Sentinel Secondary E-Bulletin

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS | SENTINEL SECONDARY

ÉCOLE SENTINEL SECONDARY E-BULLETIN

Thursday October 22nd, 2026

Calendar Upcoming

Date	Day	Event	Notes
October 22nd	Thu	Grade 12 Semi Formal	Pinnacle Hotel
October 23rd	Fri	Pro-Day	No School
October 29th	Thu	Collaboration Day	Dismissal @ 2:55pm
November 2-6th		Grad Assessments (Literacy 10)	Library
November 4th	Wed	Grade 9-Take Your Kid to Work Day	TBD
November 10th	Tue	Remembrance Day Assemblies	GYM
November 11th	Wed	Remembrance Day	No School
November 12th	Thu	PAC Meeting	Library
November 26th	Thu	Collaboration Day	Dismissal @ 2:55pm
November 27th	Fri	Pro-Day	No School

2026–2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

New This Week

Inside Sentinel

- 2026-2029 FESL Goal Parent Survey – *Action Required!*
- Scholarship Information Webinar

Athletics, Arts & Activities

- Harvest Project Fundraiser
- Another Chance to buy Apples! - Buy before Nov 7th
- Dominican Republic Service Trip – Q&A sections

PAC News

- PAC next Meeting Updates

Inside West Vancouver Schools

- Fun and safe Halloween reminders

Inside Sentinel

FESL Parent Survey- Help Shape Sentinel's New School Goal!

Sentinel Secondary is selecting a new multi-year school goal focused on enhancing student "readiness to learn", building the habits and skills students need to thrive every day. This goal touches on three key areas:

- Physical & Logistical Preparation: Sleep, punctuality, supplies, and daily routines.
- Cognitive & Study Habits: Task initiation, organization, and responsible technology use.
- Emotional Well-Being: Managing stress, building resilience, and staying motivated.

Your feedback as parents is essential in helping us identify where our students need the most support. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts through our brief survey.
2026-2029 FESL Goal Parent Survey – Fill out form

Grade 9 Parents: "Take Our Kids to Work Day" – Action Required!

Nov 4th (Grade 9's only) Take Our Kids to Work™ is the Student's Commission of Canada program involving more than 250,000 Grade 9 students annually.



This year, on Wednesday, November 4th, Grade 9 students across Canada will spend a day in the workplace of a parent, relative, or friend. This is a mandatory program for all Grade 9 students and meets the curriculum outcomes of the Grade 9 Career Education course.

Please click on the **link** to complete the Parental Consent Form no later than WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28th. Thank you for your support!

If you have any questions, please email;
Cecily Evans cevans@wvschools.ca

Graduation Assessment (Literacy 10)

All Sentinel Grade 10 students will write the Literacy 10 Graduation Assessment during the week of **November 2nd to November 6th**. Any grade 11 or 12 student who missed the Literacy 10 Assessment will also write the assessment. Students will receive an email in the near future indicating the date and time of their assessment. Please note that Graduation Assessments are required for graduation purposes. Students should prepare for these assessments by attempting the sample assessments. Sample assessment and more information on Graduation Assessments can be found HERE

Language Challenge Exams

Challenge exams are being offered for grade 11 ASL and grade 11 and 12 Farsi, French, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin (traditional or simplified), Punjabi, and Spanish. It is recommended that students be in at least grade 10 before writing a challenge exam. These exams will give course credit for post-secondary admissions, however, UBC will not use the grade as part of your entrance average. Exams will take place in Delta on January 30 and 31, 2027. Note: ASL 11 exam dates will be arranged with each student individually.

If you would like to sign up to write a challenge exam, please complete the following:
1. Download the attached PDF. Fill in pages 7-10. **Page 9 of the application must be typed electronically.**
2. Once you have typed the information in on page 9, print the application form, attach a passport/school photo (must be an official photo, not printed from a computer - see details on website below) and get your parent/guardian to sign on pages 8 and10.
3. Enclose a $50.00 refundable cheque or, if you are an international student, a $220.00 non-refundable exam fee payment*

*Payment by cheque is the preferred method of payment and cheques should be made out to the Delta School District. Credit card payment options can be found on the website linked below; please note, a surcharge fee may apply. If using the credit card option, **you must print and attach the credit card receipt to the application.**

Details of the package can be found HERE. Completed packages are due to Ms. Britten in the counselling suite by October 30th at 3pm.

