



September 14th, 2023

Calendar Upcoming

September 21	Terry Fox Run
September 22	Professional Development Day (No classes in session)
September 25-29	Truth and Reconciliation Week
September 27	Meet the Teacher Night (More info coming)
September 28	Collaboration Day
October 2	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No classes in session)
October 4	Grade 12 Parent Info Night

OUR SCHOOL

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IN THE COMMUNITY

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1. Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) News

Thank-you to all those who attended our 1st PAC meeting today – we had 45 parents attend! The next PAC Meeting is Thursday, October 12th at 9:00AM. We will be discussing new school initiatives and priorities and yearly PAC led activities. If you are interested in volunteering for PAC this school year, please contact our PAC Chair Nora Gambioli at sepac@wvschools.ca

2. Course Change Updates:

All course change requests have been accepted by counsellors and the majority have been processed. All timetables will be final by September 15th.

3. Terry Fox Run: Thursday September 21st

This year, our school is proudly taking part in the annual Terry Fox school run to continue Terry's dream of a world without cancer. Please support our school's fundraising efforts today! Sentinel will match the students' donations.

You can donate online: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/32080>

Fundraising will also take place through classrooms and the student council will be hosting a BBQ after the run on September 21st. Lunch is by donation-all proceeds go to The Terry Fox Foundation.

4. Grad 2024 NEW Information

CLC 12B & University Information Session

All grade 12s must attend a mandatory and important CLC 12B session during FIT. The times are as follows:

Last names A-Lit Monday September 18th

Last names Liu-Z Monday September 25th

Grade 12 Parent Night

Grade 12 parents please join us Wednesday, October 4th at 7pm in the Sentinel Theatre. We will be reviewing Graduation requirements, University applications and Grad events.

US Admissions Workshop, Sep.26, 6:30PM @ Sentinel Secondary Learning Commons

Learn about the US university application process. A presentation on the "behind-the-scenes" review process of an undergraduate application to a selective US university: what we look for in coursework and academic achievement, on your résumé and experiences outside of the classroom, on recommendation letters, and the all-important admissions essays. Discussion of these topics delivered with a case study by Boston University. Registration Code is [HERE](#).

Canadian University Event (CUE), Sep.27, 6:00 to 8:00PM @ West Vancouver Secondary School in the North Gym

Interested in attending university in Canada? Everyone is welcome to attend the largest fair our school district hosts this year. There will be approximately 50 universities coming from all over Canada to talk to students and their parents about different opportunities each of these institutions offer. If you are unsure of what questions to ask please see this [Link](#). For more information about CUE see this [Link](#).

Please find attached and read a very important [Grad Activity letter](#) from our Principal, Mr. Finch.

Below is a list of our typical grad events and their costs:

- A. Theme days - one per month (minimal costs for costumes)
- B. Grad wear (optional) - purchased in the fall and includes t-shirts \$25, hoodies \$55 and sweats \$40.
- C. Semi Formal (Location TBD) - in the fall and historically costs \$100- **grads and dates only.**
- D. Winter Formal (at Sentinel) - in January and costs ~\$50 (grade 11s and 12s can attend)
- E. Grad photos (Artona)-in the fall \$60 sitting fee for all students, photo packages are \$200-\$250
- F. Grad Carnival-in the spring, PAC has historically helped fund this to keep cost to ~\$10-15.
- G. Banquet (Vancouver Convention Centre) - in June and costs \$150 per grad/guest-grads/dates and parents can attend.
- H. Commencement (at the Westside Church) - in June and \$20 per person-no limit (**grads don't pay**)

5. Sentinel's Tech Crew (Sentinel's Drama Department)

Are you interested in (theatrical) technology like LIGHTS, SOUND, or PROJECTIONS? Sentinel's Tech Crew is getting back up and running for another school year. Tech Crew students run the lights, sound, and projections for school assemblies, concerts, and other events at Sentinel over the year.

Please come to the Theatre next Thursday, September 21st @ lunch for our first meeting.

You do not have to have previous tech experience to work on the Tech Crew - you just have to be willing to learn, ask questions, and wear an awesome t-shirt!

For more information, if you have questions, or if you would like to join our Google Classroom in advance of next week's meeting please come and see Mrs. McGuinness-Gill in the theatre or email her at mmcguinnessgill@wvschools.ca.

6. Policies and Procedures

Please be aware that a new P+P form MUST be completed for each student, every school year. Without a completed form, students are not permitted to access their Google classrooms, have their photos included in the yearbook etc. Permissions expire on August 31st each year. This form requires a Parent login and Password.

If you have previously created an account to complete the form last year, the account is the same. If you have forgotten your password, you can follow the instructions to reset it. After you have logged in, you have the option to either update a P+P form created last year or start a new one.

