

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM**

**Meeting Place:**

Education Services Centre  
2121 Lonsdale Avenue  
Mountain View Room – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
North Vancouver, British Columbia

**Format and Date:**

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at  
6:30 pm

		Estimated Completion Time
<b>A.</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	
A.1.	Acknowledgments	6:30 pm
A.2.	Approval of Agenda (that the agenda, as recommended in the Administrative Memorandum, be adopted.)	6:30 pm
A.3.	Approval of Minutes (that the minutes of the Public Meeting of February 21, 2023 be approved as circulated)	6:35 pm
A.4.	Public Questions/Comments *	6:45 pm
A.5.	Educational Presentation: Indigenous Education Graduation Requirements	6:55 pm
<b>B.</b>	<b>Action Items</b>	
B.1.	Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar for Board Approval	7:10 pm
<b>C.</b>	<b>Information and Proposals</b>	
C.1.	Educational Update: Framework for Enhancing Student Learning	7:25 pm
C.2.	Land Management – Written Update	7:30 pm
C.3.	Committee Reports – Written Update	7:45 pm
C.4.	Superintendent’s Report	7:55 pm
C.5.	Report Out – British Columbia School Trustees Association and BC Public School Employers’ Association	8:05 pm
C.6.	Trustees’ Reports/Highlights	8:20 pm

\* Additional Community Presentations or Delegations are welcomed with advanced notice - see [Policy 104: Board of Education - Meetings](#) and its [Administrative Procedures](#).



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- D. Future Meetings**
- E. Public Question & Comment Period**
- F. Adjournment**

Estimated Completion Time
8:25 pm
8:30 pm
8:30 pm

**Note:** The completion times on this agenda are estimates intended to assist the Board in its deliberations.

**School District No. 44 (North Vancouver)**

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) held in the Mountain View Room of the Education Services Centre at 2121 Lonsdale Avenue in North Vancouver, British Columbia, on Tuesday, February 21, 2023

**PRESENT:** K. Mann, Chair  
L. Munro, Vice Chair  
D. Anderson  
C. Gerlach  
G. Tsiakos  
L. Tumaneng  
A. Wilson

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**A. Call to Order**

Board Chair Kulvir Mann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**A.1. Acknowledgments**

Board Chair Mann acknowledged the traditional territorial lands of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) Nation and səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation.

**A.2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by A. Wilson

that the agenda, as recommended in the Administrative Memorandum, be adopted.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

Trustee Gerlach requested that the agenda be amended to move item C6 for discussion under the B.2 items.

Seconded by A. Wilson

Carried

**A.3. Approval of Minutes**

Moved by D. Anderson

that the minutes of the inaugural public meeting of January 17, 2023, be approved as circulated.

Seconded by A. Wilson

Carried

**A.4. Public Question/Comment Period**

There were no public questions or comments received by the Board.

**A.5. Educational Presentation: North Vancouver Online Learning Update**

Dr. Pius Ryan, Superintendent, welcomed Jennifer Tieche, Vice Principal of Mountainside Secondary and North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL), to present an update to the Board pertaining to the NVOL. Ms. Tieche provided an overview of how the NVOL serves student learning needs across the school district, with emphasis on equity, diversity and inclusion of all students. As a newly-appointed Provincial Online Learning School by the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the NVOL will continue to provide courses in English and French to students and professional development opportunities for educators.

The presenters responded to Trustees' questions.

**B.1. School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2022/23**

Jacqui Stewart, Secretary Treasurer, introduced Helena Drury, Director of Finance, to present the Amended Annual Budget. Ms. Drury highlighted the timeline of the budget cycle, with a focus on key milestones, and provided an overview of changes in planning assumptions since the 2022/23 Preliminary Annual Budget was adopted on May 24, 2022. Trustees were reminded that the annual budget must be balanced.

The 2022/23 Amended Annual Budget in the amount of \$225,095,525 considers changes in enrolments, revenues and expenditures that have occurred since. The preliminary budget is based on an enrolment forecast developed February 2022. The additional enrolment reported in September results in higher revenues and higher expenses through increased staffing needs. These changes have resulted in a positive impact on the balance of the Accumulated Operating Surplus, to bring the unrestricted balance within the target outlined in Policy 710: Accumulated Operating Surplus.

The 2022/23 Amended Annual Budget was reviewed by the Audit Committee on February 9, 2023 and motions recommending approval of the budget were carried.

Superintendent Pius Ryan, Secretary Treasurer Stewart and Ms. Drury responded to Trustees' questions.

**Recommended Motion 1**

Moved by L. Munro

that the Board of Education rescind the restriction to use \$5,488,928 from the Accumulated Operating Surplus for the 2022/23 Preliminary Budget, as approved on May 24, 2022, and

that the Board of Education approve the restriction from the Accumulated Operating Surplus of \$2,084,519 to balance the 2022/23 Amended Annual Budget.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

**Recommended Motion 2**

Moved by G. Tsiakos

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2022/23 be read a first time;

Seconded by C. Gerlach

Carried

Moved by D. Anderson

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2022/23 be read a second time;

Seconded by L. Tumaneng

Carried

The Board unanimously agreed to proceed to a third reading of the bylaw.

Moved by L. Tumaneng

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2022/23 be read a third time, passed and adopted.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

**B.2. Notice of Motion: Motions for BCSTA AGM April 2023**

Trustee Gerlach provided the context for the North Vancouver Board of Education to sponsor three substantive motions to be put forward at the BCSTA AGM April 2023. Trustees discussed the

motions and provided recommended changes in the rationale for proper grammar and clarity. These amended changes were accepted.

Moved by G. Tsiakos

that the North Vancouver Board of Education approve the substantive motion to update the Inclusive Education Guidelines as attached to this memorandum of February 21, 2023.

Seconded by L. Munro

Carried

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the North Vancouver Board of Education approve the substantive motion to update the Inclusive Schools and Safety as attached to this memorandum of February 21, 2023.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the North Vancouver Board of Education approve the substantive motion to create policy and guidelines for literacy screening starting in Kindergarten and funding for early literacy assessment and intervention as attached to this memorandum of February 21, 2023

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

#### **C.1. Land Management – Written Update**

A written update on current land management projects was included in the Board Agenda Package, no questions were asked.

#### **C.2. Tuesday, February 7, 2023 Standing Committee Meeting**

Trustee Gerlach thanked staff for their hard work in preparation of and during this meeting.

#### **C.3. Superintendent’s Report**

Chair Mann introduced Dr. Ryan, Superintendent, who provided an update to Trustees on events, initiatives, and programming across the school district.

Dr. Ryan responded to Trustees’ questions.

#### **C.4. Report Out – British Columbia School Trustees Association and BC Public School Employers’ Association**

Trustee Tsiakos shared that the BCSTA Provincial Council will take place on Friday, February 24, through until Saturday, February 25, with Trustees Tsiakos, Anderson, and Gerlach in attendance.

#### **C.5. Trustees’ Reports/Highlights**

Trustees shared their recent highlights, with emphasis on their roles as school liaisons.

- Meetings attended by Trustees included:
  - Public Board Meeting
  - Trustee Orientation/Development Meetings
  - Arts Education Committee Meeting
  - Audit Committee Meeting
  - French Immersion Advisory Committee Meeting
  - Inclusion Committee Meeting
  - Indigenous Education Advisory Council Meeting
  - Academies Information Night
  - BCTA Bullying Session hosted by North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council
  - BCSTA Board Chairs Meeting
  - BCSTA Metro Branch Meeting

- BCSTA Virtual Trustee Orientation on Governance
  - BCSTA Partner Liaison Meeting
  - BCSTA Anti Racism Focus Group
  - District Student Leadership Council Meeting
  - North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council Meeting
  - North Vancouver School District Jazz Festival
  - North Vancouver School District Band and Strings Festival
  - North Vancouver Teachers' Association Pro D Conference
  - Trades Program information night
- Events attended by Trustees included:
    - PAC meeting at Carisbrooke Elementary
    - School visits to Boundary Elementary, Braemar Elementary Capilano Elementary, Cleveland Elementary, Highlands Elementary and Upper Lynn Elementary
    - Safety Blitz at Braemar Elementary and Seymour Heights Elementary

**D. Future Meetings**

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave North Vancouver
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave North Vancouver
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave North Vancouver
Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave North Vancouver

**E. Public Question/Comment Period**

The Chair called for questions and/or comments from the public noting that in accordance with Board policy, questions relating to personnel, negotiations or litigation must not be dealt with in a public session. No questions or comments were brought forward.

**F. Adjournment**

The established agenda being completed, Board Chair Mann adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m. and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqui Stewart  
Secretary Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kulvir Mann  
Chair, Board of Education

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Schedule A.4**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023                       **Board**                       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**                      **Public Questions/Comments**

**Narration:**

Prior to the Public Board Meeting, members of the public can provide comments on items related to the agenda by emailing [publiccomments@sd44.ca](mailto:publiccomments@sd44.ca) or calling 604-998-5100 and leaving a voice mail by no later than 1 p.m. on the day of the meeting. All input received by the specified time will be shared with Trustees electronically. The Chair will read out comments during the Public Questions/Comments at the beginning of the meeting; however, this agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes.

The Board of Education will not respond to comments made during the Public Questions/Comments but may direct questions to staff. Members of the public wishing to discuss their concerns with Trustees or staff may contact them before and/or after the meeting, by telephone or e-mail.

**Schedule A.5**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Educational Presentation: Indigenous Education**

**Narration:**

The North Vancouver School District recognizes and values the importance inclusive education in the overall success of the students, schools and our community. A Welcoming and Inclusive Culture is one of six goals in the school district's Strategic Plan 2021 – 2031.

Rose Greene, District Principal of Indigenous Education will provide an overview of the new Indigenous Education graduation requirements. She will also outline key goal areas and action plans for the 2022/23 school year.



**Schedule B1**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar for Board Approval**

**Narration:**

School districts in BC are required by the *School Act* to design and establish school calendars for their respective districts. Specific criteria and requirements are defined by the School Calendar Regulation 314/12, including the minimum instructional hours, timelines and processes. School districts are required to provide a minimum one-month opportunity for employees and parents of students to comment on the proposed calendar prior to a Board of Education confirming a final school calendar. School calendars must be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to the calendar implementation.

Development of school calendar proposals for the Board's consideration is tasked to the North Vancouver School District's School Calendar Committee. The Committee, supported by school district staff and chaired by Assistant Superintendent Chris Atkinson, is comprised of representatives from education partner groups: the North Vancouver Teachers' Association, Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 389; the North Vancouver Administrators' Association, the North Vancouver District Parent Advisory Council, the District Student Leadership Council and the Board of Education.

