



ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Feb 2, 2023

[Rockridge Secondary School website](#)

[WV School District Website](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter](#)

[Morning Announcements](#)

CALENDAR UPDATE	
Linear Week 1 this week	
Thu, Feb 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5:45 pm Rockridge Basketball 'Seniors Night' - see details below ● 6:30 - 7:30 pm AP & Cohort Program Presentation (Virtual) - see link below ● CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES-High School Challenge - 1:00-7:45 pm - 1305 Taylor Way ● Family Smart - Connect and Learn: Eating Disorders - 6:30-8:30 - Register here
Feb 3 - 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VMUN - Model United Nations Event
Feb 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deadline to register for University of Waterloo Math Contest - see details below
Tue, Feb 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Block 5 - Gr. 8 Careers attend MYP PP Exhibition - Player's Hall & Cafeteria
Thur, Feb 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Semester 1 Final Reports Posted to MyEd Parent Portal ● Block 5 - Gr. 9 Careers Attend MYP PP Exhibition - Player's Hall & Cafeteria ● 6:00 – 8:00 pm MYP Personal Project Exhibition - Player's Hall & Cafeteria ● Grad Semi Formal @ Pinnacle at the Pier 6-10 pm ● Youth & Vaping - 7-9 pm - Handsworth Secondary - Register here
Fri, Feb 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New International Student Photos
UPCOMING	
Feb 22	University Of Waterloo Math Contests (Pascal, Cayley, and Fermat Contests) – details below
FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR	
WV Youth Services click here	

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to semester two at Rockridge. Although our first day of the semester was yesterday there are a few housekeeping items I wanted to share to help make this first week a success for our students and families. As you have seen me write before, our students benefit from adult support both at school and at home no matter where students are on their road to graduation from Grade 8 to 12.

For this second semester start up, the first step is getting familiar with your student's timetable, in fact, this is an important step for each of our students. Knowing the class rotation helps families support students to keep on top of assignments, knowing when a class lands in a long block on Tuesday or Thursday and managing supplies and special events.

A second area for students (and families) to focus on is refreshing and getting learning resources prepared for all new second semester classes. The Google Classroom (GC) is an important digital resource that teachers update with dates, assignments and materials that guide classes in daily and weekly course progress. Students will have joined new GCs, and these will be important in supporting their positive start up. Cleaning out and labeling binders, organizing other non-digital materials including your locker are other good action items to complete this week.

Grade 8 students and families will need to review the added layer of their linear Math & Physical and Health Education classes as shared in the email you received on Tuesday this week. For the second half of the year there may be a teacher change in your student's class, so it is helpful to be aware of this detail as well.

Finally, the teachers at Rockridge are all looking forward to helping our students have the best start possible to semester 2. With this in mind, please reach out to our teachers if you have questions that your student cannot answer about a new course. Similarly, our counselling team is always on point to assist with any questions you have to help with any student support actions.

Again, please take a moment to browse this week's Raven Life for the details of next week's Personal Project event on Tuesday evening, as well as some special recent student and staff learning stories.

2023-24 COURSE PLANNING EVENING

We have now held the course planning events for our parents and students. You can find the slideshow, forms and course indexes [HERE](#). Grade 8s will submit their forms on paper. Grade 9-11 will complete a form on google classroom and then make course requests through [MyEd](#). Instructions with usernames and temp passwords were emailed to all grade 9s on Jan 18th and Grade 10 and 11s on Jan 31st. If the student's account is disabled from password reset - please email msmithers@wvschools.ca

- **TONIGHT, February 2nd - Virtual Advanced Placement and Cohort Program Presentation 6:30-7:30 pm** click – [HERE](#)
- Please see our Frequently Asked Questions [HERE](#)

MYP PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION: Parents of Grade 10 students

Coming Next Week - 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. *You will not be disappointed by the creativity, depth of learning and variety that this exhibition will provide.* We are so excited to celebrate and share with you all that they've accomplished!

Once again, please see today's attached Raven Life for our Poster Invitation.

ROCKRIDGE STAFF NEWS

The start of semester two has brought some changes to our teaching team at Rockridge. As we get underway with this new semester, we would like to share the following staff updates.

You may not know that Mr. Henning will be away for the first part of the second semester beginning on February 3rd. This short-term leave will be filled by two different teachers beginning with Mr. Scoten from February 3rd to 24th. Best wishes to Mr. Henning on a speedy recovery from shoulder surgery and we look forward to seeing him back after Spring Break.

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Bates back to our Physical and Health Education Department.

Ms. Capron will be joining the Social Studies Department this semester.

We are also glad to welcome Mr. Miranda who is our newest member of the Languages Department teaching Spanish.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MATH CONTESTS (Pascal, Cayley, and Fermat Contests)

These contests will take place on Wednesday February 22nd from 8:30 – 9:30 am (1 hour) in the Library. These math contests challenge students from around the world with a range of abilities to grow valuable problem-solving skills.

