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Announcements

Thank You! Outdoor Safety & Emergency Preparedness Open House

The inaugural Outdoor Safety & Emergency Preparedness Open House, held on Saturday, May 7, at Argyle School, was a tremendous success! Visit the [event's website](#) to view photos from the day (scroll to the bottom of the page).

As you can see from the images, the day was filled with big smiles, whether from children climbing into rescue equipment, including helicopter, ladder truck, or ATVs; participating organizations eager to speak with members of the public; families connecting with first responders and experts in emergency management; student volunteers welcoming the community to their school; or school district staff, pleased to be able to bring the community together once again.

In addition to [participating organizations](#), the school district would like to extend its gratitude and thank the many individuals, municipal bodies, organizations and businesses who supported this year's family-friendly, community event. Visit this [event web page](#) for a complete listing.

For more information about the event, please visit the [event website](#) or contact the event organizers at asknvسد@sd44.ca.

May is Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month is an opportunity to learn more about the many achievements and contributions of Canadians of Asian heritage who, throughout our history, have done so much to make Canada the country we share today.

The theme for Asian Heritage Month 2022 is, "Continuing a legacy of greatness." This month is a reminder for all Canadians to come together to combat anti-Asian racism and discrimination in all its forms. Learn more [HERE](#).

Brooksbank Elementary to receive new accessible playground

The B.C. Government is providing funding for a new accessible playground at Brooksbank Elementary, as part of its Playground Equipment Program (PEP).

This year, the PEP will invest \$5 million in 30 new school playgrounds for 24 school districts. Each school district will receive \$165,000 toward each school's playground, which will be designed, built and installed over the next year. More information is

available through this [news release](#). *Congratulations to the Brooksbank school community!*

Information

Mental Health Week + YouthLAB website

The theme for Canadian Mental Health Week 2022 (May 2-8) is empathy. *Empathy* is the capacity we share to step into each other's shoes, understand where others are coming from and what they are feeling, listen and not judge, and is one way to reduce and resolve conflict [[source](#)].

The Canadian Mental Health Association has gathered a [collection of articles and resources](#) we can all use to better support each other.

YouthLAB, a Family Services North Shore initiative that this year is made up of 11 secondary students from across the North Shore and Bowen Island, has developed a [Youth for You!](#) website. The site is designed to share with fellow peers reflections and perspectives on wellness, mental health and social justice related topics. YouthLAB student members hope the website both serves as a reminder that youth are not alone in their experiences and inspires empathy toward anyone who may be struggling. Read more about this year's initiative [HERE](#).

2022/2023 School Calendar update

The North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa) has selected the three dates on which all schools across the district collectively schedule the same professional development days. For the 2022/2023 school year, these dates are:

- Friday, October 21, 2022
- Friday, February 17, 2023
- Monday, May 8, 2023

The two remaining school-based professional development dates will be determined by each individual school staff committee, and those dates will be published by schools to their local communities before the end of May.

To view a copy of the approved 2022/2023 School Calendar, please visit the [District Calendar](#) web page.

Rapid antigen test kits available to all families and staff

Earlier this year, all NVSD families and staff had the opportunity to access rapid antigen test kits through their school/site. We have extra test kits, and we would like to offer them to all families and staff on a first come, first served basis. To receive additional test kits, please visit Reception, located on the 2nd floor of the Education Services Centre, 2121 Lonsdale Avenue, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Homestay families needed

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

There are secondary school international students in need of a homestay placement for the school term beginning September 2022. If you are interested in hosting an international student, please reach out to our International Education program office at international@sd44.ca. More information about the homestay program is available [HERE](#).

NVSD Events

Public Board Meeting – May 24

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place *in person* on Tuesday, May 24 at 6:30 p.m. Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on COVID-19 procedures for attending meetings in person, how you can provide input, and to review the complete agenda (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

We can only hint at this with words – Exhibition open

Presented by the Gordon and Marion Smith Foundation for Young Artists, *We Can Only Hint at This with Words* consists of large scale, multi-surfaced mixed media paintings by Russna Kaur, shaped cut-out paintings by M.E. Sparks, and mixed media sculptures and stop-motion video by Andrea Taylor. All three artists navigate the complexities of working with historical reference, and in doing so, find ways to construct their own shapes and gestures. The exhibition will explore the different ways each artist quotes, pulls apart and reshapes the historical narratives that inform their work. For more information about this exhibition hosted at the Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, please visit the [exhibition](#) web page.