Scholarship Information Webinar, Monday, Nov. 02, 6:00 - 7:15PM

Don't miss this very informative **Key to Scholarships Session** offered virtually on Nov. 02 at 6:00PM. Students in all grades and parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. It is never too early to get started. This comprehensive presentation covers topics ranging from building your scholarship foundation to crafting a strong personal statement. Contrary to popular belief, students do not need 95% averages or international achievements to win scholarships. Through this seminar, we will debunk common scholarship myths and break down the complex process into a manageable form. Please see the link provided above to join this session. No preregistration is required. This session will not be recorded.

Athletics, Arts & Activities

Harvest Project Fundraiser

Social Justice 12 is running our Harvest Project Fundraiser from today, October 19, until Friday, October 30!

We're collecting food, personal care, and household items to support people and families in need right here on the North Shore.

Day 2, Period 3 classes are competing to collect the highest value of donations, and the winning class will earn a pizza party!

Look for the collection box in your Period 3 classroom and bring in what you can. Every donation makes a difference! Let's show our community spirit, Sentinel, and help make this fundraiser a success!

Math Contests

The Math department is currently offering registration for the following contest:

AMC 8 contest for grade 8s. This contest provides an excellent opportunity for grade 8s to test their Mathematical ability against challenging problems. The cost for registration is $5 and can be

paid to Mr. Ma in room 257. The deadline for registration is Friday, October 23rd. Late registrations may not be accepted.

Music Department: Upcoming Performances



We look forward to seeing you at one of our many upcoming school and community performances! Evening and Jazz Café concerts are by donation, with proceeds going to the Music Program to maintain our instruments and equipment. Concerts during the day at school are for the student population, with evening concerts being open to all friends and family.

- **October 29th**: Jazz B Band, Jazz A Band, RnB Band at *Jazz Café, Vol. 1* (Sentinel Library, 7:00PM)
- **November 10th**: Concert Band at *Remembrance Day Assemblies* (Sentinel Gym, AM)
- **December 9-10th**: all performing groups – Grade 8 Band, Jazz A Band, Jazz B Band, Orchestra, Concert Band, RnB Band – at *Winter Concert* (Dec. 9th AM for school juniors; Dec 9th @ 7:00PM for friends and family; Dec. 10th AM for school seniors)

Should you wish to volunteer for the Music Program, please indicate your preference and availability via this form. Parent volunteers are essential in ensuring the quality and longevity of the student performance opportunities. Thank you for your support!

ANOTHER CHANCE TO BUY APPLES!
Sale ends Nov. 7th!



The feedback from people who got apples from our first fundraiser this week is that these apples are incredible! Delicious, award winning quality! The Dominican Republic trip is fundraising with Sun-Oka Fruit Farms from Summerland, BC. Honeycrisp and Ambrosia apples that are bigger and better than what you will get in stores around Vancouver. Click on the link to order your boxes of 18 - 20 apples and you'll be able to pick them up at Sentinel later in November.
Go to the link below to order.
https://fundraising.sunokafruit.com/seller_1/091010726/org-campaign/sentinel-dominican-trip-november-2026

Dominican Republic Service Trip 2027- May 20 - 29, 2027

Parent Q&A on October 28th @ 7:30 pm Eligible students in grades 10-12. Don't miss your opportunity to learn more about the trip! Check out this video to understand the depth of the experience. If you have any questions, contact Sra. Page-Newman at npage-newman@wvschools.ca
Meeting link: https://meet.google.com/vcf-bxfi-zxk
Sra. Page-Newman and Mr. Chase.

Sentinel Athletes

Gym Schedule and Field Schedule

Please refer to the Gym Schedule and Field Schedule for current bookings, practices, games, and other scheduled activities. Students are encouraged to check the schedules regularly for the most up-to-date information and availability.