The School Calendar Committee met in November and December of 2022 to finalize a proposal for the 2023/24 School Calendar. The Committee's proposed School Calendar was provided to the Board of Education, for their information, at the January 17, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

The 2023/24 Proposed School Calendar provides for:

- The first day of school to fall on September 5, 2023, the first day following Labour Day
- A two-week Winter Break from December 25, 2023 to January 8, 2024\*
- A two-week Spring Break from March 18, 2024 to March 29, 2024 \*
- Four Staff Collaboration dates on which students will attend school for a shortened day; and,
- The last day of attendance for students would be June 27, 2024.

\* Timing aligns with known dates for other Metro Vancouver school districts.

The School Calendar Regulation requires that proposed calendars be made available for public comment and, accordingly, a public comment period was established effective February 1, 2023. The 2023/24 Proposed School Calendar was published to the school district's Calendar webpage and notification of the public comment opportunity was sent by email to employees and parents. In addition to the school district public website and email notification, information regarding the public comment period and the proposed calendar was shared school district social media channels.

Public comments were collected using a template that provided an overview, the proposed calendar, and asked: What are your thoughts about the PROPOSED calendar dates for 2023/2024? Survey participants were also asked to identify as student; staff member; parent/guardian; community member or other.

The number of responses was significantly more than what has been received in previous years. A total of 507 submissions were received during this year's public comment period. Each of these responses indicated satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the proposed calendar. A significant number of submissions did not provide comments or provided comments that did not apply to the proposed school calendar and identified calendar dates, reducing the comment submissions to 341. This compares to 209 submissions last year (190 comments when non-applicable entries were removed) and 243 submissions the previous year (194 comments).

Just over half (56%) of all respondents indicated satisfaction with the proposed 2023/24 School Calendar. The most common comment other than support for the proposed calendar was with respect to the proposed start of winter break on December 25, 2023 to January 8, 2024.

A listing of the comments is attached to this Board schedule and is accompanied by a brief summation of the common themes and feedback. The listing was also shared with the School Calendar Committee.

Assistant Superintendent Chris Atkinson will review the results of the public comment period and the final version of the Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar.

Subject to the Board of Education approval, the Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar will be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care to comply with the March 31 deadline. In May, upon confirmation of the dates selected by the North Vancouver Teachers' Association for non-instructional days, the 2023/24 calendar will be updated and the Final 2023/24 School Calendar will be published and circulated to the community.

Attachments:

Public Comments Received - 2023/24 School Calendar  
Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar for Board Consideration

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

that the Board of Education approve the Proposed 2023/24 School Calendar as attached to the Administrative Memorandum of March 7, 2023.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT FEEDBACK PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2023/24**

The Provincial School Act requires that Boards of Education establish a school calendar for each school year and, as part of that process, that the proposed calendar be made available for public comment prior to receiving final approval.

The opportunity for public comment regarding the 2023/24 Proposed School Calendar was provided this year through an MS Forms survey which offer the following question:

### **What are your thoughts about the PROPOSED calendar dates for 2023/2024?**

The survey also provided for participants to identify themselves as:

- Student (30 responses)
- Staff member (74 responses)
- Parent/Guardian and Staff Member (25 responses)
- Parent/guardian (377 responses)
- Community member (1 response)
- Other (0 response)

As in previous School Calendar consultations, the comments received identified the same general themes, namely responses regarding:

- start and/or end dates of the calendar year
- number and scheduling of Professional Development/Non-instructional Days
- length and scheduling (date selection) of Winter and Spring break periods
- staff collaboration time/shortened days
- support for the calendar proposal as presented.

Two hundred eighty-five (285) comments – or 56% of comments received - indicated support for, or agreement or satisfaction with, the proposed calendar as presented.

Two hundred twenty-two (222) comments – or 44% of comments received – indicated not in support, or agreement or satisfaction with, the proposed calendar as presented.

Of those, one hundred thirty-four (134) comments received were not in support of the proposed winter break starting December 25, 2023 – January 8, 2024 and would like winter break to start one week earlier.

Twenty-three (23) comments received were not in support of the proposed spring break March 18 – 29, 2024 and would prefer the break to start one week earlier so it does not coincide with Easter.

A full listing of all the individual comments received is provided on the following pages.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

Comments are as received; typos and/or grammatical errors are those of the writer	
1	If we continue with the semester system, please don't put a staff collaboration day at the end of January when the semester is ending. Please continue with the semester system as it benefits grade 8 and 9 students by only having to manage 4 courses at a time. It is also way more manageable for teachers to have to write report cards for 3 or 4 classes rather than 7 at a time.
2	I love how we work right until the 22nd of December. That's great!!! Looks like a great school calendar.
3	I disapprove of amalgamating spring break with Easter - April, May, June have very few stat holidays as a result.
4	I like having the bulk of the winter vacation after Christmas and like having Spring break at the end of March. As a parent and teacher, I like these dates better than the ones for this year where both breaks were earlier...
5	There are too many early dismissals for elementary school kids and it causes a disruption and not make them want to go back to school. I would appreciate if there wasn't so many disrupting Pro D days and dismissal days in the fall.
6	It would be amazing if the school would align the hrs with working parents. Work schedules are 8-5. Finding after school care is next to impossible. Waiting lists are too long. We are no longer in the 50s. Women are working now. Times have changed, it would be great if the school system would adapt to these changes.
7	I would prefer Winter break to start closer to Christmas. I know a lot of families don't celebrate Christmas but for those that do that last week before Christmas is so busy with errands, getting ready, etc that having the kids in school is much easier. Also gives them more time after the festivities to rest, recover, etc before heading back to school.
8	Please stay with the semester system. It's so much better for diverse learners and kids with ADHD. Focussing on 4 classes allows for better concentration.
9	Looks good!
10	The winter break seems to start a little late.
11	I would prefer the winter break start a week earlier. This would align better with most people's work closures, as most companies' office closures, if they have them, end immediately after New Years. Thank you for your consideration. I believe this proposed change will work better for most people's work schedule.
12	It's fine. My one comment is to space out the Staff Collaboration (shortened) days from Pro-D days by at least one week - having them within 7 days of each other makes it hard for full-time working parents (who do not have the option of working from home) to arrange for childcare (especially when childcare options are already limited). Thank you!
13	Easter weekend should not be included in Spring Break. Also, Winter break should start on Dec 16th to Jan 2nd.
14	Collaboration days should be eliminated altogether. I don't see any "Curriculum Implementation" days here, have those been eliminated as well? How many Pro-D days are planned as well? I would suggest that professional development, collaboration, and curriculum be worked on during the 2 months of idle teacher time in the summer. There's lots of capacity in the year to absorb these extra activities without further disrupting schedules and increasing costs for parents.
15	The only thing that really bothers me about NVSD is the early dismissal days. I highly doubt that one hour of collab time is that effective for staff. Why not pool the hours together to create another pro d day? Easier for parents and more effective for staff.
16	That works

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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17	Please let the Winter Break start a week earlier when there are so many Winter activities before Christmas and nothing the week after.
18	Could you please try “not” to schedule an early dismissal and Pro D Day on the same week. As parents who both work it is challenging to juggle & balance. Thanks for your consideration
19	I would prefer the Christmas break to start on Dec 18th rather than extend into January.
20	Less Pro D days.
21	I'm so glad like it thank you
22	Christmas Break starts far too late. The season is hectic and would prefer to have the break start earlier and return to school right after the New Year's stat.
23	Curriculum implementation day in December is not useful for staff or parents. With Christmas holiday in December that is enough time off. Also as a staff member and looking at the new reporting order, it's important to have CI day in October so we have time to look at the curriculum. I understand that CI day is usually focused on indigenous learning, maybe we can combine this with the new reporting order. The rest of the calendar looks good
24	The proposed winter break (December 25, 2023 to January 5, 2024) should shift back a week so that all time off is taken in December, This would change the dates to December 18-29. This is much easier for working parents who are unable to take time off in January.
25	Less Pro-D and early dismissal days. Most of us are two working parent families and the number of days hasn't changed since the 50's.
26	Christmas break December 18 to January 2 would be better. Many people travel over the holidays and proposed dates will make it super expensive or impossible without missing a week of school.
27	The CI day in December is absurd. People's minds are not in a professional development place at that time of year.
28	Christmas Break should start on December 18th, not December 25. Return to class January 2.
29	Winter Break is badly timed.
30	I feel like the winter break should be shifted earlier. Feels really late to start the break right on Christmas Day,
31	Elementary schools should be required to sync their Pro D days with their feeder secondary (family of schools). Allowing elementary schools to choose days separately from their feeder secondary puts unnecessary strain on families for child care (secondary school child cannot take care of elementary age child).
32	The proposed calendar is mostly good, love the Christmas break dates. However I would prefer to see curriculum implementation dates/Pro D dates on a Friday versus a Monday. It is easier to take a Friday off of work than a Monday.
33	That would be great!
34	Looks reasonable to me
35	I don't like the Christmas break time frame. Maybe the last day could be the 21st.
36	My kids do well with and appreciate 4 day school weeks, it's nice to know in advance what to expect so I can give work timely notice and/or schedule my vacation time around needs to care for my children when they aren't in school. Please ask schools to consider WORKING parents (single or both working) when scheduling pro-D days next to already long holiday weekends. It's nice for parents that don't work or have childcare and/or can afford to take extra long weekends but I don't have childcare and work doesn't appreciate that I need extra long weekends when it's a holiday.
37	To Whom It May Concern,I have reviewed the proposed 23-24 School Calendar and I not that there is a drastic imbalance regarding the timing of district-wide non-instructional days

