



# ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Oct 13, 2022

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[Morning Announcements](#)

CALENDAR UPDATE	
<b>Linear Math/PE 8 - WEEK 1</b>	
Oct 17	
Oct 18	Language Challenge Exam Deadline - see details below
Oct 19	RO-PAC Meeting - 5:30 PM in the Library Learning Commons
Oct 20	10:40 – 11:00am Great BC Shake-Out
Oct 21	PRO-D-DAY - No classes in session
<a href="#">ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR</a>	
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In our opening August newsletter, I mentioned the importance of parents as participants throughout their student's secondary school career. While it looks different than the kind of involvement you may have had in Kindergarten through Gr. 7, there is no doubt our students have a greater rate of growth and success when support is provided from family members. Parents, guardians, aunts and uncles, older brothers and sisters, grandparents and other significant adults in our students' lives can add modeling, mentoring and experience that helps students navigate their learning journey, make responsible decisions and practice effective communication. Our Rockridge staff work hard to build connections and become trusted adults for our students. This connection is even richer when it involves our parents/guardians.

With parent/guardian-teacher interviews underway today it is a great time to acknowledge the opportunity that these conversations create between adults. For some, it is clarifying student expectations, for others, it is sharing celebrations, or asking questions. Although brief, the parent-teacher interview can be the beginning of an important connection that will lead to increased student success, joy and engagement.

I think the total number of interviews that have been booked is something worth noting and celebrating. There are **758** interviews booked in our system - many of our teachers have a full and busy schedule

today. Some teachers have even had to arrange additional accommodations for families to help provide a time for an interview. This number of interviews reflects the strong sense of Rockridge *parents as participants*. Your participation today is growing the relationships between important adults in the lives of our students, and it is something I greatly appreciate. I hope your students ask, "How did the interview go?" or "Well, what did my teacher say?" The parent-teacher interview will ideally lead to a quality parent-student interview across many homes tonight or in the days to come. Ultimately, I hope it helps support our home, school and student communication for the rest of this first semester - an important structure that supports student success.

Please take a moment to open the attachment called Raven Life for a quick look

### **STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP**

A reminder to all parents regarding the student drop-off procedures before and after school. Your cooperation will ensure a safe and efficient process, allowing emergency vehicles access to our building at all times. Walking to school is a great alternative for students, to avoid traffic congestion and added stress. Thank you in advance! Please be aware of the following:

- All numbered spots in both the front and back parking lots are staff designated at all times; many of our staff work at multiple sites and need spots left open for their return. Please do not park in a numbered spot at any time.
- Visitor spaces at the front of school are not to be used from 7:30am to 9:00am and 2:30pm to 3:30pm. If you need to park, during these times, please use the Upper North Lot.
- Please do not block the driveway at any time and do not stop in the circle directly in front of the main entrance.
- Student drivers are permitted to park in the North Lot only; all student drivers must purchase a Rockridge Parking Decal from the office.
- Carpooling or drop off locations outside of school property will alleviate congestion for all.

It is recommended that parents pull forward and pick up their child adjacent to the field whenever possible or in the North Lot. We appreciate your cooperation to help ensure the front of the school is kept clear and traffic flows efficiently.

### **Morning Announcements**

In the header of our weekly E-Bulletin you may have noticed one of the links called Morning Announcements. Scroll back to the top and you will see it on the left side of this E-Bulletin edition. This link is updated daily so you can visit it anytime for up-to-date messages that students and staff are seeing within the school each day. It can be a handy document to see things like our club schedule and other scheduled and special events. You can also find a link to the daily announcements on our Rockridge website [home page](#)

**Attention Grade 9 Parents -Tuesday November 8th is TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY**

Take Our Kids to Work Day was launched in 1994 by the Learning Partnership, Take Our Kids to Work Day is an experiential learning opportunity for Grade 9 students across Canada. It offers them the chance to see the world of work firsthand, explore a variety of careers and sectors and look at what skills are important to thrive in the workforce. This year, TOKTWD will be held at job sites with a parent/guardian (where possible). We encourage students to reach out to extended family if opportunities are not available within their immediate family. All grade 9's will be marked 'excused, absent' for the day unless a parent informs us that their child will be attending school. Please email Rockridge School [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca) if your child will not be participating in TOKTWD. Students will have interview questions that they will complete while out at their worksite while students that do not participate, will have an alternative assignment on this subject to complete through their Careers 9 google classroom.

Please contact Counsellor Jamal Ahmelich [JAhmelich@wvschools.ca](mailto:JAhmelich@wvschools.ca) if you have any questions.

*Thanks for supporting this amazing event for our grade 9's.*

#### **LANGUAGE CHALLENGE EXAMS:**

Students interested in writing a language challenge exam should speak to their counsellor to receive more information. The deadline for application submissions is Wed Oct. 18. Applications can be found [here](#).

