



ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Feb 9, 2023

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CALENDAR UPDATE	
Linear Week 2 this week	
Thurs, Feb 9th	MYP PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION TONIGHT - Players Hall from 6 – 8 pm!
Fri, Feb 10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New International Student Photos
Mon, Feb 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Tue, Feb 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30 am Gr. 10 Course Request Input 10:35 am Gr. 11 Course Request Input
Wed, Feb 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 pm PAC Meeting - Rockridge Library Learning Commons + Zoom
Thurs, Feb 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MYP Collab - 12:40 pm Dismissal (School-buses depart at 12:05 pm)
Fri, Feb 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading Break - School Closed
UPCOMING	
Feb 20	Family Day - School Closed
Feb 22	8:30-9:30 am THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO MATH CONTESTS - Library
Feb 23	WV Schools Baseball Academy Open House - click here for details
FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR	
WV Youth Services click here	

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Today students and families will have access to their Semester One Reports. Below are your instructions to access those reports along with some other helpful information. These reports are an important summary of your student’s growth, progress, success and stretches during the first semester. Teachers have prepared these documents for students and their families to review, discuss and set goals for semester two. If you have any questions about the report, we would ask that the first step is having your student speak directly with their teacher. After this, families may follow up with a staff member by email or phone.

If you are a Grade 10 or 12 student, this is a busy and special day for you. Students, staff, families *and I* are looking forward to the Personal Project Exhibition and Grad Semi-Formal tonight. For families in Grade 8 & 9, I also encourage you to come and see the Exhibition in Players Hall tonight to get a glimpse of what your student will be doing in Grade 10 as a culmination of their IB MYP studies which earns

them their MYP Certificate. I expect to have some good Raven Life content to share next week but having a chance to see and speak to our students in person this evening will be an inspiring opportunity.

Thank you for taking an active role in your student's *road to graduation from Grade 8 to 12* and for your interest in Rockridge Secondary School. By reading our weekly E-Bulletin, and attending special events we build a strong school community that will inspire and support student joy, success and pride.

Again, please take a moment to browse this week's Raven Life for some excellent Raven basketball coverage, as well as some special recent student and staff learning stories.

SEMESTER ONE STUDENT REPORTS

Semester 1 Final reports were published to the MyEdBC Parent Portal this afternoon Thursday, February 9th. You should have received an email to alert you to go to the MyEd Portal. Trouble logging in? - Click on the [School District's My Ed Family Portal Page](#)

MYP PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION: Parents of Grade 10 students

You are invited TONIGHT to visit Players Hall 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 tonight!

Once again, please see today's attached Raven Life for our Poster Invitation to this important learning event that is part of our Middle Years Program at our IB World School.

PLEASE JOIN THE PAC FOR OUR FEBRUARY MEETING!

This month's PAC meeting will be a wonderful opportunity to join other parents, Mr. Kolkea and special guest speakers in the Library Learning Commons.

- Date: Wed, Feb 15th
- Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm
- Location: RR Library Learning Commons
- OR virtual (this time with a Microphone!):
- Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86130815452>
- Meeting ID: 861 3081 5452
- Who: YOU! All parents are welcome to attend! It's a great way to get to know RR better!

Guest Presenters:

- Corrine Kinnon, District Principal - Inclusive Education and a representative from VCH - **Beat the Vape Club** at RR, supporting our students and families with smoking cessation.
- **Update on SD45** by Carolyn Broady (Trustee Chair) and Lynne Block (Trustee)

2023-24 COURSE PLANNING INFORMATION

We have now completed the course planning presentations for our families. You can find the slideshows, forms, course indexes and AP/Special programs info night video [HERE](#). Grade 8 students will submit their forms on paper. Grade 9-11 students 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

FAST (FIRST AID SWIM TRAINING) - Open House Feb 21st

Applications for the 2023-2024 school year will close Friday, March 10th at 3:00 pm.

