

A Special Message from the Board of Education

On behalf of the North Vancouver Board of Education, we are pleased to share with you our first-ever [Virtual Trustee Reception video](#) and a link to our annual [Community Report](#).

Public education in North Vancouver represents quality instruction that provides students with knowledge and opportunities, opens doors and inspires students to pursue their goals and achieve success. The public education we provide is also strengthened through members of the community who guide and support our students.

The pictures you will see in the Virtual Trustee Reception video represent the countless contributions members of the North Vancouver School District community have made to public education in North Vancouver. It is only fitting that this video is a thank you to everyone who has supported student learning and achievement during a most challenging year.

Each year, the North Vancouver School District also publishes a Community Report. This report is another way we share and celebrate with our community the progress we are making in pursuit of our vision to provide *world-class instruction and a rich diversity of engaging programs to inspire success for every student and bring communities together to learn, share and grow.*

A hard copy of the Community Report will be distributed via the North Shore News this week, and we hope you take the time to review its contents and recognize how much we have achieved together. Despite all the change we have experienced, we continue to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students and staff, and we continue to learn, share and grow together.

With all our thanks,

Trustee and Board Chair George Tsiakos

Trustee Christie Sacré

Note: The Board of Education annually hosts a reception during *Class Acts: A Celebration of Education in the NVSD* for community partners who support our schools. This year, due to COVID-19, the reception was cancelled and instead a video was produced to highlight



the past year. The images in the video were taken throughout the past year; COVID-19 health and safety protocols in effect at the time the images were captured were followed.

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Announcements

Engagement Opportunities – Add your Voice

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

2021/22 Budget Priorities (Deadline approaching)

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:

- Via email to 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**.
- 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.



North Vancouver School Travel Planning Survey

The North Vancouver School District, the City of North Vancouver, and the District of North Vancouver are inviting **families of elementary school children** to participate in a survey so that we can better understand school travel choices and identify any existing transportation challenges and opportunities for improvement. Complete the survey at NorthVanTravel.com before Thursday, April 1, 2021, 11:59 p.m.

Approved 2021/22 School Calendar

The Board of Education approved the 2021/22 School Calendar at the Public Board Meeting held Tuesday, March 9, 2021. The [Approved 2021/22 School Calendar](#) confirms the start/end and holiday dates for 2021/22. These dates remain as indicated in the Proposed Calendar that was made available for public comment in February.

Pro D dates have **not** yet been confirmed; dates on the current calendar documents are "placeholder" or "example" dates at this time. NVT A (3) and school-based Staff Committee (2) selection of the 2021/22 Pro D dates will be confirmed in May, and a final calendar will be published then. For more information on the 2021/22 School Calendar, please visit the [District Calendar](#) web page.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide input into the proposed 2021/22 school calendar. We are pleased to report that 238 individuals participated in the Thoughtexchange, sharing 194 thoughts and providing 5,111 ratings.

Information

Pink Shirt Day

Students and staff across the North Vancouver School District participated in [Pink Shirt Day](#) on February 24, 2021. It is a day to encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that we will not tolerate bullying. Click [HERE](#) to read about how some of our schools marked Pink Shirt Day.

Upcoming Events

Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting – Tuesday, April 6

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place on Tuesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and share comments regarding the [2021/22 budget priorities](#). In addition, the NVSD partner groups will have the opportunity to present their top budget priorities framed within the context of the draft [2021-2031 Strategic Plan](#). Visit our [Meetings & Minutes](#) page for information on how you can provide input and to review the complete agenda (available on the Thursday afternoon preceding the public meeting).

Public Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 27

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place on Tuesday, April 27 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 to stay informed on the good work that is happening here. *Enjoy!*

- International Women's Day ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Infrastructure funding boost for Cheakamus Centre ([NVSD news release](#))
- New natural playground coming to Ridgeway Elementary ([NVSD news release](#))
- From Adversity to Diversity speaker series – students' reflections ([NVSD blog post](#))

With appreciation,

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

Mark Pearmain
Superintendent of Schools