

Superintendent's Report



To: Parents/Guardians

From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District

Happy Easter! Enjoy your long-weekend.

Announcements

Cheakamus Centre – Revitalization, Renewal and Re-energize

Walking along the Cheakamus River, the freshness of the April spring morning is invigorating. The sound of excited children flows from both longhouse and Outdoor School. There is a feeling of renewal with the change of the seasons and a sense of positive energy. Cheakamus Centre has been undergoing much revitalization, and the efforts and momentum are creating tangible results. Please click [HERE](#) for a snapshot of the many exciting renewal initiatives underway.

Elementary Band and Strings – EARLY BIRD DEADLINE – April 19, 2019

The early bird registration deadline for the 2019/20 Elementary Band and Strings program (grades 4-7) is Friday, April 19, 2019. If your child plans on being in the program next school year, please register now. Not only will you receive a discount, but it will also help to ensure all of the programs are able to run. Please click [HERE](#) for further information and to register. The Elementary Band and Strings program is a unique instrumental music program that is distinct to the North Vancouver School District.

Young Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad (YELL) – DEADLINE EXTENDED – April 30, 2019

The deadline to apply for Young Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad (YELL) has been extended to April 30, 2019. For students entering grades 11 and 12. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

NVPAC General Meeting - TOPIC: Why Every Parent Needs LGBTQ+ Awareness – April 24, 2019

All parents are invited to this free North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council event taking place on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave., 5th floor). Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Board of Education – Motions from Board Meetings

To improve communications with students, staff, parents, educational partners, and the community, the Board of Education is now posting the decisions it makes on a new dedicated website page titled [Public](#)

[Board Meeting Motions](#). The purpose of the webpage is to ensure that decisions made by the Board of Education can be easily located.

Catchment reviews

The North Vancouver School District is currently reviewing catchment areas for Capilano Elementary/Norgate Elementary and Eastview Elementary/Lynn Valley Elementary to relieve enrolment pressures and balance enrolment between the schools. Please click [HERE](#) for details. Public consultation meetings are being held for each catchment review: Capilano/Norgate - May 2 from 7-9 p.m. at Norgate Elementary, and Eastview/Lynn Valley - May 9 from 7-9 p.m. at Eastview Elementary.

Information

Provincial measles immunization campaign for school age children – April to June 2019

In response to the recent increase in measles cases in British Columbia, as well as outbreaks elsewhere in the world, the BC Government has launched a provincial measles immunization campaign to increase protection among school age children throughout the province. The campaign will run from April through June 2019. Please click [HERE](#) for further information.

Bargaining update

It has been five years since we last conducted collective bargaining, and we are looking forward to returning to the table with both of our unions – the North Vancouver Teachers' Association and CUPE Local 389. Bargaining at the provincial level, between BC Public School Employers' Association and BC Teachers' Federation, is underway. At the local table, the North Vancouver Teachers' Association and the North Vancouver School District commenced bargaining last week, with each party already tabling their opening proposals. The exchange was positive and we look forward to successful negotiations to come. The K-12 CUPE Presidents' Council has signed a Provincial Framework Agreement with BC Public School Employers' Association that will be available to be included in local agreements within a prescribed time frame. This framework provides funding for wage increases, benefits improvements and other areas of focus, such as safety in the workplace and provincial job evaluation. Local CUPE bargaining will commence in May.

Budget 2019/20 update

Please join us on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave., 5th floor) for the Board of Education Public Board Meeting. Staff will present Budget recommendations to the Board based on the Strategic Plan, stakeholder input and Thoughtexchange data. The recommendations will also be posted to the website [HERE](#) (under the Agenda for the Tuesday, April 23, 2019 meeting) on Thursday, April 18, 2019.

Indigenous Education weekly flyer

Every week, a weekly flyer is created regarding Indigenous Education in the North Vancouver School District. This flyer includes resources, community events and information available to all parents and community members. Please click [HERE](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page to access the flyers thus far. Click [HERE](#) for the latest flyer.

Facilities Updates

Argyle Secondary replacement project

Construction of the new Argyle Secondary School continues. Construction of the northwest wing and gym has begun and the steel frames are starting to go up.

Handsworth Secondary replacement project

The North Vancouver School District continues to work towards a development permit for the replacement of Handsworth Secondary School.

School Visits

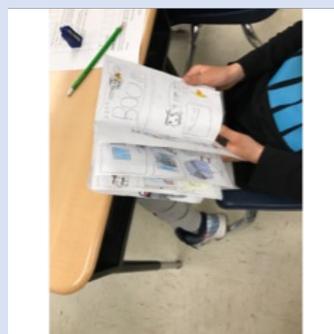
Seycove Secondary

At Seycove Secondary I toured the school, popping into many classes. I checked out the outstanding photography of students doing a "100 photos project", was lucky enough to step into band class to hear the students play, and visited Lorrie Welch's Science 12 class. Just a week later I was lucky enough to return to Seycove for their "Our History" event, which is a partnership with the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity to bring the history of LGBTQ+ rights in Canada to students. The event was organized by teacher Andrea Yeo and was a huge success.



Sherwood Park Elementary

At Sherwood Park I spent time practicing mindful breathing with the kindergarten students in Darlene Sulis' class. I then spent recess in the staffroom before visiting with a very special student who was using a visual controlled computer system to read. It was amazing to see her be able to flip pages and choose sections with her eye control alone. She then lead her class in a game of bingo by selecting the bingo colours with her eyes – the entire class was having tremendous fun and was fully engaged. I also got to see book making in grade 3/4 with Aliko Constantis. The students wrote, drew and created books from start to finish. The stories were incredibly creative and well-written.



Brooksbank Elementary

In Wendy Tozer's class, students were doing book talks – reading, reviewing and presenting their book reviews to class. The integration of technology into this lesson was quite impressive, as students were able to use iPads to create their reviews and presentations. Students were also working on pre-contact Indigenous Canadian history projects. Susanne Steffens' grade 3 class shared their favourite moments from a recent fieldtrip to the Museum of Anthropology. Students in Angela McKay's grade 7 class were getting ready for secondary school by practicing essay writing. I was also able to visit with Lasse Leslie, whose music class was learning guitar.



Cheakamus Centre

Cheakamus Centre was full to the brim when I visited. Braemar Elementary students were taking part in the Skw'unc-wa longhouse program, and Queen Mary Elementary and Highlands Elementary school students were taking part in Outdoor School. I was able to visit the programs, dine with the staff and students for lunch, tour the property, and learn about the many renewal and revitalization initiatives and projects underway.

