



HOME OF THE PIPERS

ÉCOLE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Monday, May 5th, 2025



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Principal's Update

Dear Argyle families,

As we step into the final stretch of the school year, the energy at Argyle is undeniable. With warmer weather comes spring athletics, classes moving outside for learning opportunities, and the excitement of summer break coming up.

Read below for updates about what has been going on at Argyle through April and a snapshot of what is to come in May.

We look forward to seeing you in the school in some of the upcoming events.

Sincerely,



Laura Ames, Principal

Tim Ireland, Vice Principal

Shahrzad Motaghedi, Vice Principal

Upcoming School Dates

Monday, May 5 th	District Professional Development Day – Schools Closed
Tuesday, May 6 th – Friday, May 10 th	Argyle Drama Presents The Wrong Show
Wednesday, May 14 th	PAC Meeting 7:00pm
Monday, May 19 th	Victoria Day – Schools Closed
Tuesday, May 27- Thursday, May 29 th	Entrepreneurship Fair
Wednesday, May 28 th	French Immersion Graduation Breakfast
Friday, May 30 th	Argyle Music Cabaret

School Information

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)

Attendance Matters!

As we near the end of the school year, we want to remind families the importance of regular attendance. Research has shown that students who attend less than 90% of the time have greater academic struggles, disengage from school, and are at risk for not graduating. Students who miss several consecutive days are at greater risk. Missing only two classes per week adds up to 10% of the school year!

This is a reminder to please report your child's absence to the office (link above) if it is excused. Argyle calls home report unexcused absences, but not lates. Please contact your child's grade counsellor or administrator if you need support with school attendance.

Course Verification Forms & Course Selection 2025-26

Students in grades 8-11 have been given a printed copy of their course verification form for 2025-26. This form shows the courses students have selected for the 2025-26 school year and must be signed by a parent/ guardian and returned to the school.

Please take the time to review verification forms now with your student. We are building next year's timetable now; classes are full and we cannot guarantee we will be able to accommodate course changes in September.

School Fees

Please review School Cash Online and pay any outstanding school fees. Yearbooks (grades 8-12) and grad gowns (grade 12) will not be distributed until school fees are paid. If you need financial assistance with school fees, please contact your grade administrator.

Student Learning Survey – Extended to May 9th

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is an annual survey of grades 4, 7, 10, 11, and 12 students, parents, and staff. It is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools as it gathers information on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. Students have had an opportunity to complete this survey in their classes in the last three weeks.

As a parent of a grade 10, 11 or 12 student, you are encouraged to participate in this survey, as your feedback is important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the province.

To complete the survey, [click here](#). Any computer or phone with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section. The e-survey site will be open until May 9th, 2024.

School Updates & Upcoming Events

Save the Date – June Awards Ceremonies

June 3rd – Year-end Choir concert & awards (evening)
June 10th – Year-end Music Concert & Awards (evening)
June 17th – Athletics Banquet and Awards (evening)
June 19th – School Awards Night (evening)

As a change this year, we will be running an awards night for school awards (subject awards, service awards, and major awards). Students will be notified in early June if they will be receiving an award and will be invited with their parent/guardian to this evening ceremony.

Student Council 2025–2026: A New Model for Student Leadership

For the 2025–2026 school year, we're excited to introduce a refreshed and more inclusive Student Council model designed to give more students the opportunity to lead, collaborate, and contribute.

The **Student Council Executive Team** will consist of:

- **President** (Grade 12)
- **Two Vice-Presidents** (Grades 11–12)
- **Secretary** (Grades 10–12)
- **One Grade Representative per grade**

These leaders will meet weekly to plan events, organize school-wide initiatives, and serve as the voice of the student body. All executive members (except the Grade 8 Rep) will go through an application process in mid to late May, followed by a school-wide election. The **Grade 8 Rep** will be selected and voted on during **mid-September**.

Don't want to run for an executive position—or didn't get elected? No problem! Student Council will be putting out **regular calls for volunteers** to help with spirit days, school events, fundraisers, and more. There are tons of opportunities to get involved and make your mark.

Interested in volunteering? Reach out to Mrs. Avefjall anytime through MS Teams or by email at savefjall@sd44.ca.



Business Ed Entrepreneurship Fair

Come check out the annual entrepreneurship & marketing 9/10 entrepreneurship fair hosted at Argyle May 27-29th!

Argyle Drama Presents...

