a zebra crosswalk
- Installation of curb bulge with standard letdown on Mountain Hwy to reduce crossing distance
- Installation of an accessibility- standard letdown on the North-West corner of Argyle Rd.
- Installing a new bus pad and relocating the existing bus stop to accommodate the new curb bulge
- Signage and pavement markings



Transportation & Parking

Traffic Safety

Please help us maintain a safe environment by:

- Abiding by the 30km/hr school zone, and all parking and traffic signs.
- Exercising extreme caution if driving through the parking lot, and on roads surrounding the school.
- Avoiding pick up/drop off on Argyle Road. It is an exit route and a small road.
- Encouraging students to walk or ride to school. There are many bike racks on school grounds for student use. Students need to bring a bike lock.
- If you must pick up/drop off, please consider doing so a block from the school rather than in the parking lot.

Student parking

Due to the closure of the upper parking lot and an increase in the number of staff this year there will be NO student parking on site to start the school year. The lower lot is needed for staff parking. Students driving to school will need to find street parking.

Once the upper parking lot reopens this lot will be for student and visitor parking. The lower lot will continue to be for staff parking.

Visitor Parking

There are a few visitor parking spots near the front entrance. Note, these are not for student use. Visitors need to sign in at the office.

Electric Vehicle Parking

EV charging stations are for staff and student use active charging only; students needing to charge a vehicle must report to the office to register their vehicle.

Any vehicles blocking fire access or parked in reserved spaces will be towed at the owner's expense.



TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft Teams

Teachers will be creating an MS Teams channel for each of their classes. While some classes may use additional sites such as MyBlueprint for aspects of their class, all classes will use MS Teams as their primary platform.

Using their student login students have access to a suite of applications in Office 365 including Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. If you are new to Teams or need a refresher, please see our [student technology support page](#).

Technology - Student Laptops/Devices, WIFI

Students are welcome to bring devices to school but must abide by their teacher's expectations for their use in class. The school is not responsible for lost/stolen items.

We have several Chromebooks available to loan to students in financial need. Please contact your student's grade administrator to request one. These will be issued first come first served. There are also laptops available for student use in the library.

All students may access the wireless network with their own personal electronic devices if they accept and abide by the conditions outlined in the "Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement" start-up form on the School Cash online site.

Student Password Reset

During the first week of school students will receive instructions on how to reset their school login password.

Student Technology Support Page

Please see the [student tech support page](#) for quick guides on using Teams, MyEd, and accessing school district email.



COMMUNICATION

Argyle's Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

First Argyle PAC Meeting – 7pm, Wednesday, September 13th in the Argyle Library

The Argyle Parent Advisory Council is the voice of parents at our school. Members include parents and guardians of all Argyle students. The Argyle PAC promotes a positive partnership between home and school and works to enhance the educational experiences and resources for our students and foster the well-being of students and families in our Argyle community. The PAC has regular meetings to connect parents to what is going on at Argyle.

Funding for the Argyle PAC is two-fold: we receive provincial gaming money, which may be used to support extracurricular equipment and activities; and we also reach out to parents for financial contributions for specific fundraising campaigns.

Learn more about the [Argyle PAC](#).

Thank you for your support of the Argyle Community.

School Communication

The school shares information with students and their families through:

1. Argyle Secondary's [website](#)
2. [Daily Announcements](#) – read to students over the PA and posted on the homepage under Quick Links.
3. School Connects - used for emails and/or phone messages sent by the school or district. School newsletters are sent every two weeks.
4. [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) @argyleschool



Argyle Office & Contact Information

Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Friday when school is in session.

Argyle general e-mail: argyle@sd44.ca

Argyle phone number: 604-903-3300

Attendance reporting email: argyle_attendance@sd44.ca

Staff e-mails are on the website under [Staff Info](#).

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS

Tues. Sept. 5 th	First day of school – see opening day schedule
Wed. Sept. 6 th	First full day of classes (3124 block order)
Wed. Sept. 6 th	Fire safety drill in period 1
Fri. Sept. 8 th	School photo day
Mon. Sept. 11 th	Grade assemblies
Tues. Sept. 12 th	Grade 8 parent info night, 7pm
Wed. Sept. 13 th	PAC meeting, 7pm, Argyle library
Fri. Sept. 15 th	Semester 1 course change deadline

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

BACK TO SCHOOL CHECKLIST



- Ensure your student knows when to show up on the first day of school.
- Complete the online permission forms on School Cash Online.
- Review the Student Verification Form students will receive on the first day. Make changes to the form, sign it and return it to the office. If there are no changes, please still sign it indicating you have reviewed the form and return it to the office.
- Grade 8's - return the Cheakamus Grade 8 Retreat green permission forms to the office.
- Purchase school supplies as needed.
- Bookmark the [Argyle website](#).
- Enter important school dates into your calendar using the monthly calendar provided.