#### **RAVENS ATHLETICS:**

Ravens Sr. Girls Volleyball players were in action on Tuesday night at home against Argyle. The girls dominated the first two matches and then fell behind in the final frames. The team will be looking for a win in their next games against Elphinstone and Chatelech today. The Cross-Country team has one more race before regional championships that will culminate with BC High School Provincials in Victoria early next month.

Also in action yesterday were our Juvenile Girls Volleyball team who matched up against Mulgrave. The Ravens mounted a strong comeback for the win! Ravens Sr. boys soccer had a close game against Elphinstone yesterday while on the road and secured a 3-2 win.

#### **FALL TEAMS AT ROCKRIDGE:**

- Jr. Boys Soccer and Sr. Boys Soccer
- Juvenile, Jr. and Sr. Girls Volleyball
- Jr. Boys Rugby
- Sr. Field Hockey
- X-Country Running - Jr. and Sr.
- Sr. Swim Team

#### **Stay up to date on Raven Athletics:**

Look for Raven athletic updates right here in our weekly E-Bulletin.

See the attached **Raven Life PDF** with this week's E-Bulletin for pictures and results.

Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter: [Rockridge Secondary Twitter](#)

Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram: [@rockridgess](#)

### **PUMPKINS FOR POLIO SALE! - Saturday, October 22nd, 12-4pm**

The youth-led Interact Club is hosting its annual Pumpkin drive-through sale, located at the turnaround in front of Rockridge. With minimum donations of \$5.00 per pumpkin; all proceeds from the sale will go to an international organization called *End Polio*, an accredited non-profit charity whose mission is to fully eradicate polio, a debilitating and life-threatening disease. Support the Rockridge Interact Club, Rotary of West Vancouver Sunrise, and join our efforts to *End Polio* next Saturday. For more information on *End Polio* click [here](#).

### **VOTING STATION THIS SATURDAY - ROCKRIDGE**

This Saturday Rockridge will be a polling station for the general local elections so there will be a little more traffic around the school this weekend.

### **BLOCK 5 SCHEDULE DETAILS FOR SEMESTER ONE: UPDATED OCTOBER 13 (TODAY)**

We are sharing this information again this week with a few updates, just to ensure our families are up to date on Block 5. During the month of September we had planned homeroom attendance, presentations and learning opportunities for our Grade 8 and 9 students every Tuesday and Thursday. Looking ahead to the rest of this semester, there are some important schedule details to know for Gr. 8 to 12 students for Block 5. These updates are explained under the headings that follow.

#### **GRADE 10, 11 & 12 ATTENDANCE FOR BLOCK 5**

For the rest of the semester students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 will continue to be encouraged to use Block 5 as flexible instructional time to work with teachers and classmates to support their learning. When there are particular events or opportunities scheduled these will be communicated in advance to students through their Google Classroom Class of 2023, 2024, or 2025. We will also include those here in the E-Bulletin.

#### **GRADE 8 ATTENDANCE FOR BLOCK 5**

Until the winter holiday break, students will continue to report to their homeroom to take attendance at the beginning of each Block 5. Following that homeroom attendance check in, the students will choose a location to work with teachers and classmates to support their learning. On the careers dates listed below (and on the Rockridge website calendar), homeroom teachers will escort students to a presentation led by their Careers teacher - Mr. Pandher. A reminder, Careers is a blended course meaning that students complete assignments on the Careers Google Classroom after engaging in the in person lesson.

Other events and opportunities that will be scheduled during this first semester in Block 5 for Grade 8 students will be updated in our E-Bulletin for families, included on our school calendar and posted in the Google Classroom Class of 2027.

Please see the chart below with Careers dates for Block 5. Also included below are the dates for Homeroom Advisory sessions that will happen for all Gr. 8 homerooms with our Gr. 10 student Mentors and Gr. 12 Leadership students. These will also happen in Block 5 during which time students will be

doing icebreakers, team building activities, competitions and activities that will help them address their academic, social, and emotional concerns.

If your student is going to be absent for Block 5, please call or email our office as you would for any other student absences. This needs to be done as needed as we cannot enter multiple planned absences for only Tuesday and Thursday.

**GRADE 9 ATTENDANCE FOR BLOCK 5**

For the rest of the semester grade 9 students will use Block 5 as the grades 10-12s do, selecting different teachers and learning spaces to support them with their homework and learning goals. The exception to this routine is on the Careers dates listed below and on the Rockridge website calendar. On the Careers dates, grade nine students must go to their homeroom for attendance, and then their homeroom teacher will escort them to a presentation by their Careers teacher - Mr. Ahmelich. If your student is going to be absent for Block 5 on a Careers day, please call or email our office as you would for any other student absences.