- Gym Schedule: Please click HERE
- Field Schedule: Please click HERE

Stay tuned for more information and make sure to check school announcements for updates!

PAC News

💗 PAC Community Fund - Thank You & Keep It Coming!

A big thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the PAC Community Fund! We're building toward our goal of $15,500 by December 15. If you haven't yet, please consider making one voluntary annual contribution on School Cash Online, $100 per family is suggested, and other amounts are welcome. Every contribution power PAC activity all year: social nights, staff appreciation, parent education, Safe Teen, the travel bursary, and the Helping Hand Fund.
Contribution link

🙏 Thank You - October PAC Meeting

Thank you to everyone who joined our PAC meeting last Thursday (Oct 15)! A special thank you to Mr. Anderson for presenting the school's 2026–2029 FESL goals and parent survey, to Mr. Finch for his school update, and to our exec and team leads for their reports. We're grateful for this community!

Join us our next PAC meeting on Thu Nov 12 in the library (mezzanine level). We'll be voting on the final 2026/27 PAC budget, all parents are welcome!

🎉 Grade Parent Socials - Thank You, and One More Tonight!

Thank you to everyone who joined the Grade 8 social (Oct 15) and the Grade 9 social (Oct 21), what lovely evenings to connect with fellow parents and our school team!
Wed Nov 4, 6:30–8:30 PM, Grade 12 parent social night, School Library
We'd love to see our Grade 12 families there! Please contact your grade Rep for more information.

📋 Have Your Say - School Survey Reminder

A quick reminder: the school is collecting parent feedback for its 2026–2029 goals. If you haven't filled out the short survey yet, please take a few minutes here your voice helps shape the school's priorities for the next three years.

🎓 DPAC Parent Education Series

The first Session was a big success, "Screen Time: Finding Balance in a Digital World," last evening. Save the dates for the next sessions in the district series, tickets are available on cash online.
• Session #2: "Raising Thinkers in the Age of Artificial Intelligence (AI)" , Thu Jan 28, 2027, 6:30 PM, Kay Meek Main Theatre
• Session #3: "Navigating Social Media, Gaming and Online Life" , Wed Apr 14, 2027, 6:30 PM, Kay Meek Studio Theatre

Inside WVSchools

Fun and safe Halloween reminders

Halloween is just a week away! As students get ready for school celebrations and trick-or-treating, West Vancouver Schools reminds families to keep safety and respect for others part of the fun.

At school:

- Student costumes must allow for safe movement, participation in learning activities and independence during the school day.
- Please leave masks, costume weapons and excessive make up at home.
- Costume choices should be respectful and align with our school and District Codes of Conduct to help ensure Halloween is safe, welcoming and enjoyable for everyone

In the community:

- The WVPD has asked us to remind families to please reinforce respect for neighbours, private property and community spaces.
- We encourage children and youth to celebrate responsibly and demonstrate the kindness, courtesy, and respect that help make our community a safe and enjoyable place for everyone.

Thank you for helping students celebrate Halloween safely, respectfully and responsibly.

NEW IYP Program - Cyber-Security and AI Explorers



West Vancouver Schools is excited to be running a new IYP program called “Cyber-Security and AI Explorers”. Our pilot offering of this program is for West Vancouver School students who are currently in Grade 7 or 8. The program will begin on November 19th and will run on Thursday afternoons from 3:30 to 4:45 until March 11th, 2027. There will be no sessions during Winter Break. The cost for this is $300.00.

Sessions will take place in one of the computer labs at West Van Secondary. Students will be taught by West Vancouver Schools teaching staff and mentored by senior students in the district’s CS/QC/AI class.

Students will explore concepts in Artificial Intelligence, Cyber-Safety and Security through activities, labs and games. There may be an opportunity for an optional hackathon that students can choose to participate in.

For more information or questions, contact Ms. Wilson at cwilson@wvschools.ca

To register, please fill out this form.

Student Resources

Calendar & Block Rotation

Our **2026–2027 School Calendar** on the website is back up and running!
Please click **HERE** to subscribe. It includes all major school events and holidays.

