



ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Jeannette Laursoo, Principal
John Crowley, Vice Principal
Chris Sandor, Vice Principal

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

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Welcome back to students, parents, and staff, and especially to our students and families who are new to Rockridge Secondary. I hope that you are all having an enjoyable and restful summer vacation. I am looking forward to the arrival of students on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 6th. There is an orientation for new students on Friday, September 2nd from 10am—12pm. Grade 8's who have already attended an orientation last year do not need to attend, but are welcome to do so, if they wish.



It is my pleasure to welcome a few staff members new to Rockridge this year. Ms. Arreaga will be teaching Spanish and Ms. Poitras will be teaching in the Learning Support Program. Ms. Willock and Ms. Armstrong both join Rockridge teaching English and Social Studies.

Throughout the school year, the new Rockridge website, www.westvancouver.schools.ca/rockridge-secondary will have a great deal of information regarding upcoming school events and news. There will also be information regarding Rockridge's programmes, athletics, and the PAC. I will be writing a school blog on a regular basis to share information with you as to what is happening in our school. Additionally, the school will continue to email a weekly electronic bulletin, which will focus on what is happening over the following week. Please ensure that the school has your correct email address.

This year, we are requesting incoming Grade 8 and 9 students to bring a digital device to school. Please see additional information regarding digital access for Grade 8 and 9 students in this newsletter. We are also continuing to encourage students in the other grades to bring netbooks, laptops, tablet laptops, or ipads to school to use for writing assignments, researching on the internet, accessing virtual classrooms and notes as well as to access announcements and information relevant to clubs, sports and other activities. Students may use their computers to work in the cafeteria, library or similar areas during study periods, before school, at lunch or after school. Students should speak with individual teachers about appropriate use in specific classes. Students already bring iPODs, cell phones and other expensive technology, so we would expect students extend that same level of care and watchfulness to any wireless device they bring to school.

I am looking forward to meeting parents and guardians at the first PAC meeting of 2016-2017 coming up in September. It will be a pleasure to work, again, with Ms. Lynne Bespflug, PAC Chair, throughout this year.

Mr. Crowley, Mr. Sandor, the Rockridge staff and I look forward to working with you and your son or daughter to have a successful and rewarding school year.

Jeannette Laursoo, Principal

OPENING DAY

The opening day on Tuesday, September 6th is a shortened day for all students. Any outstanding textbooks should be returned to the office, and library books to the library on opening day. *Please note that all students will be participating in a homeroom and will receive an envelope containing important items for your attention and completion, including their printed timetables.*

GRADE 8

- ◆ 8:30—9:15 am Grade 8 Assembly in Players Hall
- ◆ 9:15—10:00 am Students report to homeroom. Student homeroom lists will be posted that morning.
- ◆ 10:00—11:45 am Students will meet their teachers and participate in group activities.
- ◆ 11:45—12:30 pm Lunch will be provided.
- ◆ 12:30—1:30 pm Grade 8 activities continue.
- ◆ 1:30 pm Student Dismissal

GRADES 9/10

- ◆ 10:00—10:45 am Grade 9/10 assembly in the gym
- ◆ 10:45—11:05 am Grade 9/10 homeroom
- ◆ 11:05 am Dismissal of grades 9 and 10 students

GRADE 11

- ◆ 11:00—11:45 am Grade 11 assembly in the gym
- ◆ 11:45—12:05 pm Grade 11 homeroom
- ◆ 12:05 pm Dismissal of grade 11 students

GRADE 12

- ◆ 12:30—1:30 pm Grade 12 BBQ
- ◆ 1:30—2:00 pm Grade 12 assembly in Players Hall
- ◆ 2:00—2:30 pm Grade 12 homeroom
- ◆ 2:30 pm Dismissal of grade 12 students



SCHOOL BUS



TRANSPORTATION

Students in West Vancouver School District are eligible to receive transportation services if:

