



SUTHERLAND NEWSLETTER

Pride. Passion. Place.

January 23, 2026

Dear Sutherland Families,

A warm welcome back and a Happy New Year to everyone! The start of a new year always brings a refreshed sense of optimism and hope for what's possible and, this year, renewed vitality to our school theme of pride, passion, place.

January also marks the beginning of our annual course programming cycle. [Our Course Programming page](#) will be updated frequently over the next month, and families are encouraged to check it on an ongoing basis for new information, including our upcoming revised course guide, and dates of parent information meetings for each grade.

This coming week also marks the start of a new semester at Sutherland; a chance for students to reset and refocus on new academic goals. A reminder that regularly scheduled classes for the first semester end today, Friday, January 23rd and that Monday, January 27th and Tuesday, January 28th are reserved for [Review & Completion](#). Review and Completion Days are designed for students with outstanding assignments or those who have not met the intended learning standards to schedule an appointment with their classroom teachers. Wednesday, January 28th is a non-instructional administrative semester turnaround day, and students will return to class to begin semester 2 on Thursday, January 29th.

Student schedules for semester 2 are available to view in [MyEd](#). Instructions for students and guardians to log into MyEd and view their schedule are available on our [school website](#). As semester 1 draws to conclusion, please have a look around your home for any Sutherland textbooks, novels, or resources. For classroom materials, teachers are the best point of contact, but items may also be returned to the office as a last resort. For the latter, please include a note identifying who is returning the item and to which teacher/class.

As we move through this semester transition, it is also an important time to remind students and families of the role attendance plays in learning and success. In short, attendance matters! Regular attendance plays an important role in academic success, engagement, and a sense of belonging at school. We want our students showing up consistently—not only for their regularly scheduled classes, but also for AM

Tutorial Time, which begins at 8:30 am each morning. Tutorial Time is an important part of the instructional day and provides students with valuable opportunities to receive extra support, clarify learning, and strengthen their understanding. We appreciate families' continued support in helping students arrive on time and ready to engage in their learning each day.

Alongside clear expectations for engagement and attendance, we have also been listening closely to feedback about how students are recognized for their efforts and achievements. Thank you to the many students, staff, and family members who have shared feedback on all aspects of student life and educational experiences at Sutherland over the past year, both through formal surveys and informal conversations. Your perspectives play an important role in shaping our ongoing work. One area where thoughtful and exciting work is currently underway is [student recognition](#). Staff have been exploring ways to strengthen how we acknowledge student achievement, including the possibility of piloting a return to an Honour Roll. Academic excellence is something we want all students to strive for, and meaningful recognition is one of the ways students can develop a strong sense of pride, motivation, and identity within our school community. More information will be shared as this work continues, and we know this will be welcome news for many students and families who have been eager to see a renewed focus on academic recognition.

Student achievement and identity are shaped not only in classrooms, but also through the rich extra-curricular opportunities. This is an exciting time in particular for our athletic program. As it continues to grow in both participation and success, we are pleased to share that we have re-established our Athletic Council, with representation from parents, staff, and students. The council will play an important role in strengthening communication, coordination, and long-term support for athletics at Sutherland. Recent winter-season highlights reflect this positive momentum, including our pride in co-hosting the 16-team North Shore Junior Invitational Basketball Tournament and being invited to participate in the prestigious [No Regrets Senior Basketball Tournament](#). These opportunities speak to the strength of our athletic community and the dedication of our student-athletes and coaches, and we will continue to strengthen the structures and supports that will allow Sutherland Athletics to thrive.

Strong programs are supported by dedicated staff, and we are pleased to share several recent and upcoming staffing updates within our Sutherland community. We look forward to welcoming to regular teaching roles Olivia Bird (Photo), Lauren Schwartz (Careers and English) and Max Whitworth (Careers and PHE) all three of whom will be joining us at the start of Semester 2. We are also grateful to welcome Education Assistant Jennie Nichol and Indigenous Support Worker Laura Lewis, who both joined our staff during the latter half of Semester 1.

Looking beyond our school programs, we would also like to share an upcoming

community information event relevant to the Sutherland school community. Families are invited to attend an upcoming information session regarding the [Eastside Connector](#), a new transportation infrastructure project that will impact the area surrounding Sutherland. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 28th from 5:30–8:00 pm in our small gymnasium. The project includes safety and technical improvements along West Grand Boulevard between East 19th Street and East Keith Road, as well as East 17th Street between West Grand Boulevard and the under construction Casano-Loutet Overpass. City staff will be on site to share detailed information about the project, answer questions, and gather community feedback. We encourage interested families to attend and learn more about the planned improvements.

