



HOME OF THE PIPERS

ÉCOLE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Thursday, December 19th, 2024



Newsletter at a Glance

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Principal's Update

Dear Argyle families,

The last month has been a time to celebrate the outstanding learning and achievements of students across the school – be it in classes, arts programs, or athletics. Students in music, drama, DMA, and athletics have seen great success in a number of events throughout a bustling December.

As the first part of the 2024-2025 school year draws to a close, we would like to thank the entire Argyle community for your support of the school: through daily homework routines, supporting events, driving to practices, and volunteering at the school, your contributions to Argyle make this the wonderful school community it is.

We hope winter break will be a time to recharge, connect with family and friends, and enjoy the holidays. We look forward to seeing what 2025 brings at Argyle.

See you in the new year!



Laura Ames, Principal
Tim Ireland, Vice Principal
Shahrzad Motaghedi, Vice Principal

Upcoming School Dates

| | |
|--|--|
| December 20th | Winter Breakfast – Adjusted schedule below |
| January 6th | School Re-opens after Winter Break |
| January 15th | NVSD Enhanced Programs Night at Carson Graham Secondary School |
| January 16th / 17th | Literacy, Numeracy assessments for Grade 10 students |
| January 21st | Junior Music Concert |
| January 22nd | Post Secondary Information Parent Night (for grades 10-11) |
| January 24th | Goal Setting Session #2 – classes start at 8:45am |

School Information

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|---|---|
| Argyle Contact Info | Contact Info & Map - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Daily Schedules & Block Rotation | Daily Schedules - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Full Year Calendar | Calendars - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Reporting Attendance | Attendance - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Argyle Policies | School Policies - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Daily Announcements | Daily Announcements - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |
| Staff Contact Information | Staff Contacts and Links - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca) |

School Startup Forms

A reminder for parents, school startup forms including picture consent are available for parents to fill out on [school cash online](#). **Students without a signed photo consent cannot be pictured in the yearbook.** Please fill out these forms as soon as possible.

School Updates & Upcoming Events

Winter Breakfast Adjusted Schedule – December 20th

Grade 10 Provincial Assessments

On January 16th and 17th, regularly scheduled classes will be cancelled to allow all grade 10 students to write the Literacy 10 and Numeracy 10 Assessments. These are provincially mandated assessments required for graduation. The schedule will be published for students in early January; students will be required to attend half of each day at either 8:30am or 12:00pm. We are not able to accommodate time requests. Students who do not write in January will have a chance to make up assessments in April or June.

We wish everyone a restful, safe, and fun-filled Winter break!

Adjusted Bell Schedule

Friday, December 20th, 2024

7:30am-9:15am - Winter Breakfast

9:15am-10:05am - Period 6

10:10am-11:00am - Period 7

11:05-11:55am - Period 5

11:55-12:10pm - Break

12:10-1:00pm - Period 8

1:00pm - Dismissal

Piper Pride - What's happening around the school?

Argyle Weaving Project

For the last year, students in the library have been working on a weaving project with Indigenous Cultural Worker Courtney Kessel and librarian Katie Black. The project will soon be mounted in the library!



Argyle Music Winter Concert

Congratulations to the Argyle music program that put on a beautiful concert at St. Andrew Wesley's church in Vancouver on December 17th. Performances featured Chamber, Jazz and Concert choirs, as well as Chamber and Jazz bands, directed by teachers Mr. Will Clements and Mr. Andrew Smith. (Argyle Chamber Choir pictured on the front page.)

Argyle Drama – Marriage, Music, and Mayhem

Congratulations to the 70 students in Theatre Company who performed in Marriage, Music, and Mayhem December 10th-13th.

The musical was written and directed by grade 12 student Bailey Skelton and featured acting, singing, and dancing by Argyle drama students in four sold-out shows under the direction of teacher Mr. Grant Featherstone.