You live **WITHIN** the "catchment area" of Rockridge, AND
 You live **OUTSIDE** the "walk limits" of Rockridge
 Walk Limits: 4.8 km from school

September 6th (Opening Day)—MORNING DROP OFF ONLY

September 7th—FULL BUS SERVICE BEGINS

Please visit the school district website for more information and to request student transportation services:

<http://westvancouver.schools.ca/resources/students/student-transportation>

BLOCK ROTATION

Rockridge follows a six-day block rotation schedule, which is clearly defined in the student agenda book. For example:

Wednesday, September 7	Day 1—Blocks 1234
Thursday, September 8	Day 2—Blocks 1234
Friday, September 9	Day 1—Blocks 2314
Monday, September 12	Day 2—Blocks 2314
Tuesday, September 13	Day 1—Blocks 3124
Wednesday, September 14	Day 2—Blocks 3124

On Thursday, September 15, the block order would repeat from the beginning, ie:

Thursday, September 15	Day 1—Blocks 1234
Friday, September 16	Day 2—Blocks 1234

TIMETABLE & BELL SCHEDULE

TIME	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1	DAY 2
8:25	<i>WARNING BELL</i>					
8:30 – 9:50	1	1	2	2	3	3
	BREAK					
9:58	<i>WARNING BELL</i>					
10:01	<i>Daily Announcements</i>					
10:01 –11:21	2	2	3	3	1	1
	BREAK					
11:28	<i>WARNING BELL</i>					
11:31–12:50	3	3	1	1	2	2
	LUNCH					
1:33	<i>WARNING BELL</i>					
1:37– 2:57	4	4	4	4	4	4

COLLABORATION TIME

Collaboration time will continue to be held every second week for 80 minutes on Thursday afternoons. Please note that the first collaboration block will take place on **Thursday, September 8th**. Please see the bell schedule for collaboration days on the right. A bell schedule is also included in the student's agenda book.

During this time, Rockridge staff members are given the opportunity to collaborate with each other. The staff at Rockridge has been committed to the highest calibre of professional growth and development to implement the IB MYP Programme and meet the challenges of the changing needs of our learners and the rapid technological advances. Time for collaboration with colleagues can have a positive influence on student engagement and achievement while continuing to prepare our learners for a changing world.

During collaboration time, Grade 8 and 9 students will be learning the Health and Career Education Curriculum through various guest speakers approximately once per month or every second collaboration block. During the other collaboration times throughout the month when students are not required to attend assemblies, students are expected to work on their Health and Career Education assignments. They may work on these at school if they wish to do so. Grade 10 students will be meeting with their Personal Project Advisors during some of the collaboration blocks. When they are not meeting with their Project Advisors, they are expected to be working on their Personal Projects. They may work on these at school if they wish to do so. Grade 11 and 12 students are given the collaboration time to work on the requirements of daily physical activity and Graduation Transitions. As part of Graduation Transitions, students need to complete 30 hours of volunteer service or paid work experience. Students are also expected to complete additional assignments to meet the learning outcomes of this course. More information regarding the expectations of students during collaboration time will be given to students during Grade Assemblies in the first week of school. In the past year, students have valued collaboration time, as it is also an excellent opportunity for them to work and collaborate with each other on any projects or other group work they may have.

Time	Block
8:25	Warning Bell
8:30—9:30	Block 1
	Break
9:38	Warning Bell
9:41—10:41	Block 2
	Break
10:48	Warning Bell
10:51—11:51	Block 3
	Lunch
12:33	Warning Bell
12:38—1:37	Block 4
1:37—2:57	Collaboration Time

The collaboration schedule will take place on the following Thursdays:

September 8, 22
 October 6, 20
 November 3, 17
 December 1, 15
 January 12, 26
 February 9, 23
 March 2
 April 6, 20
 May 4, 18
 June 1



IMPORTANT FORMS AND INFORMATION

On opening day, your child will be given an envelope containing forms which we ask that you complete and return to the school office as soon as possible during the first week of school. These important district forms include:



