

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With Halloween a few days away, I would like to ask for your support ensuring we all enjoy Halloween safely. Stay secure while trick or treating with these [safety tips](#), and follow fireworks regulations (see [City of North Vancouver](#) and [District of North Vancouver](#) web pages for more information). Furthermore, please speak with your children about the importance of being a good neighbour and respecting the property of others.

In addition, I would like to remind everyone that while there has been an easing of [COVID-19 restrictions](#) in the province, health and safety measures in schools remain. Please model the behaviours we are asking of students, including staying home when ill, wearing masks when dropping off or picking up your children and respecting the physical space of others.

On behalf of the North Vancouver School District, a sincere thank you for looking out for one another and keeping the North Vancouver community strong, healthy and safe.

With appreciation,

Mark Pearmain  
Superintendent of Schools

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### **Announcements**

#### **October is Canadian Library Month**

October is Canadian Library Month, an opportunity to celebrate libraries, employees and the services they provide. October is also International School Library Month, an annual celebration of school libraries worldwide. Please join me in acknowledging North Vancouver School District teacher-librarians who play an essential role in ensuring students and staff have access to a robust collection of resources that facilitate exploration and discovery of knowledge. Their dedication supports our vision of bringing communities together to learn, share and grow.

#### **Anti-Racism Steering Committee: Focus Groups**

The Anti-Racism Steering Committee survey, which invited students, families and staff to share their experiences and thoughts on opportunity and barriers within the school district, came to a close on Friday, October 22. Thank you to all who participated.

The next step in the Anti-Racism Steering Committee's efforts to learn from insights shared from the NVSD community to ensure a welcoming, safe and inclusive culture for

all school district community members involves focus groups. Interested parents/guardians are invited to join consultants from Bakau Consulting, Will Shelling and Koshiki Tanaka, who will guide participants in focus groups via Zoom on Thursday, November 18 at 4 p.m. and Thursday, November 25 at 4 p.m.

To participate, email Will Shelling **directly at [will@bakauconsulting.com](mailto:will@bakauconsulting.com)**, and use the **subject line: NVSD Parent/Guardian Focus Group [INSERT PREFERRED DATE]**. Any questions about the focus groups or this process should be directed to Bakau Consulting at [feedback@bakauconsulting.com](mailto:feedback@bakauconsulting.com).

## Information

### Kindergarten Orientation Information

An informational kindergarten orientation presentation for parents/guardians of children born in 2017 who will enter kindergarten in September 2022 is available online [HERE](#). Please share the link with families you know who will soon have their children join our NVSD family.

### Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

The Ministry of Education's [Framework for Enhancing Student Learning](#) brings a formalized approach to the planning and reporting expectations for schools with a focus on enhancing student learning and success. It combines accountability with evidence-informed decision-making and system-wide continuous improvement to support equity of outcomes for all students in the provincial K-12 public system. Learn about the North Vancouver School District's [educational priorities](#); click [HERE](#) to review our Framework for Enhancing Student Learning.

### Ventilation Update

The Ministry of Education requires all school districts to complete a ventilation system overview for each of their schools and to make this information available to the respective school's Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee. In addition to the ventilation updates we have already shared with our community, we are pleased to make the completed materials for NVSD schools available for review [HERE](#).

### Policy 707: School Trust Funds

At the October 19, 2021, Public Board Meeting, revised [Policy 707: School Trust Funds](#) was approved by the Board of Education. Revisions to the policy and administrative

procedures were required to address the cancellation of school events and eligible uses for fundraised funds. For more information, please refer to page 15 of the [Board Package](#).

## Staying Safe in the Darker, Wetter Weather

The North Vancouver School District encourages students to get to and from school in active and safe ways. With shorter days and wet weather ahead, we ask that you take the time to review safety tips with your children:

- Be visible by wearing safety reflectors or reflective or bright clothing.
- Walk or roll to and from school with a sibling or a buddy.
- Cross streets at designated crosswalks.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not speak to strangers.
- Report anything of concern.

Additional tips for pedestrians and drivers are available on [ICBC's Pedestrian Safety](#) and the [RCMP's Pedestrian Safety](#) web pages.