Please find the link here: <https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP>

7. Absence Notification & Excused Absences

Please email ALL Attendance related matters to: sentinelattendance@wvschools.ca

If a student is away/ill or will be late for school, parents are requested to inform the school by sending us an email. Please include their full legal name and grade, time of absence and reason for absence. Students arriving 'late' for class should proceed directly to their class and check in with the teacher who will modify the attendance to indicate a late vs an absence.

8. Linear for 2023-24

The Linear school rotation is back! Please take the time to view Sentinels 2023-24 **first 4 weeks breakdown**. Attached is [the time tables link](#). There will be 50 mins of [Flexible Instructional Time \(FIT\)](#). FIT will take place on **Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00 am - 11:50 am**. Lunch and Period 4 will begin at the same time each day. Staff collaboration will take place seven (7) times next year. Collaboration days always fall on a Thursday from 8:30am - 9:25am. Four classes will follow with lunch and period 4 beginning at the usual time.

9. Cross Creek Road Closures

Road closures will impact vehicle access to Sentinel Secondary over the next several weeks as part of the Glenmore Voltage Conversion Electrical System Upgrades by BC Hydro.

Drivers can expect a **full road closure on Cross Creek Rd., between Chartwell Drive and Hyland Drive** ([see map attached](#)). This closure will be in effect 24 hours a day. Detour signage and traffic control personnel will be stationed along Cross Creek Rd to facilitate traffic flow. Please see the attached [link for more information and a map of roads](#) that will be closed.

10. School Photos

In case you missed photo day or need a retake Artona will be on premises again Thursday, October 5th. Please listen to announcements for details.

For all photo inquiries and to order photos please see their website:

https://artona.com/schools/SENT/programs/school_photo. Grad Photo info coming soon!

11. Sentinel's Counselling Department

Counsellors are here to assist students with academic planning as well as mental health support. They are a wealth of information and assist students based on each student's last name. We are excited to welcome Ms. Alex Thureau to our team this year!

Lisa Ulinder (last names A-F) lulinder@wvschools.ca

Jennifer Murray (last names G-LIT) jmurray@wvschools.ca

Stefan Huskilson (last names LIU-SAM) shuskilson@wvschools.ca

Alex Thureau (last names SAN-Z) athureau@wvschools.ca

For more information from our counselling team please visit: <https://sentinelcounselling.weebly.com/>

12. Annual Student Parking Pass

For those students parking at the school, please purchase a student's parking pass using School Cash Online and bring the receipt to the Accounting Office beginning Monday, September 19th between 10:00am-3:00pm Monday to Friday. If you need assistance with [SchoolCash Online](#) please email our Accountant, Allison Carruthers at acarruthers@wvschools.ca

13. Visitor Parking

A friendly reminder to parents: Please DO NOT park in the assigned staff lot. Sentinel's limited staff parking spaces are assigned to specific individuals. If their spot is occupied, staff members have nowhere else to properly park. If you are not a staff member, and need a place to park, please use a spot marked for visitors.

14. Athletics

Registration information and the Gym Schedule can be found on the Sentinel Athletics website.

Mark Fenn and Brooks McNiven, Sentinel Athletic Directors sentinelathletics@wvschools.ca

You can follow Sentinel Athletics ([@sentinelathletics](https://www.instagram.com/sentinelathletics)) on Instagram for up-to-date information and other exciting Athletics content.

15. HYTE

Only a few spots left - register before October 6th!

HYTE is a tech entrepreneurship program - funded by the BC Scholarship Society - where students will learn the pillars of initiating their own start-up, and compete for a \$1000 scholarship.

This program is for Grade 9-12s, who are interested in tech, entrepreneurship or both, and want to strengthen their university personal portfolios, to stand out against other applicants.

HYTE sessions are on Saturdays, 10-11:30AM at the Lions Gate Community Centre from October 2023, to January 2024.

All program and registrations details can be found [here](#).

For more details, please email dibai.yasmin@gmail.com

16. Host Families Needed for International Students

Exciting 2024 Fee Increase

[Apply now](#) and welcome a student for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year.

Did you know?

- Hosting fees of \$1,100 per student per month. Many families will host two students which can provide up to \$22,000 per year income subsidy.
- Effective February 1st, 2024, the fees increase to \$1,400 per student per month!

Don't miss out, placing students starts now. See below message from an actual student letter joining our program this fall. Open your home for this amazing opportunity for all family members.

"I genuinely believe that Canada is the place where I belong. It has everything I'm looking for: contact with nature, beautiful landscapes, friendly people, security, and excellent public schools. But the main reason why I chose Canada is the people; I will be welcome and feel at home"

Contact the Homestay Coordinators for more information at homestay@wvschools.ca or visit our [web pages](#) .

Daily Health Check & What to do When Sick

Please contact us via email:

General inquiries: sentinel@wvschools.ca

Attendance related: sentinelattendance@wvschools.ca

MyEducation help: sentinelportalhelp@wvschools.ca

Teachers & Staff: please see our website for a complete staff list: [Staff Emails](#)

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