

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am pleased to provide you with an important update regarding the COVID-19 vaccination plan for K-12 educational staff.

Earlier this week, Vancouver Coastal Health confirmed K-12 educational staff in school districts within the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region, including the North Vancouver School District, would be eligible to receive their first dose of an approved age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine starting this week. In addition to K-12 educational staff, VCH will also begin vaccinating police officers and firefighters this week.

This vaccine program will see K-12 educational staff receive their first dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine over a five-week period. School districts will work under the direction of VCH and support VCH as they work to administer the vaccine to NVSD staff in the coming weeks, starting on a school-by-school basis, and in a phased approach.

I cannot stress how very pleased I am with this vaccine update for staff of the North Vancouver School District. This vaccination program will ensure we are taking yet another positive step forward in our collective goal of keeping our school communities safe and learning together.

However, with COVID-19 cases at record-breaking levels in our community, and the knowledge that schools reflect what is happening in the community, I encourage each and every one of us to continue to remain vigilant and do our part by:

- Using the [daily health check](#) before arriving at school
- Staying home when feeling ill
- Practicing diligent and frequent handwashing
- Practicing physical distancing when possible, even outdoors
- Wearing a mask in settings and situations when they are required or encouraged
- Spending time close to home with members of our own household
- Adhering to [province-wide restrictions](#)



Reducing the risk of COVID-19 entering our schools is a collective effort, and I ask everyone to please do their part.

Be well.

-Mark Pearmain

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Announcements

SafeArrival Pilot

Ensuring students arrive safely at school each day is one of the North Vancouver School District’s top priorities. Starting next week, six elementary schools (Boundary, Braemar, Cove Cliff, Dorothy Lynas, Ridgeway and Seymour Heights) will be piloting SafeArrival, a student absence reporting system.

SafeArrival, which is part of the [SchoolMessenger](#) platform, is designed to enhance schools’ existing absence-checking procedures by:

- Making it easier for parents/guardians to report their child’s absence (e.g. illness, vacation, appointment).
- Reducing the time it takes school staff to verify student attendance.
- Making it more efficient for staff to respond to unreported student absences.

A decision regarding a District-wide rollout of SafeArrival will be made toward the end of June 2021; more information will be shared via a future issue of the Superintendent's Report.

Summer Learning 2021 - Registration opens May 1

Summer Learning provides an engaging learning environment where students can challenge themselves academically and fulfill their personal learning goals. In 2021, while prioritizing the health and safety of students and staff, Summer Learning will maximize in-person instructional time in our complete suite of course offerings:

- [Full Credit Academic Courses](#)
- [7/8 Transition](#)
- [English Language Learning \(ELL\)](#)
- [Numeracy and Literacy Foundations](#)

Registration is open to all students within and beyond the North Vancouver School District. For a list of courses, including the new Careers 10 Summer Learning online course, please visit our [website](#).

North Vancouver Online Learning – Registration Open

Students interested in the flexibility that comes with taking a secondary course online are invited to consider North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL). Students can register with NVOL up until Friday, June 18, 2021 (and then registration is paused until September 7, 2021). NVOL provides the flexibility for students to complete within one quarter or one calendar year while working at the pace that suits their personal needs.

Our comprehensive course offerings include the following new courses for French Immersion students:

- Sciences naturelles 10
- Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 10
- Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 12
- Coming September 2021 : Français langue seconde - Immersion - FRAL 11 and Médias et communication numérique 11

Many of our NVOL teachers will be available in July to provide students with academic and tech support, and exam supervision. While teachers will not be available in August,

our online learning courses will remain open to students who wish to continue working on assignments. For information about our course offerings and to register, please visit [North Vancouver Online Learning](#).

Information

Indigenous Education

The latest edition of the [Indigenous Education Flyer](#) includes information about the Saskey/Salmonberry Shoot time, a profile on Indigenous Education team member Swalklanexw, Dallas Guss, and resources and lesson plans for educators. These regularly published flyers are posted to the [Indigenous Education](#) section of our website (scroll to the bottom of the page).

Looking Ahead: Homestay Families Needed for the 2021/22 School Year

The North Vancouver School District is a popular study destination for international students. At the secondary-school level, international students value the opportunity to not only receive a quality education but also experience life with a host family and immerse themselves in the Canadian community experience.

If you're interested in welcoming an international student into your home for the 2021/22 school year and learning more about the benefits and responsibilities that come with being a host family, please visit our [International Education Homestay Program page](#) and connect with our International Education Program office at international@sd44.ca.

Help Shape the City of North Vancouver's Mobility Strategy

The City of North Vancouver is developing a Mobility Strategy to help guide how the City plans and make decisions about its transportation system today and for years to come. The needs and demands on City streets have changed significantly over the last decade, and a new plan is needed to better respond to issues and opportunities, and in ways that are aligned with the values and priorities of City residents, families and businesses.

From now until April 30, visit www.letstalk.cnv.org to learn more about this initiative and to share your feedback on initial ideas for a potential vision and set of goals and directions for the Mobility Strategy. The City will be using input provided to refine these

initial ideas and develop a full draft strategy through the rest of the summer. Participants will be entered into a draw for a chance to win e-bike rentals and lunch for two from the Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Association.

Upcoming Events

School Trustee By-election 2021: Nomination Period Open

Composed of seven elected trustees, the North Vancouver Board of Education is responsible for making the major policy decisions governing all aspects of education within the School District as mandated in the School Act.

On Saturday, May 29, 2021, a by-election for one District of North Vancouver school trustee will take place. The term runs for the remainder of the four-year term ending November 2022.

Interested in running in the 2021 by-election? The nomination period for candidates is open until Friday, April 23 (4:00 p.m.). Click [HERE](#) for candidate guidelines.

For information about voting dates and locations, visit our [School Trustee By-election 2021 page](#) or the [District of North Vancouver By-election 2021 page](#).

Public Board Meeting - Tuesday, April 27

The next Board of Education Public Board Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m. 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).

Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 4

The next Board of Education Standing Committee Meeting takes place virtually on Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. 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).

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!*

- Students make their mark at Deaf and Hard of Hearing Connections Week ([NVSD blog post](#))
- Critter cams add new lens to learning at Cheakamus ([NVSD news release](#))
- FWCP funds keep salmon streams flowing at Cheakamus ([NVSD news release](#))
- Recognizing staff, students and families during Education Week ([Ministry of Education news release featuring Seycove students](#))

With appreciation,

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

Mark Pearmain
Superintendent of Schools