



September 7th, 2023

Calendar Upcoming

September 8	School Photos
September 12	Grade 8 Parent Night
September 21	Terry Fox Run
September 22	Professional Development Day (No classes in session)
September 25-29	Truth and Reconciliation Week
September 28	Collaboration Day
October 2	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (No classes in session)
October 4	Grade 12 Parent Info Night

OUR SCHOOL

1. Policies and Procedures
2. Grade 8 Parent Information Night – Tuesday September 12th, 2023
3. Absence Notification & Excused Absences
4. Enrolment for 2023-2024
5. Linear for 2023-24
6. PAC News
7. Cross Creek Road Closures
8. School Photos
9. Sentinel's Counselling Department
10. Grads of 2024
11. Annual Student Parking Pass
12. Visitor Parking
13. Theatre Company
14. Athletics

IN THE COMMUNITY

15. Host Families Needed for International Students

1. 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>

2. [Grade 8 Parent Information Night – Tuesday September 12th, 2023](#)

We would like to invite Grade 8 parents to an information meeting on Tuesday September 12th at 6:00 PM in the Main Gym. At this meeting you will meet members of our Administration and Student Support Service Team. The presentation will cover information on the school, schedule structure, what to expect as your child begins secondary school, and much more.

3. [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.

4. [Enrolment for 2023-2024](#)

If you do not plan on returning to Sentinel Secondary in September 2023, we kindly ask that you let us know by emailing Sentinel Secondary School sentinel@wvschools.ca so we can accommodate new registration requests.

5. [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.

6. [PAC News](#)

Our first Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting of the year will happen on Thursday, September 14th, 2023! Please join us at 9:00 am for "coffee and connecting" at the student mezzanine in the school library. Meeting will start at 9:30 am.

Any questions? Contact Nora Gambioli, PAC Chair at sepac@wvschools.ca

7. [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.

8. School Photos

School photos will take place tomorrow, Friday, September 8th. There is an opportunity for retakes Thursday, October 5th.

Our photo provider is Artona. 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!

9. 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/>

10. Grads of 2024

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**)

11. 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

12. 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 a not a staff member, and need a place to park, please use a spot marked for visitors.

13. [Theatre Company](#)

THEATRE COMPANY'S first class will be Tuesday, September 12th @ 3:30pm in Sentinel's Theatre. If you are new to Sentinel or in Grade 8 and interested in the Grade 8 Apprenticeship class, please see Mrs. McGuinness-Gill in the Theatre (Room 249) or email her at mmcguinnessgill@wvschools.ca

14. [Athletics](#)

Attention all Grade 9 girls who are interested in playing volleyball on the school team:

- A sign-up sheet is outside Rm 254, so please come by and put your name on the list before Thursday after school
- Tryout #1 = Thursday September 7th from 4:30-6:00 pm (Main Gym)
- Tryout #2 = Friday September 8th from 3:00-4:30 pm (Main Gym)
- It is expected that all interested Gr 9 girls will attend BOTH tryouts, if not make sure you speak to Ms. Winstone about your conflict

15. [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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