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## Announcements

### Black History Month

The theme for Black History Month 2022 is *February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day*. During the month of February, people across Canada are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities, activities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians ([source](#)). February issues of the Superintendent's Report will be used to highlight ways in which our schools are recognizing and honouring Black History Month. Click [HERE](#) to read about how every month is Black History Month at Carson Graham Secondary.

### Engagement Opportunities – Your Voice Matters

We invite and encourage you to participate and share your feedback in the following three areas:

#### Secondary School Schedule Survey

Families of secondary school students would have already received an invitation and reminder email asking for their participation in the Secondary School Schedule Survey. The feedback received from families, students and staff, along with the feedback received from last spring's Secondary School Schedule Survey, will be used to help the school district plan for the coming school year.

A final reminder email with survey link will be issued this week. The deadline to participate in this survey is Monday, January 31, 11:59 p.m.

#### Proposed 2022/2023 School Calendar

Next week, school district stakeholders will be invited to provide input on the proposed calendar for the 2022/2023 school year. Feedback can be provided online via Microsoft Forms from Tuesday, February 1, to Monday, February 28, 11:59 p.m.

#### 2022/2023 Budget Priorities

Each year, the school district undertakes a public consultation process for input on budget priorities. School district stakeholders are invited and encouraged to provide their

input on budget priorities that align with and support the school district's vision, values and strategic goals. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Feedback can be provided:

- Virtually through Microsoft Teams during two scheduled Public Standing Committee meetings, where participants can ask questions and share comments: [February 8 at 7 p.m.](#) and [April 5 at 7 p.m.](#)
- Via email to [budgetcomments@sd44.ca](mailto:budgetcomments@sd44.ca) from February 8 to March 15, 2022.
- Online through a survey from February 8 to March 15, 2022.
- By traditional mail addressed to: Secretary Treasurer, 2121 Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 2K6. Feedback must be received by March 15, 2022.

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback.

### **Joint Update from the NVSD and NVTAs**

The North Vancouver Board of Education and the North Vancouver Teachers' Association are thrilled to announce a significant increase to the amount of annual Professional Development funds available for teachers.

Commencing September 2022, rather than the existing fixed amount of \$94,500.00, going forward, the fund for each year will be determined by a new formula tied to teachers' salaries and so will increase with general wage increases. For the 2022/23 school year, the new formula will provide a Professional Development fund of \$143,544.00, which represents an increase of over 50% and reflects the parties shared view on the merits of such an investment for our valued teaching staff.

As shared by Scott Stanley, Executive Director, Human Resources, North Vancouver School District; and Katrina Russell, President, North Vancouver Teachers' Association, "We are pleased that the positive relationship between the parties and cooperative approach that the Board and the Union each adopted in coming to this agreement has resulted in something that will provide increased support for our teachers for years to come."

### **Anti-Racism Focus Group Session - February 3**

As part of the North Vancouver School District's commitment to learning from the community's lived experiences to help ensure a welcoming, safe and inclusive culture for all school district community members, parents/guardians are invited to participate in the

final remaining anti-racism focus group for this stakeholder group, which takes place via Zoom on Thursday, February 3 at 7 p.m.

To participate in this focus group, which is facilitated by Bakau Consulting, please email Consultant Will Shelling at [will@bakauconsulting.com](mailto:will@bakauconsulting.com), and use the subject line: NVSD Parent/Guardian Focus Group [February 3 at 7 p.m.]. You will be registered in the focus group if you receive a calendar invite.

Bakau limits the number of focus group participants to facilitate meaningful and authentic dialogue. Please direct any questions about the focus groups to [will@bakauconsulting.com](mailto:will@bakauconsulting.com). Thank you for your participation.

## Information

### Q&A with Vancouver Coastal Health

The North and West Vancouver School Districts hosted Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, Deputy Chief Medical Health Officer, Vancouver Coastal Health, on January 26, for a recorded Q&A session that focused on COVID-19, Omicron and keeping schools and school communities safe. Staff and families across both school districts had sent their questions in advance, and Dr. Lysyshyn was asked to respond to a selection of those questions. Thank you to those who did submit questions. The recording is available [HERE](#).

## NVSD Events

### Digital Media Youth Expo – January 29

Attend this year's [Digital Media Youth Expo](#), hosted by the NVSD's Digital Media Academy (DMA), and learn about the many educational and employment opportunities available in the digital media industry. Students, families, teachers and community members meet virtually with representatives from many Lower Mainland post-secondary schools, local and global organizations, industry experts and studios involved in all aspects of digital media. In attendance this year are representatives in visual effects, animation, film, sound, photography, web design, and game design, along with a host of other realms. DMA students will also be available to showcase what they are working on, learning about, and inspired by, and answer questions about the DMA.

## **Standing Committee Meeting – February 8**

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, February 8 at 7 p.m. It will include a staff presentation and discussion of issues and opportunities related to the development of the 2022/2023 Preliminary Budget. 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).

## **Public Board Meeting – February 15**

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, February 15 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).