- **Block Rotation Schedule HERE** (Sep 7th - Oct 30th, 2026)
- **Flexible Instruction Time** on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:05 am - 11:50 am.
- **Staff Collaboration** is the last Thursday of the month from 8:30am - 9:25am. Classes start at 9:25am. Dismissal time will be 2:55pm.

Sentinel's Counselling Department

Counsellors are here to assist students with academic planning as well as mental health support and so much more! Counsellors are assigned by student's last name.

Jennifer Murray (last names A-GL) jmurray@wvschools.ca
Rebecca Britten (last names GM-LIM) rbritten@wvschools.ca
Jamal Ahmelich (last names LIN-SAM) jahmelich@wvschools.ca
Alex Thureau (last names SAN-Z) athureau@wvschools.ca

For more information from our counselling team please visit
https://westvancouverschools.ca/counselling/

Sentinel – New Student Lunch Account Program!

We're introducing an optional Student Lunch Account Program designed to make cafeteria purchases easier for families and faster for students. Parents can load funds online, and students pay using a secure QR code. Please see more details HERE

Benefits for families:

- One-minute setup
- Easy reloads anytime
- Balance and purchase visibility
- No cash or cards needed
- Secure and privacy-protected

This program reduces lineups and keeps lunch payments simple and predictable.
Full instructions are in the PDF above. Should you have any questions, please feel free to email: **accounts@geminifoods.ca**. If you would like to stay connect with us, please email Tony@geminifoods.ca and Geoff@geminifoods.ca

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. Students MAY NOT use an unassigned locker. If a student needs a lock, please go to the accounting office. Link for Locker Request: **https://forms.gle/Vq5sj5HqU5dCeZsq8**

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.

Absent or Excused?

Attendance Notifications – Parents Guide

We kindly ask parents and guardians to notify the school of any absences, late arrivals, or early dismissals. Please email all attendance-related matters to**: sentinelattendance@wvschools.ca**
When emailing, please include:

- ❖ Student's full legal name and grade
- ❖ Time of absence, late arrival, or early dismissal
- ❖ Reason for the absence

IMPORTANT REMINDER:
Please send emails **by 2:30pm on the day of the absence**.
If an email is not received by this time, an automatic attendance mark may be applied, and a phone call may be made to the parent/guardian by the end of the day.

Steps to Follow to Be Excused from Attendance

Absence / Illness

- Notify school via email

Late Arrival

- Students arriving late should go directly to class
- Parents/Guardians email school to notify

Early Dismissal

- Email school with dismissal the time
- Coaches will notify us for school spots early dismissal but feel free to reach out if you have questions.

Long-Term Absence (more than 5 school days)
Please complete the **fillable Long Term Absence Form** and return it to the office

Our Leadership Team & Contact Details

🎓 ADMINISTRATION

- **MR. MIKE FINCH – PRINCIPAL (GRADE 12)**
  - 📧 MFINCH@WVSCHOOLS.CA
- **MS. LISA ULINDER – VICE PRINCIPAL (GRADES 9 & 11)**
  - 📧 LULINDER@WVSCHOOLS.CA
- **MR. SHAWN ANDERSON – VICE PRINCIPAL (GRADES 8 & 10)**
  - 📧 SANDERSON@WVSCHOOLS.CA

📲 STAY CONNECTED

- 📸 INSTAGRAM: @SENTINEL_SD45
- 🐦 X (TWITTER): @SENTINEL_SD45
- 🌐 WEBSITE: SENTINEL SECONDARY SCHOOL

🗓️ 2026–2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

- VIEW CALENDAR

✉️ CONTACT US

- 📌 GENERAL INQUIRIES: SENTINEL@WVSCHOOLS.CA
- 📝 ATTENDANCE: SENTINELATTENDANCE@WVSCHOOLS.CA
- 💻 MYEDUCATION HELP: SENTINELPORTALHELP@WVSCHOOLS.CA
- 👩‍🏫 TEACHERS & STAFF: STAFF DIRECTORY