



# ROCKRIDGE

## ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Jan 12, 2023

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CALENDAR UPDATE	
Thu, Jan 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm Gr. 7 Parent Night</li> </ul>
Fri, Jan 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black Excellence Day</li> <li>Band 8/9 and B Jazz Band Trip to VSO</li> </ul>
Tue, Jan 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gr. 8/9 In Person Careers Presentation in Block 5</li> </ul>
Wed, Jan 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 – 7:30 pm PAC Meeting - the Orchard @ Gleneagles Golf Club</li> </ul>
Fri, Jan 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economics (ESP) Class to City Council</li> </ul>
UPCOMING	
Jan 23-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GRADUATION LITERACY ASSESSMENT (GLA 10) - see details below</li> </ul>
Tues, Jan 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1:15 – 2:50 pm Gr. 8 Science Fair</li> </ul>
Thur, Jan 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:40 Dismissal - MYP Collab</li> <li><b>DEADLINE</b> for course selection and/or changes for Semester 2</li> </ul>
Jan 27 - 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Bands' Victoria Trip</li> </ul>
Fri, Jan 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ProD Day - NO CLASSES IN SESSION</li> </ul>
Mon, Jan 30	Review & Completion: See note below
Tues, Jan 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Semester Turnaround Day - NO CLASSES IN SESSION</li> <li>6 - 7:30 pm Gr. 9 - 12 Course Planning Evening</li> </ul>
Wed, Feb 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Day of Semester 2</li> </ul>
Thu, Feb 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 - 7:30 pm AP &amp; Cohort Program Presentation (Virtual)</li> </ul>
Feb 3 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VMUN - Details coming soon!</li> </ul>
Tue, Feb 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Block 5 - Gr. 8 Careers attend MYP PP Exhibition - Player's Hall &amp; Cafeteria</li> </ul>
Thur, Feb 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Semester 1 Final Reports Posted to MyEd Parent Portal</li> <li>Block 5 - Gr. 9 Careers Attend MYP PP Exhibition - Player's Hall &amp; Cafeteria</li> <li>6:00 – 8:00 pm MYP Personal Project Exhibition - Player's Hall &amp; Cafeteria</li> </ul>
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	

**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

This week has not disappointed with the feeling of successfully “kicking off 2023!” I feel like I have been on the move all week in an attempt to connect with staff, students and the variety of events, activities and learning they have been doing in and out of the classroom and school. From basketball season and tournament action to special events we are promoting, planning and doing some incredible things from grade 8 to 12 in these final weeks of the semester. If you did not hear about the ESP Pop Up Sale this week from your student, I have captured some of the excitement and success in the attached Raven Life along with a special collaboration in our Music Room with Ms. Collins and Mr. Parker this week.

Today’s Raven Life attachment also has some special event invitations including a Gr. 8 Science Fair, Gr. 10 Personal Project Exhibition and district wide TedX event for all students.

I would like to make special note of the Semester end dates, transitions and routines for January 30 and 31. They are included in the calendar above as well as some more detailed description below.

**Monday, January 30** (Student Review & Completion) Regular Monday Block Rotation (Student attendance strongly encouraged and expected for students with outstanding work).

**Tuesday, January 31** (Semester Turn Around Day) Student attendance optional and Academies and District Programs Running during Block 5 (Linear).

In closing this week, it has been another great week to be a Raven. I look forward to celebrating more of the great things happening at Rockridge with you again next week. If you are able to join our **January PAC meeting** on Wednesday next week (see calendar above) you will see it is at a special venue where we look forward to the opportunity to do some school business as well as connecting and catching up with one another in person.

### **TONIGHT - GRADE 7 Parent Open House**

As shared previously, tonight we are hosting an Open House for Parents of Grade 7 students interested in attending Rockridge for the 2023-24 School Year. We will begin at 6:30pm in Players Hall. We have attached the invitation once again so you may share with families you know who would like to know more about joining our school for Gr. 8 in September 2023.

### **2023-24 COURSE PLANNING**

At the end of the month we will welcome parents and students to our school. We have a great teaching and learning story to share. Rockridge Administration and Counsellors will host Parent Course Planning Information Sessions. Ministry Graduation Requirements, Core and Elective course offerings will be highlighted along with a moderated Question and Answer session.

Tuesday, January 31st - Grade 9-12 Course Planning Evening 6:00-7:30 pm at Rockridge

Thursday, February 2nd - Advanced Placement and Cohort Program Presentation 6:30-7:30 pm (Virtual)

### **WEBSITE CALENDAR**

The Rockridge Website Calendar is currently under repair and should be reinstated soon. In the

meantime, please refer to the calendar above for upcoming important dates.

### **MYP PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION: Parents of Grade 10 students**

We would like to mark your calendars for the **Personal Project Exhibition** taking place February 9th, 2023 from 6 – 8 pm! The students have been exploring, planning, developing and producing lots of amazing projects that speak to their ingenuity, perseverance and passion. We are so excited to celebrate and share with you all that they've accomplished!

Please see today's attached Raven Life for our Poster Invitation.

### **GRADUATION LITERACY ASSESSMENT (GLA 10) - January 23-26**

All Grade 10 students must complete the Graduation Literacy Assessment (GLA) the week of January 23-26. The tests have been scheduled and students can find their exact time and location on a list shared through the **Grad class of 2025 google classroom**. In addition, gr 12s that did not complete the GLA 12 in November or gr 11s that did not do the GLA 10 last year will receive an email shortly with their test date and time. If students have a conflict or any questions, please contact Ms. Towers

[jtowers@wvschools.ca](mailto:jtowers@wvschools.ca)

ASAP.