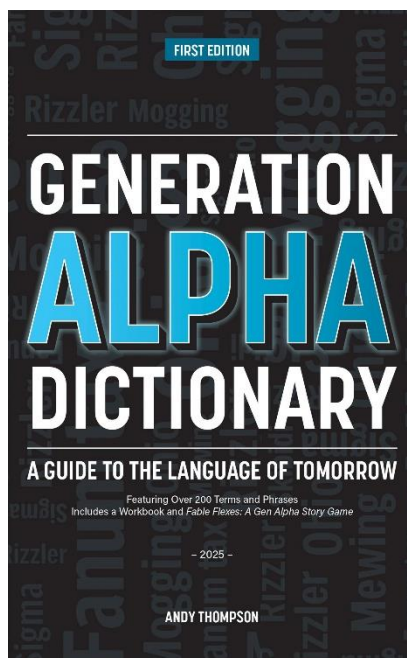
Woodwork Project in the Gordon Smith Gallery

Grade 10–12 woodworking students worked with Mike Riml to make a custom bench for the [Gordon Smith Art Gallery](#). The bench was handcrafted from rough-sawn eastern white maple with a skipjack finish.

Wheelchair BC Basketball

On Monday, December 16th, Argyle hosted BC Wheelchair Basketball for a friendly game of students vs. staff and RCMP at lunch.

Thank you to our RCMP Youth Liaison team who brought this opportunity to Argyle, MLA Susie Chant who came to join the game, and teacher Ms. Melissa Robinson who coordinated the event.



Argyle Staff Andy Thompson a Published Author

Curious what the teen slang actually means these days? Argyle staff Andy Thompson has published [*Generation Alpha Dictionary: A Guide to the Language of Tomorrow*](#). Congratulations to Andy on this accomplishment!

Athletics Updates

Wrestling

Argyle's wrestling program is the largest it has ever been and recently hosted a Sea to Sky meet at Argyle.

Basketball

Basketball season is in full swing at Argyle with eight teams. The Jr. Girls team started the season strong with a first place finish at the Big Ticket Tournament in (location), where Sr. Girls and Boys teams also placed fourth. The bantam boys team has seen first place finishes in two recent tournaments. Stay tuned for more updates through the Winter.



Photo Credit Aaron Chan

JV Football

Junior Varsity Football team played in provincials in November and placed fourth in the province. Congratulations to all the players on the team!

Cross Country

The Cross Country season wrapped up in November and many Argyle students competed in provincial championships. Congratulations to all athletes who achieved personal bests this season!

Parent Resources

Mental Health in the Holiday Season

The holiday season can be both joyful and challenging, especially for mental well-being [See this guide](#) to help navigate the holiday season while prioritizing mental health.

Teens and Sleep

Tired of always being sleepy? Having trouble staying awake in class? Find it hard to get out of bed in the morning? Have an overwhelming need for a nap when you get home from school?

If your teen answers yes to any of the questions, they are not alone. Many teens feel they are always tired. Research shows many teens do not get enough sleep: recommended 8-10 hours per night. See more information and tips [here](#).

Parents as Education and Career Coaches – January 7th, 2025

Education PlannerBC and the North Vancouver School District invite families with students in Grades 10-12 to join the virtual workshop on Tuesday, January 7th from 6:30 to 7:45p.m. Learn how you can support your student in planning for their future. The session will cover topics such as B.C.'s post-secondary education landscape, including institutions and credentials, program and admission requirements, application dates, and costs and options for financial aid. Participants will be walked through EducationPlannerBC.ca including their resources for career exploration, comparing programs and how to apply for admission through EducationPlannerBC.ca.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact support@educationplannerbc.ca or Jennifer Kinakin (jkinakin@sd44.ca), District Careers Coordinator. [Event link available here.](#)

PAC Updates

Next PAC meeting Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00pm in the Argyle library. Plans are in the works for a February fundraiser social; come to the next meeting for more information.