- ▶ Student Release form
- ▶ Student Emergency Identification Form
- ▶ Personal Alternate form (*Do not return to school—keep at home*)
- ▶ Student Information Verification form (*please check for accuracy and make any changes on the form*)
- ▶ Locker Contract (for grade 8's only)

Policies and Procedures

In September, please go to <https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP> to complete this online form. This form must be completed electronically for each child attending West Vancouver Schools each year. The form includes the following:

- Student Code of Conduct and Discipline
- District Network and Internet Appropriate Use
- Privately Owned Electronic Devices Appropriate Use
- Use of Website Applications Outside British Columbia—Parental Consent
- Community Activities Release-Parental Consent
- Consent of Release Permission
- B.C. School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program



Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation—Request for Consent

West Vancouver School District | Rockridge Secondary School

Important!

Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL) law came into force on July 1, 2014. As a result, the West Vancouver School Board would like to ensure that we have your consent to receive newsletters, school and Board updates, announcements, event invitations, and other electronic messages which may contain advertising or promotions regarding school fundraisers, field trips, program offerings, community events, the sale of yearbooks, student pictures, uniforms, books, prom or dance tickets, or similar events and offers. If you wish to receive the above communications from us, please follow the link below:

<https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Home>

For further information on this law, you may visit:

<http://fightspam.gc.ca/eic/site/030.nsf/eng/home#>

If you have any questions or if you wish to withdraw your consent at any time, please contact Beverly Pausche, Manager of Communications and Community Engagement for the West Vancouver School District.

Email: bpausche@wvschools.ca

ROCKRIDGE SECONDARY PAC (RSPAC)

The Rockridge website—www.westvancouver schools.ca/rockridge-secondary

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting dates and links to Executive members are on the *Parent* portion of the website.

Get involved with Parent Advisory Counsel (PAC) - PAC meetings are scheduled regularly through the school year. Dates are available on the *Parent* portion of the school website. Opportunity to express interest in PAC Committees and events is provided with a volunteer form enclosed with this Newsletter, and at the Welcome Coffee on September 7th. Visit the PAC portion of the school website throughout the year for current information on meetings and events.

Welcome Coffee

You are invited to the Rockridge Secondary Parent Advisory Council (RSPAC) Welcome Coffee on **Wednesday, September 7th at 8:45 am in Player's Hall.**

Please join us for a morning coffee and snack. Take the opportunity to catch up after the summer, hear from our Principal and others from the school, and get some information from the PAC. We look forward to seeing you!

2016-2017 RSPAC Executive:

Chair—Lynne Bospflug
 Vice-Chair—Carol Fraser
 Treasurer—Darius Matheson
 Secretary—Nicola South
 Scholarship Committee—Lisa Richardson
 Communications—Daphne Bruce
 District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Rep—Carol Fraser



Pancake Breakfast



The PAC invites parents/families and guardians of grade 8 students, as well as any new students in grades 9-12 to join their "New to Rockridge Complimentary Pancake Breakfast" on Friday, September 9th at 7:30 am in the school cafeteria. Please go to our website at www.westvancouver schools.ca/rockridge-secondary under *School Announcements* to complete the pancake order form.

Parent 2 Parent (P2P) Group

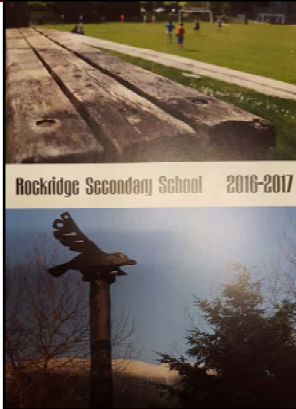
The Rockridge Parent 2 Parent group helps new parents connect with other parents in the Rockridge school community. Our hope is that in this way we can help you find your way around and settle into Rockridge.

