



Thursday, August 29th, 2024

Welcome Back to School!

OUR SCHOOL

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1. Our Leadership Team & Administrator by Grade

Mr. Mike Finch – Principal (Grade 12) mfinch@wvschools.ca

Ms. Crystal Tanfara – Vice Principal (Grade 9 &11) ctanfara@wvschools.ca

Mr. Shawn Anderson – Vice Principal (Grades 8 &10) shawnanderson@wvschools.ca

2. Student Orientation Opening Day of School Tuesday, September 3rd

The students' first day of school will be a staggered start based on Grade. All students will be receiving an email this Friday with their Homeroom class and teacher information. In the Period 1 Homeroom class students will receive their full Class Schedule, School Calendar, Agenda, and lock & locker (Grade 8s and new students only. Grade 9-12 have not been assigned a locker but may request a locker. See "Lockers" below.) There will be lots of assistance on arrival to make sure students know where they are going to get to their Homeroom class in the school.

- **Grade 8s:** 8:30 am – 10:00 am (Please go to Gym & then to Period 1 Class)
- **Grade 9s:** 9:00 am - 10:00 am (Please go to your Day 1 – Period 1 Class)
- **Grade 10s:** 10:00 am - 11:00 am (Please go to your Day 1 – Period 1 Class)
- **Grade 11s:** 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Please go to your Day 1 – Period 1 Class)
- **Grade 12s:** 12:00 pm - (Please go direct to courtyard for the Grad 2025 BBQ)
- **Grade 12s:** 1:00 pm - (Please go to your Day 1 – Period 1 Class)

3. Calendar & Block Rotation

Please see Sentinel’s 2024-25 first 4 weeks Calendar below. Each student will receive a copy of the complete School Calendar and Agenda in their welcome packages next Tuesday. View the 2024-2025 Calendar “At-a-Glance” [HERE](#)

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																											
1 Week 1	2 DAY 1 – 1 2 F 3 4 	3 DAY 2 – 1 2 3 4 SCHOOL OPENS	4 DAY 1 – 2 3 1 4	5 DAY 2 – 2 3 F 1 4	6 DAY 1 – 3 1 2 4 Photo Day	7																																											
8 Week 2	9 DAY 2 – 3 1 F 2 4 Academy classes start	10 DAY 1 – 1 2 3 4 6:00 PM Grade 8 Parent Night	11 DAY 2 – 1 2 3 4 Coordinators Meeting	12 DAY 1 – 2 3 F 1 4 FIT: Career 9 FIT: Grad Chat PAC Meeting	13 DAY 2 – 2 3 1 4	14																																											
15 Week 1	16 DAY 1 – 1 2 F 3 4 FIT: SIB #1 - Grit Staff Committee Mtg	17 DAY 2 – 1 2 3 4 10:05 Evacuation Drill	18 DAY 1 – 2 3 1 4 Staff Meeting	19 DAY 2 – 2 3 F 1 4 Terry Fox Run	20 DAY 1 – 3 1 2 4 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY	21																																											
22 Week 2	23 DAY 2 – 3 1 F 2 4 FIT: Career 11 Group B Truth and Reconciliation Week	24 DAY 1 – 1 2 3 4 Truth and Reconciliation Week Gr.12 Parent Night 6:30 pm	25 DAY 2 – 1 2 3 4 Truth and Reconciliation Week Meet The Teacher Night	26 DAY 1 – 2 3 1 4 Collaboration Day Truth and Reconciliation Week	27 DAY 2 – 2 3 1 4 Truth and Reconciliation Week	28																																											
29 Week 1	30 DAY 1 – 1 2 F 3 4 TRUTH & RECONCILIATION OBSERVANCE School Closed	October 2024				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
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SENTINEL SECONDARY SCHOOL

For the Day 1 & Day 2 rotations - **See the current Block Rotation Schedule [HERE](#)** (The latest version will always be posted outside the office and on the homepage of our website.) There will be 50 mins of [Flexible Instruction Time](#) 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 take place on the last Thursday of the month from 8:30am - 9:25am. Classes start at 9:30am. Four classes will follow with lunch and period 4 beginning at the usual time.

4. Locks & Lockers

Grade 8

All grade 8s have been assigned a locker and will receive a lock and their assigned locker in their 1-1 class. Students **MUST** use the lock and locker assigned to them. Students may not use personal locks. Students are to keep their lock for their entire high school experience.

Grade 9-12

Students in grades 9-12 have not been assigned a locker but may request a locker at the link below. Locker assignments will be assigned in the week of September 9th. ONLY if the student has filled out the request form. The assigned locker number will be emailed to the student during the second week of school. Students MAY NOT use an unassigned locker. Any student who uses an unassigned locker will have their items removed. Students are to use the lock the school has given them in a previous year. If a student needs a lock, please go to the accounting office.

