

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear North Vancouver School District Community,

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." - John Dewey.

As another school year draws to a close, I would like to take a few moments to acknowledge what a remarkable year it has been!

This school year saw us focus on the themes of connection, community, and curiosity, which are central to healthy and vibrant schools. We spent the year moving from the isolation of a pandemic to rebuilding school communities, where all could come together to learn, share and grow.

This [highlight video](#) presents just some of the moments throughout the school year where school communities came together and thrived. I hope you enjoy it.

On that note, I would like to express my gratitude to the dedicated, hardworking and talented educators and staff throughout the school district who every day, bring their knowledge, experience, and passion to make the North Vancouver School District a better place for all. I extend this gratitude to trustees, rights holders, and education partners who have worked diligently throughout the year in support of our schools. Lastly, to students, thank you for being wonderful role models and community leaders--you consistently show us why our future is bright!

I very much look forward to reconnecting in September and continuing to share with you the outstanding work happening throughout the school district. Until then, I wish you all a safe and wonderful summer!

Respectfully,

Dr. Pius Ryan
Superintendent of Schools
Superintendent@sd44.ca



In this June Issue

Good News from the NVSD

Announcements

- End of year message from the Minister of Education and Child Care
- New elementary school for Cloverley neighbourhood
- Board approves the 2023/24 Preliminary Annual Budget

Information

- Summer hours at the Education Services Centre
- A public safety message ahead of wildfire season
- New resources available for upcoming K-12 student reporting changes
- Outdoor Safety & Emergency Preparedness Open House video
- AFK Notebook

NVSD Events

- The Art of Conversation – Exhibition opens September 23

NVSD Registrations

- Academies – Registration ongoing
- AFK Summer Day Camps – Limited space available
- AFK Senior Summer Visual Art Intensive – Registration open
- Elementary Band and Strings – Late Registration period open
- North Vancouver Online Learning – Online registration open

Community Initiatives

- Summer Reading Club
- Have your say in B.C.'s largest population health survey
- B.C. Demographic Survey now open

Good News from the NVSD

Visit our [Learn, Share & Grow](#) blog and [News & Announcements](#) to read about the good work happening throughout the school district.

For the stories with images that are included below, please click on the caption for a link to the blog post:

- Queensbury students craft sustainable city ([NVSD blog](#))
- Cuteness overload! Experiential learning with ducklings ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Queen Mary's Social Diversity Club and PRIDE Week ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Montroyal Elementary brings the classroom to the forest with new outdoor learning space ([North Shore News](#))
- North Shore athletes shine at high school track and field provincials ([North Shore News](#))
- Sutherland scores 3rd place at the Ethics Bowl Canada National Finals ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Gen-Z: How today's Grade 12 Metro Van grads differ from older generations ([Vancouver Sun](#))
- North Shore students awarded \$44K scholarships for higher education ([North Shore News](#))
- Climate-conscious cuisine event ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Meet Kimberley Jung, Teacher, Windsor Secondary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Now and then: The Shipyards through the lens of secondary students ([MONOVA blog post](#))
- Argyle Pipers take silver at AAA girls soccer provincials ([North Shore News](#))
- Highlighting student success: Dual credit programs ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Handsworth students bring artful awareness to climate challenges ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Student creativity shines in our Kids Design Your Ads feature ([North Shore News](#))
- Professional development spotlight: Physical Literacy ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Indigenous button art project ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Windsor Dukes to Windsor Wolves: Students change school's athletics team name in reconciliation effort ([North Shore News](#))

Announcements

End of year message from the Minister of Education and Child Care

As the summer break approaches, the Honourable Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care, would like to thank everyone in the education system for their extraordinary efforts and accomplishments during the 2022/23 school year. Please take a moment to [read the thank you letter](#) or [view the video](#).

New elementary school for Cloverley neighbourhood

The North Vancouver School District is pleased to share a new elementary school will be built in the Cloverley neighbourhood. The new school will have a capacity for 585 students and will include a neighbourhood learning centre with services that benefit the broader community, such as child care. Construction is expected to start fall 2024, and the school will be ready for students in time for the 2026/27 school year. Read the [news release](#) and view [images](#) related to the new school announcement. *Thank you to the Ridgeway Elementary School community for being site hosts for this special announcement!*

For project updates, please visit the [Capital Project Updates](#) section of the website.

Board approves the 2023/24 Preliminary Annual Budget

The 2023/24 Preliminary Annual Budget was presented to and approved by the North Vancouver Board of Education at the May 23, 2023, Public Board Meeting.

The overarching theme that guided the planning and preparation for the Preliminary Annual Budget was “maintain, focus and align,” and includes conservative estimates to support the Board’s ongoing commitment to the careful stewardship of funds.

The Preliminary Annual Budget provides a planning framework to guide the school district’s staffing and organizational plans for the upcoming school year and balances estimated expenses to forecasted revenues.

For the 2023/24 school year, the estimated spend is \$236.8 million. Forecasted enrolment is the equivalent of 16,106 students studying full-time (almost 80 higher than this current year). To support enrolment growth, 15 educational assistants have been added, while other staffing levels remain consistent with current levels.

We would like to thank rights holders, school district education partner groups, and community members who throughout the budget development process provided thoughtful feedback, which was used to help inform the development of the preliminary annual budget.

