



SUTHERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

1860 Sutherland Avenue, North Vancouver, BC V7L 4C2 Telephone 604-903-3500

January 7, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 7 Students,

On behalf of the staff and current students at Sutherland, welcome!

It is with great anticipation that we look forward to the arrival of our new Grade 8s this coming September. As we prepare to welcome the Grad Class of 2030, Sutherland staff will engage in thorough consultation with elementary school classroom teachers, administrators, learning support teachers, and counsellors. The Grade 7-8 Transition process is designed to provide Sutherland staff with the information we need to best support our incoming students but is also how we convey essential information and offer opportunities to students and guardians to become more familiar with the school community.

There are several important dates that incoming students and their families should be aware of, so please read the information below carefully.

Secondary Enhanced Program and Academies Information Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 6:30pm at Carson Graham Secondary School

The North Vancouver School District has many opportunities for secondary students through Enhanced Programs and Academies, and this event is an opportunity to learn about them all. Please find the schedule and links for these meetings, as well as other pertinent information specific to the Academy Programs on the [NVSD website](#).

Course Programming Information Meeting for Grade 7 Parents/Guardians: Thursday, February 6, 2025, from 5:30pm – 7:00pm at Sutherland Secondary School

Parents of current Grade 7s are invited to Sutherland for a course programming information and transition meeting on Thursday, February 6th, 2025. This presentation will be hosted by Ms. Samantha Lo (Grade 8 Counsellor) and Ms. Shannon Smart (Grade 8 Vice Principal). In the presentation, we will include general information about high school as well as specific information about Sutherland. The primary purpose of this meeting is to provide information about the Sutherland Grade 8 course offerings and programs available. We will introduce the Course Request sheets and give information about how to support students in completing these forms. An optional school tour will start at 5:30pm and the presentation will begin in the Cafeteria at 6:00pm.

Grade 7 Student Programming Presentations: February 24-28 at Elementary Schools

Samantha Lo (Grade 8 Counsellor) and Shannon Smart (Grade 8 Vice-Principal) will be visiting Grade 7 classes at our in-catchment elementary schools – Eastview, Brooksbank, Ridgeway, and Queensbury – in late February. Topics will include Grade 8 course request options, programs and offerings at Sutherland, extra-curricular opportunities, and general information about attending secondary school. We will hand out Course Request forms at these meetings. **Please work with your student to complete and return their form to your child's Grade 7 teacher by Friday, March 7, 2025.**

Grade 7 Student Orientation and Tour of Sutherland

We will host each Grade 7 class and their teacher at Sutherland in April. Senior Sutherland leadership students will guide groups on a tour of the school. Students will have a chance to see the various elective areas, academic areas, applied skills areas, as well as student support areas of the school.



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September 2, 2025 – Grade 8 First Day of Secondary School

In the week before school opens for the 2025/26 school year, we will send a letter to all Grade 8 parents and guardians regarding the schedule and activities taking place on students' first days at Sutherland. We will also hold an Open House in September for new families and will share more information about that event closer to the date.

Fall 2025 – Grade 8 Retreat

As we have for the past three years, we will be hosting a Grade 8 Retreat at the Cheakamus Centre in Brackendale (just North of Squamish) as a community building activity. Students will spend one day participating in outdoor learning activities at Cheakamus. This year, we are opting for a day trip rather than an overnight. The required permission and medical forms will be distributed before we break for the summer and the fees will be due early in September.

We will be in touch with further communication when there are further details about some of these events to share. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding your child's program at our school, please contact Samantha Lo (Grade 8 Counsellor) slo@sd44.ca or visit the [Sutherland website](#).

Sincerely,

Shannon Smart
Vice-Principal
&
Samantha Lo
Grade Counsellor