FAST is a young lifeguard education program that allows students to develop the essential skills to be successful and confident lifeguards. At the completion of the FAST program students will have obtained all of the required certification prerequisites necessary to enroll in the National Lifeguard Course, which students can take independently when they are 15 years of age or older. Completion of the National Lifeguard Course is the final credential necessary to qualify an individual to work as a lifeguard.

In addition to developing strong first aid skills, the FAST program also focuses on providing students with a practical foundation in resistance and cardiovascular training, swimming, stroke-development and leadership. Please [click this link](#) to learn more and to apply to the program.

FAST Program Open House

- Date: Tuesday February 21st
- Time: 5:30 pm
- Location: Rockridge Secondary School

COLLAB BLOCK SCHEDULE & EARLY DISMISSAL - See Schedule Below

Please note buses will leave at noon so that students can catch the 12:35pm Bowen ferry.

Thursday, February 16th
Block 3 - 8:30 AM - 10:10 AM
Break: 10:10 - 10:15 AM
Block 4: 10:15 - 11:55 AM
Block 5: 11:55 AM - 12:40 PM
Lunch: 12:40 - 1:20 PM
MYP Collab: 1:20 - 2:50 PM

To give the teachers the opportunity to fully focus on their MYP collaboration, we ask that if students remain in the building, they quietly work/study in the common area learning spaces available around the school. The classrooms and library will be off limits.

BEAT THE VAPE - LOOKING FOR STUDENT MEMBERS!

A Smoking Cessation Club at The Rock

Supporting students with making healthy and safe choices is important and challenging work. We know that educating and supporting adolescents around substance use and reduction requires student buy-in and engagement, but also adult expertise. With this in mind, we are pleased to introduce a new club opportunity for students at Rockridge called Beat the Vape. In partnership with VCH Tobacco & Vapour Reduction members, our Youth Worker, Leanne will be piloting a seven-week club during Block 5 for students who would like support to quit vaping.

Beat the Vape Information for Students and Families:

1. The club will begin on Tuesday, February 14th at 1:15 to 2:00pm *during Block 5*
2. The club will meet weekly on Tuesdays for 7 weeks in G-201
3. We have 10 spaces available for students to join
4. Students who would like to join can sign up directly with Leanne by visiting our counselling office or by emailing her.
5. Parents/guardians who would like to have their student attend can contact Leanne via email at LWarner@wvschools.ca or Garth Thomson GThomson@wvschools.ca, Jennifer Towers JTowers@wvschools.ca or Trevor Kolkea TKolkea@wvschools.ca
6. Parents/guardians will be important partners in our club to help support student attendance to be successful in achieving their goals

More about the program: The Lung Health Foundation smoking and vaping cessation program targets youth ages 14-19 who are interested in quitting. The program offers a self-directed, stage-by-stage quit plan based on whether users want to quit smoking, vaping or both. It includes customizations to support the user on their individual quit journey based on their unique quit goals. This adult-facilitated program portions are integrated with both the Quash website and mobile app tools.

Rockridge Jazz Café 2023 - Thursday, March 2nd - Players Hall

- Doors open at 6 pm, music to start at 6:30 pm.
- We will be transforming Player’s Hall into our very own café, with candlelit tables, coffee, tea and refreshments.
- Tickets for the event are \$15, payable through this schoolcash online link:
<https://westvancouver.schoolcashionline.com/Fee/Details/22594/105/False/True>

RAVENS ATHLETICS:

Rockridge Basketball

Senior boys have secured hosting of the NSSSAA boys playoffs at Rockridge Feb 14-15. Coming off a big win last night against Argyle - see Raven Life attached.

Fri., Feb 10	Caulfeild Grade 7 vs Rockridge Grade 8 Game 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
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Grade 10 Boys Rugby - looking for parent help to coach at games and share coaching duties with Mr. Zambon. Contact Athletic Director, Mr. Ian Armstrong IArmstrong@wvschools.ca

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.