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

Comments are as received; typos and/or grammatical errors are those of the writer	
	because these days ONLY fall on Mondays: Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Oct.9, Nov.13, Dec.4, Feb.19, Apr.1, and May 20. There are NO district-wide non-instructional days planned for Fridays in the proposed calendar. This very lopsided schedule is not fair to: a) staff who have a part-time teaching contract that falls on a Monday or Friday b) students who will repeatedly miss the activities and lessons that fall on Fridays, and c) those separated/divorced parents (such as myself, and many other parents/staff in this district) who have a shared parenting schedule that entails one parent with parenting time on Mondays, and another parent with parenting time on Fridays. In my case, my co-parent will have parenting time on all 8 district-wide non-instructional days listed above, and I will have no parenting time because his days are Mondays and mine are Fridays. This isn't fair in terms of taking time off work, nor is it fair in terms of enjoying time with one's children. Several district-wide non-instructional days could be moved to balance out the number of district-wide non-instructional days that fall on Mondays and Fridays; specifically, I suggest you move (up to three of) these three days - move Oct.2 to Sept.30, move Nov.13 to Nov.10, and move Dec.4 to Dec.1. This change will give us three Mondays that are district-wide non-instructional days, and five Fridays that are district-wide non-instructional days. Thanks for your consideration
38	Dec 25th (Monday) is too late to break for Christmas As Europeans (as many other families on the North Shore) Our Family Celebrates Christmas on Christmas Eve Dec 24, which is Sunday this year. We have many Non commercial cultural traditions that need to be commemorated before Christmas Eve and ONE DAY (Sat) is not enough time. This schedule alienates Europeans on the North Shore.
39	Winter Break should include the week before Christmas. Since Truth and Reconciliation Day falls on a weekend and isn't technically a stat holiday, Monday should not be off in lieu. There are no ceremonies or events on the Monday, it just screws over any parent who needs to work on Monday.
40	It goes a bit late before Christmas (finishes on Dec 22) but acceptable
41	School based Pro-D days should be on Fridays or Mondays. I know the District does not govern these, but the school also doesn't consult parents in setting this schedule - which I think it should. We had a number of Pro-D days in the middle of the week which wreaked havoc for working parents. Also, early dismissals should be limited to 2 PM. We had one surprise midweek early dismissal day at 1 PM and again wreaked havoc for working parents. Please make sure that all school Principals consult with the community they serve before setting school specific calendars.
42	School days should be longer. We're paying before and after school care where our children learns nothing, it's simply to spend time while parents are working. While I understand this is a huge/massive change and not necessarily related to the school calendar, I also believe this discussion should be part of the calendar. If school days were longer parents would have more funds to support pro days, winter and spring breaks and all the other days were school is not open for kids. I appreciate the space given by the school board for parents to share their concerns. I don't believe changing a day here or there, starting breaks on this day instead of the other will make any difference to the community. The only change that would create impact in the community would be adjusting school time to parents work time so kids get more content and less playtime.
43	I would prefer the winter break follow a similar schedule to this year's -- i.e From Dec 18 to Jan 2 or 3rd. It's hard for working parents to have kids off the whole first week of Jan as many of us are back to work that week.
44	I think CI day should come earlier in the year as was the decision by previous Calendar Committees. It is a time for staff to get education regarding curriculum or teaching practices and a chance to collaborate and plan/refine upcoming curriculum ideas as the Collab time in

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

Comments are as received; typos and/or grammatical errors are those of the writer	
	the calendar is not enough. Consider - Nov. 3rd or 10th. The rest is all set based on NVTA decisions and Stats that we have no control over. Very happy that the district brought back Collab Days!!!
45	I like the proposed dates for the winter holidays because they coincide with the parents' work vacations.
46	Rather than a 2 week spring break I would rather see 1 week for spring break and then school ending 1 week earlier.
47	Good
48	You can't start Christmas break on December 25th.
49	looks great
50	There is no way that anyone including teachers staff and parents students want to come to school on Christmas Eve . Most of us prefer a few days off school before Christmas to enjoy the season . Then to have 4 days off before school starts in January from New Year's Day . Most parents need to go back to work so having kids home . NO ! This new schedule is terrible . We are a leader as a school district why would we follow the xxxxx school district . If we wanted that we would send our kids to xxxxx . Have pride being the leader and one of the top school districts . Why follow something less .
51	I feel that a two week spring break is too much. One week would be great. As a parent, with a limited amount of vacation time, it is a struggle to find time and childcare for two weeks at Xmas (I get the week off between Xmas and New Years), two weeks during Spring Break, and then two months in the summer. For my kids, that's 11 weeks (not including the time between Xmas and New Years) of time off when I get 4 weeks of vacation/year. Yes, there are camps for kids, but costs add up very quickly. I understand changing Spring Break isn't easy, but I wanted to share my thoughts. Thank you.
52	Christmas break is too late. Children miss out on Christmas activities the week before Christmas as they are in school. This also means band concerts and other school performances are going to be later and conflict with enjoying these external activities. It doesn't feel like Christmas when kids are in school until the 22nd. The Last week of school before holidays are stressful enough, now it will be additional stress with Christmas so close. Family holidays will also be impacted and parents will pull children out early to get to their Christmas destinations further impacting the hours our children are taught.
53	I would like to see a three week Winter break with the five extra days lost be moved to shorten summer break. ie. 2 days added to pre labour day and 3 days added to end of June and beginning of July. Many families and staff find the winter break too short and the summer break too long.
54	Having the kids going back to school only on January 8 is very inconvenient for most parents. Most workplaces are back to work right after New year's Eve. Why isn't the Christmas school break start on December 18. That is week that more people able to take off from work.
55	Looks fine to me.
56	Its really too far ahead so I all I can say is that is seems to be pretty standard. If there are any significant changes from last years calendar, perhaps it would be worth noting them to parents. I feel this might be something that the school PACs can also mention to the parents.
57	Very tight to christmas... you start to lose the kids right at the start of December...
58	Christmas break should be Dec18/2023 to Jan2/2024 like usual the new proposed dates are inconvenient
59	I think we should always have the Christmas break with kids going back to school later like this after Christmas not right after New Year like it was this year...that was crazy. Need time off after the break NOT before XMAS...so this year is good.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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60	It is fine.
61	The winter break should begin Dec 18 rather than 25. It would be better to get kids a break before Christmas events, allow parents time to prepare. Return to work in January for many working parents, in my experience, is full speed ahead and aligns with businesses up and running fulltime better. This can take the pressure off parents for the childcare situation too.
62	Is so similar to the current year. Thank you!
63	Confused about Xmas break. In notes says Dec 25-Jan 5, in calendar it says Dec 18-Jan 2??? Which one is what is being proposed? I hope Dec 25-Jan 5
64	I liked the 2023 Calendar, it's pretty predictable.
65	Your CI day is not until December (does not say proposed) and with the new reporting order coming in for the first report card in Nov/Dec, this day is too late for District input. We have yet to receive any formal training on our new reporting order and were told that it will come on a CI day, which is appears is not the case.
66	Why are we still having a 2 week spring break. This is putting too much stress on families to take extra time off work or to spend money we don't have find care for our kids. All other provinces in Canada have a 1 week break for spring. BC used to follow this and it should go back to 1 week spring break
67	so far, so good 🍷
68	Is it feasible for March 15th to be deemed a holiday since spring break encompasses a statutory holiday on Good Friday? Other school districts are proposing taking March 15th off.
69	It is perfect.
70	It would be helpful if you provided the dates of the staff collaboration days in order to provide truly thoughtful feedback. In addition, it would be helpful to know the dates of proposed district wide, pro D days.Both early dismissals and pro D days affect the schedule of parents and guardians. It would make good sense and efficient use of time to align these with each other and/or weekends, in order to accommodate ease of childcare planning.
71	GREAT! Love that there is a solid stretch of time post Christmas!
72	I think the curriculum implementation day, currently scheduled for December 4, should be moved to November- either November 10 or 14. The reason for the change is that December is always an incredibly busy month for everyone, filled with extra events and to-do's lists that never end. Given that we wouldn't be off next year until December 23 (which is awful in my opinion, as it leaves so little time to settle into family Christmas traditions before the 25th), I think it's a poor choice. Moving this CI day to November also allows for families to extend the Remembrance Day weekend to get away for often much-needed mini reprieves from the dreary, grey November days.
73	Christmas break should begin December 18, 2023. The time leading up to Christmas Day is more valuable for holiday planning and activities.
74	I think you need more then two days off before christmas because by that time all you need is a break and you won't be trying your hardest at school so you might as well end it on the 18th like every other year and also it is too close to christmas
75	Our Company Work Holidays have already been booked and approved for Dec 16 to Jan 1 and our family holidays cannot be switched now. Would like the School Winter Break to remain at having the last two weeks of December off with the students returning to school on Jan 2 or 3. Also, for Spring Break we would like the two weeks off to remain as March 9 - 24. Thank you kindly.
76	Both my daughter and I find it completely stupid that lunch is at 1:00pm. Lunch should be 12-1 or 12:15-1:15pm, this makes it easier for the highschool kids to get lunch, and socialize.



## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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77	The seemingly random pro-D days and shortened days are very hard on parents. They don't correspond to any other schedules, and they assume someone is at home to take care of our kids outside of the schedules that we have painstakingly constructed around the two-income families that we are required to have because of the economy we all live in. I respect that the union probably worked very hard to create time to catch up on work and get things done that can't be done on regular days, but this is a terrible solution. The BCTF should make it a priority to negotiate substitute teachers so that FT's can have some catch-up time, and the district should eat the cost. Fix this system. It's never worked for students or families.
78	I love it! I would rather have the Christmas break starting closer to Christmas Day.
79	Great to have 2 week break following Christmas. Gives families opportunity for vacation or downtime.
80	It seems perfect to me
81	Would love to see a return to 1-week spring break with an earlier end date to the school year to accommodate.
82	I appreciate spreading the pro-d days and curriculum implementation days out more than this year
83	To have the District Pro D day, it would be better benefits if they have pro D day on Friday's when there's stat's on a Monday. to make it a 4 day long weekend, especially for those who want to ski out of town or a sport (hockey/soccer/baseball/other sport etc) tourney. The rest are ok (Stat/Winter/Spring holiday).
84	Semester based (four classes at a time), not full year linear please.
85	Good
86	Would prefer the two weeks before the Holidays off so it's possible for us to travel to be with distant family without having to take our daughter out of school. It becomes much more difficult to afford flights to travel so close to the holidays. Thank you.
87	I noticed there were a significant number of professional development days and holidays during term one. It resulted in a significant number of shortened weeks and many parents were talking about this and scrambling with childcare. This burden falls heavily on the shoulders of women. I am hoping that the district would consider spreading these pro days out across the terms or even perhaps attach days to long weekend so that families can make plans more easily.
88	I'd prefer to not have shorted days for staff collaboration. It is challenging to organize childcare for working families. We already have several shortened days at xxxxx (every Wednesday, and then family conference week). If possible, collaboration should occur during school-based professional development days, as students are already off for the entire day.
89	Same comment as always - Not sure why we have two weeks in the Spring. There is a high cost associated by parents to have kids in some kind of camp/care. Please refer to the rest of Canada that takes one week as well as the high cost of living and expenses for daycare.
90	It would be good for families if pro d days could line up on the fridays of stat long weekends to give families a chance to go away or allow students an extra long weekend to catch up. ie Friday Sept 29th and Friday Nov 10th.
91	The Christmas break should be 4 weeks and then lessen the summer break by weeks
92	For summer break to end a week earlier.
93	Would suggest a mid week start to the Christmas break and then mid week return in the new year. For example last day of classes being December 20th, 2023 with a return on Thursday January 4th, 2024.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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94	The Christmas break should start a week earlier so the dates are December 18 - January 2nd. This would be sooooo much better. Nobody needs an extra week off after the holidays. Having the week off before holidays is much better.
95	Giving young students (and all students alike) merely two days to experience Christmas festivities with their families prior Christmas day is absurd! The weeks following the holidays are a loss and a lull, this isn't a thoughtful calendar.
96	Both winter and spring breaks are not 2 weeks long
97	Good Friday is March 29, 2024 and Easter Monday will be April 1, 2024. Does that mean April 2 will be a day in lieu for Good Friday?
98	when Good Friday and Easter Monday are attached to spring break, we end up losing one day. Our spring break is 10 working days. Good Friday and Easter Monday are two Stat holidays. So we should have 12 days in total and we only have 11 because good Friday falls during spring break. We should be given an extra day.
99	Eliminate the 2-week spring break and end school a week earlier in June. Kids don't need 2 weeks off 2 months after winter break, and would benefit more from a longer summer (as would staff).
100	With two stats taken in early October, the pro-d day should either be tied to one of those to create a 4 day weekend, or moved out of the month to avoid having 3 short weeks in a row (especially as schools often schedule a school based pro-d in September).
101	Looks great.
102	why is winter break DURING christmas?? i don't wanna go to tutorial to miss christmas!!!
103	Pro-D days often occur on Day 1's and classes are behind. I don't like that break starts on Xmas day
104	christmas break is far too late
105	Great that the pro days are Fridays (except one) as many after school care programs only cover the Friday pro days so this is very helpful. Thank you for all your hard work.
106	christmas break is far too late
107	I really like having the Winter Break start on the 22nd - the 15th would be too early in my opinion. Everything else looks good, too.
108	Leaving for winter break so late and coming back so late in January seems odd. Why don't we end school on Wednesday the 20 or something and then start on a Wednesday?Also, IF the board keeps the semester schedule, this calendar means that we have three useless weeks in January before semester end. The month is already weird to fill as it isn't really quite long enough for a unit. The three weeks makes it really difficult to fit a unit in.
109	As for the Christmas proposed break as a parent and an educator, I feel it's too late for families.It gives a limited time for planning, prepping Christmas activities, travelling and shopping example Santa and special activities with families that live outside of North Vancouver.The proposed Christmas break should be the last day of school on the 15th of December 2023 and returning to school Tuesday, January 2, 2024.As for the the spring break as a parent I'm pretty excited that it's actually going to be in spring and not happen in winter time. Thank you for that consideration.
110	Winter break starts close to Christmas but there's not much wiggle room to change thay
111	Are there any other options?
112	I see no issues.
113	Better than this year

