



ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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June 26, 2020

Dear Argyle Families,

What a year it has been!

We want to sincerely thank Argyle Families for being so supportive, not just through the COVID-19 health crisis, but all year. While the home/school partnership is a critical piece of your child's education, this year with the advent of a global crisis the partnership became even more critical. We are so thankful that the school could remain connected to our students despite the lockdown. The awareness, positivity, and dedication of many Argyle students and families made to their peers, communities, and the world during this time was heartfelt, timely, and appreciated.

Despite a school year that will be recorded as one of the most daunting in our 60-year history, the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of our students remained impressive. The commitment of our young scholars, actors & actresses, artists, athletes, musicians and many clubs and student leadership groups is tremendous. The professionalism, dedication and care shown by our staff who shifted from in-class to remote teaching was heartening.

As we close off the school year, we would like to share several important updates with you. Please note that this will be our last newsletter until the end of the summer, when we will connect with families in late August.

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Staffing Changes

Each year we say goodbye to staff who are departing our school for different opportunities and experiences. We thank these dedicated educators for their commitment to Argyle Secondary. In addition to the retirements of Sr. Bruno and Ms. Hosseini Khayat shared in last week's newsletter the following staff will be leaving the Argyle community this week:

- **Mr. Graeme Barber**, math and PE teacher, is moving to Vancouver Island.
- **Ms. Jill Blewman**, Learning Services Teacher, is going to Eastview Elementary.
- **Ms. Lauren Champion**, Behaviour Support Worker, is going on maternity leave.
- **Ms. Betty Ferguson**, Autism Support Worker, is returning to Handsworth.
- **Ms. Jocelyne McCordic**, Social Studies & PE teacher, is moving to Vancouver Island.
- **Ms. Manuela Montiero**, Supervision Aide, is going to Seycove.
- **Ms. Rachel Taillefer**, Science teacher is finishing her contract with Argyle this week.

The New Argyle School

We are eagerly awaiting the opening of the new school and have been busy sorting and packing this spring. Work has continued since COVID hit and will continue throughout the summer. We will however be starting the new school year in the original Argyle building and are planning for a Fall move. As soon as we know the Fall move-in date we will communicate this out to families.

September 2020

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 8th. We anticipate an announcement from the Provincial Health Officer in mid to late August about what stage schools across British Columbia will reopen in. There are 5 stages in the [BC Education restart plan](#). Feedback has and continues to be gathered from students, parents, and staff to help inform the development of timetable models for different stages. Plans are currently in the works for each stage and will be communicated in late summer once we know what stage we will be starting the year off in. As in previous years, families can expect to receive a newsletter by email during the week prior to school starting.

NVSD Survey

The NVSD has engaged with Flex Surveys to administer a brief survey to gather parent/guardian feedback to better understand their experiences during the last 3 months of the school year. The survey should only take 4-5 minutes to complete and will be available until Tuesday, July 7th. All responses will remain 100% confidential, and we are asking that there is one survey completion per household. We appreciate your feedback!

Survey Link: www.1flex.cc/NVSD

Report Cards

Report Cards were published to the MyEd Parent Portal on Wednesday this week. The baseline mark for students is determined by work assigned up to March 13th. It is important to note that Term 2 ended in mid-February and some classes had major assessments prior to March 13th therefore term 2 marks are not necessarily the same as marks on March 13th. Interim reports posted on May 15th included your child's

cumulative mark up to March 13th, as well as assessments from the Learning at Home period if that enhanced your child's grade. Final marks stayed the same or increased from their mark on March 13th.

Please ensure you download and save report cards from the year as they will disappear after July 31st, 2020 when the system rolls into the next school year. If there are any questions about a mark/comment please contact your child's teacher directly by email. Emails are listed on the Argyle website under the Staff Info top tab. Note that staff's last day until September 8th is today, Friday, June 26th.

Extra-Curricular Athletics Update

Competitive athletics are a valuable part of our schools' extracurricular programming and an important complement to our focus on physical literacy.

