

Local School Calendar 2013-2014

Background Information

As a result of legislative changes, in the spring of 2012, to the *School Calendar Regulation*, the North Vancouver School District established a School Calendar Steering Group to develop the School District's 2013/14 Calendar.

The School Calendar Steering Group was comprised of representative members of the Board of Education, North Vancouver Teachers' Association, Canadian Union of Public Employees - Local 389, North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council, North Vancouver Administrators' Association (both elementary and secondary representatives), North Vancouver Student Leadership Council, and District staff members.

The Steering Group, totaling 20 representatives, held its first meeting on December 11, 2012. As part of the consultative process to plan the 2013/14 North Vancouver School District school calendar, the Board sought input on a variety of considerations through a School Calendar Survey that was open until March 3, 2013.

Please note that in the survey, there was a reference and questions pertaining to staff Collaboration Time. Collaboration time refers to regularly scheduled meeting times that involve an entire school staff (principals, vice principals, teachers, and support staff) working together on initiatives to support student learning. Staff will participate in structured examinations of practices and their implications for students in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and social and emotional learning. Any instructional time scheduled for staff collaboration has been added to the other days of instruction in order to satisfy the Ministry of Education requirements of hours of instruction for students. For example, the 1st day of school will now be 2 hours in length and the last day of school will be a full school day.

At the Public Board Meeting on March 12, 2013, the Board of Education approved the 2013/14 School Calendar, as was recommended by the School Calendar Steering Group. This calendar option provides for both a two-week (2) Winter Break and a two-week (2) Spring Break.

The calendar establishes start and end dates for the 2013/14 school year, holiday and vacation dates, and four (4) of the six (6) non-instructional dates: the District Curriculum Implementation Day (1), and the District (NVTAs-determined) Professional Days (3). The remaining two (2) Professional Days (school-based) were determined by each individual school.

Additionally, the 2013/14 School Calendar provides for staff collaboration time at each North Vancouver School District school on seven (7) occasions throughout the year. Staff collaboration time will be accommodated by either a late start (Secondary Schools) or a **2:00pm dismissal** of students (Elementary Schools).

In accordance with the School Calendar Regulation, the 2013/14 School Calendar and 2013/14 Distributed Learning Calendar were submitted to the Minister of Education. **The Ministry of Education has confirmed that the calendars are in compliance with the School Act and the School Calendar Regulation.**

For more detailed information regarding the process and timeline of the Calendar Steering Committee Meetings and recommendations, please go to the North Vancouver School District website http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/sitecore/content/Updates/SchoolCalendar2013_14.aspx