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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114	Christmas break is a problem for us. Having kids, teachers and administrators in school up to Dec 24th is it ideal. Please change this.
115	We have another student at Ecole Andre Piolat, in the CSF system, so we are happy as long as the two systems have the same calendar for the major dates listed above.
116	Please bring the winter break in by a week. It's ludicrous that the kids will only get two days of break before Christmas. It also completely messes-up holiday travel plans. Two weeks in Spring seems a bit much as well, one week would be more reasonable and less of a burden on those who need to find daycare arrangements.
117	Having the winter break start on the 23rd doesn't allow time for baking, crafts, taking the kids shopping for gifts etc. Plus we are very much ready to go back to school a week after Christmas. Our family would really prefer to shift the dates earlier, even if it means the winter break starts on a Tuesday or Wednesday. I don't see any benefit to aligning with other districts, I would prefer that all of our breaks were different than Vancouver, so that we could go do activities without everything being packed full of people. Pro D days are not listed, but this year there was a Pro D day on Wednesday in October. That was really inconvenient, to have to take a day off work but not be able to use it for travel. I don't understand why the Pro D day is used to make a four day weekend in February and November, when the weather makes it difficult for us to go anywhere. A 4 day weekend in May or October would be much more useful. Having said that, this year Halloween falls on a Tuesday. PLEASE make November 1st a Pro D day. Nobody wants to drag their tired, sugar crashed kids out of bed for school that day.
118	Ending date should preferred to be June 30,2023
119	It's useful!
120	Not very practical for parents that first day back to school after winter break is January 8. Why the break cant be shifted so kids are back to school on January 2?
121	Please change winter break to start December 18, returning to class instruction January 2nd. This makes September to December 15 weeks and from winter break to Spring Break 11 weeks instead of 10, providing a bit more balance to the school year.
122	Please change the Christmas break to have the last day of school on Dec 15. All family Christmas activities end December 31 and by having it begin Dec 25 families are extremely limited when it comes to spending time together, especially for split families who share Christmas break one week each.
123	A two-week Winter Break from December 25, 2023, to January 5, 2024, inclusive*; This is a terrible idea. It causes problems with parents taking vacation (having to split over two calendar years) It causes issues with families travel plans (the earliest departure without skipping school being Dec 23) Aligning with other school districts is need not be a priority unless you have children attending different districts Starting on the 18th as you did this year is much better.
124	As a parent who generally takes time off during the winter break, my employer requires me to book my holidays before the end of the year, as such I have booked the same 2 weeks as the existing schedule. If this proposal goes through, I will not have the same time off as my child. In future maybe propose this for the following year so we parents will know well in advance.
125	With family out of province, we usually travel over the Christmas break. The Christmas holiday break beginning on the 25th would mean our kids will likely need to miss a few days of schools. A few more days off prior to Christmas would be appreciated.
126	Whom It May Concern, I am writing to express my concern over the schedule, or it's lack of inclusion in the District calendar, for gradual entry kindergarten. I am a full time working mom with a son who recently entered Kindergarten. I have spoken to numerous parents who share my sentiment and I am writing to share it with you.

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	<p>My son had been in daycare for the last four years. We pulled him out of daycare this last summer, assuming that he would be in the school system in September and that I could continue, uninterrupted, with my work. However, the schedule for the September entry prevented me from securing regular childcare – the hours for gradual entry are varied with him not even attending on some days, and it asked me to take significant time off of work. Considering the regular school vacations, anticipating child sick days, and pro-d days, this would mean unpaid leave. It is easier for us to not send our child to kindergarten during that time, as it seems that the privilege of accommodating these hours is designed for select families who have a stay at home parent or family within the vicinity who can help them out.</p> <p>It is frustrating as a women who went through the education system with individuals telling me to pursue my career aspirations, to have the same system that tried to lift me up throughout my own childhood and adolescence, let me down just because I choose to have a child and cannot afford to give up my job.</p> <p>I often wonder if the incompatibility of school and work place scheduling, as well as the dire lack of any before or after-school care in North Vancouver, is a hangover of times when single parent working households was the norm. However, we know that single income households are not the reality for most families in 2022. Why would a system that fosters innovation and ideas be so far behind the times and unsupportive of working parents, primarily women who often earn less and end up making the sacrifices to their careers to support their children?</p> <p>I personally know of several women who had to quit their full time job and work part time once their children left childcare and entered school because the North Vancouver school system was not set up to support working parents. This seems like an equity issue that could be considered when these administrative decisions are made.</p> <p>Those who are involved in the PAC or other units that influence these decision often have the time to participate (often volunteers) and may not represent the voice of your average working parent who feels squeezed for any free time on a daily basis. This could be why so many of these decisions appear, on the surface, to be made without working parents in mind.</p> <p>You cannot change the hours of school. You may not be able to accommodate after school care in your school for Covid reasons or a lack of interested parties. Yes, I understand the premise of gradual entry. But I think that there are alternatives and I have faith that your office is able to enact positive change, not further degrade the opportunities for individuals in the workforce.</p> <p>I leave these concerns with you. I know others who feel the same, but I know that, unless we raise our voices, we don't necessarily have one.</p> <p>Thanks for your time.</p>
127	Please adjust the Winter Break to ALWAYS start on the 21st or 22nd REGARDLESS of which day of the week it falls. We do not need to finish on a "Friday". Starting later in Jan. is greatly preferred.
128	christmas break needs to start on December 18th, not December 25!
129	It would be best if pro-D days could also align with those of other school districts.
130	I'd like a week in October and a week in March rather than two weeks in spring

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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131	Would prefer winter break was Dec 18-Jan 2. Propose a Pro-d day November 1st.
132	THANK YOU for pushing the Winter Break a week. Having a full week after New Years makes huge difference.
133	Student learning hours keeps getting compromised due to staff collaboration (early dismissal), Pro-D Days, additional holidays added. It would be good if we could focus to keep students in class learning and reduce the unnecessary breaks. Don't staff and teachers already have enough vacation time compared to other sectors?
134	I think two stat holidays and a district Pro D are too much in October. The ProD should be moved to November to balance out the amount of missed days. Its too much for families and too much missed instructional time. We also have to ridiculous FSA's in October which eat up 2 weeks of instructional time. Its a huge loss.
135	The last two weeks of December would be much more suitable for the December break. If families travel, this would be the week to travel. I would expect low attendance in the planned last week unless the break is moved forward with 3rd January being the 1st day back.
136	I suggest the following changes in the District calendar of 2023-2024: 1- Spring Break from March 11-22 (instead March 18-29) 2- Easter Holiday from March 29-April 1 (instead only on April 1) This way will be more holidays. Thanks
137	It should not be on Christmas day. Causes chaos for traveling families who wish to spend their holidays with lived ones outside BclC
138	The winter holiday is a FAR better timeline than in previous years.
139	Looks good this year.
140	I would be nice if Spring Break and Easter could be separated and attach the pro days to long weekends where available.
141	I do approve, but am disappointed by the late Spring Break. A week earlier, similar to 2023's spring break, is better. I recall that the last two spring breaks have been earlier in March, not later. Would the Board consider rolling back spring break even if it does not align with other districts?
142	its great
143	Could the calendar indicate the last day classes are in session? Students are often confused thinking they attend school until the June 27th date.
144	I would prefer the kids get off Dec 18 instead of Dec 25th. I would also prefer a one week spring break and a one week break at the end of October/November (when all the kids get sick and miss a lot of school - they are run down, days are shortening and they need a break. Even a five day consecutive stretch that included a weekend would be helpful.
145	The Christmas break dates make it EXTREMELY difficult for families to travel leaving 2 days only (one of them christmas eve). In the wake of a hellish travel Christmas in 2022, I propose giving families the week prior to christmas to travel. Break begins Dec 18 back to school Jan 2
146	Accept as proposed
147	There should be another break (AKA) professional day(s) after spring break since the common Easter Break falls attached to Spring Break.
148	Could we end the week on the Wednesday, Dec. 20 and come back on the 3rd?
149	Excellent time frame for winter break
150	YES! Stop having Winter Break so early in Dec. This is much better for families!