For assistance with preparing for this assessment, students should refer to [this document](#) - with links to practice assessments. Ms. Towers will visit each CLE 10 class in early January to review the assessment and how to prepare for it. If a student wishes to rewrite the GLA10 or GNA10 assessment, they should contact Ms. Towers.

### **RAVENS ATHLETICS:**

**Ravens Basketball** teams have been back in action in 2023. Next week we will provide an update on the team's records and accomplishments so far this season.

**The Ski and Snowboard team:** Students were out on the mountain this past Wednesday for their first training session of the season. Watch for updates and photos in the E-Bulletin, on our social media accounts and in future Raven Life attachments.

**Raven Hockey:** If you are interested in competing in the North Shore High School Hockey League beginning April 2023, sign up on Google Classroom - owc2sjg

All grades and genders are welcome for tryouts. Any questions, come see Mr. Kim C208

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

- **Basketball Home Games:** check the website calendar for schedules [HERE](#). Our student athletes should be members of their team's Google Classroom for full team schedules and messages.
- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter: [Rockridge Secondary Twitter](#)
- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram: [@rockridgess](#)
- Contact Mr. Ian Armstrong [IArmstrong@wvschools.ca](mailto:IArmstrong@wvschools.ca) if you have questions regarding our winter Athletics program.

### **UNIVERSAL BATHROOM UPDATE**

In a collaborative effort with our GSA student club and Rockridge staff we have expanded the availability of universal bathrooms so there is now one on each level of our school. One of the upstairs staff bathrooms is now a Universal Bathroom. We have noted to students and staff that the other bathroom is still for staff use only. In our morning announcements the following message has also been shared with our school community over the past few weeks: The new Universal bathroom will be shared between staff and students, and is open to anyone. However, we ask that students who feel comfortable using other bathrooms please do so, and leave the Universal Bathroom open for students and staff who need it. Please be respectful of the space and your peers. Feel free to bring any questions or concerns to the GSA club, which meets on Tuesdays at lunch in G201.

**BLOCK 5 UPDATES**

Our Tuesday and Thursday schedule provides ongoing opportunities for students to use their time to focus on their individual curricular needs.

Upcoming January 17th - Course Selection Planning. This will be a very helpful and informative session to assist students with their preparation for Gr. 9 and 10 course selection.

SEMESTER ONE Gr. 8 & 9 Careers Dates for Block 5		SEMESTER ONE Gr. 8 Advisory Dates for Block 5	
Thursday	Tuesday	Grade 8 Advisory #7	Thurs. Jan. 12
January 5	January 17	Grade 8 Advisory #8	Tues. Jan. 24

Teacher locations during Block 5: [bit.ly/rrFITlocations22](https://bit.ly/rrFITlocations22) This list will help students plan their effective use of their flexible instruction time.

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.

**RECURRING ITEMS**

**Annual Winter Weather Reminder:** Use this link for information about the communication of weather closures and procedures: [SCHOOL DISTRICT WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES](#)

**District Affordability Fund**

The Ministry of Education has provided West Vancouver Schools \$650,000, a one-time funding grant for us to make the 22/23 school year more affordable for students and families in need. We have now received the funding for our 18 schools and have allocated the money based on the specific needs of each of our school communities. Our allocation:

- Will allow schools to cover costs for school fees, school supplies or other school related costs for students in need
- Some funds will be used to benefit large groups of both elementary and secondary students

Families are encouraged to reach out to Mr. Kolkea if any financial support is needed for school-based supplies, fees or activities.

### **2023-24 Secondary Timetable**

The current “Transitional Secondary Timetable” was designed to provide flexibility and support for students, schools, and programs as we navigated COVID 19 restrictions, guidelines and uncertainty. As part of the 2023-24 timetable planning process, the school district used feedback from the Spring 2022 Student, Parent and Staff timetable surveys, and conducted a series of timetable focus group conversations. These focus groups have included conversations with the teachers, staff, students, parents, as well as representatives from our district programs, courses and departments.

After careful consideration, to best meet the needs of our students, schools, and diverse programs, West Vancouver Schools will be transitioning to a Linear Secondary Schedule that includes flexible instructional time for the 2023-2024 school year. In a linear timetable students will take eight courses for the entire school year instead of the current two semester timetable, where students take four courses at a time for half the year. Flexible instructional time provides students with time and flexibility to engage in personalized learning. This may include additional support, guidance with specific curriculum and interests, the opportunity to collaborate with others, and time to complete assignments, assessments and projects.

Over the next few months, the school district will work closely with schools to design a linear timetable that is responsive to the needs of our diverse programs, and enhances student choice, experiences, and opportunities. Final timetable details will be communicated before Spring Break.

### **Health & Safety**

We want to ensure all our families know that the wellness of our Rockridge community is always top of 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.
4. **Cold & Flu Season** - When to keep your child home from school - click [here](#)

### **Traffic Safety at Rockridge**

Our traffic and safety committee will be meeting again in the new year to review action items and messages to improve traffic flow and safety around our school.

### **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.

### **Excused Absences and Early Dismissals**

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 & Procedures Form 2022-2023 - <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.

### **MyEducation BC & BC Services Cards**

MyEducation BC has developed a new feature that provides BC students and parents with the choice to connect their BC services card to MyEducation BC and use the BC services card app, rather than the district issued username and password. Please see the [MyEducation BC Family Portal](#) on the West Vancouver Schools Website and select 'Student Portal Guides' or 'Family Portal Guides' as appropriate for further information.

### **2021-2022 Yearbooks Available (Last Year's Books)**

If you missed your chance to buy a yearbook last year, we have a limited number available! You can purchase them from the office for \$50 by credit or debit.