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Announcements

Strategic Plan 2021-2031: Video

The school district is pleased to share a new [video](#) to introduce our 10-year strategic plan to the community. We are especially pleased to have been able to involve students from



across the North Vancouver School District in creating awareness about our bold and aspirational plan for enriching student-centred learning and innovative instruction, enhancing our welcoming and inclusive culture, championing truth and reconciliation, promoting mental health and well-being and leading in environmental stewardship. For more information about the Strategic Plan 2021-2031, click [HERE](#).

Orange Shirt Day - September 29

Orange Shirt Day is recognized nationally and annually on September 30. This date is significant as it is the approximate date children would have been taken to residential schools. This year, due to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation statutory holiday (see below), the North Vancouver School District will recognize Orange Shirt Day on Wednesday, September 29.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – September 30

Following the federal government's passing of legislation to annually recognize September 30 as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (a federal statutory holiday), the B.C. Government advised all provincial public sector employers that for this year, they should also recognize September 30 as a holiday for all public sector employees. As a result, public schools across the province, including those within the North Vancouver School District, **will be closed on September 30, 2021**.

The North Vancouver School District encourages all members of the school district community to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Information

Federal Election 2021 – September 20

The federal election is Monday, September 20. The North Vancouver School District encourages all eligible voters to visit a polling station and cast their vote, if not done so already through advance voting. Visit elections.ca for more information, and use the "My Voter Information" section of the website to find your riding, where to vote, a listing of candidates, and your riding map.

Finance & Facilities Standing Committee Update

On Tuesday, September 14, Jim Mackenzie, Director of Facilities and Planning, and Michael Chapman, Assistant Director, provided an update on the recent Annual Facilities Grant funded projects undertaken over the summer, including classroom ventilation

upgrades. Click [HERE](#) to view a copy of the presentation and [HERE](#) for the video recording of the meeting.

Indigenous Education

The Indigenous Education team is pleased to share its first flyer for the school year. The [September 7 to 17 issue](#) includes information and resources on Orange Shirt Day, including the new logo designed by Indigenous Support Worker Ann Marchand, Truth and Reconciliation Week, professional development opportunities and more. These flyers are posted to the [Indigenous Education](#) section of our website (scroll to the bottom of the page).

SafeArrival Update

Ensuring students arrive safely at school each day is one of the North Vancouver School District's top priorities. [SafeArrival](#), which is part of the SchoolMessenger platform, is designed to enhance schools' existing absence-checking procedures by:

- Making it easier for parents/guardians to report their child's absence (e.g. illness, vacation, appointment).
- Reducing the time it takes school staff to verify student attendance.
- Making it more efficient for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

Following a successful pilot with six of our elementary schools (Boundary, Braemar, Cove Cliff, Dorothy Lynas, Ridgeway and Seymour Heights) over spring 2021, we are pleased to share SafeArrival will be rolled out across all elementary schools this month. Click [HERE](#) for more information, and please contact your child's school directly with any questions.

Kids 12 and Under Ride Free

Children 12 and under can now ride TransLink services free of charge as part of a new provincial program. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Mouth Rinse & Gargle COVID-19 Test Kits

BC Children's Hospital and Vancouver Coastal Health will continue to make available, through schools, test kits for students who become symptomatic (two or more COVID-19 symptoms) during the school day. The test kit provides an at-home testing option; the specimen is dropped off at any LifeLabs location or BC Children's Hospital for processing (instructions are provided with each kit). Acceptance of a kit is voluntary. Families are still required to complete the [Daily Health Check](#) **prior** to sending their child to school.

School District Permission Forms

At the start of each school year, parents/guardians must complete various permission forms for their children. Three of these forms, in addition to the Daily Health Check Acknowledgement, must be completed online via [School Cash Online](#). All other permission forms are paper-based, and you would have received these directly from your child's school. Thank you to all families who have already completed these forms. If you haven't yet, we ask that you please complete these forms as quickly as possible.

Joining a School PAC

Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) are non-profit independent organizations supporting the efforts of schools throughout the North Vancouver School District. PACs strive to represent the diversity within their communities, and through their ideas and feedback, contribute to the benefit of all students. There are many ways parents and guardians of registered students are able to participate in a school's PAC. More information is available [HERE](#).

NVSD Events

Public Board Meeting - September 21

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on how you can provide input and to review the agenda and board package (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

Standing Committee Meeting - October 5

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, October 5 at 7 p.m. Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on how you can provide input and to review the complete agenda (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

NVSD Registrations

AFK After School Art Classes – Registration Open

After School Art is back, with both in-person and virtual classes available. All classes are taught by BC certified art specialist teachers and provide students the opportunity to

further their artistic ability and foster positive attitudes towards the visual arts. For more information and to register, visit the [Artists for Kids](#) website.

Good News Stories from the NVSD

We've had a busy few months at the North Vancouver School District! For this first issue of the Superintendent's Report, I would like to highlight some of the stories shared over the summer months. Visit our [Learn, Share & Grow Blog](#) and [News & Announcements](#) section of our website to stay informed on the good work that is happening here. *Enjoy!*

- Coast Salish Welcome Figure completes North Vancouver's Argyle Secondary ([North Shore News article](#))
- Positive ticket campaign launches in North Van ([Media release](#))
- Eastview Elementary featured on CTV Vancouver for Back to School ([CTV Vancouver video and article](#))
- B.C. high school football returns this week ([North Shore News article](#))
- North Vancouver parents encouraged to register kids for StrongStart preschool programs ([North Shore News article](#))
- North Vancouver teen donates stunning table crafted from fallen 280-year-old fir tree to school ([North Shore News article](#))
- North Vancouver youth to represent Canada in culinary competition in Paris ([North Shore News article](#))
- Collaborative crosswalk murals at Ridgeway Elementary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Braemar is blooming ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Capilano student teaches others about Black history ([NVSD blog post](#))
- North Vancouver kids to complete 2,150 kilometres for residential school survivors ([North Shore News article](#))
- Boundary Elementary wins top award for Bike to School Week 2021 ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Connection through collaborative printmaking ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Lights, Camera, Action! with Sutherland's Global Perspectives Program ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Salmon Release Ceremony ([NVSD blog post](#))

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Sean".



Mark Pearmain
Superintendent of Schools

The North Vancouver School District is situated upon the unceded traditional territory of the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. We would like to thank the Coast Salish people and value the opportunity to learn, share and grow on this traditional territory.

Updates from the Superintendent, including the bi-weekly Superintendent's Report, are available [HERE](#).