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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151	I would only suggest that all ProD days be held on Fridays since this is the easiest day for working parents to manage workload, childcare, etc. Thank you.
152	Winter break should run from Tuesday Dec 19 to Monday Jan 1 inclusive.
153	The winter break should start a week before Christmas. Mothers need the time before Christmas to prepare for Christmas, not afterwards. And having the break afterwards makes the holiday anti-climatic. The excitement is in the lead up to the holiday not afterwards.
154	Having winter break start on Christmas Day is a huge concern, especially for those of us who having family coming in from out of town and are only able to spend time over the holidays. Family may only get a few days off so if they come in the 23-26 let's say then they only have 2 days "off" to spend time with the kids. I've never heard of break starting this late? I do not approve.
155	Spring break is long (2 weeks). 1 week would be better with an earlier end in June.
156	- Most businesses slow down and are closed between Christmas and New Years, while activity picks up in the new year; having the winter break reach into January will put many parents into a difficult situation to find appropriate child care. It would be better if winter break started with Monday, Dec 18, and finished Monday, January 1st (being a stat holiday anyway). - Like that spring break and Easter are finally aligned!- Can the Friday, Sept 22 school-based pro-d day be moved up to the 29th to make it a 4-day long weekend, or maybe into November where there isn't a single pro-d day anyway?
157	I like that the last day of school is my birthday
158	I don't know if it was a typo, but not a great idea to have winter break start on Christmas Day. I think it it would be better if it started a couple days before at least.
159	The Christmas break is very late. Could it not be pulled back 1 week?
160	it would be great to align the school based pro-d days with holiday long weekends to allow families to take advantage of an extra day for the long weekedn.
161	I'm not a fan of the Winter Break starting so close to Christmas. I much preferred this year where there was time to enjoy some activities with family prior to Christmas. As well, many people travel to see family and that can be difficult to arrange with only a couple days off before Xmas.
162	The winter break is too close to the Christmas holiday. There is not time to spend with family prior to the holiday
163	I think two weeks for spring break is way too long if you also have two weeks over Christmas. Most working parents do not get 4 weeks of vacation so this means you either have to take the time off unpaid, or arrange childcare which is expensive and there is a shortage in the vancouver area or pay for an expensive camp. I would much prefer the two weeks to be at least spaced out more to allow for more flexibility with schedules. So not two full weeks back to back in March. It is also hard if parents have kids in daycare and school juggling those schedules that do not always line up. Not to mention sick time that parents must take off work when kids are sick too in additional to all the days off for school. At the least, do a week off in February and a week in April to space out more or a week in March and a week in April two separate two weeks off school is very tough when you have working parents which most people are to afford to live in this area.
164	seems good to me
165	Winter break starting on the 25th is crazy
166	It is so difficult for working parents to find child care on numerous random days throughout the school year for pro d days. The District should lump those days together to allow parents to more easily plan holidays and child care. At the same time, having 2 months of holiday over the summer is ridiculously long. For anyone who grew up outside North America, the whole

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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	calendar seems ridiculous. Add to this the travel chaos in being limited to only 2 weeks at Christmas when everyone is trying to travel simultaneously, and it's just senseless. Break the school year into two semesters, with 2 terms per semester. Extend the Christmas break to let people actually have a chance to travel to be with family and loved ones. Move the pro-d days to a lump to extend the Christmas break, and/or shorten the summer break to something more manageable such as 4-6 weeks. Look to Australia for a system that works.
167	I think it looks good, no complaints with any of the dates. Thank you!
168	It is actually working better for our family .
169	Winter break starts too late. Requesting to start week of Dec 18. Two reasons. Challenging for parents to take the first week off of the calendar year. School should begin Jan 2 2024. Children leaving school the week before Christmas lessens exposure and chance of illness over the holidays and reduces stress on families and travel.
170	Winter break to be last 2 weeks of December and go back first day after new years stat.
171	Consideration should be made towards staggering spring break amongst the metro Vancouver school districts. There is no benefit to work, travel schedules to have all students off at the same time throughout the region.
172	Christmas break should start a week earlier on Dec 18th. A week in January is far too difficult for working parents.
173	I work for healthcare and have to use my vacation each clendar year and therefore prefer kids to be off the 2 weeks prior to Jan and return back Jan 2nd
174	As working parents, we prefer winter break starts a week early. All companies soft close their offices the last two weeks of December.
175	Spring break and Easter should be separate
176	Spring Break should not run into Easter long weekend. It results in less time together for families. Move spring break one week earlier.
177	Winter break should start one week prior to allow parents to maximize their 2023 vacation entitlements and enjoy time with their children.
178	The holidays are not enough for students
179	The timing of the winter break is challenging being so late. I know I will be working Jan 2nd onwards and as a single parent I have huge challenges with this timing. If possible could it be considered to start the week prior? Last year it started on Dec 16th and this coming year it will start on the 25th. That's significantly different.
180	I love having more time after Christmas/ new years. I like how they go right up to Christmas.
181	I love having more time after Christmas/new years. Going straight up to Christmas is awesome.
182	Winter break and spring break start a week too late.
183	The winter break like this does not feel optimal. I think it would be preferable to finish school earlier to lessen the likelihood of viral spread right before the holidays (ie. allow for a bit of social distancing before mass family get togethers). Even if that means going back right after New Years, I think that would be much better.
184	Seems normal
185	Pretty sure all the "examples" will be set for long weekends for all the staff at schools. Schools calendars are infuriating each year. Not sure why we have 2 weeks March break. It's a lot of extra time off work/cost for camps/childcare that is the responsibility of parents to absorb. Not sure why parent consideration is even asked for.
186	Winter break Dec. 20 - Jan. 3
187	None

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188	I would like the two week winter break to start the week of December 18th as we usually like to do activities with our kids the lead up until Christmas during the day.
189	No issues
190	The month of October has three days off ( stats and a professional day). That is too many four day weeks when school has only just begun. It would seem better to have the professional day in a month with only one stat holiday ( like November). Please encourage schools to choose school based professional days at the start or end of a week, not in the middle. It's very disruptive especially for the working parents.
191	Love the placement of the Winter Break and Spring Break!! Thank you!!!
192	longer year and shorter breaks?
193	Not a huge deal.
194	We find the number of breaks (stats, pro d days, curriculum days, early dismissal days) in the first 6 weeks of school very disruptive to starting routines and getting kids in the swing of things. If it it possible to space these out further into November that would be preferred. The timing for winter break and spring break look great. Our family prefers the later start to winter break, i.e. more time off after Christmas.
195	The winter break is very difficult for working parents. The two weeks before New Years is substantially better (like Dec 2022)
196	I really like the Christmas break starts later on December 25. More time in January is a nice change. I like that spring break and Easter combine. I also like it when a professional day is on a Friday and then the following Monday is a statutory holiday (or visa versa). I only see that occurring in February. This give families a chance to get away for a long weekend or attend tournaments without missing school. Thanks for your hard work on this schedule.
197	I would like to see a change in christmas break . Having first week of January off doesn't work for most families especially families with working parents. I suggest having similar to this year: dec 18-29 off. This way kids get to enjoy more Christmas activities with family and go back to school on January 2 which is when parents go back to work.
198	December break start the week earlier. spring break and easter not be together
199	I don't think that the calendar actually represents the reality of what instructional days off are in secondary schools. My children both had three days off school this week. While my older daughter took advantage of one of these days but my younger son did not but needed to do so. I think these days and others eg shortened days for 'Santa's breakfasts' should be accounted for on the district calendar. Even with two days of review and completion and enrichment, our son would have literally failed English if we hadn't chased down his teacher to get his missing assignments and had our kid do them (on our time not school time). He has a gifted designation and no 'enrichment' was offered either. The younger students aren't going to 'make an appointment' with their teacher if they are failing a subject! I think individual secondary schools need to be more accountable for lost instructional time that is simply not indicated on these calendars. Students already have reduced instructional time with 'flex' time in the morning. Why would two full days be needed to 'catch students up' if the daily flex time was being used by students and teachers effectively to support students who are struggling throughout the semester? This needs to be carefully looked at by upper management.
200	It would be nice if our school followed these schedules with respect to Staff Collaboration days. They run shortened Wednesdays every week and that makes it difficult to accommodate parent working schedules. Layering in the massive shortage of childcare (we've been on waitlists for over 2 years) it is very difficult to maintain a healthy schedule.



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201	I LOVE having Christmas break start later and the school opening later in January. Please keep this! Starting the year on the 2nd or 3rd doesn't leave much time to relax and enjoy the break.
202	Please change the Christmas break to begin on Dec 18. It's completely unreasonable for it to begin Dec 25.
203	I particularly like that the winter break starts later in December and ends later in January.
204	If the Pro-D days fell in conjunction with a long weekend, that would be preferred. With new children entering kindergarden and the slow ramp up of their days and with a PD day and staff collab day in the first 4 weeks of school, it ends up being a very difficult time for young parents. What also happened was because it was early on in school year, lots of kids end up getting sick as weather is getting colder and kids are back in classrooms. It becomes basically a very difficult month of september. We don't get a full 5 day week until November.
205	Nothing
206	The Christmas break should be from Dec 18 to Jan 1 rather than starting on Dec 25. Dec 18 to Jan 1 are the dates shown in the calendar posted on the webpage but the text says Dec 25 to Jan 5. This is completely confusing and should be fixed. Which dates are you actually proposing?
207	GREAT
208	Curious on why spring break is so late in March. Also could we have the staff collaboration days on Fridays or Mondays, as middle of the week is difficult for working full-time parents to adjust their schedules for an earlier pick up schedule. Can we also refrain from having pro-d days on Wednesdays this year as well? Thank you!
209	Too many pro d days in October. They have only one full week of school in October. The only full week has an early dismissal. Parents can't take 3 days off and and early dismissal. Students projects and spelling tests often get postponed on short weeks. Child care is a nightmare. So parents end up using sick days or missing out on work and income.
210	As we know when is the Pro D day, why not North Vancouver SD44 and North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Center, prepare an activity for kids to participate base on the catchment?
211	Having the winter holidays start on Dec 23rd seems really late. The kids and teachers are very exhausted by December. Perhaps moving it up a week would be best?
212	Would love to see more mid week (Tues/Wed) pro days as it's often easier to find childcare mid week and most parents that do hybrid working schedules work from home mid week and need to be in the office at the start and end of the work week so they have to scramble for the few childcare spots available on professional days (not everyone has family members as a back up...) I also find as a parent when there is a mid week day off is more of a break and conducive to staying on track for the whole week, whereas a long weekend makes it harder to return back to routine, it seems the longer children are out of school, the more challenging getting back to routine is. Thank you for listening!
213	Please do not have a pro d day in October following 2 weeks of shortened weeks due to holidays, move it to another month, perhaps later in January? Could we have Christmas Break December 20th-Jan 3rd (Wednesday to Wednesday). Move the professional day in May to the 17th.
214	I find the timing of the Christmas break concerning - being so close to Christmas it will be difficult for families like mine to travel to another location to celebrate Christmas with family. Is there any reason why we cannot do something similar as in the Dec 2022 where we can break from Dec 18 and return to school on Jan 2? It will be disruptive for classrooms too if families have to take children out of school early

