



December 15, 2022

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1. Calendar Reminder:

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| • Friday, December 16 th | Early Dismissal at 12:00 |
| • Tuesday, January 3 rd | School Reopens after the Winter Break |
| • Wednesday, January 11 th | Grade 7 Families Open House & PAC Meeting |
| • Tuesday, January 24 | AP Information Night |
| • Wednesday, January 25 | Gr 8-11 Course Planning Night |
| • Thursday, January 26 | Winter Formal for grade 11 & 12 |
| • Friday, January 27 | Professional Day – no school in session |
| • Tuesday, January 31 | Last day of Semester 1 |

2. 2023-24 Secondary Timetable

The current “Transitional Secondary Timetable” was designed to provide flexibility and support for students, schools, and programs as we navigated COVID 19 restrictions, guidelines and uncertainty. As part of the 2023-24 timetable planning process, the school district used feedback from the Spring 2022 Student, Parent and Staff timetable surveys, and conducted a series of timetable focus group conversations. These focus groups have included conversations with the teachers, staff, students, parents, as well as representatives from our district programs, courses and departments.

After careful consideration, to best meet the needs of our students, schools, and diverse programs, West Vancouver Schools will be transitioning to a Linear Secondary Schedule that includes some form of flexible instructional time for the 2023-2024 school year. In a linear timetable students will take eight courses for the entire school year instead of the current two semester timetable, where students take four courses at a time for half the year. The flexible instructional time will provide students with time and flexibility to engage in personalized learning. This may include additional support, guidance with specific curriculum and interests, the opportunity to collaborate with others, and time to complete assignments, assessments and projects.

Over the next few months, the school district will work closely with schools to design a linear timetable that is responsive to the needs of our diverse programs, and enhances student choice, experiences, and opportunities. Final timetable details will be communicated before Spring Break.

3. Ministry of Education Affordability Funding

The Ministry of Education has provided West Vancouver Schools a one-time funding of \$650,000 to help us make the 22/23 school year more affordable for students and families in need. Our allocation will allow us to cover costs for school fees, school supplies or other school related costs for students in need. Families should reach out to Mr. Finch if any financial support is needed for school-based supplies, fees or activities.

4. Grade 12 Graduation Literacy Assessment: Please Read!

All Grade 12 Sentinel students will be writing the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment this school year - this assessment is required for graduation. Your first opportunity to complete this assessment is January 23rd – 27th, 2023. All Grade 12 students will be registered to complete the assessment during this period, and we recommend you complete it in January. The Ministry of Education allows students three opportunities to complete the assessment if desired. If you wish to postpone writing the Grade 12 Literacy Assessment until the April exam session, please contact Mr. Shawn Anderson at shawnanderson@wvschools.ca with your name and intention to postpone to April 2023.

Students will be provided with their exam date and time in early January 2023.

Students should prepare for this exam. Sample exams, videos and more information can be found here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>. All Grade 12 students should try the sample exams (printed or online) and review the scoring guide. Developing a familiarity with the types of exam questions and computer interface will support students to be successful in this exam.

5. Sentinel's Counselling Department

- **GRAD INFORMATION:**

→ Winter Senior Dance & Casino Night-Grade 11s & 12s, January 26th from 6:45pm-9:45pm @ Sentinel DJ, Dancing, Photobooth, Mock Casino, prizes & snacks! Tickets will go on sale through school cashonline – details in the near future.

For more information from our counselling team please visit:

<https://sentinelcounselling.weebly.com/>

6. Spartan Athletics

Whistler Ski Trip Feb 1st 2023: The Sentinel PE department is organizing a ski trip to Whistler on February 1st. A charter bus will leave Sentinel at 6:30am on Feb 1st arriving to Whistler at 8:30am for a full day of skiing/snowboarding. The cost to participate is between \$120-\$145 per person. To register join the Ski Trip Google Classroom and complete the forms (class code: pmgtuwr). Please see Mr. McNiven if you have any questions.

Mark Fenn, Sentinel Athletic Director: sentinelathletics@wvschools.ca

You can follow Sentinel Athletics (@sentinelathletics) on Instagram for up-to-date information and other exciting Athletics content.

7. Sentinel Music Performances

Congratulations to the Sentinel RnB Band - in collaboration with Composition & Production 11/12 - for being named this morning as one of the [Top 10](#) entered in the Senior Vocal Category the [CBC's Music Class Challenge](#)! Our entry is "Tell Me Something" by Canadian RnB artist Tanika Charles, and can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/nnqCB4rLCI4>. This is the first time Sentinel entered the competition.

