

In this Issue

Announcements

- World Teachers' Day – October 5
- World Mental Health Day – October 10
- Anti-Racism Steering Committee: Survey deadline October 22

Information

- Indigenous Education
- District Priorities in Review/2-Year Operating Plan
- Outdoor Safety – Be Prepared
- Celebrating Halloween Safely

NVSD Events

- Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art: Beyond the Horizon Exhibition
- Public Board Meeting – October 19
- Kindergarten Orientation Information – October 20
- Standing Committee Meeting – November 9

NVSD Registrations

- 2022/2023 Kindergarten Registration – Starting soon
- AFK After School Art Classes – A few spaces remain

Community Initiatives

- City of North Vancouver's *Community Wellbeing Strategy* – Share your voice

Good News Stories from the NVSD



Announcements

World Teachers' Day – October 5

[World Teachers' Day](#), recognized annually on October 5, celebrates teachers and the important role educators play in society and the contributions they make to a strong global community.

This year's theme, "Teachers at the heart of education recovery," captures not only what we know about staff at the North Vancouver School District but also what we have continually seen demonstrated throughout the pandemic. Their dedication to their work, deep love of teaching, care for students, the community and for each other, in addition to their resilience, adaptability, flexibility and innovation, ensure staff across the district are supporting all students achieve their personal goals, priorities and definitions of success and prepare for a bright future.

While the North Vancouver School District marked World Teachers' Day on October 5, please join me in acknowledging and thanking staff throughout our school district for the incredible work they continue to do to support students.

World Mental Health Day – October 10

[World Mental Health Day](#), which took place earlier in the week, is a day to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilize efforts in support of mental health. It is therefore fitting to share with you the work of local students, who through their involvement with Family Services North Shore's YouthLAB, created a video intended for youth. The message to youth is "that they are not alone in their struggles, that there are people who care and are listening, and that there are people that want to help and support them." Click [HERE](#) to read more about the project, and [HERE](#) for the video.

Anti-Racism Steering Committee: Survey deadline October 22

The North Vancouver School District's Anti-Racism Steering Committee would like to remind students, staff and families to please complete a survey about their lived experiences within the school district, and by Friday, October 22. For those who have already done so – thank you for sharing your experiences and thoughts on opportunity and barriers and adding your voice to this important conversation. Your participation will help support the school district's ongoing commitment to ensuring a welcoming, safe and inclusive culture for all school district community members.

On Tuesday, October 13, families and staff would have received a reminder email with a link to complete the survey. Please check your Inbox. For more information about this confidential, anonymous and voluntary survey, please watch this brief [video](#).

Information

Indigenous Education

The latest edition of the [Indigenous Education Flyer](#) includes information about the Downie Wenjack Legacy Schools project and upcoming Secret Path Week, online resources to grow your knowledge about the Skwxwú7mesh and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and connecting to the core competencies, and information and colouring page resources about the Three Sisters (corn, climbing beans and squash). These flyers, produced by the Indigenous Education team, are posted to the [Indigenous Education](#) section of our website (scroll to the bottom of the page).

District Priorities in Review / 2-Year Operating Plan

At the Tuesday, October 5 Standing Committee Meeting, District Principals highlighted key educational work intended for the upcoming school year that aligns with the school district's [10-year strategic plan](#). In addition, Superintendent Mark Pearmain and school district staff provided an update and highlights on the 2021-2023 two-year operating plan. Click [HERE](#) for the presentation slides and [HERE](#) to view the meeting recording.

Outdoor Safety – Be Prepared

With fresh snow on the North Shore mountains, North Shore Rescue and BC AdventureSmart are reminding outdoor enthusiasts to prepare accordingly, no matter the outdoor activity:

- Make a plan and leave a plan with someone you trust. Include when they should expect you back.
- Know the terrain and understand the conditions and weather patterns.
- Bring a map, poles and light source (e.g. a head lamp – your phone doesn't count).
- Wear or carry suitable clothing (e.g. puffy jacket, rain shell, toque, gloves) and dress in layers. Wear proper footwear (e.g. hiking boots and traction such as microspikes).
- Be aware of cellular and satellite coverage in the area, as it may be limited to highway corridors or impacted by physical obstacles which can block the signal.
- Know your limits to avoid injury and exceeding your abilities.
- If you need help, call 911 – there is no charge for rescue.

As a reminder, North Shore Rescue has created an online, interactive video designed to educate the public about making good choices in the backcountry. The video is accessible on our [Outdoor Safety](#) web page. In addition, both [North Shore Rescue](#) and [BC AdventureSmart](#) have an abundance of safety tips and resources available on their websites to ensure we all get outside and get home safely.

Celebrating Halloween Safely

Please review my annual [message](#), which provides guidance on how families can help students celebrate Halloween in a safe and fun manner.

NVSD Events

Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art: Beyond the Horizon Exhibition

This year's fall exhibition, Beyond the Horizon, is an expression that encourages us to consider what is "farther than the possible limit of sight, beyond what we can foresee, know or anticipate." It is both visual – what we see – and conceptual – what we know. The horizon as a metaphor provides us with an opportunity to challenge and evaluate our own ways of knowing. The artists in this exhibition expand conventional uses of materials and explore modes of making through collaboration with other artists and the land. Click [HERE](#) for more information about this exhibition, now open, including gallery hours.

Public Board Meeting – October 19

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, October 19 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).

Kindergarten Orientation Information – October 20

A kindergarten orientation information presentation for parents/guardians of children who will enter kindergarten in September 2022 will be available online [HERE](#) starting Wednesday, October 20.

Standing Committee Meeting – November 9

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, November 9 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

2022/2023 Kindergarten Registration – Starting soon

Registration for students entering kindergarten in September 2022 (children born in 2017) runs from October 25 - December 17. Detailed instructions on the registration process, including forms and documentation required, are available [HERE](#).

AFK After School Art Classes – A few spaces remain

Spaces remain in the following After School Art classes:

- Adventures in Cartooning & Illustration (virtual)
- Teen Sculpture and Mixed Media (in-person)

All classes are taught by B.C. certified art specialist teachers. For more information and to register, visit the [Artists for Kids website](#).

Community Initiatives

CNV's *Community Wellbeing Strategy* – Share your voice

The City of North Vancouver is developing a *Community Wellbeing Strategy* to help create a city where everyone belongs. The strategy will be used to inform and guide the City's actions over the next 10 years and provide direction on social issues such as community health, affordability, public safety, reconciliation, inclusiveness, resiliency, working together, and the reduction of poverty, discrimination, racism, and other barriers. Learn more [HERE](#) and share your feedback through the [online survey](#) by October 31.

Good News Stories from the NVSD

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!*

- Welcome Figure Kayachtn unveiled at North Vancouver's Argyle Secondary ([North Shore News article](#))
- Students get creative commemorating Terry Fox Day ([NVSD blog post](#))
- A Reflection: Curriculum Implementation Day ([NVSD blog post](#))

- Truth and Reconciliation at Xwemélch'stn Community Elementary School ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Action-oriented approach to French Immersion ([NVSD blog post](#))

With appreciation,

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

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.

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