

Superintendent's Report



To: **Parents/Guardians**

From: **Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District**

Announcements

Strategic planning – ONE DAY LEFT to add your voice!

The North Vancouver School District is undertaking a comprehensive strategic planning process to review our current strategic goals and to set new goals for the future. All students, employees, parents and the general community are encouraged to get involved. Feedback can be provided for ONE MORE DAY through the online engagement tool Thoughtexchange. Click [HERE](#) to take part now. The online engagement will close at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, February 7, 2020.

Emergency lockdown procedures and practice drills

The safety of students and staff is a top priority in the North Vancouver School District. We practice various drills throughout the year to ensure that students and staff are well prepared in case of emergency. On February 19, 2020, at 11 a.m., we will practice lockdown drills at all of our schools. We recognize that the word “lockdown” can cause unease, and raise questions and concerns. Please click [HERE](#) for information to further explain what a “lockdown drill” means and our procedures for addressing this scenario, however unlikely, in our schools.

PROPOSED 2020/21 School Calendar: Public Comment – Jan 22nd – Feb 21st

The Board of Education invites your feedback on the PROPOSED calendar for the 2020/21 school year. Information about the development process for annual school calendars and a copy of the PROPOSED 2020/21 School Calendar can be found on our school district website [HERE](#). Feedback can be provided through the online engagement tool Thoughtexchange, which can be accessed [HERE](#). The opportunity to provide your comment and feedback opened on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, and will end on Friday, February 21, 2020.

A summary of feedback received through the Thoughtexchange tool will be shared with the Board of Education at their Public Board Meeting scheduled for March 10, 2020. The Board will finalize and approve a 2020/21 School Calendar at the March meeting to meet the March 31st deadline for submission of the calendar to the Ministry of Education.

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.

There are various ways to provide feedback:

- Email: from February 3 to March 13, 2020 (budgetcomments@sd44.ca)
- Online: from February 18 to March 13, 2020, through Thoughtexchange (the link will be provided when it opens).
- In-person: at the Board Standing Committee Meeting on April 7, 2020, at 7 p.m. at the Education Services Centre (2121 Lonsdale Ave, 5th floor).
- Traditional mail: addressed to - Secretary Treasurer, 2121 Lonsdale Ave, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 2K6.

Click [HERE](#) for further information.

Information

Policy 309: Provision of Menstrual Products to Students

New [Policy 309: Provision of Menstrual Products to Students](#) was approved at the January 21, 2020, Public Board Meeting. Under a Ministerial Order issued April 5, 2019, all BC public schools are required to provide free menstrual products for students in school washrooms by the end of 2019. Dispensers with product have already been installed in all schools (secondary and elementary). The school district is now swapping out some of the current dispensers with more durable metal dispensers. Product is not available in every washroom. Signage is being created for each school that will indicate where the dispensers are located.

Academies registration

Registration for the North Vancouver School District's secondary school academy programs will close on February 24, 2020. Our highly specialized secondary school academies enhance the curriculum for students by providing learning environments that concentrate on a focal skillset. To find out more about the various academies offered, please click [HERE](#).

Enhanced programs – Open houses

There are still two open houses for secondary school enhanced programs coming up where parents and their children are invited to come to learn more:

- Lacrosse Academy - February 12, 2020, from 6 - 7 p.m. at Carson Graham Secondary (2145 Jones Ave., North Vancouver)
- YELL (Young Entrepreneurship and Leadership Launchpad) - February 12, 2020, from 7 - 8 p.m. at Sutherland Secondary (Library, 1860 Sutherland Ave, North Vancouver)

Foundry North Shore seeking parent ambassadors

Foundry North Shore is seeking parent volunteers to join their Foundry Ambassador Committee. The commitment is two hours per month. For further information, please email Nicole.kennedy@vch.ca.

Ministry of Health information

Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) information

Information provided by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education related to Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is being posted to the North Vancouver School District website [HERE](#). The website is being updated with these updates as they are received.

B.C. Corrections information

B.C. Corrections warning

Corrections officials are alerting Metro Vancouver residents about a high-risk sex offender who may spend time in North Vancouver. Please see [THIS](#) CBC News article for further information.