- To register for one of these contests, please pay \$6.00 on [School Cash Online](#) by Feb 6th at 8:00 am.
- For practice contests: https://www.cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/past_contests.html

AWARDS 2022-23 - Held on June 26th

It is time to start nominating yourself for a major Rockridge award- **Principal's Awards of Merit, Rockridge Prestige Award (Athletics or Fine Arts), Caulfeild Village Merchant Community Spirit Award, Morgan Backhouse Award, Rock Solid Award and Service Award**. To prepare for future scholarship applications, we are asking grade 8-11 students to fill out the appropriate forms (linked [HERE](#)) in order to be recognized for a major award for the 2022-23 school year. Teachers will continue to nominate students for subject recognition awards but will no longer nominate for major awards but instead review the applications to determine the rightful winners. You will find descriptions of the awards and links to the application forms [HERE](#). Applications are due **May 28th @midnight**.

2023-2024 CARPENTRY: YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES APPLICATIONS OPEN

The West Van School District's Carpentry: Youth Train in Trades is for students who are keenly interested in acquiring industry recognized skills and certification in carpentry, construction and related trades. By completing this program students receive 16 credits (4 courses) towards high school graduation, in addition to Level 1 Carpentry Training. Students learn lifelong skills, participate in work experience, and have the opportunity to learn right on the job site! To learn more about the program [visit this site](#) and to [apply click here](#). Questions, email Akina Weitzel: Aweitzel@wvschools.ca

RAVENS ATHLETICS:

Ski and Snowboard Team

The ski and snowboard team are in Whistler today.

TONIGHT = Rockridge Basketball 'Seniors Night' – February 2nd 5:45pm

You and your student(s) are invited to our Senior Night where we honor our graduating athletes along with recognizing our student coaches for the Winter Season. The ceremony takes place at 5:45pm with Senior Boys and Girls games to follow.

Thank you, Student Coaches,

We are appreciative of the many ways our student body positively contributes to ‘Raven Life’ at Rockridge. During the Winter Sports Season the following students were Head or Assistant Coaches of our Grade 8 & 9 teams. Thank You Coach!

Grade 8 Boys – Adrian B, Marwan H & Robert B

Grade 8 & 9 Girls – Claire H, Jordan C, Tianne K, & Quin O.

Grade 9 Boys – Blake M & Mattias B

Thu., Feb 2	5:45 pm Rockridge Basketball ‘Seniors Night’ Junior Boys’ Game at 4:30 pm Vs. Howe Sound Senior Boys’ Game at 6:00 pm Vs. Howe Sound Sr. Girls’ Game at 7:30 pm Vs. Bodwell College
Mon., Feb 6	Playoff Games
Wed., Feb 8	Senior Boys’ Game at 7:30pm Vs. Argyle
Fri., Feb 10	Grade 7 Vs 8 Games 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

*Our student athletes should be members of their team’s Google Classroom for full team schedules and messages.

Stay up to date on Raven Athletics:

- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter: [Rockridge Secondary Twitter](#)
- Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram: [@rockridgess](#)
- Contact Mr. Ian Armstrong IArmstrong@wvschools.ca if you have questions regarding our winter Athletics program.

YEARBOOK UPDATE

The deadline to pay for the 2022-2023 Rockridge yearbook is February 28th! This item has been added to all students’ SCO accounts. Payment (\$50) can be made here: [School Cash Online](#)

BLOCK 5 UPDATES

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

SEMESTER TWO Gr. 8 & 9 Careers Dates for Block 5	
Tuesday	Thursday
Feb. 7 (Gr. 8 only)	Feb. 9 (Gr. 9 only)
Feb. 21 (Gr. 8 & 9)	Mar 9 (Gr. 8 & 9)

Teacher locations during Block 5: 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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Med-Ed 2023 - Pathways Through Medicine - Feb 18, 2023 @ the HOpe Centre

1337 St. Andrews Avenue, North Vancouver

High school students interested in a career in the medical field are invited to attend the 5th Annual Med-Ed conference hosted by Lions Gate Hospital Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee.

This annual conference brings together experienced health care professionals and students for a morning of information and insight into medical careers. There will be an incredible line-up of panelists for this year's event who will share their personal experiences and provide advice and information on the many career pathways available.

Tickets: Get your Early Bird [Ticket](#) for \$25 before February 12 (Regular Tickets \$30 after Feb 12)

PARENTS AS EDUCATION AND CAREER COACHES - March 8, 2023 - 6:30-8:30 pm - MS Teams

EducationPlannerBC and SD 45 West Vancouver invite parents, families, and student supporters to join our virtual workshop: Parents as Education and Career Coaches (PECC) on Wednesday March 8th, 2023 from 6:30pm to 8pm.

Learn how you can help support your student in planning for their future. All parents and supporters of high school students are welcome, but the presentation is especially helpful for those with students in Grades 10-12.

The session is engaging and informative, and includes a Q&A.

Topics include:

- B.C.'s post-secondary education landscape, including institutions & credentials
- Program and admission requirements & key dates
- Financial assistance options & scholarships
- Navigating resources and the application process through our website www.EducationPlannerBC.ca

Hosted on MS Teams webinar. [Registration](#) is required.

For more information: support@educationplannerbc.ca

Contact: Leesa Alldred: LAlldred@wvschools.ca

RECURRING NEWS 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 Returns to Linear

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](#)

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 and signage is complete. We have noted to students and staff that the neighbouring bathroom on the 2nd floor, east wing 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.

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 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. 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.