Last year the group had many social gatherings; hikes, pumpkin carving, coffee mornings, Valentines chocolate fondue, etc... These gatherings provided fabulous opportunities to build friendships and ask those all important questions about what goes on at the school. If you would like to get in touch please feel free to email us at Parent2parentkeelin@gmail.com



GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Agenda



Rockridge Secondary School 2016-2017

As a service provided at Rockridge and financed through student activity fees, students will be provided with a handy "student agenda." These booklets contain useful information about Rockridge in addition to being a day timer/planner. Past history has shown that this item can be of great assistance to the students as they plan their homework and upcoming activities. However, it is not always used in a way which maximizes effectiveness and parents are encouraged to go through the agenda with their student and assist us in encouraging all students to use this item regularly to increase their own efficiency and effectiveness at school. The agenda is full of information specific to Rockridge and can be referred to for information on Clubs & Activities, Service Awards, Scholarships, the Rockridge Code of Conduct, and Honour Roll, and more.

School Supplies

Although individual teachers have various requirements for their courses which will be communicated to students on the first day of school, the following supplies tend to be used by most students in grades 8 through 12:

Pens, Pencils, Erasers, Highlighters, Fine liners, Ruler, Scissors, Glue Stick, Coloured felt pens, Lined paper and Graph paper, "Post-it" notes, two binders with dividers for Day 1 and Day 2 subjects and a USB drive (memory stick).

Grade 8 and 9 students should have a calculator, grades 10 students should have a scientific calculator if they are enrolled in Math, and grades 11-12 students should have a graphing calculator.



School Locks



The school provides each student with a locker and combination lock. Students are not to switch lockers or use their own lock. A master list of lockers and lock combinations is kept by Ms. Cho in the Accounts office. It is important that you don't share your lock combination with anyone. There will be a \$10.00 replacement charge for a missing lock. P. E. lockers are available for use by students in physical education classes. Students are strongly encouraged to bring a lock to the change room and secure all of their possessions. Parents and students are reminded that neither the school nor the West Vancouver Board has insurance to cover loss or damage of students' personal property .

PE Strip



Rockridge clothing, including PE strip can be purchased from the school office

T-Shirts \$21 Shorts \$28 Hoodies \$45 Sweatpants \$42



Student Drop Off and Pick Up

Please note the following:

- Visitor parking spaces at the front of the school are a 'no parking' zone in the morning and after school. The driveway in front of the school doors is a NO STOPPING zone.
- All numbered parking spaces are RESERVED parking spaces for staff. Please do not park in these spaces at any time during school hours.

Student Parking



Should a student wish to bring a car to school, they **must complete a registration form in the office** which will enable them to park in the upper lot by the Caulfeild Drive exit. There is a \$20 fee for the year which goes into a scholarship fund. The student will receive a decal which must be displayed on the windshield at all times. The student parking lot will be strictly enforced and students need to be aware that this is the only area for student parking.

Student Photos

A notice will be handed out to students in the first week of school regarding Photo Day. **Photo Day is Monday, September 12th**

Photographs are used to issue the students their ID card—the **"GO CARD"** that allows them a student discount on Public Transit.



Teachers and Staff Communication

Every teacher and staff member at Rockridge is on email and may be reached by firstinitiallastname@wvschools.ca (ie. jsmith@wvschools.ca)

Grade 12 Communication

The Counselling Department has a distribution list for grade 12 students. It is used to communicate important information throughout the year to all grade 12's. Parents/Guardians must contact the Grade 12 Counsellor, Mr. McDowell, should they wish to OPT OUT of this list at kmcdowell@wvschools.ca.



Parent/Guardian Communication E-Bulletins

Electronic bulletins will be emailed from the school each Monday providing parents and guardians with important information for the coming week and month ahead. Our e-bulletins are also published on our school website for your information.



Late & Away Procedures

Students should be in class by the 8:30 bell. Individual teachers will administer consequences for tardiness. Students who are frequently late will receive guidance and consequences from the administration. Should the tardiness continue, parents will be contacted by the administration.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES—Attendance is recorded by teachers on the computer network every period. Initially, subject teachers will deal with students about unexcused absences and apply consequences. If a student is developing a pattern of unexcused absences or lates, counsellors and administrators will be involved and consequences may include making up missed time or suspension.

