



# ROCKRIDGE

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June 27, 2023

## ROCKRIDGE LINKS:

[Rockridge Secondary School website](#)

[WV School District Website](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Twitter](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram](#)

[Morning Announcements](#)

CALENDAR UPDATE	
Thurs, June 29	● Final Reports posted to <a href="#">MyEducation Family Portal</a>
Tues, Sept 5	● First Day of Classes
<a href="#">FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR</a>	
<a href="#">2023-24 At A Glance Calendar</a>	
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	
Summer Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 3pm (Call to ensure we are here to receive you)	

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Over the course of the 2022-23 school year I have tried to write here each week to provide updates, perspectives and thoughts from my role as the principal of Rockridge Secondary. It continues to be an honour for me to lead this incredible school community and I am looking forward to my second year at the Rock, in 2023-24.

At our June staff meeting I made a brief reference to our Rockridge staff *team* and the similarities and differences to NHL *teams*. In this blog post I explore that notion a bit further to end the year, including mentioning our staff changes for 2023-24.

[Mr. Kolkea - The End of the Season Message 2023](#)

I hope you can take a few minutes to read it before you head off for a well-deserved summer vacation. Best wishes to all our Rockridge families for a safe, fun and rejuvenating break. See you on September 5th.

This week, our school office has been busy publishing report cards, clearing up finances and helping our staff wrap up their year. Another thing keeping us busy and happy, has been processing new student registrations for September. As you head off for summer holidays, remember to promote that as we are planning for the fall of 2023, we still have space for more student registrations at all grade levels at

Rockridge. Just visit our [website](#) for registration information.

### **MYED FAMILY PORTAL - Accessing Student Reports**

Report cards were published today to the [MyEd BC Parent Portal](#). Please check out how your students did in their semester 2 and linear courses. Please use the email instructions sent directly to you which includes a link to the MyEd Portal.

Trouble logging in? - Click on the [School District's My Ed Family Portal Page](#).

### **YEAR END LETTER from the BC Minister of Education**

See link [here](#) for a message from Minister Rachna Singh.

### **WV SCHOOLS SUMMER LEARNING IN PERSON REGISTRATION FOR SECONDARY COURSES**

West Vancouver Schools Summer Learning will be holding an in-person late registration session for all secondary courses with available space on Friday, June 30 from 10:00 – 11:00 am at the Inglewood Learning Center meeting room, which is located at 1735 Inglewood Avenue (the eastern portable at the bottom of the West Vancouver Secondary School campus). Click [here](#) for more information

Registration will be available for students currently registered in a West Vancouver School and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The placement priority order which was in place during online registration does not apply to in-person registration. A list of available courses is indicated below but availability of courses cannot be guaranteed on the day. Please also note that registration for secondary full-credit courses will only be available to students who have just completed Grades 9-11.

### **AWARDS DAY - Celebrating our Ravens**

Monday was a lovely day filled with recognizing our Ravens from Grade 8 to 11. We had four different assemblies throughout the day; each one was a great celebration of so many different students. A big shout out to the many parents and family members who attended. Click [HERE](#) to find links to the slideshows for each event. Because student faces and names are in the slideshow they are password protected. Please log in with your student's google account to view them. Watch for a special recognition bulletin later this summer to showcase our honour roll and MYP certificate recipients for 2022-23.

### **STAFFING CHANGES FOR 2023-24**

In September we will have a few changes to our Rockridge staff. We wanted to share our congratulations, good-byes, and welcome messages with our school community before our summer vacation.