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

YEARBOOK SALES UPDATE - Don’t Miss Out!

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](#)

ENVIRO CLUB FUNDRAISER FOR THE GARDEN

The Make it Sow fundraiser is back! If you are wanting to purchase seeds for your garden to support our school garden please go to this site <https://makeitsow.com/shop/#code-submission> and enter this code **RSSEC_2023**. The fundraiser **closes on March 5th** - with seeds picked up after Spring break.

ROCKRIDGE OUTDOOR GATHERING AREA - PAC Final Fundraising Campaign

Our PAC needs your help to make the Rockridge covered outdoor student gathering area a reality. You can learn more about the final steps of this project by viewing our [digital flyer](#). You can make donations through School Cash Online [SCO](#)

BLOCK 5 UPDATES

Our Tuesday and Thursday schedule provides ongoing opportunities for students to use their time to focus on their individual curricular needs. This week students participated in their Careers class that included learning more about the MYP Personal Project that is completed in Grade 10 by all students as part of our IB World School. There is an assignment required for each student to complete following this tour of the Personal Project Exhibition.

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.

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**.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Talking to Children and Youth about Decriminalization and Substance Use

As you may be aware, Health Canada has granted the Province of British Columbia an exemption from the federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, allowing the removal of criminal penalties for possession of small amounts of certain illicit substances for personal use. To be clear, this exemption does not apply to licensed childcare or K-12 school properties. The federal Controlled Drugs and Substances Act continues to apply to these settings, meaning there will continue to be criminal penalties for possession of illegal substances, regardless of amount, while on childcare and or K-12 school properties. Learn more about this at: [Resources for Parents/Guardians and Caregivers](#)

Inspiro Choir Festival - Feb 14th @ 7:00 pm - Kay Meek Grosvenor Theatre

Concert featuring all West Vancouver Schools Secondary choirs and the Elementary level Junior Honour Choir. Poster can be found [here](#)

YOGA TEACHER TRAINING COURSE INFORMATION SESSION – Wednesday February 15th 6:30 p.m. West Vancouver Secondary School Library

The district's 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training course is an 8-credit course (4 PE credits and 4 Yoga credits) that will provide students in grades 9 to 12 with the skills needed to effectively and safely teach yoga to all levels of students. The course follows the guidelines set out by Yoga Alliance and students receive certification as Yoga Alliance 200-hour Yoga Teachers. For more information or to register visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/200-hour-yoga-teacher-training> or email Mariam Pirbhai mpirbhai@wvschools.ca

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)

WV Schools Parent Education Night - 7-8 pm March 1st, 2023 - WVSS

SOLUTIONS TO COMBAT THE MENTAL & PHYSICAL HEALTH CRISIS IN OUR COMMUNITY -see attached

WV Schools Presents Community Art Showcase - March 6th, 6:30-8:00 pm - Kay Meek - see attached

All proceeds of this fundraiser will support

- Cinderella Project
- Downie Wenjack Legacy
- Schools & West Vancouver Schools
- Community Arts Program

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

2023-2024 CARPENTRY: YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES - Application Deadline: Friday, March 10, 2023

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](#). If you have any questions, email Akina Weitzel: Aweitzel@wvschools.ca

VSO Education and Community Engagement Programs:

Relaxed Performance March 16th at 11:30am at the Orpheum. (During Spring Break)

Children of all ages, families, all neurodivergent community members, and those who simply want a more relaxed performance experience are welcome to this one-hour, sensory-friendly performance. Relaxed Performances have become a defined term in the performing arts, as performances specially designed to welcome a neurodiverse audience, and audiences that may perceive stresses or barriers in a more formal concert setting.

Relaxed performance is part of the dress rehearsal before a concert. Just like a concert, the orchestra runs through their program in an informal setting.

Please check this [link](#) for further information and tickets

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.

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 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.