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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	during the week of the 18th to travel home. Thank you so much for your consideration.
215	Too many 4 day weeks in October...move one into Nov. Difficult for parents who work.
216	No issues with proposed calendar
217	Can you have a pro d day on 1st November.
218	Last day of winter break is to close to Christmas there's not allot for families to do after Christmas so why not start earlier on January and let families enjoy holiday festivities prior to Dec 22
219	Seems normal
220	Winter/ holiday break should starts earlier and end earlier. No instructions will happen on Dec 24 as lots of families will keep their child home to celebrate. So again, one more day of instruction will be lost along with so many other days
221	Good. I like that Christina break extends well past New Years.
222	The winter break appears to be quite late with the entire first week of January off. This appears to be problematic for those parents and caregivers who will be expected back at work on January 2, 2024.
223	The only part of the calendar I have a problem with is Winter/Christmas break. There is no buffer room for families it's literally go home on Friday and straight into Christmas Day. I believe that this time of year is an extremely important family based time of the year as the pandemic proved as much to us and this years recent snowfall which shutdown the airport and travel days before Christmas. This is the time of year loved ones, family and friends travel to see each other it's is the time that everyone wants and needs to make it home for Christmas and Winter break. Although the school district is not responsible for the weather forecast I believe they have a responsibility to their students and families to allow for ease of travel that time of year with at least a buffer time that is not just the weekend with Christmas a day later, it creates stress and limitations for a time of year that seems so important for families. I would vote for the 20th of December to start the break and adjust accordingly on the January end.I am a parent of 2 high schoolers one graduating this year and this is the first time I've had a problem with the Winter break calendar and felt strongly to voice my opinion on this topic. Thank you for taking the time to ask and to read our responses.
224	I wonder if we could shift the Staff Collaboration day in October to November? There are 2 stats and a provincial pro-d in October and only 1 stay in November. Shifting it makes it seem a bit more balanced.
225	Having some information during a year
226	The winter break is very late, I would prefer to have the week prior to Christmas off (plus the week after) rather than two weeks after Christmas
227	I would like it if Spring Break did not include Easter. It should start on the same week it does this year....one week earlier.
228	They are all fine .
229	With last day of school before the winter holiday as Friday, December 22, that seems the logical choice.
230	Christmas break starts too late. Please start week earlier. Spring break starts too late. Please start week earlier.
231	I would rather winter break started on the 18th through the first, with students returning to school on January 2. Thanks.
232	Balanced

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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233	Winter break timing is poor because starts in Christmas Day and midweek. Doesnt work for travel and no downtime for kids to do Christmas activities before Christmas. Should start Winter break on Monday, Dec 23.
234	Feedback from 3 of my children: lunch break of 1 hour is too long. They suggest a shorter lunch break of 30 min and end the day 30 minutes earlier.
235	Christmas break should remain as the last two weeks of December. Children are exhausted and already checked out. As for working parents you are expecting us to use our 2024 vacation in the first week of January??
236	Do the children not have Good Friday and Easter Sunday off?
237	A Pro D day after Halloween would be appreciated! As well, the winter break would be better starting a week earlier to enjoy family time before Christmas. Thank you!
238	Winter break should start earlier
239	I agree!
240	The only thing I would change is make Spring Break one week long and therefore start Summer Break a week earlier.
241	I would much rather see a Christmas Break period that ran Dec 20-Jan 3 (or similar) and to start and end mid-week. I believe students will not be engaged right up until the 22nd and with many families travelling at that time, likely absent from instruction.
242	hi .. in october you have 3 back to back 4 day weeks .. please move the professional day to November spring break start from march 25th - thanks
243	The Christmas vacation plan is awful. The best part of Christmas for families is the build up. This year was great, as we had a week to enjoy with the kids before Christmas. Next year they'd finish school on the 22nd. And who wants them to be on vacation when all parents are back at work Jan 2-5? Jan 8th is crazily late to return to school
244	Not happy with the proposed Christmas vacation.
245	The Christmas planning is horrible. Kids need some more downtime to spend on activities etc. before Christmas. Parents go back to work on January 2nd while the kids still have a week off. My suggestion, last day of School December 15th back to School on January 2nd
246	I am VERY unhappy about the proposed Christmas break timing. Being at school right up until December 22nd allows almost no time for families leading up to Christmas, and then moves all the time to January when most parents are back at work and Christmas is over (as is the magic of it). Seeing as this should be about children, I think we should value their time leading up to Christmas and have them get off for break earlier. Thank you for your consideration.
247	I would like to ask for a change in the Christmas holidays for the following reasons: Both school and work activities are slowing down from about mid December and it is often the best time for families to spend time together and do activities building up towards the holidays. Starting school as a late as Jan 8th will be stressful for working parents as they will likely have to go back to work the week prior to school starting. Hence I would appreciate if the holidays could start earlier in December and school resume in early January.
248	The spring break is too long, the pupils should study more.
249	Semester system preferred
250	Christmas break should be Dec 18, 2023 to Jan 2, 2024 Spring Break should be March 11 to March 22, 2024

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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251	I am sure you will get MANY responses with where Winter Break lands. However, personally it makes sense as school has always finished the Friday before Christmas. There always seems to be an uproar when it is the first year back when Dec 25 lands so close to the last day of school. If the last day is Dec 15 parents either take that week off OR find care of some sort. Pushing that to the first week of Jan isn't any different. Families are now having it the second week off instead of the first. All families can find fun things to do together anytime of the day - before, during or after the holidays. I say, approve the Calendar as it stands - people(students, staff, parents) can enjoy Christmas right away and then fully relax for the next 2 weeks. Brilliant if you ask me
252	Looks good!
253	Do not link spring break with Good Friday. Have the spring break before and separate.
254	Losing Good Friday mixed with spring break is very sneaky. Not fair to students or staff. Keep spring break and Easter separate
255	Meeting important, events and others
256	To align with most parent work schedules, we feel the Christmas break should be moved a week earlier - kids off Dec 18th to January 2nd. The way the current calendar is, their first day off is Christmas day and they are off until January 8th. We would like to see that break moved a week earlier.
257	Remembrance Day is on Saturday so my office will close on the Friday. Why is North Van closing on Monday the 13th?
258	I think there are so many days off school with spring break, winter break, PD days, vacations and early dismissals. With so much time off Kids are not getting enough learning time. Kids need to learn more and get the tools to survive in this global competitive market. Government and education institutions should offer more education time and less recreation time. Examples of this are China and Japan.
259	So much time off with vacation, PD days, early dismissal etc. kids need more learning time.
260	I think that the winter break should get out earlier in December and go back earlier in January. January 8th is too late of a start after winter break.
261	Winter break should begin the week earlier (December 18 to January 1)
262	Nov 1st should undoubtedly be a professional day, kids are not functional after that late, sugary night. Christmas break being so close to Christmas doesn't allow families enough time to do many pre Christmas events,
263	I am fine with the proposed 2023/2024 school year and I agree with having a two week break and starting the first week of September because it would be in line with the change of seasons.
264	Change the Christmas break to end the week before Christmas!
265	We don't want Christmas break to start December 25. I won't get to do any Christmas stuff with my dad and stepmom.
266	If you make Christmas break start on Dec 25 I won't get to do any fun Christmas stuff with my mom and stepdad 😊 and also we will be way to excited to pay attention in class.
267	Change Christmas break!!! It's too late. And if you don't do it I won't get to do any Christmas things with my dad and stepmom and stepsister.
268	I do not agree that the Christmas break begin on Dec 25. As a split family, we already share Christmas break one week each. It is my turn for the second half with my children. That means, when I have the children over the break, all events and activities here in the GVA will be over and we will not have the opportunity to create our Christmas memories through the rituals we have done in all the years prior. I ask that you reconsider moving the break to begin one week earlier.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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269	I know that NVPAC has spoken in the past against 4-day weekends, but I personally continue to hear from families at our school communities (Highlands, Handsworth, Capilano, Braemar, Montroyal) in support of 4-day weekends as it is easier for families to manage than continuous 3-day weekends.
270	Nothing.
271	"The Christmas vacation plan is awful. The best part of Christmas for families is the build up, when there are lots of fun activities to do with them. This year was great, as we had a week to enjoy with the kids before Christmas. Next year they'd finish school on the 22nd. And who wants them to be on vacation when all parents are back at work Jan 2-5? Jan 8th seems crazily late to return to school. "
272	It's very good.
273	All districts should adjust Christmas vacation timeframe. Having kids finish on 22nd is too soon before Christmas, and then not back until January 8th is too late. Break should be shifted back one week so families can enjoy the holidays while most parents are off work and everyone back on January 2nd. All districts should align so teachers and their kids are off at those same times. Thanks.
274	Appreciate the Pro-d attached to Family day weekend and I like the timing of Winter Break.
275	I like the two week March Break as it gives me lots of time to travel home and book flights on more reasonable dates.
276	If we stick with the semester system, which I think we should, the current March break makes no sense. We should have a longer one-week break between semesters and a one-week break in March that aligns with the Ontario March break week. Two weeks off in March is too disruptive to the students early in the second semester.
277	June 27 is too late for school to end it should be the 20th
278	- The winter break is way too late starting leaving parents scrambling to prepare for the holiday season. - Spring break also is later and overlaps with Easter which isn't favorable.
279	Winter break begins too late as is Spring break. Would prefer spring break not to overlap with Easter.
280	Overall good. Issue I have every year is that in Sept / Oct, there are so many holidays, Pro-D days, shortened days, that in those 2 months, our kids are rarely at school for a full week. They should consider putting as many Pro-D days adjacent to holidays so they are grouped and requires less planning for all families.
281	Would prefer Spring break to be March 11 - 22 like it has been for the last several year (or March 4 - 15) so that it does not tie into Easter weekend.
282	I would prefer to schedule winter break in the last 2 weeks of December, Dec 18-29, 2023 as most often many children and staff are pre-occupied with holiday activities and not engaged in usual schoolwork. And having the children return to school on Tuesday Jan 2 would be a better way to start the year.
283	I have no issues.
284	I suggest that:*our last day before winter break be Dec 20th so that winter break is from Dec 21 -Jan 3rd. *March break is from March 11-22 to keep Easter break as a separate break: March 29-April 1
285	I would like to see the Christmas holidays start a week earlier than the proposed dates so they would be more similar to this year. Starting early helps people that are travelling for the holidays and I think extending through the first week of January and not returning until Jan 8