Jennifer Towers

*"After 23 years of teaching, learning, and leading at the Rock, Vice-Principal, teacher, coach, field trip extraordinaire, MYP expert, assessment go-to, colleague and friend Jennifer Towers, will be moving on to be the new Vice-Principal at West Vancouver Secondary School in September. Jennifer will be joining the current admin team with Principal Steve Rauh and Vice-Principal Crystal Tanfara."*

Ana Fernandez

*"Ana has been an invaluable member of the Languages Department for the last two years. It has been a joy to collaborate with her, and we will sorely miss her expertise and enthusiasm. ¡Te queremos, Ana!"*

Lynda Froese

*"It was a pleasure having Lynda in our Mathematics department, given her extensive teaching background since 1994, including experience in various districts. She actively participated in our department and consistently demonstrated a commitment to her professional growth. We wish her the best of luck and look forward to her return as a teacher on call in our classes"*

Emily Jang

*"Emily has played an essential role in the Learning Support Program. She has an incredible skill set that has made her a key member of the Inclusive team. She will be missed. We wish her all the best at Sentinel."*

David Henning

*"Dave has not only helped students to develop technical skills but also fostered their curiosity. He created a space in the school where it was safe for students to take on new challenges and learn from their mistakes. Above all, students gained confidence in their abilities by doing."*

Christie Evans

*"Our effervescent Christie is retiring to enjoy her family and travel. We will all miss Christie's contagious positivity but look forward to seeing her back next year on call!"*

In case you were not already aware, both Ms. Keast and Ms. Peterson are *adding* to their family and will be off next year on maternity leave. We look forward to welcoming them back to the Math department in 2024-25.

Ms. Eng and Ms. Winckler are both taking a leave of absence for the 2023-24 school year. We wish them all the best as they take on new adventures and challenges for the next school year.

*"Helen Eng is a long service teacher of 33 years for the West Vancouver School District teaching for both Sentinel Secondary and Rockridge Secondary. Helen is a teacher of all levels of English Language Arts and her experience and expertise will be missed by both her students and colleagues."*

*"Emily Winkler has been a teacher at Rockridge Secondary for the past six years. She has taught a wide array of courses from Marketing to Social Studies. She will be greatly missed by the English Department of which she has been a key fixture and valued member for most of her time at Rockridge."*

Mr. Pandher will be working part-time for the 2023-24 school year as our Connect program teacher.

**WELCOME** to the following other new staff members who will be joining us in September 2023:

Stewart Baker - *coming to join our admin team as our newest Vice Principal and coming to us from WVSS where he started in the district back in 2003. Stewart has taught a variety of subjects and has held many leadership roles while in West Vancouver; these have included being an athletic director and department coordinator. We are looking forward to Mr. Baker's move to the Rock to help us with a successful start to 2023-24.*

**Other New Raven Staff:**

Sean Pratt - Spanish

Matt Robson - Inclusive Learning Support  
Curtis Campbell - Science  
Scott Rickard - Math  
Moreno Stefanon - Math  
Maria Dawson - Indigenous Success  
Jennifer Murray-Turner - Counselling  
Elaine Teubes - Office Staff

### **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

The office will be open during the summer Monday through Friday from 9am - 3pm (excluding the week of July 17th - 21st). Please call 604-981-1300 or email [trowbotham@wvschools.ca](mailto:trowbotham@wvschools.ca) before coming in, to ensure that we are here to assist you.

### **HEADING BACK TO LINEAR FOR 2023-24**

Next year we will be in a linear timetable system which means that all students will have 8 classes in their timetable that run all year. 4 classes on each day. Day 1 classes on one day and then Day 2 classes the following day.

Academies will take place either in the morning before school, during 1-4 and 2-4 (the afternoon periods) or after school. Your academy will let you know the schedule details.

There will be 50 mins of Flexible instructional time (FIT).

FIT will take place on **Mondays and Thursdays from 10:55 - 11:45am** and is replacing Block 5.

Lunch and Period 4 will begin at the same time each day.

Staff collaboration will take place 11 times next year. Collaboration days always fall on a Thursday from 8:30 to 9:25. 4 classes will follow with lunch and period 4 beginning at the usual time.

See [this Schedules for 2023-24 document](#) for the exact timing of each type of day:

- a) Regular day schedule
- b) FIT Day schedule
- c) Collaboration Day schedule
- d) Early Dismissal Days

Students have access to a google calendar that highlights which type of day it is on each day of the year. Parents will be informed through the website calendar and E-Bulletin.

