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Announcements

Extraordinary Learning in Extraordinary Times (Video)

We are pleased to share the next video in our *Extraordinary Learning in Extraordinary Times* video series: [Outdoor Learning with Tine Parker](#). In this video, you'll enjoy a window into the outdoor, place-based teaching and learning that Tine and her grade 5 students from Highlands Elementary experience on a weekly basis. Hear from Tine, Conor McMullan (Director of Educational Programs, Cheakamus Centre), students and a parent volunteer. Enjoy!

2021/2022 School Calendar Update

The Collective Agreement in place between the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa) and the School District provides the NVTa the right to select the three dates each year on which all schools across the district collectively schedule the same Professional



Development days. For the 2021/2022 school year, the dates for the three *district-wide* Professional Development days are:

- Friday, October 22, 2021
- Friday, February 4, 2022
- Monday, May 9, 2022

Additionally, the 2021/2022 School Calendar has been *amended to remove* the previously displayed four Staff Collaboration Days. Next year's calendar will not include Staff Collaboration (shortened school day) dates as the School District and NVTAs were unable to reach agreement regarding inclusion of scheduled Staff Collaboration Time for the 2021/2022 school year.

The two school-based Professional Development dates will be selected by the NVTAs Staff Committee at each school and will be confirmed by the end of May. Each school will publish their complete, school-specific calendar by May 31.

To view a copy of the 2021/2022 School Calendar, please visit the [District Calendar](#) page.

2021/2022 Secondary School Schedule

The North Vancouver School District will adopt a semester system across our secondary schools for the 2021/2022 school year (note: this will not apply to Mountainside Secondary as their schedule will remain the same). There were several factors that went into the decision to move to a semester system, including feedback we received from students, families, teachers and staff.

To view a copy of the letter sent to families of students entering grades 8 to 12 in the fall, click [HERE](#).

To view a high-level executive summary of the results from the Secondary School Survey held earlier this year, click [HERE](#). Thank you to students, families and staff who participated and shared their experiences. We are pleased to share we received over 2,100 total responses!

Grad 2021 Update

To celebrate the important milestone of graduation from secondary school, grade 12s across the North Vancouver School District will soon be invited to the Education Services Centre to be filmed crossing the stage in the Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art.

We are pleased to once again work with GradsBC to record and produce a grad ceremony video graduates can watch with their families at a later date. The Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 settings will be followed. To view a copy of the letter sent to families of the Graduate Class of 2021, click [HERE](#).

North Shore Rescue Online, Interactive Video: Coming Soon

We are fortunate to live, work and play on the North Shore, nature's ultimate playground. As the weather improves, and we look for opportunities to spend more time outdoors, being prepared is the first step to ensuring the best possible experience.

We are therefore excited to announce that the North Vancouver School District is working with [North Shore Rescue](#) to create opportunities that raise awareness about the importance of being prepared when spending time outdoors. In the coming week, look for a new video from North Shore Rescue, which aims to educate hikers and outdoor enthusiasts about backcountry safety. We are looking forward to sharing this and additional resources with you.

Information

COVID-19 Mouth Rinse/Gargle Test Kits

BC Children's Hospital and Vancouver Coastal Health have made COVID-19 Mouth Rinse/Gargle test kits available at schools for students who become symptomatic during the school day. This test kit provides an at-home testing option, and the specimen is dropped off at a local LifeLabs or to BC Children's Hospital for processing (instructions are provided with each kit). Families are still required to complete the [Daily Health Check](#) for their child **prior** to sending them to school; kits will be available to parents/guardians should students become ill with two or more COVID-19 symptoms while at school. Acceptance of a kit is voluntary.

Alertable Public Alerting System: Sign Up Now

Residents and visitors to the North Shore are encouraged to sign up for *Alertable*, which is used by [North Shore Emergency Management](#) (NSEM) to send out alerts for emergencies (e.g. severe weather, natural disasters, industrial hazards, transportation accidents or marine spills). By signing up, you will also receive an alert if you need to evacuate, shelter-in-place or if there is an Amber Alert. Notifications are fast, reliable and easy to see and hear.

Signup is simple. Download the FREE [Alertable app for iOS](#) or [Android smartphones](#). Other options include text, email, phone, website and social media. Choose the solution that's right for you by going to nsem.ca/alertable.

Looking Ahead: Homestay Families Needed for the 2021/2022 School Year

The North Vancouver School District is a popular study destination for international students. At the secondary-school level, international students value the opportunity to not only receive a quality education but also experience life with a host family and

immerse themselves in the Canadian community experience.

If you're interested in welcoming an international student into your home for the 2021/22 school year and learning more about the benefits and responsibilities that come with being a host family, please visit our [International Education Homestay Program page](#) and connect with our International Education Program office at international@sd44.ca.