As the year gets underway, I am both optimistic and appreciative of the learning, growth, and opportunities that lie ahead for the Sutherland school community. The months ahead invite reflection, renewed focus, and collective effort as we continue to support our students and one another. To all Sutherland families, I wish you a year marked by meaningful learning, shared successes, and a strong sense of connection to our school community.

Sincerely,



Mark Barrett
Principal
Sutherland Secondary

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SEMESTER TURNAROUND

New Block Rotation

Semester 2 introduces a new block rotation beginning on Thursday, January 29th. Please visit the [Calendar and Schedule](#) page for full details and printable versions.

Semester 2 Bell Schedule & New Block Rotation 2025-2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30-9:11	Limited Tutorial Time Availability (See Website)	TUTORIAL TIME: This is instructional time that will be part of a schoolwide support system to support student success. Note: There are some X-Block classes			
9:15-10:25	5	6	7	5	6
10:25-10:35			Break		
10:35-11:45	6	7	5	6	7
11:45-11:55			Break		
11:55-1:05	7	5	6	7	5
1:05-1:50			Lunch		
1:50-3:00	8	8	8	8	8

Arrive prepared for Semester 2!

Student schedules are available in MyEd. Please ensure your student knows their Semester 2 classes before coming to school on Thursday, January 29th. Click [here](#) for instructions.



COURSE PROGRAMMING

Course Programming Information Meetings

Please take note of the upcoming Course Programming Information Meetings listed below. All details can be found [here](#).

Date & Time	Event	Location
Date: Thursday, February 5th Time: 6:00pm	Parent Course Programming Meeting for current students in Grades 8 and 9 (going into Grades 9 & 10)	Theatre Sutherland Secondary
Date: Thursday, February 5th Time: 7:00pm	Parent Course Programming Meeting for current students in Grades 10 and 11 (going into Grades 11 & 12)	Theatre Sutherland Secondary
Date: Tuesday, February 10 th – Wednesday February 18 th Time: 8:30am - 9:10am (Tutorial Time)	Mandatory course programming presentations for students in Grades 8–10. Please refer to the full schedule for specific dates by grade. Students will be notified in Teams.	Large Gym Sutherland Secondary

**OPEN THE COURSE
PROGRAMMING GUIDE**



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Dual Credit & Career Programs Info Night

Explore the various dual credit and career exploration opportunities available to students in grades 10-12.

Parents and students of grade 9-11 are strongly encouraged to attend if student has an interest in skilled trades, culinary, health care and early childhood education. [Registration](#) for this session is open until January 28th, 2026.

Date: Tuesday, February 3rd

Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Location: Carson Graham Secondary School



YELL Info Night

Click the image for more info.

Date: Monday, February 9, 2026

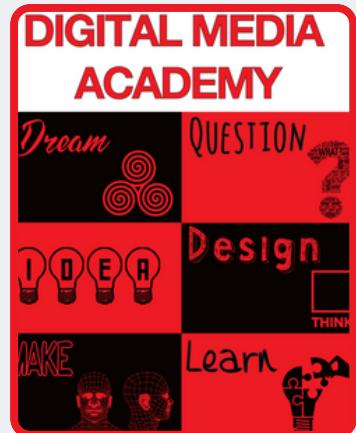
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Location: Sutherland Library

Digital Media Academies

Apply for 2026-2027 Digital Media Academies by Saturday, February 28th! Click the image for more info.

- Digital Media Lite Academy for Grades 9 & 10.
- Digital Media Academy for Grades 11 & 12.



GRADUATION INFO

Grad 2026 Lawn Signs Coming Soon!

Show your Sabre pride and celebrate your Sutherland Graduates' achievement with a vibrant lawn sign!

- An ordering link will be sent to Grade 12 families before Spring Break.
- Pickup details will be emailed in April.

Make graduation unforgettable—your Sabre spirit starts here!



Graduation Ceremony and Banquet Dates

Grad Ceremony: Monday, June 1st, 2026 @ [The Orpheum Theatre](#)

Graduation Banquet: Saturday, June 20th 2026 @ [The Pinnacle Hotel](#)
[Downtown Vancouver](#)

Ticket Sales will be announced in the Spring. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with you!