Students were given a comprehensive presentation on next year's schedule in their classes this morning. Please ask your student if you require more information or contact Vice-Principal [jtowers@wvschools.ca](mailto:jtowers@wvschools.ca)

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### **ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS**

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### **Rockridge Outdoor Gathering Area. We're Almost There!**

We are 70% towards meeting our goal. Let's rally together and get there before school is out. Help us create an amazing [Outdoor Gathering Area](#).

With your donations we can create a space where our teens can connect with nature and each other, and make memories that will last a lifetime. Let's invest in their future together!  
Donate here! \$20, \$50 or more. Any amount helps!

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### *ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS*

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#### **TEXTBOOKS are now overdue**

Please return all textbooks so that we can complete our 'class sets'!  
Textbooks that have not been returned have been charged to your SchoolCashOnline accounts.

#### **ROCKRIDGE Library Learning Commons**

Thank you for all of your support in raising a reader. Rockridge students have checked out almost 4,000 books this school year! Nonetheless, it is that time of year where we must kindly ask for books to be returned. Any books that are overdue by 30 days will be fined as lost books on School Cash Online. To avoid this, please look around your home for any late books (they will have a neon pink sticker on the back) and return them to school. Thank you for helping us gather the books back in for the next school year!

#### **RETURNING IN SEPTEMBER and Extended Absences**

If you know your student will not be in attendance for the first day(s) of school on Tuesday, September 5th, please let our office know in advance - [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca)

Daily attendance is critical to ensure student success here at Rockridge. **We do not recommend** absences during the school term but realize they may be unavoidable. Please keep in mind that certain classroom activities and assessments may not be able to be made up if missed.

Please notify the school a minimum of one week in advance using this [form](#) for an extended absence. Teachers are not required to provide extra classes, make-up tests or specific work to be completed.

**RAVENS ATHLETICS** - please click on the links of introduction from our [Athletic Department](#) and our [Rugby program](#).

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### *WV SCHOOLS DISTRICT NEWS*

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#### **West Vancouver Basketball Club Summer Camps**

Now that the school year has come to an end, the WVBC Summer camps are just around the corner. This summer, the WVBC will be offering 4 weeks of camps beginning July 10 for players in Grades 2-10. There are still some spaces left in most camps. All camps will be held at West Van Secondary School. To view the full schedule of camps and to register, please go to <http://www.wvbc.ca>

#### **WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS - Pride Parade Participation**

West Vancouver Schools is inviting staff, students and their families to come together in celebration at the Vancouver Pride Parade on Sunday, August 6, 2023. Registration is now open. Please register [here](#) for the parade. Space is limited so register early. Additional information about the parade will be emailed out to registrants closer to August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please order a Pride Is Alive t-shirt if you do not already own one.

### **HOST FAMILIES NEEDED for International Students – Exciting 2024 Fee Increase**

Apply now and welcome a student for the upcoming 2023/2024 school year.

Did you know?

- Hosting fees of \$1,100 per student per month. Many families will host two students which can provide up to \$22,000 per year income subsidy.
- Effective February 1, 2024 the fees increase to \$1,400 per student per month!

Don't miss out, placing students starts now. See below message from an actual student letter joining our program this fall. Open your home for this amazing opportunity for all family members.

*"I genuinely believe that Canada is the place where I belong. It has everything I'm looking for: contact with nature, beautiful landscapes, friendly people, security, and excellent public schools. But the main reason why I chose Canada is the people; I will be welcome and feel at home"*

- Contact the Homestay Coordinators for more information at [homestay@wvschools.ca](mailto:homestay@wvschools.ca) or visit our [web pages](#)

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## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

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### **WEST VANCOUVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY 2023 Teen Reading Club**

Continue reading this summer with West Vancouver Memorial Library's Teen Summer Reading Program!

We challenge you to discover new-to-you books and authors this summer. Complete challenges for a chance to win new books and gift cards! Open to students going into grade 7 and up. For more information and to register, check out: <https://westvanlibrary.ca/kids-teens/teen-reading-club/>. Happy reading

### **FIRE SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITY**

Community members are reminded to be extra careful with fire and follow provincial fire bans. Recent dry and windy weather conditions pose a fire hazard. Please be vigilant on our trails and in our parks.

*Thank you for your custodianship of our community.*