NVSD Registrations

Summer Learning – Registration open

[North Vancouver Summer Learning](#) provides a platform for students to explore and extend learning opportunities while fulfilling their educational requirements through a variety of opportunities in the month of July.

The Summer Learning 2022 suite of course offerings provides students the opportunity to enhance core skills and/or earn credits toward graduation:

- [Full Credit Academic Courses](#) (including French 11 - NEW this year)
- [7/8 Transition](#) (including 7/8 Music – NEW this year)
- [English Language Learning \(ELL\)](#)
- [Eslha7an](#) Secondary Review & Completion
- [Numeracy 8/9 Foundations](#)
- [Literacy 8/9 Foundations](#)

[Registration](#) is open to students within and beyond the NVSD and closes June 23 at noon.

Academies – Late Application period open

Late application to Academies for the 2022/2023 school year is open until Friday, May 27.

Academies accepting late applications are:

- AFK Studio Art Academy
- Basketball Academy (East & West)
- Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab
- Dance Academy
- Digital Media Academy (DMA)
- Digital Media Academy Lite (DMA Lite)
- Field Hockey Academy
- Hockey Skills Academy
- Robotics Academy
- Rowing Academy
- Soccer Academy
- Volleyball Academy

For more information, including how to apply, please click [HERE](#).

AFKs' Paradise Valley Summer School of Arts - Registration open

Young artists ages 8-14 will explore their surroundings with artist Annie Canto in the beautiful setting of Paradise Valley. This overnight camp combines outdoor studio adventures, in-depth instruction in collage, drawing and painting, as well as daily recreational activities such as canoeing, hiking, archery and campfire singalongs. Students are taught by B.C. certified art specialist teachers and mentored by an acclaimed Canadian artist. Visit [Artists for Kids](#) for more information and to register.

AFKs' Summer Visual Arts Intensive - Registration open

Students ages 14-18 will explore drawing, painting and printmaking with artist Janet Wang in the beautiful setting of the Gordon Smith Gallery, to develop a body of work throughout the week that can be added to their personal portfolio. Visit [Artists for Kids](#) for more information and to register

North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL) – Registration open

NVOL provides students with engaging and interactive learning experiences. Students can choose to engage in their NVOL courses entirely remotely online or in a blended model of online and in-person interactions at our NVOL Centre. In addition, students can choose from a full suite of [courses](#) from Grades 8 through 12 in both English and French.

The French Immersion online course offerings allow students the opportunity to meet the requirements of their Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique online through L' École Virtuelle de Vancouver nord. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of our French Immersion course offerings.

Online registration for NVOL is open; click [HERE](#) for more information.

Community Initiatives

Mayors' Food Bank Challenge - May 1 to 31

Throughout the month of May, the mayors of Vancouver, City of North Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, Port Moody, Chilliwack, and White Rock have come together for the Mayors' Food Bank Challenge. Mayors in each of these cities are rallying their communities to raise funds for food banks in their neighbourhoods. For more information or to make a donation, visit the [Mayors' Food Bank Challenge](#).

Spring Go by Bike Week – May 30 to June 5

Be a part of a week-long behaviour change campaign and help make Metro Vancouver a happier, healthier place to live, work and play. HUB Cycling's Spring Go by Bike Week will be packed with Celebration Stations where participants can ride by for free snacks, basic bike maintenance, cycling maps, prizes, and more. [Register](#) solo or as a team with your co-workers, roommates, family or friends.

Good News Stories from the NVSD

Visit our [Learn, Share & Grow](#) blog and [News & Announcements](#) to stay informed on the good work that is happening here. *Enjoy!*

- An inclusive volunteer work experience ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Community events return: helicopters, North Shore Rescue & food trucks this weekend ([Lynn Valley Life blog post](#))
- Meet the North Shore Rescue dogs at outdoor safety fair ([North Shore News article](#))
- Cleveland community celebrates Earth Day ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Cheakamus Centre Open House – a warm welcome back ([NVSD blog post](#))
- What it's like to have autism ([NVSD blog post](#))

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sylvia Russell'.

Sylvia Russell
Acting Superintendent of Schools
Superintendent@sd44.ca

Missed an issue? Updates from the Superintendent, including the bi-weekly Superintendent's Report, are available [HERE](#).

The North Vancouver School District is situated upon the unceded traditional territory of the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. We would like to thank the Coast Salish people and value the opportunity to learn, share and grow on this traditional territory.