EXCUSED ABSENCES—If a student is ill or will be late for school, parents are requested to inform the school by phoning **(604-981-1234 – voice box 1300)** before 8:25 am leaving a message with the reason for the absence or lateness. It is the students' responsibility to contact teachers or friends to find out what work was missed.

Students who must leave the school before afternoon dismissal must sign-out through the main office. A parent must call the office to advise us of the student's need to leave early or send a note to that effect. If a parent cannot be contacted, the student will not be given permission to leave unless it is under exceptional circumstances.

SYNREVOICE SYSTEM—The Synrevoice System will primarily be used to let parents know if their child is absent from class. When the teacher marks the student absent, he/she will be unexcused in the computer and the Synrevoice System will call or email parents. In order for the system to be helpful, it is important that parents call the school early in the day to inform us when a student will be absent so that he/she will be excused (see paragraph above). If you prefer to have an email sent to you when your son/daughter is absent please, contact the school to let us know.

FAMILY HOLIDAYS/MISSED WORK—We do not give permission for students to go on holiday during school time. If parents opt to take their sons/daughters out, it is their prerogative. Any work missed is solely the student's responsibility. Teachers are not expected to provide extra classes, make-up tests, or specific work to be completed. Parents must be aware that absences, whether excused or not, may have a negative impact on achievement.



HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES NEW TO ROCKRIDGE

From your Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Students:



General school supplies – most classes require a binder, paper, and writing implements. Many students set up two large binders: Day 1 classes and Day 2 classes. Some prefer individual binders for each subject. Multiple textbooks will travel to and from school, so space and efficiency of a backpack (or other) matter. Required supplies for each class are communicated by the teacher in class at the beginning of the school year.



School gym strip – attire featuring the 'Rockridge' logo can be purchased and is not mandatory. Samples are on display in the school office, and can be ordered there.



Lockers – use them! They're handy and they protect your valuables. Never leave anything of value in an unlocked or unguarded area. The school provides a lock for regular lockers, and you will need your own lock for gym lockers. Talk to office staff if you have difficulty opening any locker. (There is a 'Lost & Found' area in the school office. Immediately report anything missing.)



Getting to class on-time - For the first few days, do your best to find your classroom. There is enough time built into the schedule to visit your locker in between classes, once you are comfortable getting around the school.



Daily block rotations are posted each day outside the school office and are available each day on the school web-site and Rockridge App.

Collaboration Block – is time during the school day in which teachers work with each other and regular classes are not in session. Specific activities and expectations are planned for each grade. Please ask an administrator, teacher or counsellor if you are unclear of the activity scheduled for any of the collaborative blocks. The schedule of collaboration block activities is also included in the weekly e-bulletin. Participation in any scheduled activity is mandatory.



Library - a great place to work! Please... no food or drink.



School TV monitors - pay attention to them – they will help keep you up to date with what's happening around the school. You can also look at the Rockridge website under "Daily Student Announcements".

HELPFUL HINTS FOR FAMILIES NEW TO ROCKRIDGE

From your Parent Advisory Council (PAC)



Lunch Break – lunch begins at 12:50 pm, so you may want to bring a snack to eat in the morning. If you are in Grade 8, the school requires your parent's permission each time you visit **Caulfeild Village** during the lunch break.



The cafeteria - bring \$. The food is good and well priced. It may be difficult to find a place to sit in the cafeteria, but you may eat your lunch elsewhere in the school. The school has recycling and composting bins for disposables; please use them!



Microwave - there are microwaves available for student use at the cafeteria entrance. Hot water is also available.



Buses - If you are catching a blue bus right after school, make sure that you are aware of the schedule. (There's one bus that leaves very soon after dismissal). The departure of the yellow buses is prompt.