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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	will prove difficult for childcare as most employees need to go back to Jan 2. My preferences for dates is last day Dec 15 return Jan 2 or add another day and return Jan 3.
286	I like the proposed winter break. In the past 2 years, the kids have been out too early in December. This is perfect for us!!
287	Some of the options for SD44 are different from the survey options we received from the CSF (Conseil Scolaire Francophone) for our other child. Could SD44 please consider options 3a and 3b for the spring break in 2024/2025? Option 1 - One week off from March 25-29, 2024 (No additional teaching minutes required). Option 2 - Two weeks off March 18-29, 2024 (Add 8 minutes of instruction per day required (modified leave). Option 3A - Two weeks off distributed as follows (Added 8 minutes of instruction per day required (modified leave). One week off March 18-22 plus 4 days November 14-17 (related to November 11 vacation) and 1 day in February related to February 20 family vacation Option 3B - Two weeks off distributed as follows (Added 8 minutes of instruction per day required (modified leave). One week off March 25-29 plus 4 days November 14-17 (related to November 11 vacation) and 1 day in February related to February 20 family vacation
288	I think school should be closed the week prior to Christmas with the first day back on Tuesday, Jan 2nd. Thanks!
289	Winter break should begin at least 2 days before Christmas Day.
290	good
291	Winter break should take into consideration and follow as much as possible the stat holiday calendar. The best schedule for Winter Break is one week before and one week after Christmas Day.
292	I would much prefer to see the Christmas holidays start earlier (much what they were like this year).
293	I prefer to have all of Christmas break in December. Come January my family and I are ready to get back to work/school and other activities.
294	The proposed Christmas holiday schedule is unsatisfactory. The anticipation and preparation leading up to Christmas is a cherished aspect of the holiday season for families. This year, we were fortunate to have a week of enjoyable activities with the children prior to Christmas. However, next year the school will conclude on the 22nd, which does not align with the typical work schedule for parents from January 2-5. A return to school on January 8th seems excessively delayed.
295	I prefer for the Christmas break to be in December & not so far into January.
296	Would much prefer winter break to be the week before Christmas as this is much easier for childcare and also to allow for our family to participate in local holiday activities. Both parents must return to work Jan 2nd.
297	good
298	I like it because it seems like I and my family get to celebrate New Year's holiday longer next year. I am Japanese and Buddhist so I don't celebrate Christmas particularly. This 2023 we had to send back my children on Jan 2nd which I wish we could have spend more time with family as new year celebration. But I also understand that winter break is for two weeks and most of the time it falls on the last two weeks in December. So next year it happens to be starting later, it is good for us. Thanks for knowing and understanding that there are people in different cultural background and even singing "God keep our land" in national anthem feels very uncomfortable every time. Thank you.
299	Our family would prefer the Winter Break to shift one week earlier, i.e. Dec 18, 2023 - Jan 1, 2024, inclusive. Thank you.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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300	Please change the Christmas Break to become the week prior. I am concerned the children will have trouble being attentive. I'd also appreciate time off to prepare for Christmas.
301	I respectfully request the Board reconsidering Christmas Break. My preference would be it begin a week earlier.
302	3 Stat holidays that are very close to together September 30, October 2nd and October 9th. Move October 20th Professional Development into the the 2nd of 3rd week of November to spread out the days off from school.
303	October 20 is too early in the year for a Pro D day. Would rather it be in November.
304	Christmas vacation is not in line with other school districts which, as a teacher in another district, is not good at all. Plus, special activities will be planned accordingly in the various cities
305	Can you arrange the time off to be before xmas, and not the first week of january? Seems odd to have a week in january.
306	The Christmas/winter break seats too late. I would prefer if it started one week earlier.
307	I like the winter break to have the longer time on the back end, so that families actually have time to relax and recuperate after the Christmas rush.
308	What I would like to comment about is the unnecessary waste of learning time attributed to 'Review and Completion' between semesters, taking up THREE DAYS with no contact time. One day you could perhaps justify but not three. Teachers and students need to be up to date on a weekly or current basis, not leaving things until the end of the semester. I wonder how much actual teacher contact there was on these 3 days... Teachers already have 2 weeks at Spring Break, multiple Education days and time for collaboration. I work in Healthcare and have none of this!!
309	This is very late to celebrate Christmas. especially some families loves to travel for this winter break and some family culture like our family we love to celebrate christmas eve with our love ones all over the world. The usual Winter break was the best schedule than this proposed 2023/2024 School Calendar
310	Christmas is very important for us. We disagree with the proposed 2023/2024 School Calendar
311	It's ok
312	Looks fine.
313	The Christmas vacation plan is a challenge. Many parents will be expected back at work Jan 2-5. This is going to be an added stress to find appropriate childcare.
314	Winter break cannot start on Dec 25th. This does not allow for meaningful family time leading up to Christmas Day. Many families take holidays during this time so class sizes will be much smaller. Children will not be engaged in class instruction. Teachers are parents and have families too ... They should be with their families during this special time of year. It's shocking that the reasons why this is not a good idea are not obvious. District administrators have families too ...
315	Do not agree with children being in school on Christmas Eve. Families need time to plan for holiday celebrations.
316	I think the winter break should start earlier, like the 18th, to allow for vacations, celebrations etc. Also, I believe that parents would rather the winter break start earlier than end later, as most parents who work will return to work & have to worry about childcare.
317	My only suggestion would be end their school year earlier than June 27th. 23rd or closer. Thank you.
318	Christmas break from Dec 18 to Dec 30. Returning to school Jan 2/24
319	I believe that the summer break is too long, and that holidays should be distributed more evenly throughout the year. To this end, I suggest starting the school year one week sooner

## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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	and ending one week later. Include a 1 week break in October and a 1 week break in May. This would break up the school year and make the summer holidays shorter and more manageable. It also affords families who want to travel in off-park times the opportunity to do so.
320	Winter break should start early
321	Looks Ok. My only comment is that September and October will be challenging for families. September only has one complete week of school provided you don't have a kindergarten student doing gradual entry, and October has zero (with the example day). This is a lot of interruption at the start of school and tough for working parents. Perhaps move some days to November/December/January where there is little scheduled.
322	Just leave it the same as the 2022/23 calendar with the semester system instead of the linear system
323	It makes sense and looks good. Thanks!
324	Christmas break starts on Christmas Day??? Please don't do this
325	I don't agree with Christmas break beginning Dec 25. I won't even have any time to get ready and we won't be able to spend any time doing Christmas stuff with my dad because my mom is taking us away that week.
326	Spring break should not roll into Easter. Many families use spring break as their only time away all year. And now they will be forced to choose between Easter with loved ones at home, or missing it entirely to maximize holiday time away. It is unnecessary to lump it all together.
327	Only one issue. Winter break begins December 25, 2023?
328	<p>A winter break from Dec 18 to 29 makes more sense than what is proposed. Scheduling the winter break to start December 25, 2023 means that families will not be able to do activities or experience traditions before Christmas occurs (without conflicting with school) or easily travel to visit relatives in advance of Christmas day.</p> <p>The later spring break from Mar 18 to 29 means there is no overlap with some provinces (e.g., Ontario has a break from Mar 11-15, 2024 - conversely Alberta is Mar 25-29, so there's no winning). Such overlap is helpful if you want to visit family or take holidays at the same time as people who live in those other provinces. Also, a later spring break reduces the viability of a BC skiing vacation as the snow quality is worse later in March.</p>
329	I suggest moving either the District Pro-D day or the Staff collaboration day in Oct to Nov due to all 4 weeks in Oct have either a govt holiday or a pro D day or a shorten day, it's a little much for one month.
330	Winter break for 2023-24 slipping into the full first week of Jan 2024 in the New Year poses a challenge for working parents, especially single parents. Consider starting the winter break Dec 18th 2023 to Jan 1st 2024. First day of school on Tuesday Jan 2nd 2024. Thanks
331	Christmas break seems to start too late. And it would be nice to have a Pro-D day on November 1st to give teachers a break.
332	CI Day - the purpose of this day was to prepare for the upcoming year and look at new ways of doing things or focus on new curriculum/ideas! With the CI Day being in December it is rather late for this focus. We moved the date from the Jan/February dates to October in the past to do exactly as stated - kick off the year with new focus/ideas/thoughts! I suggest moving the date to November at the latest. I understand there are a few stats in there that create a few 4 day work weeks.
333	I would prefer spring break to be March 11-22 so that it doesn't run until easter. Or, give March 15 off too so we don't lose a day of break (to make up for Good Friday).



## PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED - 2023/24 PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR

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334	I am just wondering why the District Curriculum Implementation day is so late (December)? If this day is to address the new Reporting Order that takes effect July 1, 2023, we certainly need to have teachers work through the Reporting Guidelines much earlier than December. If we are sending our first Interim Reports in early November, for example, then we must have this Curriculum Implementation day in early October.
335	Overall no issue but it was so very helpful and considerate in 2022/2023 that my school had a pro-D day on the most important Jewish holiday, Yom Kippur. This allowed my kids to spend the day at synagogue without missing school. This year it is on Monday, September 25 so if the pro-D day could be moved to then it would be amazing for the parents of Jewish children in the district.
336	Christmas break should start December 18th
337	** Move Christmas break up one week. Too close to Christmas as is. **Not have Easter tag onto Spring Break. Perhaps push Spring Break up one week beginning March 11th"
338	For the staff collaboration date suggestion - to not have a collaboration day on the last week of Semester 1 as it was this year on Jan.25th. At the end of a semester students need as much time as possible in class and to meet with teachers instead of a shortened day with no flex time.
339	Christmas break needs to be a week earlier to accommodate families travelling to spend the holidays
340	Would be great if high schools and their feeder schools could agree on the same PD days. Thanks.
341	Our family would prefer: Winter Break Dec 18 to Jan 2 Spring Break Mar 11 to 22 Staff Collaboration shortened days on Friday afternoons or Monday mornings"

Note: 507 total responses received; 285 (56%) approved 2023/24 School Calendar, 222 (44%) not approved 2023/24 School Calendar

# PROPOSED 2023/24 SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

181 Instructional Days for Students

AUGUST 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JANUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27★	28	29

- 5\* 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL (PARTIAL DAY)
- STAT/WINTER/SPRING HOLIDAY
- NVSD CURRIC IMPL DAY (1)
- SCHOOL-BASED PRO D DAY (2) <sup>1</sup>
- DISTRICT (NVTA) PRO D DAY (3) <sup>2</sup>
- STAFF COLLABORATION (4)  
shortened day for students
- ADMINISTRATIVE DAY
- 27★ LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS IS JUNE 27

<sup>1</sup> Yellow highlighted dates are **EXAMPLE** dates only. Each school will select their own 2 school-based Pro D dates and will confirm and publish by May 31, 2023. **Please check with your school.**

<sup>2</sup> Orange highlighted dates are **EXAMPLE** dates only. Actual dates to be selected by the NVTA and confirmed by May 2023. District calendars will be updated at that time.