NVSD Registrations

Summer Learning - Registration Open

Summer Learning provides an engaging learning environment where students can challenge themselves academically and fulfill their personal learning goals. This year, Summer Learning will maximize in-person instructional time in our complete suite of course offerings:

- [Full Credit Academic Courses](#)
- [7/8 Transition](#)
- [English Language Learning \(ELL\)](#)
- [Numeracy and Literacy Foundations](#)
- [Eslha7an](#)

Registration is open until June 24 (at noon) to all students within and beyond the North Vancouver School District; visit [Summer Learning](#).

North Vancouver Online Learning – Registration Open

Students interested in the flexibility that comes with taking a secondary course online are invited to consider North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL). Students can register with NVOL until Friday, June 18 (registration is then paused until September 7, 2021). NVOL provides the flexibility for students to complete a course(s) within one quarter or one calendar year while working at the pace that suits their personal needs.

Our comprehensive course offerings include the following new courses for French Immersion students:

- Sciences naturelles 10
- Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 10
- Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 12

- Coming September 2021 : Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 11 and Médias et communication numérique 11

Many of our NVOL teachers will be available in July to provide students with academic and tech support, and exam supervision. While teachers will not be available in August, our online learning courses will remain open to students who wish to continue working on assignments. For information about our course offerings and to register, please visit [North Vancouver Online Learning](#).

AFK Summer Art Intensives – Registration Open

This summer, students in the Artists for Kids (AFK) Summer Art Intensives will explore drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture in the acclaimed Gordon Smith Gallery. Guided by a BC certified art specialist teacher, students will be encouraged to develop a body of work throughout the week that can be added to their personal portfolio.

Registration is now open for the following:

- Senior Summer Art Intensive (ages 15-18): July 5 - 9
- Intermediate Art Intensive (ages 12-14): July 12 - 16

Visit Artists for Kids' [Spring & Summer Day Camps](#) for more information and to register.

Upcoming Events

Ready, Set, Leap into Learning - Wednesday, May 19

Ready, Set, Leap into Learning is a new initiative for families of 3- to 5-year-olds, aimed at encouraging and supporting children's early language and literacy skills.

The pre-recorded virtual session will be made available on our [Early Learning web page](#) starting Wednesday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m.

During the session, families will learn how they can pick up a complimentary tote bag filled with fun learning and language activities, including the book *One-Dog Canoe* by award-winning author Mary Casanova.

This free learning event is presented by the North Vancouver School District, the North Vancouver City Library, and the North Vancouver District Public Library, and sponsored by the Ministry of Education.

Mayors' Food Bank Challenge - May 1 to 31

Residents of North Vancouver are invited to join the *Mayors' Food Bank Challenge*. For the month of May, the mayors of the cities of Vancouver, Burnaby, North Vancouver, New Westminster, and the mayor of the District of North Vancouver are challenging their communities to help the Greater Vancouver Food Bank feed people in need and to reach the fundraising goal of \$500,000 across all five municipalities. Donations can be made online to your city's fundraising page or by dropping new food donations at your local library, community centre or City Hall. For more information, visit the [Mayors' Food Bank Challenge](#).

Note: [Harvest Project](#) will receive a portion of all online donations to the District of North Vancouver (25%) and City of North Vancouver (10%) fundraising pages.

Public Board Meeting - Tuesday, May 18

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, May 18 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).

School Trustee By-election 2021 - Advance & General Voting Days

Composed of seven elected trustees, the North Vancouver Board of Education is responsible for making the major policy decisions governing all aspects of education within the School District as mandated in the School Act.

A by-election for one District of North Vancouver school trustee, whose term will run for the remainder of the four-year term ending November 2022, will take place this month.

Voting days are:

- **May 19** - Advance voting day at Municipal Hall
- **May 24** - Advance voting day at Municipal Hall and Windsor Secondary School
- **May 29** - General voting day

For more information, visit our [School Trustee By-election 2021 page](#) or the [District of North Vancouver By-election 2021 page](#).

Spring Go by Bike Week - May 31 to June 6

Be part of a week-long behavioural change campaign and help make Metro Vancouver a happier, healthier place to live, work and play. HUB Cycling's Go by Bike Week event will be jam-packed with daily prizes, webinars, livestream Q&As and more.

Your logged bike trips will help HUB Cycling work with local leaders to improve cycling conditions in Metro Vancouver. Go to btww.ca to learn more, register solo or as a team (with your co-workers, household, family or friends) and log trips.

Good News Stories from around the NVSD

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

- Over 1,000 cards created for healthcare professionals on the North Shore ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Emergency Preparedness Week: Q&A with Conor McMullan ([NVSD blog post](#))
- North Vancouver student selected for coveted \$100,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship ([North Shore News article](#))
- Playing through: Argyle's Gabbie Francis ready to take her shot with Carleton Ravens ([North Shore News article](#))
- This Thunderbird carved from 400-year-old red cedar now watches over a North Van school ([North Shore News article](#))

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pearmain".

Mark Pearmain
Superintendent of Schools