LINK FOR GRADES 9-12 FOR LOCKER REQUEST: <https://forms.gle/9mTNzFLzptq3EySZ8>

5. Policies and Procedures – Action Required

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>

6. Absent Student 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 our office by sending an email to sentinelattendance@wvschools.ca Please include your student's 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 their attendance to indicate a late vs an absence. If your student is going to miss more than 5 school days, please complete this fillable [Long Term Absence Form](#) and return back to us.

7. School Confirmation & Enrolment for 2024-2025

To confirm your child's spot at Sentinel, we require that all students attend their classes no later than Thursday, September 5th. If there are extenuating circumstances whereby your child will not be in attendance the first week of school or if you do not plan to return to Sentinel, we ask that a parent reach out by email to sentinel@wvschool.ca at your earliest.

8. PAC News

Join us for our first Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting of the year at 9:30am on Thursday, September 12th, 2024! 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.

Message From PAC Regarding Traffic

Your Parent Advisory Council (PAC) welcomes you! Among our many activities, we are trying hard to stop the daily traffic congestion at the school entrance. Please support your teen to walk, cycle, scooter or use public transit to get to and from school each day. This provides exercise and an opportunity to meet other students! If you must drive a vehicle, please park at one of the **26 safe GREEN drop-off spots** in the neighborhood, so that your teen can **walk onto the school grounds:** [School Drop Off Map](#)

Let's create a safe, sustainable, and pollution-free school!

Nora Gambioli, Chair

Sentinel Parent Advisory Council, 2024-2025

sepac@wvschools.ca

9. Sentinel Spirit Wear

A group of senior students designed a line of school spirit clothing. It was a huge success, and we will be offering it for sale again from **August 28th to September 13th**. Orders will be packaged and delivered to the school where it will be distributed to students.

[Sentinel School Spirit Clothing Store](#)

10. School Photos

School photos will take place NEXT Friday, September 6th. There is an opportunity for retakes Thursday, October 3rd. Our photo provider is Artona. For all photo inquiries and to order photos please see their website: <https://artona.com/contact-us> More photo info coming soon!

11. Sentinel's Counselling Department

Welcome Back! 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 back Ms. Britten to our team!

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

Rebecca Britten (last names G-LIT) rbritten@wvschools.ca

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

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

Important information regarding **Course Change/Request procedures** can be found here:

[Counsellor Info](#)

For more information from our counselling team please visit

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/counselling/>

12. Grads of 2025

Please find attached and read a very important [Grade Activity Letter](#) from our Principal, Mr. Finch. On Tuesday, September 3rd Grade 12's please go direct to the courtyard for the **Grad 2025 BBQ** at 12:00pm to kick off the new school year!

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

- Theme days - one per month (minimal costs for costumes)
- Grad wear (optional) - purchased in the fall and includes t-shirts \$25, hoodies \$55 and sweats \$40
- Semi Formal (The Pinnacle, Nov. 1st) - historically costs \$110 - (**Grads and dates only**)
- Winter Formal (at Sentinel) - in January and costs ~\$50 (Grades 11s and 12s can attend)
- Grad photos (Artona)-in the fall \$60 sitting fee for all students, photo packages are \$200-\$250
- Grad Carnival-in the spring, PAC has historically helped fund this to keep cost to ~\$10-15
- Banquet (Vancouver Convention Centre) - in June and costs \$150 per grad/guest-grads/dates and parents can attend
- Commencement (at the Westside Church) - in June and \$20 per person-no limit (**free to grads**)

13. 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 16th 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

14. Sentinel Athletics

Welcome back everyone! We are looking forward to another great year of Sports at Sentinel. If you are considering coaching this year, please send an email to sentinelathletics@wvschools.ca. We are always in need of help on the coaching front. Go Spartans!

15. Sentinel's Inclusion and Belonging (SIB) Group is looking for student members for the 2024-25 school year!

Here at Sentinel, we are very excited to continue our work on inclusion and belonging with the Sentinel's Inclusion and Belonging (SIB) group. This means we are looking for new student members to join a SIB group to work with Sentinel staff to plan events throughout the 24-25 school year to increase everyone's feelings of belonging. If you have a child or children who would be interested in joining the SIB group (or just learning more about it, there will be a **lunch meeting on Thursday September 5th, starting at 1:00 pm in Room 254**. Everyone is welcome!

16. Optional Accident Insurance for Families

Each year the school district reminds families that they have the option to purchase insurance coverage against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness. There are many different voluntary plans that provide coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. Families are encouraged to do their due diligence when choosing a provider.

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](#)

[Sentinel Website & Calendar](#)

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