VISUAL ARTS

Sutherland Winter Installation: A Collaborative Artistic Journey

This winter, Sutherland Secondary School unveiled a festive installation designed as a photo booth for Santa's Breakfast on December 19th. Created between November 17th and December 18th, the project brought together two senior art classes (Grades 10–12) in an inspiring collaborative effort.

Four groups worked on different elements: enchanting trees, a whimsical backdrop, a steam train, and 3D snowflakes. The trees were built from wire and cardboard, then paper-mâchéed, painted, and topped with spray-painted details and sparkling gems. The backdrop was painted in layered acrylic sections to create a rich winter atmosphere.

One of the most ambitious components was the steam train, constructed from carefully planned cardboard pieces atop an MDF platform—an impressive showcase of teamwork and problem-solving. Finally, the 3D snowflakes added a charming finishing touch, enhancing the installation's magical winter feel.

This collaborative 9 ft × 10 ft × 8 ft project not only highlighted students' creativity and dedication but also provided the school community with a joyful, beautifully crafted space to capture holiday memories during Santa's Breakfast.

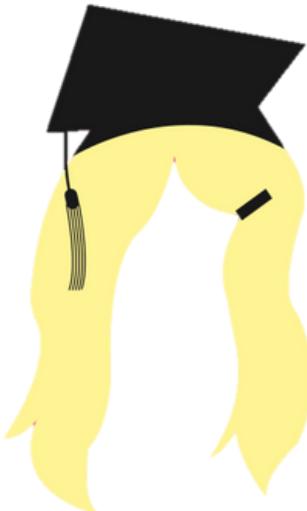


Sutherland Secondary School

Presents

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical™



February 25-27 & March 4-6

Credit/Debit & Online Tickets: Cash Tickets:

Adults - \$15 Adults - \$15

Students - \$15 Students - \$10

Doors Open @ 6:45pm and Show Begins @ 7:00pm

Tickets can be purchased in person at lunch by the theatre and at the box office on the nights of the show as well as by QR code.

Music and Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin

Book by
Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
And the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWP Group, Ruth Hendel, Cheryl Wiesenfeld, Hal Goldberg, David Binder, James D. Stern, Douglas L. Meyer, Stewart F. Lane, Bonnie Comley, Robert G. Bartner, Michael A. Jenkins, Albert Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber

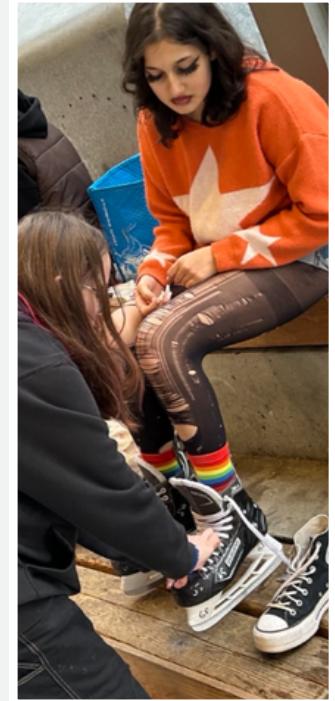
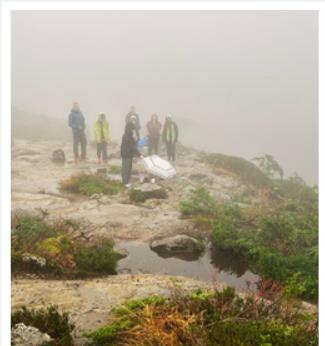
Legally Blonde JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 541-4684 mtishows.com



SPOTLIGHT ON CHOICES

Outdoor Activities

The Choices program had a chance to go for a very foggy hike up at Mount Seymour. We ascended over the wet tree roots and rocks on the trail before setting our eyes on the beautiful Mystery Lake, where we settled in for hot chocolate, snacks and quiet reflection. Another favorite outing is our annual skating fieldtrip to the Shipyards. We had many great laps around, laughs and fun on and off the ice in this cozy outdoor setting.



MATH CONTESTS

Math Contest Registration is Open!

Challenge yourself and showcase your math skills—sign up today! Once registered, fees can be paid via School Cash Online. The Deadline to sign up is Tuesday, February 10th.

