



Thursday, September 5th, 2024

OUR SCHOOL

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IN THE COMMUNITY (SEE BOTTOM FOR MORE INFO)

- A. **Unplugged Canada** - non-profit organization that aims to delay the introduction of smartphones to children until they reach at least age 14.

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. Calendar & Block Rotation

Please see **Sentinel's 2024-25 first 4 weeks Calendar** below. Each student received a copy of the complete School Calendar and Agenda in their welcome packages Tuesday.

View the **2024-2025 Calendar "At-a-Glance"** [HERE](#)

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.)

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

3. 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>

4. School Photos – TOMORROW!

Individual school photos for ALL grades will take place TOMORROW, Friday, September 6th. These photos are for the Sentinel Student ID Card and the yearbook (G8-11). ALL Students should have their photo taken. *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>

5. Grade 8 Parent Information Night – Tuesday, September 10th, 2024

We would like to invite Grade 8 parents to an information meeting on Tuesday, September 10th at 6:00 PM at Sentinel Secondary. 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.

6. 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>

7. 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.

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

Important Message for Sentinel Parents regarding CELLPHONES!

West Vancouver Schools is aligning with the BC government's new mandate by refreshing our policies on cell phones and other personal digital devices. Join us for an insightful session led by **Cari Wilson**, Vice Principal of Innovation & Technology with West Vancouver

Schools, and moderated by **Michael Finch**, Principal of Sentinel Secondary School. In this session, we'll discuss:

- **Why the Decision Was Made:** Understand the rationale behind the new policies.
- **New Expectations:** Learn about the updated rules and their implementation.
- **How You Can Help:** Discover ways you, as crucial partners in your child's education, can support these changes.

Date: Tuesday, September 17

Time: 7:00 PM

Online Link: [Poster with Link](#)

Be informed, be involved, and help us shape a brighter future for our students! For any inquiries, please reach out to Diane Shoar frauen@naver.com

9. Sentinel Spirit Wear

A group of senior students have designed a line of school spirit clothing which is available to purchase until **September 13th**. Orders will be packaged and delivered to the school where it will be distributed to students.

[Sentinel School Spirit Clothing Store](#)

10. Student Vote Information

Calling all students! The school is running a student vote election to parallel the Provincial election happening on October 19th. If you are interested in helping to organize the student election and an **All Candidates** meeting featuring the candidates for West Vancouver Capilano then please come to an **information meeting at lunch on Tuesday Sept 10th in room 156 or contact Mr. Chase**. Also, **want to earn \$325 for a day's work?** Elections BC is looking for poll workers who are 15 years or older to work at polling stations on Saturday October 19th. Visit [youth at the booth](#) for more information and to apply.

Finally, ask anyone in your house who is over 18, a Canadian citizen and has lived in BC for at least 6 months if they have registered and intend to vote. They can register to vote using the [elections BC website](#).

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

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 (\$25, *for extra car registered* +\$10) 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

Girls' Field Hockey - Girls' Field Hockey tryouts are Monday September 9th at 6:45 am at Rutledge field in West Vancouver. We plan to have afternoon practices as well to keep the team strong. Bring your stick, mouthguard, and shin pads. See Ms. Page-Newman in room 208 if you have any questions.

Swim Team - Are you interested in joining the Sentinel Swim team? Please see Miss Chappell or Mr. McGowen.

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. 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.

IN THE COMMUNITY

A. Unplugged Canada - non-profit organization that aims to delay the introduction of smartphones to children until they reach at least age 14. You can read more about Unplugged Canada, and access the research material and details about our launch event on our website:

<https://unpluggedcanada.com/>

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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[DISTRICT WEBSITE / SENTINEL WEBSITE](#)