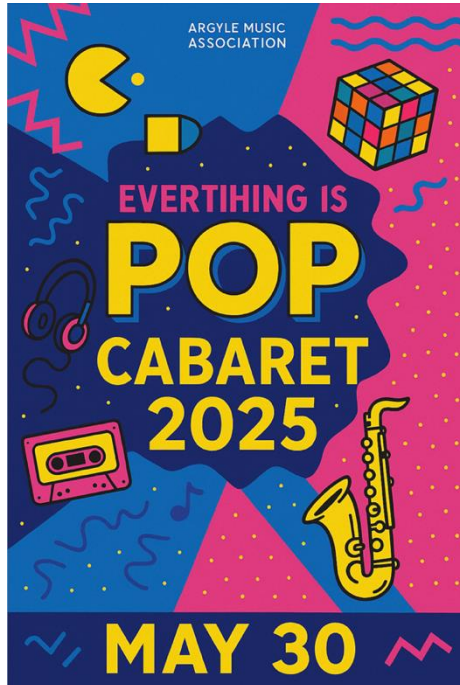
Argyle Drama is proud to present *The Wrong Show*, a bold and hilarious new production written and directed by artist-in-residence Andy Thompson. Featuring masks by acclaimed theatre artist Melody Anderson, this wildly theatrical comedy runs May 6–9 at Argyle Secondary in the James Buchanan Theatre.

When a mysterious 400-page script arrives overnight, a ragtag troupe of performers are forced to stage a bizarre play they've never seen or rehearsed — written by a director who may or may not be losing his mind. As confusion turns to chaos, egos unravel and reality bends, leading to a gloriously unhinged collision of art, ambition, and absurdity. Is it a disaster? A triumph? Or just wrong...?

[Tickets available here.](#)



Argyle Music Association Presents...



[Get your tickets here!](#)

Cabaret Night is the Argyle Music Association's annual fundraising gala for the graduating students' Scholarship Fund.

This is the evening to shine the lights on our kids' great musical talents and to help us raise important dollars for the AMA Scholarship Fund, awarded to graduating students who have participated in Argyle's wonderful music program.

Fabulous music provided by Argyle's jazz ensembles and jazz choirs. A delightful evening of music, a lavish grazing table, drinks (cash bar), fabulous silent auction, dancing, and socializing.

Cabaret is an adult only event – must be 19 or older. Doors open at 6:30 pm (paid bar and auction) and the show starts at 7:00pm.

Ticket prices vary by table: tables 1-6 \$85, tables 8-11 \$80, tables 12-16 \$70, all other tables \$65. Cancellations before May 23rd are subject to \$5 charge. No refunds after May 23rd.

Piper Pride - What's happening around the school?

Check out our School Plan!

[Argyle's school plan has a new home on our website.](#) We keep this page updated throughout the year with initiatives we are working on and progress towards our school goals. The school plan is developed each year with feedback from students, staff, and parents (via Argyle PAC). More information on 2024-25 progress will be shared at the upcoming May PAC meeting.

Athletics Update

Girls Soccer

The Argyle Green team kicked off the season winning the 19th annual Dave Sattler Cup, competing against 27 teams from across British Columbia. They continued their success through the NSSSAA regular season, winning their division and will host the Argyle White team in the Division 1 quarter final.

The Argyle Gold team were undefeated in league play, finishing first in the NSSSAA JR Premier division. The team also travelled to Campbell River, competing in the Carihi SR Girls soccer tournament.



Argyle Senior Girls Soccer Team – North Shore Champions!

The Argyle Senior Girls have been undefeated in early season tournaments and have won the North Shore Championship. The team has advanced to the Vancouver Sea to Sky semi-final, hoping to qualify for the BC Provincial Championship later in the season.

Argyle Cheer Team

Congratulations to the Argyle Gold Cheer team for recently winning the Provincial Championship and the prestigious Sea to Sky competition. In addition, the Green team placed third overall at each event.



Ultimate



Argyle Junior Ultimate Team – NSSAA Champions!

Argyle Junior Ultimate team finished in first place in the NSSAA Championships!

Argyle Senior Ultimate team finished third in NSSAA tournament this week and has earned a berth at the Sea to Sky Championships this week.

Juvenile Boys Volleyball

Argyle's first (in many years) boys volleyball team went undefeated this season and starts playoffs today. The team is mostly beginners and new to volleyball. Go Pipers!

April Career Fairs

In early April, Leadership 11 students hosted the first annual Career Fair, where local professionals were invited to talk with students about their career, their education, and life in the working world. Students had a chance to hear from a range of local professionals! Thank you to the PAC for their support of this event.

Argyle also hosted a Trades Fair in April, where students had a chance to learn about careers in Health, Emergency Response, and Recreation.

Leadership 11

Leadership 11 students are busy taking on projects around the school and community. To gain leadership experience, these students lead kids camps, teach reading in elementary schools, coach community sports, and help coordinate various school events. Pictured right, Diana is getting ready to read to classes at Lynn Valley Elementary.



