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Announcements

Engagement Opportunities – Your Voice Matters

Proposed 2022/2023 School Calendar

Share your input on the proposed calendar for the 2022/2023 school year [HERE](#) and before February 28, 11:59 p.m.

A summary of the feedback/comments received will be shared with the Board of Education at its Public Board Meeting on March 8, 2022. Information about the development process for annual school calendars and a copy of the proposed 2022/2023 school calendar can be found [HERE](#).

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:

- Online through an anonymous and confidential [survey](#) until March 15, 2022.
- By email to budgetcomments@sd44.ca until 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.
- Virtually through Microsoft Teams during the Public Standing Committee meeting scheduled for [April 5, 2022 at 7 p.m.](#)

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback.

Information

Rapid Antigen Tests for K-12 Students

Rapid Antigen Tests for K-12 students are beginning to arrive at NVSD schools. The Province has procured enough supply to provide one box of five test kits for each student (elementary and secondary). Families should hear directly from their child's school when the test kits will be distributed. Information on when and how to use the tests is provided in an [information sheet](#) prepared by the Ministry of Education.

Restart of Routine Childhood Immunization Clinics (children 5 years and older)

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) has shared with the school district that it will restart routine immunization clinics in schools (these clinics had been suspended since March 2020). As part of these routine immunization clinics, the COVID-19 vaccine will be offered in elementary schools for students in Kindergarten and Grades 1, 6 and 7.

The majority of students aged 5-11 years in the VCH region have already been immunized against COVID-19. This is therefore a service for those families who have not been able to access a community immunization clinic. Note: This vaccine has already been offered routinely in secondary schools since September.

The immunization process in elementary schools, which was piloted in elementary schools in the VCH region in February, with good results, will work as follows:

- A sealed consent package will be sent to students/families via their school to offer routine immunizations available at this milestone (Kindergarten, Grades 1, 6 and 7).
- Consent packages are sealed, which ensures privacy and confidentiality are maintained (i.e. school staff will not be able to determine the immunization status of children).
- The consent package includes the opportunity for catch-up vaccines missed earlier. New this spring, the consent package will include the COVID-19 vaccine.

Should you have any questions, please speak with your child's principal.

Policy 208: Summer Programs

At the February 15, 2022, Public Board Meeting, revised [Policy 208: Summer Programs](#) was approved by the Board of Education. The updated policy and administrative procedures have been posted to the website.

NVSD Events

Public Board Meeting – March 8

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, March 8 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).

Ready, Set, Learn – Begins April 1

Ready, Set, Learn is an initiative aimed at encouraging and supporting children's early language and literacy skills. Intended for families and their 3-to 5-year-old children, Ready, Set, Learn events support preschool-aged children prepare for their eventual transition to Kindergarten and help foster positive connections among families, schools and early learning community partners.

Ready, Set, Learn events are free to attend. Events begin April 1 and run until May 13. Visit our [Ready, Set, Learn web page](#) for more information, including a full event listing.

NVSD Registrations

Late French Immersion – Priority Placement ends March 4

The Late French Immersion Program is a two-year intensive program designed for non-French speaking students who have successfully completed Grade 5. Information about the program, including links to register and a pre-recorded information session, is available [HERE](#). Note: Priority placement for Late French Immersion runs until March 4 at 4 p.m.

Elementary Band and Strings Program – Register by March 4

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 until 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](#).

YELL – Applications accepted until March 11

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. Applications will be accepted until March 11.

AFK's Spring After School Art Classes – 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. Visit the [Artists for Kids](#) website for more information and to register.

AFK's Spring Break Camps – Registration open

Taught by an art specialist teacher, students will enjoy a week full of studio art activities including drawing, painting and printmaking. Each week will be unique, and students will learn in small cohorts. All art materials are provided. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

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.

Community Initiatives

Community Dialogues: Emergence, Adaptation and Resilience

Beginning February 24 and continuing through to March 25, NewToBC is hosting a series of community dialogues, which are opportunities for libraries, newcomers, settlement service providers and other community stakeholders to explore issues related to newcomer integration and service provision. Dialogue sessions will support and contribute to each community's local planning and immigration integration initiatives.

Attendees will:

- Increase understanding and capacity to respond to the evolving needs and challenges of newcomers.
- Explore best practices for accessing and sharing information about services.

- Share strategies to reach and connect to newcomers.
- Network with others to share what's worked, what's changed, and where to go from here.

For more information, click [HERE](#); register to attend a session [HERE](#).

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!*

- Black History Month at Ross Road Elementary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Pink Shirt Day at Ross Road Elementary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Green and inclusive cabin retrofit takes shape ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Cleveland Elementary – Exploring and learning together ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Buddy Check program brings mental health awareness to North Shore high school athletes ([North Shore News article](#))

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](#).