

Superintendent's Report



To: Parents/Guardians

From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District

Information

New Curriculum and Communicating Student Learning (report cards)

Over the last few years, the Ministry of Education has updated and unveiled a new curriculum for all subjects and all grades, kindergarten through to grade 12. The first wave of implementation, grades K to 9, was implemented in the fall of 2016. The grade 10 curriculum was implemented in 2017. The final implementation for grades 11 and 12 will occur in September 2019, along with the new graduation program for grades 10 to 12. Please click [HERE](#) for an update on the new curriculum, including the new grades 10 to 12 graduation program, and an update on communicating student learning (report cards).

Budget input

Each year, the North Vancouver School District undertakes a public consultation process for input on budget priorities. Staff, students, parents, education partner groups, and community members are invited to provide their input on budget priorities. Budget priorities align with and support the school district's strategic goals, vision and values. Please see [THIS poster](#) for information about budget planning and community feedback.

There are various ways to provide feedback:

- In-person: at the Board Standing Committee Meetings on February 5 and April 2, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th floor).
- Email: from February 6 to March 15, 2019, *see below.
- Online: from February 19 to April 8, 2019 through an exchange of ideas on an online platform called ThoughtExchange, *see below.
- Traditional mail: addressed to - Secretary Treasurer, 2121 Lonsdale Ave, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 2K6.

*More information regarding budget feedback via email and ThoughtExchange will be provided.

Update: Staffing of Learning Support Teachers

In June 2018, the North Vancouver Board of Education approved an additional eight full-time equivalent (FTE) learning support teachers (LST) for the 2018/2019 school year. These LST were in

place in September 2018, providing support for students with special needs. In November 2018, the Ministry of Education approved funding for these eight FTE LST, along with seven more FTE LST for a total of 15 FTE LST. Please click [HERE](#) for an update on current staffing related to these additional LST positions.

Feedback – Handsworth design

On January 9, 2019, a public information meeting was held at Handsworth Secondary regarding the design proposals for the new replacement school. For all those who were unable to attend, the presentation materials are available [HERE](#). Feedback on the proposal is being accepted until end of day today (**January 23, 2019**). The comment sheet is available [HERE](#). Please fill in and submit the form to feedback@sd44.ca or send comments in the body of an email to feedback@sd44.ca.

Argyle Construction Update

Construction continues on the new Argyle Secondary replacement school. The majority of buried work has been completed (footings, electrical conduit, plumbing, etc.). Construction activity has now commenced at concrete floor slabs. Excavation and foundation permits have been issued by the District of North Vancouver. The steel frame is anticipated to go up within the coming month. The application for a development permit for the western portion of the property (turf field) will soon be submitted. Target occupancy for the new school remains as September 2020.

School Visits

Highlands Elementary



In Amy Wright's class, I spent some time participating in the art project the students were working on. It was a lively and engaged group who were enthusiastically participating in their project.

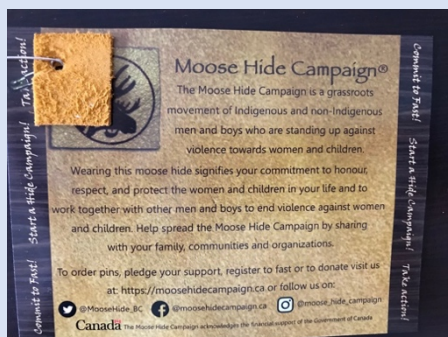


I also had the pleasure of attending Nadya Rickard's class, who were working on math. Again, engaged and focused students. The students were at standing desks, regular desks, and lying on the carpet – whatever fit for them and their learning style.

I was also able to see students working on a maps project, working at desk bikes in the hallways, and using exercise balls in Tina Parker's class (where I had some nice discussions with students about their recreational passions).



Eslha7an Learning Centre



I spent a couple of hours at Eslha7an with the staff and students. Jennifer Kwong's class was learning about the Moose Hide project and the power of voice. It was an amazing experience to spend more than 40 minutes with the adult students in Jennifer's class who have returned to school for their B.C. Certificate of Graduation or "Dogwood Diploma". Inspiring and incredibly enriching is how I would describe it.

Laura Ellwood welcomed me into her youth program class. The students were working on legends and short stories. We spoke at length about how her class is personalized for the students to meet their needs. Again, inspiring and enriching to see the amazing teaching occurring at the school. I also

spent some time with the Capilano University adult math program that is offered at the centre, and was honoured to hang out with staff during their morning break.

Upper Lynn Elementary

I spent some time Square dancing (quite poorly!) with Arleene Ewing's grade 7 class. We also watched the primary classes of Louise Bradford, Anna Hatziantoniou and Christina Shives fill the gym square dancing. It was a great morning – that also got Ms. Deneka Michaud into the dance mood!



I spent some time in Amanda Turcato's class where the students were working on elements of a Kayatchn Pole that they will be building out of 4-liter milk jugs.

I also played some one-on-one basketball with a student and had a great conversation with staff member Heather Mulder.

Finally, we had a great conversation

with Mary Ann Bell, PAC chair, about topics such as technology, Argyle construction update and communication.

Initiatives

Squamish Nation and North Vancouver School District commit to equal partnership, collaboration with milestone education protocol agreement

On January 17, 2019, representatives from Squamish Nation Council and the North Vancouver School District signed a Protocol Agreement for Collaboration and Communication, solidifying a partnership between the North Vancouver School District and Squamish Nation. This significant agreement commits to an equal partnership in the education of Squamish Nation students currently enrolled in the North Vancouver School District, as well as future generations of Squamish Nation

children and youth. For more information about the agreement, please click [HERE](#). The school district is hoping to create a protocol agreement with Tsleil-Waututh Nation.