

Superintendent's Report



To: Parents/Guardians

From: Mark Pearmain, Superintendent, North Vancouver School District

Announcements

Budget feedback – Online feedback NOW OPEN

The North Vancouver School District is looking for feedback from the community on allocating a portion of the annual budget. To gather your feedback, we're using a tool called [Thoughtexchange](#). All of our voices matter, so your participation is crucial and valued.

You will be asked to respond to one open-ended question, consider and assign stars to the ideas shared by others, and learn what is important to our community. You can answer the question with as many responses as you like. When you move on to the 'star' step, you will see your thoughts and the thoughts of others and assign stars to each thought (rating from 1-5) depending on how strongly you agree or support that idea. You can come back as often as you would like to participate and, in fact, we ask that you do come back to star some of the new ideas shared since you first participated. You can navigate by using the bar across the top to go back and share more ideas or star some more thoughts at any time. The ratings will help us understand the most important areas to focus on.

Your thoughts and stars are confidential. When you arrive at the Thoughtexchange landing page you will see a welcome screen with two options: 'Continue' or 'Sign-up/login'. Please select 'Continue'. This will enable you to complete the online exchange anonymously. If you choose to, you can also set-up an account with Thoughtexchange; if you choose this option your email address will be submitted to Thoughtexchange, but your responses and star ratings will remain confidential.

Participation will be open until Friday, March 15, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. **You can access the Thoughtexchange [HERE](#).** If you need technical help, please call Thoughtexchange at 1-800-361-9027 ext. 4 or email help@thoughtexchange.com. Thank you in advance for your help and input.

Information

Measles

Please click [HERE](#) for an update from Vancouver Coastal Health regarding the measles outbreak in Vancouver.

Bargaining update

The North Vancouver Board of Education looks forward to working cooperatively and respectfully with both of our partner unions towards successful renewal of our two collective agreements. These agreements are with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 389 and the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTAs) respectively. Local bargaining with both unions has not yet commenced, but is anticipated to begin within the next three months. Please read [THIS](#) letter for further information.

Facilities Updates

Feedback on the Handsworth Secondary replacement project design

Feedback about the design of the new Handsworth Secondary School was obtained during and following the Public Information Meeting held on January 9, 2019 at Handsworth Secondary School. For an overview of the question and answer period at the open house and for a summary of feedback received via email and comment sheets, please visit the Handsworth replacement project [website section](#).

Initiatives

Sleep Out – NVSD has raised nearly \$16,000!

Please join the North Vancouver School District in raising support for and awareness of youth homelessness. Thus far, the school district has raised nearly \$16,000 for mental health supports for youth at Covenant House Vancouver. Please click [HERE](#) to donate. For every \$4,000 we raise as a school district, we fund mental health supports for one youth for a year.

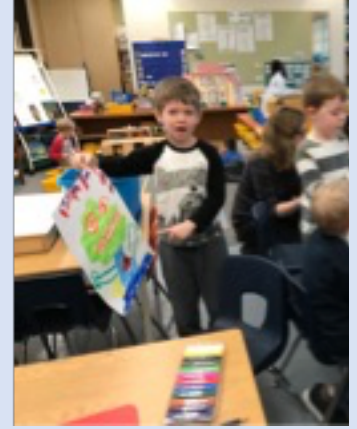
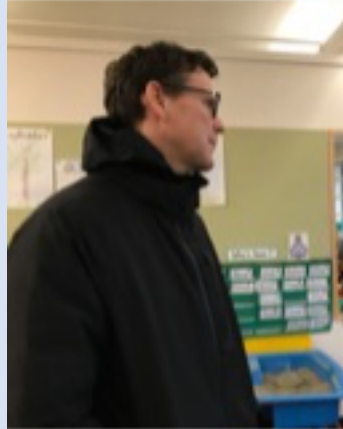
Education in British Columbia: A Time of Change

On February 11, 2019, I was pleased to present to the Probus Club of the North Shore at the Capilano Golf and Country Club. The Probus Club is comprised of retired professionals who are still actively engaged in their community. My presentation to the group was about the variety of changes in BC Public Education. I focused on changes to curriculum, school design, on-line course offerings, academy programming and Indigenizing the curriculum. It was a great opportunity to highlight some of the exciting changes/opportunities that are currently taking place across the Province and illustrate how the NVSD is ensuring we are preparing our students for the future.

School visits

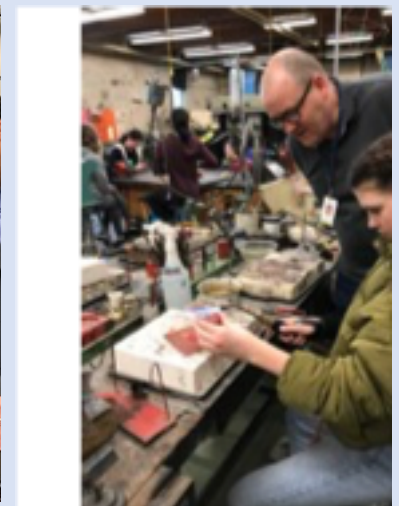
Ross Road Elementary

I had a great visit with the students and staff. My conversations in kindergarten and grade 1/2 math were inspiring and uplifting.



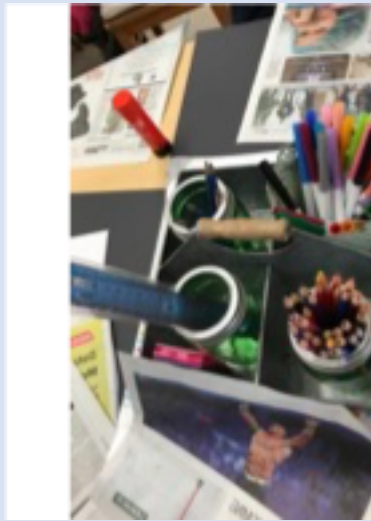
Argyle Secondary

I visited with Yvan Sache's class as they were working on French audio-guides for the latest Artists for Kids gallery exhibit. I was also able to embarrass my daughter by showing up in her science class (Sheloh Klausen's class). In Ryan Edgar's class I was 'blown away' by the glass-blowing and creative skills of the students.



Lynnmour Elementary

I checked out the new Guided Reading Room, visited StrongStart and then joined in the welcome of Lynnmour's four new SFU student teachers during recess in the staff room. I also said a quick hello to the adorable PADS puppy, Fable, who has been supporting Lynnmour students this month, and then walked outside with Fable and several students. I also checked out Paul Best's grade 4/5 class, listened to students practice reading aloud during Ms. Zander's Grade 4/5 readers' theatre class, visited Tessa Harrington's kindergarten class, and popped in on an art lesson with Karen Keys' grade 2/3 class.



Lynn Valley Elementary

I was amazed with the creativity of the students in Ellen Tull's kindergarten class who were using loose items to create stories. I spent some time in Kate Montgomerie's class as they worked on a Newton's Laws assignment that involved creating videos about each law. I visited with Teacher Librarian Sue Danieli, and with student Anthony and his support team - Janis Mann and Phyllis Murata. I also was able to thank custodian Rolex Gelacio for clearing snow and making sure the school was safe for students and staff.