<b>Semester 1 - Gr. 8 &amp; 9 Careers Dates for Block 5</b>	
Tuesday	Thursday
October 11	October 27
November 8	November 24
December 6	January 5
January 17	

<b>SEMESTER ONE: Gr. 8 Advisory Dates for Block 5</b>	
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #2</b>	<b>Tues. Oct. 18</b>
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #3</b>	<b>Thurs. Nov. 3</b>
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #4</b>	<b>Thurs. Nov. 15</b>
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #5</b>	<b>Thurs. Dec. 1</b>
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #6</b>	<b>Tues. Dec. 13</b>
<b>Grade 8 Advisory #7</b>	<b>Thurs. Jan. 12</b>

<b>Grade 8 Advisory #8</b>	<b>Tues. Jan. 24</b>
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Automated phone calls/emails are sent home when students are absent from a class. This includes Block 5 for grade 8 students and Careers for grade 8 and 9. The automated call system does not specifically explain which block a student missed, so we do ask that parents/guardians discuss any unexpected absence calls with your student first, then call our office if you have further questions or inquiries.

### **UPCOMING GRADUATION LITERACY ASSESSMENT 12 - OCTOBER 31- NOVEMBER 4**

All 12s must complete the Graduation Literacy Assessment (GLA) the week of October 31-Nov 4. The tests have been scheduled. Students can find their exact time and location on a list shared through the Grad class of 2023 google classroom. If students have a conflict or any questions, please contact Ms. Towers ASAP.

For students applying to UBC - a proficient (level 3 of 4 levels) score must be achieved on this assessment. To prepare for this assessment please see [this document](#) - with links to practice assessments. If a student wishes to rewrite the GLA10 or GNA10 assessment, they should contact Ms. Towers

### **REMEMBRANCE DAY – CALL OUT FOR CADETS & BAGPIPERS**

We are currently planning for our upcoming Remembrance Day Ceremony scheduled for November 10th this year. Each year we have been fortunate that Rockridge students who also serve as Cadets have been able to participate in the ceremony. If your child is presently a Cadet, we invite you or them to put their name forward to participate. We are also looking for an experienced Bagpiper to assist at the beginning of the Ceremony. Please email Mr. Thomson ([gthomson@wvschools.ca](mailto:gthomson@wvschools.ca)) if you know of someone who can assist.

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### **Enhance West Van**

The West Vancouver Community Centre is operated under an innovative community governance partnership between the District of West Vancouver and Enhance West Van, a registered charitable Society. Click [here](#) for upcoming events.

#### **Ambleside Parkrun**

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you! Click [here](#) for more information.

### **RECURRING ITEMS**

#### **SchoolCash Online - STUDENT FEES**

Rockridge uses School Cash Online for school items requiring payment. This system is utilized throughout the West Vancouver School District, and you and your child will continue to receive payment requests in this manner.

If you are new to the WV School District and have not yet registered for SchoolCash Online, we can provide you with a temporary PIN number to be used the first time you log in, then you will be prompted to create a login and password for future access. Please email [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca) with your student's name and grade to request this PIN if you are not yet set up with an account.

*We thank you for keeping your account current.*

### **EXCUSED ABSENCES & EARLY DISMISSAL**

If a student will be late for school or missing a block, parents are requested to inform the school by sending an email to [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca). Please include the 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 the attendance to indicate 'late' rather than 'absent'.

### **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES form 2021-2022 - <https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP>**

This online verification and consent form requires a parent login and must be completed for all students each year.

If a parent previously created an account to complete the 21/22 form, the account is the same. If you have forgotten your password, you can follow the instructions to reset it. Once logged in, parents have the option to either update a P+P form created last year or start a new one.

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

### **STUDENT VERIFICATION & EMERGENCY RELEASE FORMS**

These forms were sent home with your child at the beginning of the school year. Please return as soon as possible so that we can complete our Emergency Preparedness Plan.

### **MYED BC Parent Portal**

The [Parent Portal](#) enables you to view your child's timetable, attendance, and report cards. Each parent or guardian will have their own separate account. We are currently updating 'New' student accounts. If you have not received a username and password by tomorrow afternoon, please email [Rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:Rockridge@wvschools.ca)

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

We are happy that health and safety updates need not be the top of our E-Bulletins each week, but we do want to ensure families know that the wellness of our Rockrdige community is always top of mind. With this in mind, there are three simple reminders we continue to share with staff, students and caregivers:

1. Hand hygiene is an effective means to prevent illness.
2. Wearing a mask is always an option for members of our school community.
3. If you are not well, stay home, rest and return when you are better. Students can use Google Classroom, contact their teacher or classmates to keep up with assignments.