School counsellors are incredibly helpful and receptive – speak to yours if you need to talk through anything.



Getting organized - determine early and experiment to find out the best way to keep yourself organized. It could be your student agenda (which lists important dates as well), a wall calendar, or an electronic organizer (including your phone). It will absolutely simplify the rest of your year.



Student courtesy phone – is located outside the Counselling Centre. Please dial 9 and then the 10 digit local number you wish to call.



Intimidation or bullying - if you are experiencing this from anyone, speak to any school administrator, teacher or counsellor. There is no tolerance for bullying at Rockridge!



Get involved in the school. The school can be as good as you make it! If you have an idea, make your voice heard. Start or join a club, participate in school activities, or get involved with Student Council. Participate in the Club Fair held in the first few weeks of school to learn more about the clubs.

DIGITAL ACCESS

Grade 8 Students

We are looking forward to welcoming our Grade 8 students to Rockridge on September 6th.

As has been discussed at the Grade 8 Information Evening and Elementary School visits in January, we are requesting that incoming Grade 8 students bring in a digital device for the 2016-2017 school year. This will enable Grade 8 students to work in a 1:1 environment, when appropriate, that will further deepen their learning, facilitate inquiry and further engage students. In such an environment, students will

- be better prepared to move forward in a world that requires the use of technology.
- learn how to use devices in a variety of ways-some common, some unique.
- be given guidance on how to use these tools in an appropriate manner including how to:
 - Develop a positive digital footprint
 - report inappropriate behaviour
 - protect their privacy
 - create, share and publish work to be proud of

We are recommending that students bring devices such as chromebooks, netbooks, Macbooks, laptops, and Microsoft Surfaces to school, as they meet the following minimum requirements:

- include a tactile keyboard, internet connectivity and memory
- capable of word processing, creating spreadsheets and multimedia presentations

It is suggested that students do not bring tablets to school, as they will not be able to use these as efficiently.

If students are unable to bring a device to school due to financial hardship, please contact Mr. Sandor, Vice Principal, so that arrangements for a digital device can be made. Please contact Mr. Sandor at csandor@wvschools.ca with any further questions you may have.



Grade 9—12 Students

We are requesting that grade 9 students continue to bring their digital devices to school, as they did in grade 8. and we continue to encourage students in the other grades to bring netbooks, laptops, tablet laptops, or ipads to school to use for writing assignments, researching on the internet, accessing virtual classrooms and notes as well as to access announcements and information relevant to clubs, sports and other activities. Students may use their computers to work in the cafeteria, library or similar areas during study periods, before school, lunch or after school. Students should speak with individual teachers about appropriate use in specific classes. Students already bring iPods, cell phones and other expensive technology, so we would expect students extend that same level of care and watchfulness to any wireless devices they bring to school.

GRADE 12—PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTICE

Dear Parents/Guardians of the Graduates of 2017:

We are looking forward to seeing all of our Grade 12 students to start the most exciting and probably the most challenging year of high school. Grade 12 is certainly a special year and we will do everything we can to support you throughout the year in preparing your student for whatever path he/she chooses when they leave the doors of our District's schools.

We know that the graduating class of 2017 has the potential to be outstanding in terms of positive leadership and there will be high expectations placed on them. Although we realize that there is a lot of excitement surrounding the graduating year, we ask that students consider that the choices they make will impact their year and that of others.

Of particular concern are those events, which are not school sponsored. These include car rallies, out-of-country trips, trips to ski resorts, grad pranks, and the Grad Sleepover. The Grad Sleepover is a "tradition" occurring the night before school starts. Although these activities take place outside of school hours, they have an effect on the school. We are very concerned for the safety of our young people when they participate in unsupervised activities that may involve the use of drugs and alcohol. As well, damage to property and forested areas reflects badly on the school and hurts our relationships with those whose responsibility it is to manage parks, trails and other public and private spaces. We need the support of all parents in ensuring that these activities will not continue.