**Schedule C.1**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Framework for Enhancing Student Learning – Update**

**Narration:**

The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) is British Columbia’s approach to continuous improvement of public education. The policy framework is accompanied by a reporting order and guiding principles that support boards of education in the development of their strategic plan, continuous improvement cycles and publishing an annual report on student outcomes. The formalized approach combines accountability with evidence-based decision making for a system-wide approach to continuously improve the educational outcomes for all students and improve equity for Indigenous students, child and youth in care, and students with disabilities and diverse abilities.

Assistant Superintendent Chris Atkinson will provide an update on the priority goal areas and progress for the 2022/23 school year.

**Schedule C.2**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Land Management - Written Update**

**Narration:**

Updates on the Board of Education's Land Management will be provided in writing at each of the monthly Public Board Meetings for information.

**Attachment:**

Land Management Update – March 2023

## **Land Management Update – March 7, 2023**

### **Argyle Secondary School – Seismic Replacement**

- No significant updates.
- Repair of water damage underway with completion targeted for March 27, 2023.
- Other projects to be completed:
  - New artificial turf field and sports court project led by District of North Vancouver – tender has been awarded and the contractor has mobilized to the site to commence work.
  - New outdoor basketball practice area - tender documents have been prepared and will be advertised shortly (project is sponsored by Argyle Secondary School).

### **Handsworth Secondary School – Seismic Replacement**

- No significant updates.
- Resolution of contractor deficiencies is on-going; new school warranty expired on December 23, 2022.
- Demolition of old school complete and grading for the new field sub-base nearing completion.
- Final site landscaping improvements will commence; scheduling is weather dependent.

### **Mountainside Secondary School – Seismic Upgrade**

- No significant updates.
- Interior construction is complete; resolution of outstanding kitchen deficiencies is on-going.
- Final asphalt patching, painting of parking lines and parking curbs to be installed (weather dependant).

### **Cheakamus Centre’s Environmental Learning Centre – Envelope Rehabilitation**

- No significant updates.
- Contractor is completing outstanding items and resolving deficiencies.
- Building air tightness tests completed; final window test scheduled on March 11, 2023.
- Landscaping renewal to be completed in the spring 2023.

### **Cloverley Elementary School – New School**

- No significant updates.
- Ministry of Education and Child Care requested revisions to the Project Definition Report (PDR) to include a mass timber option. Revised PDR has been submitted to the Ministry.

### **Lynn Valley Expansion Project**

- No significant updates.
- Project architect and primary sub consultants have been retained.
- Schematic design phase has commenced.
- Project Core Committee held the initial meeting to commence the design process.
- Additional design input committees are being assembled, and the design input process is underway.
- Discussions with the District of North Vancouver Planning Department will continue.

### **Lucas**

- No change.

### **Facilities Update**

- No change.
- Brooksbank Elementary - Request for proposals to install a universally accessible playground received and evaluation is underway.
- Ministry consultants have completed the property condition lifecycle assessments of school buildings, updated every five years. New data is expected by the end of March.

**Schedule C.3**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Committee Reports - Written Update**

**Narration:**

Updates on the Board of Education's Committees will be provided in writing at each of the monthly Public Board Meetings for information.

**Attachments:**

Communications Committee  
Inclusion Committee  
Sustainability Committee

## **Communications Committee Meeting Update - March 7, 2023**

The North Vancouver School District Communications Committee assists the Board of Education in fulfilling its commitment to building trust, respect and mutual understanding through open, proactive communications that convey the achievements and challenges of the school district.

The role of the Committee is to:

- Monitor communication and public relations practices within the school district and make recommendations for improvements to the Superintendent and Board of Education.
- Make recommendations to the Superintendent and Board of Education regarding effective means of communicating both internally and externally; and
- Review and provide advice on major communications initiatives and projects, as requested.

The committee is comprised of representatives from all education partner groups. Attendees at the most recent committee meeting include:

- Committee Chair, Lisa Dalla Vecchia, Communications Manager
- Antje Wilson, Trustee Representative for the North Vancouver Board of Education;
- Katrina Russell, President and Representative for the North Vancouver Teachers' Association;
- Janis Mann, District Principal, Inclusive Education and Jeeniece Chand, Principal, Capilano Elementary, Representatives for the North Vancouver Administrators' Association;
- Vicky Sra, Representative for the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council; and
- Communications Assistant Maddy Phillips.

The primary purpose of the second meeting of the year on January 19, 2023, was to welcome new committee members, review the terms of reference, update the committee on the communications work projects completed since the last meeting in October, provide an update on upcoming projects and initiatives, and share opportunities for committee contribution including:

- School-based communications;
- Annual Communications Plan 2023-2024;
- Community Report 2023-2024; and
- Website (user experience).

The Communication Committee meets at least four times per year, with the next meeting scheduled for March 30, 2023.

## **Inclusion Committee Update – March 7, 2023**

The North Vancouver School District Inclusion Committee is a joint committee, comprised of members from the Board of Education, the North Vancouver Administrators' Association, the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council, the North Vancouver Teachers' Association, the Canadian Union of Public Employees 389 and the District Student Leadership Council. The Inclusion Committee is dedicated to advancing inclusive practice and advocating for supports and services that improve access for all learners.

Throughout the course of the school year, the Inclusion Committee will be engaged in thoughtful dialogue, planning and sharing of information on a variety of topics pertaining to Inclusive Education. Key areas of focus will be a continued focus on ableism, neurodiversity, student belonging, student voice and representation.

The committee is comprised of representatives from all education partner groups. Attendees at the most recent committee meeting include:

- Committee Chair, Janis Mann, District Principal of Inclusive Education;
- Committee Co-chair, Amelia Poitras, District Vice Principal of Inclusive Education;
- Lailani Tumaneng, Trustee Representative for the North Vancouver School District Board of Education;
- Cyndi Gerlach, Trustee Representative for the North Vancouver School District Board of Education;
- Deanna Sherrill, Elementary School Vice Principal, Representative for North Vancouver Administrators' Association;
- Sarah Best, Secondary School Principal, Representative for North Vancouver Administrators' Association;
- Jennifer Branston, Representative for North Vancouver Parent Association Council;
- Michelle Sawyer, Representative for North Vancouver Parent Association Council;
- Vicky Sra, Representative for North Vancouver Parent Association Council;
- Amanda Ji, Representative for the District Student Leadership Council;
- Hanuru Fukuda, Representative for the District Student Leadership Council;

In the 2022/23 school year, the Inclusion Committee has four scheduled meetings, three will be held virtually through MS Teams on February 2, March 2, April 20 and one in person on May 25, 2023.



## **Sustainability Committee Meeting Update – March 7, 2023**

The North Vancouver School District Sustainability Committee was established in 2020 to demonstrate leadership and environmental stewardship through programs, education and facilities that foster greater sustainability.

The role of the Committee is to:

- Review and provide advice on major sustainability initiatives, projects, and practices;
- Build capacity amongst staff, parents and students as the authors of their own environmentally-sustainable future;
- Develop and maintain a sustainability policy and processes for the school district;
- Foster and celebrate successful sustainability initiatives within the school district; and
- Consider community partnerships that will assist in achieving its sustainability goals.

The committee is comprised of representatives from all education partner groups. Attendees at the most recent committee meeting include:

- Committee Chair, Luke Smeaton, Manager of Sustainability, Energy and Environmental Planning;
- Cyndi Gerlach, Trustee Representative for the North Vancouver School District Board of Education;
- Diane Ehling, Vice Principal, Carisbrooke Elementary, Representative for the North Vancouver Administrators' Association;
- Heidi Lessman-Simm, teacher, Representative for the North Vancouver Teachers' Association;
- Patricia Houlihan, Representative for the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council;
- Aqil Zaman, Representative for the District Student Leadership Council; and
- Freya Craven, Representative for the District Student Leadership Council.

At the meeting convened on February 16, 2023, the Committee reviewed sustainability-related projects and initiatives underway across the school district, which included discussion about:

- Organizational environmental performance indicators for 2021/22 school year – energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption, and paper use;
- Retrofit projects including Cleveland Elementary heating plant upgrade, Windsor Secondary and Seycove Secondary lighting retrofits and EV charging station installation;
- Capital projects – Lynn Valley expansion and Cloverley replacement (pending);
- The second annual North Vancouver School District Climate Action and Sustainability Week (scheduled April 11 to 14);
- Safe and active transportation, including walking school bus; and
- Environment club activities at Argyle Secondary and Seycove Secondary.

The Sustainability Committee meets four times per year, with the next meeting scheduled for March 29, 2023.

**Schedule C.4**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Superintendent's Report**

**Narration:**

The Superintendent will provide an oral report on items of interest or concern to the Board not otherwise covered in the agenda.

**Schedule C.5**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Report Out – British Columbia School Trustees Association and BC Public School Employers’ Association**

**Narration:**

Trustees will provide an update on information related to British Columbia School Trustees Association and BC Public School Employers’ Association.

**Schedule ...C.6....**  
**of the**  
**Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Trustees' Reports/Highlights**

**Narration:**

The Board Chair will call for highlights from Trustees on their activities on behalf of the Board of Education.

**Schedule .....D.....  
of the  
Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Future Meetings**

**Narration:**

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Avenue North Vancouver
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 At 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Avenue North Vancouver
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Avenue North Vancouver

All meetings will take place on the 5th floor in the Mountain View Room, unless otherwise noted.

Pedestrian Access: Main West Entrance at 2121 Lonsdale Avenue, proceed by elevator to 5th Floor.

Vehicle Access: Parkade Entrance off West 21st Street and Lonsdale Avenue, park on Level P1 and proceed by elevator to 5th floor.

**Schedule .....E.....  
of the  
Administrative Memorandum**

**Meeting Date:** March 7, 2023       **Board**       **Board, in camera**

**Topic (as per the Memorandum):**      **Public Question & Comment Period**

**Narration:**

At the end of the Public Board Meeting, members of the public attending the meeting have an opportunity to obtain clarification concerning the meeting's proceedings. Those who are attending virtually can email [publiccomments@sd44.ca](mailto:publiccomments@sd44.ca) or call 604-998-5100 and leave a voice mail. Questions and comments will be accepted until one hour after the adjournment of the meeting. Questions and comments submitted by email or phone will be circulated to the Board of Education.

The Board of Education can respond to comments, or ask staff to respond to comments, made during the Public Question & Comment Period.

In accordance with Board policy, questions relating to personnel, negotiations or litigation must not be dealt with in a public session.

During the Public Question and Comment Period at the end of the meeting, speakers may not speak disrespectfully of any Board Member, staff member or any other person and must not use offensive words or gestures.