8. Sentinel PAC

Please join us at our next PAC meeting on Wed, Jan 11, 2023, at 9:00 am at the Sentinel Library Mezzanine. Coffee - Meet and Greet from 8:45-9:00 am. Please

We are planning for our next biggest fundraiser event, Sentinel Multicultural Lunch. The MCL is the most impactful PAC-sponsored event as it is the most significant fundraising event of the

year and a great opportunity to build your community and celebrate the diversity of the school. Please mark on your calendar, MCL is on Thursday, March 2, 2023. If you love cooking and want to be part of the Famous MCL, please volunteer as a Table Coordinator, and find your community helpers or volunteer as one of the helpers. Perfect Potluck sign-up will open in Jan 2023.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Happy Holidays!

PAC Resources - Agenda and Minutes please click on the link below:


<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/ecole-sentinel-secondary/parents/pac-resources/>

If you have any questions or want to get involved and help Sentinel PAC, please send email Cathy at cathysentinelpac@gmail.com

9. Sentinel Grade 7 into 8 Family Information Meeting Information

ECOLE SECONDAIRE **SENTINEL** SECONDARY SCHOOL

Please Join Us For Our



*Information Evening
for Families of All Prospective
Grade 8 Students*

Wednesday, January 11th, 2023

Agenda

6:30 pm
Refreshments in the foyer
School tours given by our *Spartaners*

7:00 pm
Remarks by
Mr. Michael Finch, Principal,
Student Council,
Ms. Kathy Grant, Vice-Principal,
Mr. Shawn Anderson, Vice-Principal,

8:00 pm ~ Approximately
French Immersion
Information and Q & A

- *Sentinel Secondary School and its Specialty Programs*
- *Grade 8 Curriculum, Timetabling, and Opportunities*
- *Making a Successful Transition to High School*
- *Extra-curricular Activities*

10. The 12th Annual Pyjama Drive for Admiral Seymour

A huge thank you to all the students and families who donated to the 12th Annual Pyjama Drive. Thanks to your generosity, each child at Sir Admiral Seymour Elementary School received a pair of warm pyjamas for the winter season. Sentinel volunteers delivered the pj's to Seymour students on Tuesday and spent quality time connecting with them, doing crafts and playing games. The Sentinel-Seymour bond remains strong!

11. Sentinel Stage

Sentinel Stage is actively rehearsing and designing our annual production, *You Can't Take It With You*. This 1930's classic comedy is looking several pieces that perhaps might be hiding in the basements and/or attics of our fellow Spartans.

- big dining table (dark wood) that is able to have 12 people/chairs surrounding it - a vintage table that could pass as being from the early 20th century
- vintage dining table chairs OR a set of 6/8 that we could add to
- xylophone and xylophone hammers/mallets
- standing painting easel
- a printing press
- Coat rack (wooden)

If you have unearthed these treasures please email Mrs. McGuinness-Gill at mmcguinnessgill@wvschools.ca

Thank you! 😊

12. 2023 YEARBOOKS available for purchase!!

Yearbooks are available to purchase on School Cash Online. Last year we sold out, so please make sure to purchase before January 15th, 2023! If you buy your yearbook before December 15th, you'll be entered into a draw for a 25\$ Gift Certificate to Park Royal! There will be 2 lucky winners!!

13. X-Block Opportunities

Here is a list of x-block opportunities available at Sentinel. [LINK](#)

14. Dundarave Festival of Lights

Dundarave Festival of Lights 2022, free Concerts, concession will be open with hot drinks and snacks, 4pm West Van Youth Band and lighting ceremony. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Check dundaravefestival.com for updates.

15. Canadian Parents for French: West Vancouver Chapter

We have a brand-new West Vancouver chapter of Canadian Parents for French, a national network of volunteers, parents and advocates dedicated to the promotion of FSL opportunities for families. To learn more and to become a member, please click [HERE](#).

As a new chapter, CPF will be partnering with schools and local organizations to offer French opportunities for kids and adults. The more members we have registered, the more French events we can organize in our community. For more information, please contact Alma at alma.cpfww@gmail.com.

In addition, CPF and the West Vancouver Memorial Library are offering a drop-in weekly French language class for adults, suited to all levels on Fridays from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. For more information, please click [HERE](#).



16. Vancouver Coastal Health – Flu Clinic Info

Please kindly let your staff and parents know that ICBC site is offering walk-in Covid and Flu clinic on the following days:

ICBC Claim Centre
255 Lloyd Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. V7P 3G5
All ages
December 13-17
9:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
Ages 6 months to 11 years
December 29-30
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information on VCH Covid and flu vaccination clinics please visit:
<http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine>

17. Newcomer Programs through the WV Rec Centre

Please click the [link](#) for information on new Language Classes.
Please click on the [link](#) for information on programs for Newcomers.

18. WV Little League Baseball

Kids ages 5-16 are invited to play and all experience levels are welcome. It's a great way to develop new skills while having fun with old and new friends in the community. Registration is open wvll.ca