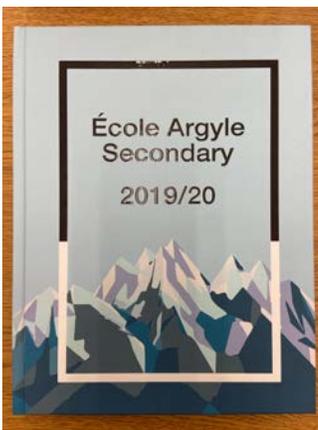
All North Vancouver secondary schools are members of BC School Sports (BCSS). In March, and in response to COVID-19, BCSS* banned all interschool and intraschool sport activities and advised that schools should not initiate even small-group activities. BCSS has recently extended this directive into the summer months and has shared that decisions on a return to play would likely be forthcoming in late August or early September.

It is important to note that community sports are not part of the same regulatory structure that schools are. Community sports have been provided guidelines through the government's agency, ViaSport, on how to resume limited activities. These guidelines, while a helpful reference point for schools, do not enable a return to play for schools at this time.

As a school community, we remain committed to extracurricular athletics and look forward to providing an update to our community as soon as new information becomes available. As always, our actions are guided first and foremost with a high regard for the health and safety of our students, staff and community volunteers. We appreciate your patience and support as we navigate the challenges COVID-19 presents to extra-curricular athletics.

**More information on BC School Sport's COVID-19 response is available [here](#).*

Yearbooks, Awards & Resources



If your child ordered a yearbook or received an award but was unable to pick it up this week they can pick it up from the Argyle Main Office between 9am and 2pm on Monday, June 29th or Tuesday, June 30th. After these dates, students will need to wait until school opens in September to pick these items up.

Students who ordered a yearbook received their outstanding 2019-2020 Argyle yearbook this week. A huge thank you to **Ms. Bergler** and the skilled members of the Yearbook classes for producing this great book. Special recognition goes to **Callan Ashcroft, Grace Cho, Allison Cocking, Grace Gale, Roy Jang, Julia Keil, Bradley Knibbs, Narae Lee, Sara Newhold, Caitlin Paterson, Abiageal Reid, Amelie Rodrigues, Yiwen Shen, and Kate Turner** for their excellent work on the yearbook. We hope you enjoy this incredible keepsake from the extraordinary year that was 2019-2020!

Library News

While we are parting for summer break the Argyle Library Website has had many updates this Spring. It is a great source for perusing age-appropriate books, and online tools, on a variety of topics such as social-emotional learning, digital citizenship, science, Indigenous Peoples, anti-racism and Black Lives Matter. While the Argyle Library is closed during the summer we do hope everyone visits the local library to continue reading. And remember what Ms. Lawson often says, “Readers are Leaders, and Leaders are Readers.”

If you happen to come across any Argyle Library books in your home, please set them aside and return them in September. We would love to have them back for next year’s students to borrow.

Argyle Library: <https://libguides.sd44.ca/argylesecondary/home>

The District of North Vancouver Library is offering several programs for teens:

Take-out service: <https://nvdpl.ca/takeout>

Teen Summer Reading Club: <https://nvdpl.ca/teensrc>

Teen Writing Contest: <https://nvdpl.ca/teen-writing-contest>

QuaranTEEN summer art contest: <https://nvdpl.ca/quaranteen>

Upcoming Dates

Email to Argyle families – Week of August 31st

First Day of School – Tuesday, September 8th

Argyle Summer Office Hours

The office will be open Monday and Tuesday next week, June 29th & 30th, otherwise the school is closed for the summer. The school office will reopen on Monday, August 31st.

A Final Message to the Grads

And lastly, to our Grads of 2020, we wish you all the best in everything you do. We know that this is not the way you envisioned the end of your grad year to be.

We hope you enjoyed the truly unique Commencement Ceremony. After the last group of Grads departed, we started to reflect on the events of the past few months. We recalled all the meetings and all the planning that went into the Ceremony. It did not take us long to realize the magnitude of what we just accomplished. The Commencement Ceremonies of 2020 will become a historic event, but we will remember the collaboration of the school and district staff to put on a memorable experience for our students. Thank-you to everyone involved.

We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you the best in your future endeavours. You have worked hard to successfully complete your studies during these unprecedented times. You should be incredibly proud of your accomplishments and the obstacles you have overcome to get there!

We wish all members of our school community a safe and enjoyable summer, and for our graduates, parents and staff members who are moving on, thank you and all the very best in the exciting road ahead.



**ALL THE BEST TO OUR 2020 GRADS
ENJOY A FABULOUS SUMMER
PLEASE BE SAFE!**

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kim Jonat, Caren Hall, & John Crowley".

Kim Jonat, Caren Hall, & John Crowley