We would also like to commend the Board of Education for approving a budget that incorporates the [Board-approved strategic directions](#), considers the budget requests put forward by education partner groups, maintains the short-term and long-term fiscal health of the organization, and ensures the needs of the school district community are met, now and for years to come.

For detailed information regarding budget planning and considerations, please review the [May 23, 2023 Board package](#) (pages 8-41) and [Preliminary Budget Presentation](#) and view the [Public Board Meeting recording](#).

Information

Summer hours at the Education Services Centre

Starting Tuesday, July 4, the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Avenue) will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday. On Tuesday, September 5, the Education Services Centre will return to the operating hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Note: The Education Services Centre is closed on B.C. statutory holidays.

A public safety message ahead of wildfire season

With an anticipated hot and dry summer season rapidly approaching, and the high risks associated with wildfire season, the North Vancouver RCMP, City and District Fire Services, and North Vancouver School District are appealing to everyone to be extra vigilant when enjoying the outdoors. Please read the full [public safety message](#) and share it with your children, family and friends.

New resources available for upcoming K-12 student reporting changes

As shared earlier this spring ([Superintendent's update on March 8, 2023](#)) beginning in the 2023/2024 school year, the way student learning is communicated, including the format of traditional report cards, is shifting.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has prepared resource materials that provide families with important information about the upcoming changes:

- [K-12 Student Reporting Policy Information for Families \(website\)](#)
- [K-12 Student Reporting for Parents and Caregivers \(presentation\)](#)
- [K-12 Student Reporting for Parents and Caregivers \(one pager\)](#)

Please take the time to review this material. Should you have any questions, please reach out to your child's principal.

Outdoor Safety & Emergency Preparedness Open House video

Thank you to all who came to the 2nd Outdoor Safety & Emergency Preparedness Open House, held on Saturday, May 13 at Argyle Secondary School. This family-friendly community event showcased the expertise of local emergency management bodies and first responders and aimed to build awareness and resilience around outdoor safety and emergency preparedness. This [highlight video](#) captures the energy of the day.

AFK Notebook

[Artists for Kids](#) is pleased to share the [AFK Notebook](#) with the NVSD community. The Notebook reflects programming for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, including events, resources, professional development and classroom opportunities, and gallery programming for educators, students, families and wider community.

NVSD Events

The Art of Conversation – Exhibition opens September 23

The Art of Conversation, featuring artwork by 20+ Canadian artists, explores the role of art as a platform for communication. The exhibition draws conversational threads between the works in

the gallery, highlighting art's potential to facilitate and provoke dialogue. The perspectives and artistic conversations of elementary and secondary students will be featured through original writing and art. The exhibition opens on Saturday, September 23, 2 to 4 p.m. For information about this exhibition hosted at the Gordon Smith Gallery, visit the [exhibition](#) web page.

NVSD Registrations

Academies – Registration ongoing

Late applications and applications to be on an academy waitlist continue to be accepted for many NVSD Academies. However, there are limited spaces remaining for Field Hockey and the Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab. For information about our Academy program offerings, please visit the [Academies](#) web page. For an application form, email academies@sd44.ca.

AFK Summer Day Camps – Limited space available

Taught by an art specialist teacher, students will enjoy a week full of studio art activities including drawing, painting and printmaking. Students will experiment with different techniques and materials, and all art supplies are provided. They will also have the opportunity to explore outdoor art making and recreation time. Visit [Artists for Kids](#) for more information and to register.

AFK Senior Summer Visual Art Intensive – Registration open

From July 4 to 7, secondary students (ages 15 to 18) will explore drawing, painting and printmaking with acclaimed artist Mark Johnsen and a certified BC Teacher in the beautiful setting of the Gordon Smith Gallery. New and creative printmaking techniques will be introduced, and students will explore and create new works that can be added to their personal portfolios. Visit [Artists for Kids](#) for information and to register.

Elementary Band and Strings – Late Registration period open

Elementary Band and Strings is a unique instrumental music program that complements the Ministry of Education and Child Care's Arts Education curriculum and provides school-based instrumental instruction to students in Grades 5 – 7 for Band and Grades 4 – 7 for Strings. Visit [Elementary Band and Strings](#) for information, including program fees.

North Vancouver Online Learning – Online registration open

NVOL provides engaging, accessible and interactive learning experiences for students. Students can enrol any time during the school year and have one calendar year to complete their course. Students can also 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.

Visit the [NVOL website to see our 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.

Reminder: [NVOL is now a Provincial Online Learning School.](#)

Community Initiatives

Summer Reading Club

The Summer Reading Club for kids and teens is back, with local libraries and their staff eager to support children, youth and families as they discover great reading resources. Sign up is free; visit the City or District Library sites for more information:

- [City Library Kids Summer Reading Club](#)
- [City Library Teens Summer Reading Club](#)
- [District Library Kids Summer Reading Club](#)
- [District Library Teens Summer Reading Club](#)

Have your say in B.C.'s largest population health survey

Participate in Public Health's third [Survey on Population Experiences, Action and Knowledge \(SPEAK\)](#) to help improve the health and well-being of our community. The survey is available in multiple languages and takes approximately 20 minutes to complete.

B.C. Demographic Survey now open

Everyone in B.C. is encouraged to take the [BC Demographic Survey](#) to help make B.C. more equitable and inclusive for everyone. The survey is available in 15 languages and takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Missed an issue?

Updates from the Superintendent, including the monthly Superintendent's Report, are [available for review](#).

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.