Argyle Student Wins Apple App Development Contest



Argyle Grade 10 student Adam Brayford is a 2025 finalist in Apple's Swift Student Developer Challenge after developing an app that uses AI to detect skin cancer. Brayford created a data model that can identify skin cancer with a photo. He used thousands of images to train an AI model, which now has a 93% success rate at detecting cancer with an uploaded picture.

Apple's contest is call to students to "showcase their creativity and coding capabilities through app playgrounds, and learn real-world skills that they can take into their careers and beyond" (Apple, 2025). Brayford finished in the top 350 worldwide. He received a certificate from Apple and a set of AirPods and he is determined to try again next year. The top 50 finalists are invited to visit Apple headquarters in California.

BC Secondary School Math Contest

Six senior students represented Argyle at the BC Secondary School Math competitions, hosted at Capilano University on May 2nd. Interested in taking part? Talk to Ms. Purvis, Ms. Klausen, or Mr. Liu about joining math club!

Field Trips & Guest Speakers

Argyle students are taking learning outside the classroom this Spring.

Mr. Pearce and Ms. Klein's Law 12 classes have ongoing trips to provincial and municipal law courts through April and May. Mr. Cheng and Ms. Adie's Life Sciences 11 recently visited the Vancouver Aquarium. Ms. Taylor's English 11 welcomed the Vancouver Holocaust Society to English 9 classes. And pictured here, Mr. Soper and Mr. Mah's Outdoor Education 11 students visited Marine Search and Rescue base in North Vancouver last week.



Keeping Up with Argyle's Queen



This week, Argyle's bees have been performing what's known as a swarming rehearsal. The growing energy inside the hive pushes them to come out and gather around the entrance, forming a kind of beard. The new queens emerging from these cups have two missions: first, to kill the reigning queen (their own mother) and second, to battle and eliminate all the other emerging queens (their sisters) until only one remains. A real Greek tragedy! The reigning queen must leave the hive before her daughters emerge.

During a swarm, bees are not dangerous, as they have nothing to defend (no larvae, no honey).

Merci Mme Chemali for her care of Argyle's bees. Students love to watch and learn about them throughout the year!

May 5th Professional Development Day

Staff worked across the District on May 5th attending a variety of workshops on topics ranging from Indigenous Education, mental health, post secondary preparedness, and more!

Pictured here, Argyle Metalwork teachers Ryan Edgar and Eric Bankes participate in a training with the Lynn Valley Forge.



Parent Resources

CMHA Mental Health Week

May 5-11th is Mental Health Awareness Week. Check out information and resources for students and families [here](#).

Creating a Substance Use Prevention Plan

Free workshop for families on May 7th and 8th from 6-7:30pm. See the poster for more information and [sign up here](#).

CREATING A SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION PLAN

A WEBINAR FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS & CAREGIVERS

Join leading adolescent Clinical Psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson, as she helps you create a **personalized step-by-step plan** for implementing substance use prevention skills in your home. Dr. Watson will focus on specific steps you can take to ensure that **you and your family are supported** as you teach substance use prevention skills to your child/youth.



Key Takeaways:

- Learn the skills that will help prevent your child and youth from using substances
- Navigate the challenges that arise while teaching these skills to your child/youth
- Create a step-by-step plan for implementing substance use prevention strategies
- Increase your ability to support yourself and your child/youth at the same time

Time: 6-7:30pm PST (includes Q&A!)
Date: April 29th, May 7th and 8th 2025

REGISTER NOW



We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

2 DELICIOUS WAYS TO FUND OUR PLAYS



PACK OF 4 SAUSAGES @ \$12-\$15

Stapleton brings you gourmet, all-natural sausages – full of flavour without the fat.

- 34% of your purchase supports our Drama program directly
- Made with local meat, gluten-free, and free of MSG
- Choose from a range of gourmet sausages – from English Breakfast to Tandoori Chicken with Mango

On School Cash Online...

ORDER BY 22 MAY

Order Pick-up: Tuesday, June 3, 3:30-5:00 PM
in front of Argyle Secondary School



COFFEE @ \$17 / 400G BAG

Local roasters Moja Coffee bring you fresh, premium coffee options.

- Over 30% of your purchase supports our Drama program directly
- All coffee is whole bean coffee, sold in 400-gram bags
- Choose from a selection of high-quality roasts: Organic Inara Espresso, Organic Swiss Water Decaf Espresso, Organic Colombia (Medium Roast), Organic Costa Rica (Medium Roast), Organic Guatemala (Dark Roast)



The final PAC meeting of the school year will take place on May 14th at 7:00pm in the Argyle Library.

[Argyle Drama Association Fundraiser](#)

