

# Superintendent's Report



**To: NVSD Parents and Guardians**  
**From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District**

## **Announcements**

### **School Re-opening Update**

On June 1st, school districts across the province moved to Stage 3 of BC's [K to 12 Education Restart Plan](#). While I acknowledge the range of emotions families may be feeling with the movement to a gradual and partial school re-opening, I would also like to share that there has been a great deal of excitement about moving to this next stage.

Our staff and administration have reported that the school re-opening has provided a greater sense of normalcy for both staff and students. We remain heartened to see students and staff back in our buildings, and inspired by our teachers, custodians, educational assistants, office staff and Principals/Vice Principals, who continue to rise to the challenges presented over the last few months. We are thankful to all of you who have trusted us to provide for your children's education and growth in a safe and healthy environment.

The Ministry of Education has shared its hopes that the June restart will lead to a stronger school restart in September. Click [HERE](#) to view the five-stage plan, and note what a school restart in September could look like (i.e. movement toward either Stage 1 or 2), provided it is safe to do so.

The North Vancouver School District is now developing contingency plans around what school and educational continuity will look like in the fall, based on a number of potential scenarios. We will share details around this planning with you as we approach September. In the interim, should you have any

questions, concerns, or comments, we encourage you to consult our district-wide [FAQ](#) and reach out to your child's school.

## **Graduation Update**

*Congratulations to our graduating class of 2020!*

Last week saw the end of two weeks of filming, where grade 12 students from each of our seven secondary schools visited the Education Services Centre to participate in what can only be described as a truly unique graduation celebration.

Grads and their parents/guardians will soon receive information about downloading and viewing their school's graduation ceremony, which will be available at 7:00 pm on Saturday, June 20th. We look forward to sharing some of the highlights with the wider community shortly thereafter.

This year's graduation ceremonies have garnered much media attention. Just this morning, Superintendent Mark Pearmain was interviewed by the host of Your Morning – CTV. Click [HERE](#) to view the interview.



*Photos courtesy of the NVSD and GradsBC*

## **Norgate Xwemélch'stn Community Elementary IB PYP Update**

We are proud to share that Norgate Xwemélch'stn Community Elementary has been approved by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB) as a candidate school for the Primary Years Programme (PYP).

The school is one step closer to offering the full continuum of IB programming for its students. Norgate Elementary staff and administration will now continue their work through the candidacy phase to fulfill the requirements necessary to qualify as an IB World School.

With this announcement, the Norgate Elementary community can join the North Vancouver School District IB community, which began offering its robust and popular IB program in 2007. Please click [HERE](#) to read the full announcement

## **Academies Registration – applications accepted until June 14th**

Our highly specialized secondary school academies enhance the curriculum for students in grades 8 through 12 by providing learning environments that concentrate on a focal skill set. Students work towards graduation while accelerating their knowledge and development in an area of interest that can form a foundation for future lifestyles and careers. We are accepting additional applications for students currently in grades 7 to 11 for the following 2020/21 academy programs until Sunday, June 14th :

- [Basketball Academy](#) (wait list)
- [Dance Academy](#)
- [Digital Media Academy](#)
- [Digital Media Academy Lite](#)
- [Field Hockey Academy](#)
- [Hockey Skills Academy](#)
- [Lacrosse Academy](#)
- [Soccer Academy](#)
- [Volleyball Academy](#)

To apply, please contact [academies@sd44.ca](mailto:academies@sd44.ca). For more information about our academy programs, click [HERE](#).

## **Artists for Kids – Summer Day Camp Registration**

Registration is open for Artists for Kids summer day camps. Offered over 5 weeks, these day camps provide children ages 6 to 12 an opportunity to explore a variety of drawing, painting, printmaking and sculptural materials and techniques in the studio and outside in our parks, and all while led by a BC certified Visual Art Teacher. Click [HERE](#) for information and to register.

## **Artists for Kids - Art Sale**

The Artists for Kids print program was developed in the late 1980s as a way to ensure students continue to receive a high calibre art education that inspires, builds community, and supports kids, teachers and artists.

The program begins with the acquisition of a major work by a selected artist, which then becomes part of our permanent collection at [The Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art](#). From this, the selected artist donates their time and talent to create an original print, photograph or sculpture. The entire limited run of the art becomes exclusive to AFK to sell, with proceeds funding educational programs, art camps for students and teachers, and future acquisitions.

From acclaimed Haida artist, Bill Reid, creating the first print 30 years ago, the collection has steadily grown into a significant art portfolio offering collectors a unique opportunity to support cultural growth in Vancouver's communities. For information on purchasing a print, visit [HERE](#). Additionally, please visit our website for more information about [Artists for Kids and the Gordon Smith Gallery](#).

## **Information**

### **2020/21 Preliminary Budget Status Update**

Each year, the School District uses a variety of revenue generating activities to support operations and the development of a balanced Operating Budget. At the May 26, 2020, Board of Education public board meeting, the District

articulated how COVID-19 has significantly affected the development of the 2020/21 Preliminary Operating Budget.

The NVSD faces significant revenue losses, which are directly attributed to COVID-19 and of particular concern for the 2020/21 fiscal year. Due to decisions that are under the purview of the provincial and federal governments, and are in part dependent on the public feeling safe, the District is projecting declining revenue in the areas of international student enrolment, gym/classroom rental income, Cheakamus Centre rentals, and interest income. The School District must therefore plan for a budget that takes into account a significant loss of revenue.

The 2020/21 Budget will be presented at the June 23, 2020, public board meeting.

## **Upcoming Board of Education Meeting**

To respect guidelines and orders around physical distancing and public gatherings provided by the Provincial Health Officer, public board meetings will continue to be livestreamed and recorded. Recognized partner groups and Trustees will be in physical attendance for the 2020/21 budget meeting, but members of the public will continue to be required to view the proceedings online.

Details around participation will be posted [online](#) along with the corresponding board package the Friday before the next public board meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. Please note: this will be the last public board meeting for the 2019/20 school year.

## **Indigenous Education**

June is Indigenous History Month and June 21st is National Indigenous Peoples Day—a time to celebrate and honour the history, heritage and rich diversity of Indigenous peoples across Canada.

To learn more, start by viewing the latest edition of the Indigenous Education Flyer [HERE](#). These regularly published flyers are posted to the District website [HERE](#) (please scroll to the bottom of the page).

## **Playgrounds**

In the last issue of the Superintendent's Report, we shared the good news that playgrounds and play structures across the North Shore were beginning to re-open on June 1st. Playgrounds are an important source of exercise and fun for children of all ages. While going to the playground is a low risk for exposure to COVID-19, there are things we can all do to ensure playground spaces are used safely and responsibly. Click [HERE](#) for information prepared by the BC CDC on safe playground usage.

### Translation Options

To view this update in a language option of your choice, please review and enable the message translation options available through your email provider. While not exhaustive, we have provided links to popular email providers: [Microsoft Outlook](#) and [Gmail](#).