## Severe Weather Information

As winter weather approaches, we would like to remind parents and guardians, students and staff about our winter weather procedures and announcements. All NVSD schools will remain OPEN, if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 6:30 a.m. and announced through the media, placed on the school district website and schools' websites, shared with parents/guardians via [SchoolMessenger](#) (email and/or text), and emailed to staff. For more information, please visit our [Severe Weather Information](#) web page.

## SMS Text Messaging via SchoolMessenger

Parents/guardians who would like to receive SMS text messages when there is an emergency during school or non-school hours (e.g. severe weather or power outage) need to opt in for this service.

Typically, parents/guardians receive a [SchoolMessenger](#) text message on their mobile phone when their child first registers to school and registration is complete (similar to this): *"North Vancouver School District 44 messages. Reply Y to confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg & data rates may apply. Msg freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/smsca"*



Parents/guardians can also opt in to receive SMS text messages anytime by texting "Y" or "Yes" to 978338. Note: Standard message and data rates may apply.

## **NVSD Events**

### **Standing Committee Meeting – November 9**

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, November 9 at 7 p.m. Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on how you can provide input and to review the complete agenda (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

### **Public Board Meeting – November 16**

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, November 16 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).

### **Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art: Beyond the Horizon Exhibition**

This year's fall exhibition, Beyond the Horizon, is an expression that encourages us to consider what is "farther than the possible limit of sight, beyond what we can foresee, know or anticipate." It is both visual – what we see – and conceptual – what we know. The horizon as a metaphor provides us with an opportunity to challenge and evaluate our own ways of knowing. The artists in this exhibition expand conventional uses of materials and explore modes of making through collaboration with other artists and the land. Click [HERE](#) for more information about this exhibition, now open, including gallery hours.

## **NVSD Registrations**

### **2022/2023 Kindergarten Registration now open**

Registration (priority placement) for children entering kindergarten in September 2022 (children born in 2017) is now open until December 17, 2021. Parents/legal guardians must book an appointment using our online booking system to register their child *in person* for kindergarten. Detailed instructions on the registration process, including forms and documentation required, are available [HERE](#).

## Community Initiatives

### North Shore Connects – Burrard Inlet Rapid Transit

The goal of [North Shore Connects](#), a partnership between the District of West Vancouver, Skwxwú7mesh Nation, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, City of North Vancouver and District of North Vancouver, is to prioritize transportation improvements on, to and from the North Shore and in particular, make the case for rapid transit across Burrard Inlet.

If you haven't yet, North Shore Connects is asking all North Shore residents to consider contributing to an [online survey](#) regarding Translink's draft *Transport 2050*, a 30-year regional transportation strategy. This strategy includes a proposal for rapid transit across Burrard Inlet. **The last day to participate in the survey is tomorrow, Friday, October 29!**

### CNV's *Community Wellbeing Strategy*

The City of North Vancouver is developing a *Community Wellbeing Strategy* to help create a city where everyone belongs. The strategy will be used to inform and guide the City's actions over the next 10 years and provide direction on social issues such as community health, affordability, public safety, reconciliation, inclusiveness, resiliency, working together, and the reduction of poverty, discrimination, racism, and other barriers. Learn more at [www.cnv.org/wellbeing](http://www.cnv.org/wellbeing) and share your feedback through the [online survey](#) by **October 31**.

## Good News Stories from 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!*

- The Great BC Shakeout at Lynn Valley Elementary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Lynnmour/Xa7elcha – Secret Path – Walk for Wenjack ([NVSD blog post](#))
- North Vancouver's Erica McGuiness, Brad Baker appointed to viaSport board ([North Shore News article](#))
- Westview Elementary's new universally accessible play space ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Habitat restoration: A lesser-known side of Cheakamus ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Place-based interdisciplinary learning at Sarita Park ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Collaborative waste reduction at Windsor ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Students interview Ministers of Environment and Climate Change ([NVSD blog post](#))



***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.***

*Missed an issue? Updates from the Superintendent, including the bi-weekly Superintendent's Report, are available [HERE](#).*