If your son or daughter expresses interest in participating in any of these events, please work with them to find an alternate celebration. We, like you, want your children to be as safe as possible in all situations, to get off to the best start, and to have a successful and rewarding year in every respect.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to phone us at the numbers below. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Jeannette Laursoo
Principal,
Rockridge Secondary
604-981-1300



Mr. Steve Rauh
Principal,
West Vancouver Secondary
604-981-1100



Mr. Mike Finch
Principal,
Sentinel Secondary
604-981-1130

BC FERRIES & ATHLETIC GROUPS—CODE OF CONDUCT

To promote safety and good order, students and sports groups must obey directions given by ship and terminal personnel regarding loading and unloading, safety and emergency procedures and orderly conduct.

The following conduct will not be tolerated:

- Fighting, quarrelling, loud disturbances or use of obscene or profane language.
- Tampering with or damaging safety or lifesaving equipment or other equipment or fittings.
- Littering or throwing objects overboard or at others.
- Use or possession of drugs or alcohol.
- Possession of weapons.
- Careless use of open flame.

Remedial action may include any of the following:

- Verbal warning.
- Verbal warning with notification to parent/guardian and school.
- Written warning with copies to parent/guardian and school.

Further action may involve:

- Requiring that a parent/guardian or other responsible adult accompany the student onboard the ferry
- Withdrawal of travel privileges.
- Involving the police and laying charges where applicable.

GRADE 8—CAULFEILD VILLAGE

Although there are some benefits to having Caulfeild Village in close proximity it can, however, create some issues for the school in terms of supervision and student behaviour. The mall is an unsupervised area. Although grade 8 students are often visiting many areas in the community without supervision outside of school hours, the dynamic of doing so within the school day is very different. The mall may cause a disconnection between the student and the school community.

For grade 8 students, a big part of transitioning to high school is learning the school culture and building new relationships. Although this does happen in classes, the most important time for this is during breaks and lunch. When students leave at breaks to go to the mall, this connection becomes broken and students start to isolate themselves into small cliques. Without adult supervision at the mall, we find our younger students struggle to maintain their behaviour. Their focus becomes the world outside of the school and they miss out on important experiences that help them to become engaged members of our school community. For these reasons, grade 8 students may not leave school grounds to visit the mall except under unique circumstances and only with specific permission of the school administration.

There are of course special instances where a student might 'need' to go to the mall. In these unique circumstances, we require that a grade 8 student bring a signed note from a parent/guardian indicating the day on which they wish to visit the mall. Students may also meet with the Vice Principal and sign out at the office before leaving school grounds.

Our experience has indicated that by the Spring, our grade 8's are fully ready to use the mall in a responsible and appropriate manner. They have also become well-connected with their peers at school. At that time, we discuss with the students the mall and expectations for behaviour. Then, we give them full permission to visit Caulfeild Village to purchase food but not to 'hang-out'. We hope you will support us in this important decision to restrict grade 8 access to Caulfeild Village.

ROCKRIDGE ATHLETICS

Rockridge has a reputation for offering a wide variety of seasonal sports.

Students should make sure they listen to announcements and *check the monitor in front of the office, especially during the first few weeks of school, for try-outs and meeting times for sports teams and clubs.*

We are looking forward to a great fall season! Here's a list of the sports teams offered in the Fall:

- Volleyball—girls
- Field Hockey
- Cross Country Running
- Rugby— grade 8
- Swimming



ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

For your convenience, our school district has made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc. Enrolment applications for student accident insurance will be distributed to students in their homeroom classes. Parents are encouraged to consider this as the school district does not carry accident insurance.

Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For complete plan details, please visit www.kidsplus.ca. Forms will be sent home with students at the beginning of the school year.



