

Superintendent's Report



To: **Parents/Guardians**

From: **Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District**

Announcements

The Digital Age: The influence of new technologies on education



Artificial intelligence. Cyber security. Gaming. Virtual reality. What does it mean for our kids? For education? For our professions? For us personally? What does it mean for the North Vancouver School District? The North Vancouver School District is mindful of the influence of technology on the academic, human, social, and career development of our students. We invite our community to explore and discuss the influence of technology, given the pervasive nature of technology in our lives. Four interactive sessions are being hosted over the course of the school year. Each session takes place from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave).

- Artificial Intelligence – Tuesday, October 8, 2019
- Online Security/Safety – Tuesday, November 5, 2019
- Online gaming – Tuesday, January 14, 2020
- Virtual Reality – Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Click [HERE](#) for the informational poster.

Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health

The North Vancouver School District has identified Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and mental health as educational priorities. Why are SEL and mental health important? Please click [HERE](#) to find out.

SchoolMessenger – Cross-enrolled students

For parents/guardians of secondary school students who are cross-enrolled in two schools (typically because of enrolment in a speciality program such as an academy), messages sent via SchoolMessenger will be sent to you from both schools. Cross-enrolment results in students having

two records on the Student Demographics file that we upload to our parent notification system. The purpose of this set-up is to ensure that in the case of an emergency at either one of the schools the message will reach parents/guardians. Unfortunately, we cannot change the system set-up. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Sustainability

Litterless Lunch 2019

Our 2019 school district-wide *Litterless Lunch* campaign runs from October 14 - 25, which is just around the corner. This year our campaign ties in with Waste Reduction Week in Canada (October 21 - 27), so the entire country will be focused on waste. Let's show the rest of Canada how we do things in North Vancouver schools! Please consider providing lunches that do not include any waste (aside from organic food waste).

Sustainability update

The North Vancouver School District is committed to demonstrating leadership and providing the highest standard of education in environmental stewardship through programs, education and facilities that foster greater sustainability. Please click [HERE](#) for an update on our efforts.

Together to Twenty: Energy target update

A key component of the school district's overall Sustainability Strategy is effective and efficient use of energy. NVSD is targeting a 20% reduction in energy by 2020, relative to our 2010 baseline. The "finish line" for this target is June 30, 2020 – which is only 9 months away! We have made good progress towards the target, but are not there yet. As of June 30, 2019, we were at 18% savings; there is only 2% to go! To help us get over the finish line we will be running a district-wide "Together to Twenty" campaign from November to March. Schools will be encouraged to run at least one of their own energy-related campaigns during this time and will have the flexibility to choose from the following:

- Lights out
- Holiday Shutdown (Winter Break)
- Winter Heating (e.g., Sweater Day)
- Energy Education – Fortis and BC Hydro
- Printing Challenge

Board of Education passes Climate Emergency motion

At the September 24, 2019, Board of Education public meeting, the following motion was passed: *That North Vancouver School District declare a climate emergency and support our students and teachers in their endeavours in educating our community on climate change and the impact it has on our environment and that the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to develop a measurable plan to reduce further our carbon footprint as a school district and that this plan be reviewed every calendar year; and that the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to reach out to both North Vancouver District and City of North Vancouver about developing a task force where we jointly can work together to reduce our carbon footprint.*

And

That staff be directed to explore opportunities to make the replacement school at Cloverley an eco-demonstration school and report their findings back to the Board of Education.

International Walk to School Month

October is International Walk to School Month. Please consider supporting your child to walk to and from school. I Love Transit Week is Oct. 7-11. Students ride the bus for FREE all week long!