

# Superintendent's Report



**To: Parents/Guardians**

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

**Happy Halloween!**

## **Announcements**

### **Long Range Facilities Plan**

All school districts in British Columbia are now required to gather community feedback for their Long Range Facilities Plan. The Long Range Facilities Plan looks at student enrolment projections over the next 10 years with the purpose of knowing where schools are needed and how large these schools need to be. The core mandate of the school district is to provide kindergarten to grade 12 education; thus, the Long Range Facilities Plan must focus on facilities to deliver K-12 educational needs. Feedback can be provided online from November 4-15, 2019. The participant link will be posted to our website and social media channels on Monday.

### **Cyber security, students and schools**

How are we ensuring our systems are secure in order to protect children and students? What careers exist in this sought after field? All parents/guardians and students are invited to attend a presentation on cyber security and its relation to education. Tuesday, November 5, 2019, from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th floor). Neil Armstrong, a Systems Engineer with Palo Alto, will do a short presentation, which will be followed by a facilitated panel discussion and Q&A.

### **International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme – Norgate Community Elementary**

The North Vancouver School District is exploring the implementation of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme at Norgate Community Elementary School. The Norgate community is invited to a public information session on Thursday, November 7, 2019, from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Norgate Community Elementary School (1295 Sowden St, North Vancouver). More information is available [HERE](#).

## Strategic planning

The North Vancouver School District's current 10-year strategic plan ends in 2021. It is time to reflect on what we have achieved and determine where we need to place focus next. The school district has a Vision and Values, supported by strategic goals. The strategic goals are the 'how' – they are the ways in which the school district strives to achieve its Vision. It is the strategic goals that we are reflecting on. It is important for the entire school district community to take part in the strategic planning process, so that the collective goals are reflective of all stakeholder needs. The strategic planning process has been designed to offer a wide variety of opportunities for the community to provide input. Online engagement will be paired with in-person strategic planning sessions. Further information will be communicated to the North Vancouver School District community as each participation opportunity nears. Click [HERE](#) for the high-level timeline.

## Bargaining update

The North Vancouver Board of Education and the BC Public School Employers' Association have ratified the local agreements with both CUPE Local 389 and the North Vancouver Teachers' Association. CUPE Local 389 has now completed its membership vote, successfully completing all the required steps of the ratification process for a new collective agreement between the parties. Membership ratification is still to occur with the North Vancouver Teachers' Association. With respect to Provincial teacher bargaining, the Labour Relations Board mediator report should be presented soon to the parties, who will then consider the terms of the report.

## Band and Strings - AGM

Parents are cordially invited to the Annual General Meeting of the North Vancouver Band & Strings Parents' Association on Monday November 18, 2019, at 7 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Avenue, 5th Floor). The president, treasurer and teachers will present reports, followed by the election of officers and directors for the new year. There will also be some performances by students and teachers.

## North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council Committee for Diversity and Inclusion

The North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council (NVPAC) is looking for parents who are interested in attending meetings with other parents to discuss topics related to diversity and inclusion. They are also looking for parents who can help to plan speakers and events, and who can provide direction to NVPAC to help shape resources and supports related to diversity and inclusion. The next meeting of the committee is on November 12, 2019, at 7 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th floor). For more information, email: [inclusion@northvanpac.org](mailto:inclusion@northvanpac.org).

## Information

### Educational priorities - 2018-2019 Year in Review

The North Vancouver School District's educational plan outlines various priorities geared at supporting the academic success of all students. To demonstrate the work that was done throughout the 2018/2019 School Year towards these priorities, we have put together a visual representation of the efforts within each priority area. Please click [HERE](#) to view this visual report.

## Thank you – Litterless Lunch and Waste Reduction Week

Thank you to everyone who participated in the North Vancouver School District Litterless Lunch event from October 14-25. We encourage all families to make litterless lunches their everyday lunches. Check out these great examples of students and staff having fun with waste reduction over the past few weeks:

				
<p>Superintendent Mark Pearmain showing off his litterless lunch.</p>	<p>All signs point to sustainability at Blueridge Elementary for Litterless Lunch week.</p>	<p>Education Services Centre staff get crafty, fashioning reusable grocery bags from old T-shirts.</p>	<p>Argyle students take part in a clothing swap on Oct. 24, organized by the school's Environment Club.</p>	<p><i>Tired of being treated like trash, these paper towels are making a break for the organics bin.</i></p> <p>These characters gave staff a memorable recycling lesson at the Education Services Centre.</p>

## Together to Twenty

The North Vancouver School District is in its final lap to achieve 20 per cent energy savings by the year 2020. To help us get over the finish line we will be running a district-wide "Together to Twenty" campaign from November to March. Each school will be running at least one energy-related campaign during this time.

## Indigenous Education newsletter

In the latest North Vancouver School District Indigenous Education newsletter, read about the white sage lesson our school district provided to all staff, a holiday art contest, the Indigenous Education Book Club, and meet a member of the Indigenous Education Team. Click [HERE](#) to read the newsletter.

## Walk/roll to school – Stay safe in the darker, wetter weather

The North Vancouver School District encourages students to get to and from school in active ways. As the days get shorter and the weather gets wetter, please take the time to review safety tips with your children. It is important to walk/roll in groups, be aware of your surroundings, not speak to strangers, be visible with reflectors or bright clothing, cross streets at crosswalks, and report anything concerning. Further safety tips are available on the RCMP website [HERE](#).

## School visit

### Norgate Community Elementary School



At Norgate I was able to see Principal Rob Smyth bust some moves. This is Rob's last week working in our school district and it was nice to see him going out in style! I also had the honour of witnessing a presentation from Indigo to the entire school. Indigo raised money for the school's library over the summer and presented the school with a cheque for more than \$6,000! Thank you, Indigo for supporting our students and schools.