## **Explore & Create Saturday Art Program**

Children aged 5 to 12 are invited to visit the Gordon Smith Gallery on Saturdays between 1 and 3 p.m. for art activities that are collage and drawing based and inspired by the current exhibition, [Beyond the Horizon](#). Admission is by donation (\$5 suggestion per attendee) and parental/guardian supervision is required. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

## **Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art: Beyond the Horizon**

*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.” 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, including gallery hours.

## **NVSD Registrations**

### **Performance Learning Program Information Session – January 27**

The Performance Learning Program (PLP) is an enhanced secondary program for students entering Grades 8 to 12. With a focus on deeper learning, students master core academic content, think critically to solve complex problems, work collaboratively, communicate effectively, and develop academic and growth mindsets. An information session takes place tonight at 7 p.m. Click [HERE](#) for more information (the information session link will be provided on this page).

## **YELL – Information Session (February 9) and Application Period**

The [Young Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad \(YELL\)](#) provides Grade 11 and 12 students with a thorough understanding of how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to future studies, launching a business or entering the workforce. Students earn course credits toward graduation while working with teachers, business and community leaders and a mentor to design a student-led business concept. YELL is offered at Sutherland Secondary School and Handsworth Secondary School.

Click [HERE](#) for more information, including links to the February 9, 7 p.m. information session and application form. Applications will be accepted between February 1 and March 11.

## **Academies – Applications accepted until February 21**

Our highly specialized academies are designed to enhance the overall student experience by providing learning environments that concentrate on a focal skill set. Students in Grades 8 to 12 work towards graduation while accelerating their knowledge and skill development in an area of interest that can form a foundation for successful post-graduation pursuits.

The following Academies will be offered during the 2022/2023 school year. Please visit the Academy page for program-specific information. [Applications](#) will be accepted until February 21.

- [AFK Studio Art](#)
- [Basketball](#)
- **New!** [Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab](#)
- [Dance](#)
- [Digital Media](#)
- [Digital Media Lite](#)
- [Field Hockey](#)
- [Hockey Skills](#)
- [Robotics](#)
- **New!** [Rowing](#)
- [Soccer](#)
- [Volleyball](#)

## IB Diploma Programme – Key Dates

The [International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme \(DP\)](#) is an internationally recognized, rigorous university preparatory two-year program for students in Grades 11 and 12 that leads to a qualification that is widely recognized by the world's leading universities. It is offered at Carson Graham Secondary.

### **Key Dates:**

- **February 15 at 7 p.m.: online information session** for parents/guardians and prospective students. The meeting link is posted [HERE](#).
- **February 16-17: “DP for a Day.”** Prospective students in Grade 10 can explore the program firsthand and meet IB coordinators, the current cohort, and teachers. Register via email to [Cora Pross](#).
- **February 18: Application deadline.** Students will submit a comprehensive application package, along with their Grade 10 report card. Click here for additional [application information](#).

## Late French Immersion Information Session and Application Period

A pre-recorded information session for Grade 5 students and their families interested in registering in the Late French Immersion program (Grade 6 entry) is available for viewing [HERE](#). Note: Priority placement for Late French Immersion runs until March 4 at 4 p.m. For more information about the program and registration process, click [HERE](#).

## Elementary Band and Strings Program – Registration open

This program is open to students in Grades 5 – 7 for Band and Grades 4 – 7 for Strings. Registration for the 2022/2023 school year runs from January 10 – March 4. While there is a Late Registration enrolment period, this is subject to program availability and class size at a student’s school site, and is dependent on sufficient registrations received by March 4. More information, including program fees, is available [HERE](#).

## North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL) – Registration open

NVOL provides students with rigorous, engaging, and interactive learning experiences. Students can choose to engage in their NVOL courses entirely remotely online or in a blended model of online and in-person interactions at our NVOL Centre. In addition, students can choose from a full suite of [courses](#) from Grades 8 through 12 in both English and French.

The French Immersion Online Course offerings allow students the opportunity to meet the requirements of their Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique

online through L' École Virtuelle de Vancouver nord. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of our French Immersion course offerings.

**Online registration for NVOL is open; click [HERE](#) for more information.**

### **AFK's After School Art – Registration open**

Taught by art specialist teachers and assisted by secondary art students, AFK's After School Art classes provide students the opportunity to further their artistic ability and foster positive attitudes towards the visual arts. Registration is open (virtual and in-person options available). Visit the [Artists for Kids](#) website for more information and to register.

## **Community Initiatives**

### **Shape the City of North Vancouver's Mobility Strategy**

The City of North Vancouver is developing a Mobility Strategy with a vision of creating healthy streets that work for everyone. The new strategy will be the playbook for planning and making decisions about city streets and how residents and visitors get around for the next decade. As it works towards a final version for City Council to consider later this spring, you're invited to provide input on the Draft Mobility Strategy. Click [HERE](#) for more information; the deadline to participate is February 6 at 4 p.m.

### **Good News Stories from the NVSD**

Visit the [Learn, Share & Grow Blog](#) and [News & Announcements](#) section of our website to stay informed on the good work that is happening here. *Enjoy!*

- Primary Instruction Network: Primary Teacher Talk ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Chicks at Mountainside ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Connection through art ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Rowing Academy dips its oars again in North Vancouver School District ([North Shore News article](#))

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Pearmain', written in a cursive style.

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](#).*