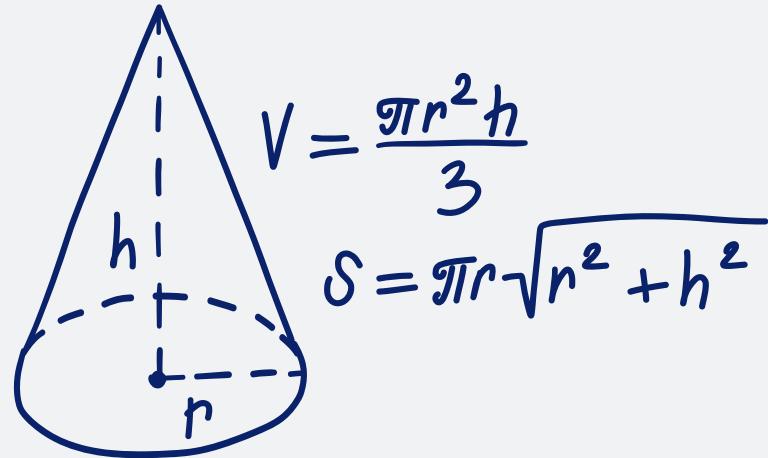
1. Fryer (Grade 9) will be held Wednesday, April 1st at 7:50am in room B202. Cost is approximately \$12.50
2. Galois (Grade 10) will be held Wednesday, April 1st at 7:50am in room B202. Cost is approximately \$12.50
3. Hypatia (Grade 11) will be held Wednesday, April 1st at 7:50am in room B202. Cost is approximately \$12.50
4. Euclid (Grade 12) will be held Tuesday, March 31st at 7:50am in the library. Students will miss period 3. Cost is approximately \$18.50. Students may register with The University of Waterloo for free optional prep.
5. BC Secondary Math Challenge (Grades 9-12) will be held Wednesday, March 4 at 8:20am in room B202. No cost.

ASMA Math Contest Results

Results are in for the 3rd round of the ASMA contest.

Hyebin L. and Natasha L. tied for first place! Congratulations on this outstanding accomplishment!

The next ASMA contest will be held on Thursday, February 12 in B202.



HOMESTAYS & EXCHANGE

Homestay Families Needed



Each year, the North Vancouver School District welcomes students from around the world to live and study in our vibrant community in the International Program. We strive to place secondary school international students with families who live close to school to support each student's integration into the school and wider community.

We have secondary school international students in need of a homestay placement for the school terms beginning February and September 2026, and February 2027. If you are interested in hosting an international student, please reach out to the International Education program office at international@sd44.ca. More information about the homestay program is available on the [International Education](#) section of the school district website.



Youth Exchange Opportunity

The [North Shore Lions Youth Exchange Program](#) has run since 1970 and builds cultural understanding between North Vancouver and Chiba, Japan. More than 450 students have taken part in this unique experience.

The 2026 program gives students the chance to live with a Japanese host family, enjoy local foods, learn customs, visit the Mayor of Chiba, and attend the Three Generation Festival. The host family includes a student who previously visited North Vancouver and speaks English.

If you will be 15 or 16 at the time of travel and attend a North or West Vancouver school, you're encouraged to apply.

Application deadline: Monday, March 9th.

Details are available on the [North Shore Lions Youth Exchange](#).

DATES & REMINDERS

Upcoming Dates



- Friday, January 23rd – Last Day of Semester 1
- Monday, January 26th – Tuesday, January 27th – Review & Completion Days (Attendance by Appt Only)
- Tuesday, January 27th – Numeracy 10 Grad Assessments
- Wednesday, January 28th – Semester Turnaround Day (School Closed)
- Thursday, January 29th – First Day of Semester 2
- Tuesday, February 3rd – Summaries of Learning Published
- Tuesday, February 3rd – Dual Credit Information Night
- Thursday, February 5th – Parent/Guardian Course Programming Presentations
- Monday, February 9th – YELL Information Night
- Tuesday, February 10th – S2 Course Add/Drop Deadline
- Tuesday, February 10th – Wednesday, February 18th – Mandatory Student Course Programming Meetings
- Thursday, February 12th ASMA Math Contest
- Friday, February 13th – District Wide Pro D. Day (School Closed)
- Monday, February 16th – Family Day (School Closed)
- Thursday, February 19th – Grade 7 School Tour
- Monday, February 23rd – Friday, February, 27th – Literacy Week
- Tuesday, February 27th – Hotdog Day
- Wednesday, February 25th – Staff Collaboration Day – Late Start

Summaries of Learning

Please ensure that you are able to access your MyEd account before Tuesday, February 3rd. Instructions can be found [here](#).



Yearbook Ordering Deadline: April 1st!

Purchasing a yearbook is optional. They are available in [SchoolCash Online](#). If you have already purchased one, it will appear in your payment history.

