

Superintendent's Report



To: Parents/Guardians and North Vancouver School District staff
From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District

Announcements

Parent event – Streamlining Communications

How the school district is working to communicate better with parents

All parents/guardians are invited to join the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council for an event on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 from 7-9pm at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th floor). Over the past several years, the North Vancouver School District has been making efforts to better communicate with parents. This year, large changes have taken place to streamline communications and increase ease and accessibility. Deneka Michaud, Communications Manager with the school district, will explain to parents what has taken place and what is still to come, and will then seek feedback about future improvements. Please join us for an important and lively discussion about enhancing communications between parents and the school district/schools.

Community event – Cannabis legalization

Vancouver Coastal Health, in partnership with North Vancouver School District and Foundry North Shore, is hosting a [free community event](#) about the legalization of cannabis. Wednesday, November 14, 2018 from 7-9 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th Floor). Parents, professionals and youth are invited to hear a keynote presentation by Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, Medical Health Officer for North Shore & Sea to Sky, and to share their thoughts about the legalization of cannabis. Please RSVP: legalizationofcannabis.eventbrite.com.

Policy Updates

Policy 406: Resolving Concerns Regarding Personnel, Programs or Procedures (previously “Complaints Concerning Personnel, Programs or Procedures)

At the November 6, 2018 Public Board Meeting, the North Vancouver Board of Education approved revisions to [Policy 406](#). The Administrative Procedures are still being revised, which will clarify the steps to be followed to resolve a concern, with every effort made to address the issue as near to the source as possible. Policy 406 emphasizes a more collaborative approach to resolving concerns.

Policy 415: Standards of Investigation

At the November 6, 2018 Public Board Meeting, the North Vancouver Board of Education approved a new policy – [Policy 415: Standards of Investigation](#). This new policy outlines the process for investigating allegations of employee misconduct.

Facilities Updates

Argyle Replacement - Project Update

- Bulk excavation complete
- Piling complete
- Concrete footings and foundations under construction
- Site servicing installations underway
- Confirmation of funding for development of artificial turf field obtained from District of North Vancouver
- Development permit for field and Kilmer Creek daylighting - pending
- Funding for furniture for the new school - The Board of Education allocated \$750,000 from the 2017/2018 budget surplus towards furniture for the new Argyle Secondary

Handsworth Replacement - Progress Update

Steps completed:

- Consulting team retained
- Project core committee - developed and approved schematic design
- Conceptual/Schematic Design completed

Anticipated next steps

- Design development phase (October 2018-January 2019):
 - Handsworth Design Input Team (Handsworth staff representatives) workshops (November 2018 - January 2019)
 - District of North Vancouver Development Permit application (November 2018)
 - Public information meeting - TBC (Early January 2019)
- Construction document phase (January - May 2019)
- District of North Vancouver Building Permit application (February 2019)
- Project public tender phase (June - July 2019)
- Construction commencement (Summer 2019)
- Target occupancy of the new school (September 2021)
- Demolition of existing school and construction of new field (Late 2021)

Initiatives

Litterless Lunch - November 15 - 30, 2018



As part of the North Vancouver School District’s overall waste management efforts, we are running a district-wide “Litterless Lunch” from November 15 - 30, 2018. Throughout this sustainability campaign, students and staff are encouraged to bring lunch items with reduced packaging and then take home any lunch-related waste such as leftover food, recyclable items, and unavoidable packaging.

Sleep Out

Fundraising has begun for the North Vancouver School District’s Sleep Out initiative to support Covenant House. This program helps homeless youth by bringing awareness to the factors surrounding youth homeless, such as mental health supports, and raising funds for programs offered at Covenant House. Schools will be provided information shortly about how they can get involved. [Here is the school district’s fundraising page.](#) For every \$4,000 we raise, we fund one-year of mental health supports for one youth. Let’s support as many youth as possible!

Curriculum implementation day

On Friday, November 2, 2018, all staff in the North Vancouver School District came together to learn, share and grow. It was the first time since the 1990’s that all 2,500 employees were brought together on the same day for the same learning. Feedback obtained from our employee engagement survey in 2017 clearly demonstrated a desire for more learning together as a school district. Dr. Leyton Schnellert, an Associate Professor in UBC’s Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy, spoke to all staff about enhancing our professional practice to best support students. The day was an excellent opportunity for collaboration amongst staff. Thank you to the organization committee who arranged this outstanding professional learning day – Kathleen Barter, Greg Hockley, Jacquie Clendenning, Brad Baker, Melanie Learoyd, Meghan Downie, and Suzette Dohm.

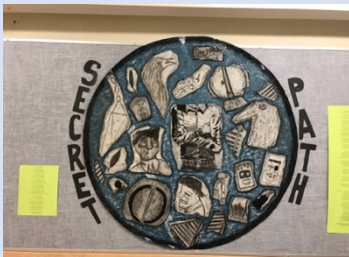
School visits

Carisbrooke Elementary



At Carisbrooke Elementary School I was reminded how cute it is to visit an elementary school on Halloween! The costumes were fabulous, and I felt really safe with the amount of firefighter and police officer costumes.

I was also given the opportunity to dance in music class and study math in various classes.



I was thoroughly impressed with the work the entire school is doing to embed Indigenous teachings into the curriculum. Grades five and six students in Division 4 wrote a really powerful poem titled [Chanie \(A Response to ‘The Stranger’\)](#).

Boundary Elementary



I joined Ms. Koenigsfest's kindergarten class for a lesson about the sun and moon, and day versus night.



I saw financial literacy and planning in action in Mme. Eliza's late French Immersion class (followed by a pretty insightful Q&A session with the students).



I also got in an extra workout...



And experienced how auditory, visual and tactile learning styles can be incorporated into teaching math. Ms. Chand's class

was sure having fun singing their math lesson!

Queensbury Elementary



In Laurie Kennedy's class, Lucas was the student scientist for the day and he taught the class about air pressure.



I took part in a cool activity that used shoes to teach the art of effective questioning, predicting and inferencing to discover details - "What type of person would wear these shoes?"

Ms. Ham's class then grilled myself and Ms. Michaud, Communications Manager for the North Vancouver School District, with questions about media and social media. The questions were incredibly deep and meaningful.