Rockridge Secondary School Orlando Science and Business Trip 2017

Where: Orlando, Florida

What: Science and Business
"Edventure"



Website: <http://mrstowers.weebly.com/orlando-2017.html>

Information video: <http://bit.ly/orlandopromo>

Visit local theme parks and attractions – including their education programs:

Rescue and Rehabilitation

Business & Leadership Excellence

Physics: Properties of Motion

The Business & Science of the Production Arts

Zoology and Botany

Roller Coaster Physics and Engineering

Marketing and Finance

Aerospace Science

Anatomy of Performance

Theming

– Sea World

– Epcot

– Disney's Magic Kingdom

– Disney's Hollywood Studios

– Disney's Animal Kingdom

– Islands of Adventure

– Universal Studios

– Kennedy Space Center (NASA)

– Cirque du Soleil – Downtown Disney

– Disney's Blizzard Beach

When: April 2017 (over Easter weekend)

Who: Grade 10 and 11 – Science or Business students who are in good standing. With 4 fabulous chaperones – Mr. Dickinson, Ms. Brady, Mr. Lawson and Mrs. Towers

Why: See Science and Business in action, explore the subjects more deeply, personal growth

SEPTEMBER—AT A GLANCE

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2 10:00am-12:00pm New Student Orientation
5 LABOUR DAY— Statutory Holiday	6 School Opens Gr 8: 8:30am-1:30pm Gr 9/10: 10:00am-11:05am Gr 11: 11:00am-12:05pm Gr 12: 12:30 am-2:30 pm	7 Day 1: 1234 Term 1 Begins 8:45 am—RSPAC Welcome Coffee	8 Day 2: 1234X Collaboration Block Day	9 Day 1: 2314 7:30 am Pancake Breakfast (New and Grade 8 families)
12 Day 2: 2314 STUDENT PHOTOS	13 Day 1: 3124	14 Day 2: 3124	15 Day 1: 1234 6:30 pm—Grade 10 Parent Info Session 7:00 pm—Grade 8 Parent Info Session	16 Day 2: 1234 Safety Drill #1 (2-1) Grade 8's to Cheakamus Outdoor Centre 8am—4:30 pm
19 Day 1: 2314	20 Day 2: 2314	21 Day 1: 3124 Safety Drill #2 (1-2)	22 Day 2: 3124X Collaboration Block Day 5:30 - 7:00 pm Meet the Teacher (see below)	23 ProD Day— School Not in Session
26 Day 2: 1234 6:30 pm—Grade 12 Parent Info Evening	27 Day 1: 2314	28 Day 2: 2314 CUE Event 6:30 pm—8:30 pm	29 Day 1: 3124 Terry Fox Run Tofino Learn to Surf Trip Grades 10—12 (September 29—Oct 2nd)	30 Day 2: 3124

Please check the Rockridge School website for any updates to this school calendar.

MEET THE TEACHER—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

We hope you can join us on September 22nd to meet the teachers and familiarize yourself with the curriculum and work expectations for students' classes.

2016-2017 CALENDAR

September

Thursday 1	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session
Monday 5	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session
Tuesday 6	School Opens
Friday 23	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session

October

Monday 10	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – School not in Session
Friday 21	PROVINCIAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session

November

Friday 11	REMEMBRANCE DAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session
Monday 14	Curriculum In-Service/Non-Instructional Day – School not in Session

December

Monday 5	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session
Friday 16	Last day of classes prior to Winter Vacation
Monday 19– Monday, Jan 2	WINTER VACATION – School not in Session

January

Tuesday 3	School Re-opens for 2016
Friday 20	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session

February

Friday 10	District Wide Reading Break – School not in Session
Monday 13	BC FAMILY DAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session

March

Friday 10	Last school day prior to Spring Break
Monday 13 – Friday 24	SPRING BREAK (District Wide) – School not in Session
Monday 27	School Re-Opens after Spring Break

April

Friday 14	GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session
Monday 17	EASTER MONDAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session

May

Friday 19	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – School not in Session
Monday 22	VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY – School not in Session

June

Friday 30	SCHOOL YEAR ENDS / ADMINISTRATIVE DAY
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