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## Announcements

### COVID-19 K-12 Health & Safety Guidelines Update

The enhanced health and safety guidelines for K-12 schools were announced on February 4, 2021, and as communicated to parents and staff, we have been working to update our school safety plans and implement the new changes.

The NVSD student [Daily Health Check](#) has been updated to align with the [BCCDC guidance](#) in accordance with the enhanced guidelines for schools. This daily health check is a tool to reduce the likelihood of a person with COVID-19 coming to school when they are infectious. Parents/guardians can also use the [K-12 Health Check app](#) for daily assessment of symptoms. Staff are required to confirm completion of the Daily Health Check prior to entering the workplace.



## Engagement Opportunities – Add your Voice

We encourage you to participate and share your feedback in the following THREE areas:

### Proposed 2021/22 School Calendar

Click [HERE](#) to participate in the online engagement tool Thoughtexchange and provide your input on the proposed 2021/22 school calendar. The deadline to participate is Sunday, February 28, 2021.

Information about the development process for the annual school calendar and a copy of the proposed 2021/22 school calendar can be found on our [District Calendar](#) web page.

### 2021/22 Budget Priorities

Each year, the NVSD undertakes a public consultation process for input on budget priorities. Budget priorities align with and support the school district's strategic goals, vision and values. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Provide feedback:

- Virtually through Microsoft Teams at the public information and input meeting on April 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. There will be an option to ask questions and share comments through the *meeting chat* function.
- Via email to [budgetcomments@sd44.ca](mailto:budgetcomments@sd44.ca) by March 12, 2021.
- Using the platform [Thoughtexchange](#) until March 12, 2021, 11:59 p.m.
- Through traditional mail addressed to: Secretary Treasurer, 2121 Lonsdale Ave, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 2K6. Mailed feedback must be received by March 12, 2021.

### Secondary School Survey

Secondary school students, families and staff will have received an invitation to participate in a survey to share their thoughts about their experiences during the 2020/21 school year, specifically around the secondary school schedule. The survey is open from Thursday, February 25 to Sunday, March 7, 11:59 p.m. and can be accessed [HERE](#).

### Strategic Planning – Draft Goals (Update)



Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide input into the [draft goals](#) that will shape our 2021-2031 Strategic Plan. The Thoughtexchange is now closed. We are pleased to report that 541 individuals participated in the Thoughtexchange, sharing 369 thoughts and providing 10,655 ratings. *Thank you!*

We look forward to providing you with an update in the near future with respect to our progress toward finalizing our new 10-year Strategic Plan.

## **Elementary Temporary Transition Support Option - Extension**

At the February 23, 2021, Public Board Meeting, the Board of Education approved a motion to confirm further extension of the Elementary Temporary Transition Support Option until the end of the 2020/21 school year. The option will be provided to those families currently participating, in the same format and design as introduced in September 2020.

## **Board of Education Update – Trustee Resignation**

Click [HERE](#) to read the announcement shared by Board Chair George Tsiakos at the February 23, 2021, Public Board Meeting, regarding the resignation of Vice Chair and Trustee Devon Bruce. On behalf of the Board of Education and North Vancouver School District, I would like to thank Trustee Bruce for his service to the community and wish him well.

The resignation of an elected school trustee does require a by-election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the four-year term ending fall 2022. The North Vancouver School District has informed the District of North Vancouver, who will run the municipal election process, of the resignation. More information to come.

## **Information**

### **Pink Shirt Day**

Students and staff across the North Vancouver School District participated in Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. It is a day to encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that we will not tolerate bullying. To read about Pink Shirt Day's origins, click [HERE](#).

We hope you enjoyed seeing photos of our school community and district staff wearing various shades of pink and spreading messages of kindness across our social media

channels. Click [HERE](#) to read about how Queen Mary Community Elementary marked Pink Shirt Day. More examples from schools will be shared in a future Superintendent's Report.

## **Black History Month**

The North Vancouver School District community continues to recognize and honour the contributions of Black Canadians and Black people from around the world during [Black History Month](#). For this issue, I have included two blog posts, one from [Carson Graham Secondary](#) and another [blog post](#) that includes Ridgeway Elementary, Argyle Secondary, Queen Mary Community Elementary, and a group of North Vancouver Administrators (NoVA).

## **Indigenous Education**

The latest edition of the [Indigenous Education Flyer](#) includes information about the time of the Frog Song (signaling the beginning of spring), Louis Riel Day, the Queen Mary Elementary Orca project and more. These regularly published flyers are posted to the [Indigenous Education](#) section of our website (please scroll to the bottom of the page).

## **Upcoming Events**

### **AFK Spring Virtual After School Art Classes – Registration Open**

Artists for Kids (AFK) is offering After School Art classes for students this spring. Taught by art specialist teachers and assisted by secondary art students, classes provide students the opportunity to further their artistic ability and foster positive attitudes towards the visual arts. Classes are offered virtually through Microsoft Teams. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

### **Public Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 9**

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place on Tuesday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be live-streamed and recorded. Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on how you can provide input and to review the agenda and board package (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

## Good News Stories from around the NVSD

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

- (NVSD Alumna) North Vancouver ballerina wins prestigious Prix de Lausanne prize ([North Shore News article](#))
- (NVSD Alumna) Variant-hunting researchers on the cutting edge of B.C.'s race against COVID ([North Shore News article](#))
- Sutherland's new career course offerings ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Outdoor learning asset mapping at Larson Elementary ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Bill Reid's Xhuwaji / Haida Grizzly ([NVSD blog post](#))

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pearmain".

Mark Pearmain  
Superintendent of Schools