

Oct 19, 2023

**ROCKRIDGE LINKS:**

[Rockridge Secondary School website](#)

[WV School District Website](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on X / Twitter](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram](#)

[Morning Announcements](#): Bookmark this link - daily updates can be found here including the block rotation.

CALENDAR UPDATE	
Fri., Oct 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Provincial Professional Development Day - No Classes in Session</li><li>● WV Minor Hockey Assn. Girl Power Event 1-4 pm WV Arena - see details below</li></ul>
Fri., Oct 20 Sat, Oct 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● WV Youth Services Youth for Youth Leadership Training 6-9 pm <a href="#">Free Registration</a></li><li>● Youth Leadership Training Day 2 - see details below</li></ul>
Sat, Oct 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 12 AM - 4 PM <b>Pumpkins</b> for Polio Sale out front at Rockridge</li><li>● Senior Volleyball Cake Tournament 10 am - 5 pm @ Rockridge</li></ul>
Mon, Oct 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 6:30 - 8:30 PM BC University &amp; College Info Session @ RR - see details below</li><li>● ESP to The Nest - UBC Campus 8:00am – 3:00pm</li></ul>
Tues, Oct 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● AP Biology to UBC</li></ul>
Thur, Oct 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Collaboration Block 8:30-9:25</li><li>● COMC Math Contest 9:30am – 12:00pm - LLC</li><li>● Informal Reports Posted</li></ul>
Oct 30 - Nov 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● GLA 12 Literacy Assessments</li></ul>
<a href="#">FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS</a>	
<a href="#">2023-24 At A Glance Calendar</a>	
WV Youth Services click <a href="#">here</a>	

**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:**

I think professional development days are often misunderstood by many people who are not part of the education system. Throughout my 20 years as a principal, I have participated in a lot of pro-d days - some more effective than others, but always a chance to be a learner for a day. Students correctly see professional development days as a day off from school, however, that is only for them. Our professional development days for staff are built into the school year to provide opportunities for teachers to engage in school-based, district-wide and provincial level professional development. October 20th (tomorrow) is a provincial day which means teachers (and educational staff) across the province are able to attend conferences, sessions, meetings and more to connect with other educators beyond the boundaries of their school.

Our Rockridge staff have some great plans for Friday that will inject new ideas and learning into our classrooms and lead to a positive impact on student learning. With this in mind, I have chosen to share a message about professional development because our Rockridge staff really do exemplify the *professional* in professional learning which helps make our classrooms such effective spaces for our students to be successful.

*Be sure to check out the attached **Raven Life** PDF for a look at some things that have and will be positively adding to our school culture at the Rock!*

**Tour of The Rock Day** for any of our families who know other people interested in registering at Rockridge in the future that would like a school tour- **Monday, November 20th.**

**Inquiries and RSVP:** [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca)

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## RAVEN PROUD

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**This Week's MYP Moment - MYP Personal Project exhibition - see poster in our *Raven Life***

Save the date for this year's Personal Project Exhibition!!!

This is an exciting day where we celebrate our Grade 10 student's passion projects - the capstone project of the MYP - that they've been working on through their CLE classes.

This school year, the exhibition is scheduled for **Thursday, February 8th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm.**

All Grade 10 students will be there to present what they've dreamed, developed and learned in the process of working through the Personal Project. You will see a wide variety of products - from science experiments to cookbooks, from construction projects to game development ideas, from fashion design to stock analysis...you name it, it will be there. And SO much more! The students will astound you with their creativity, heart, perseverance and thoughtfulness.

All parents are invited to come see what the Personal Project is all about!

This is a terrific opportunity for parents of Grade 8 and 9 students to see what their own students will engage in in future years, and for the wider school community to celebrate our students and their incredible passions. We SO look forward to seeing you there!

### COLLABORATION DAY

During collaboration time, the school is open, and students are encouraged to attend, but it is not mandatory (attendance will not be taken during this time). Students may use this time to complete assignments and other incomplete work. Students who are in attendance during collaboration time will be stationed in the cafeteria where we will have staff supervising. For students planning to work from home, they are reminded to arrive on time for their first block of the day which begins at 9:30 am.

### SCHEDULE – Thursday, Oct. 26th

COLLAB DAY	Times
School Collab (55 min)	8:30 - 9:25
Break (5 min)	9:25 - 9:30
Period 1 (65 minutes)	9:30 - 10:35

<b>Break</b> (10 minutes)	10:35 - 10:45
<b>Period 2</b> (60 minutes)	10:45 - 11:45
<b>Break</b> (10 minutes)	11:45 - 11:55
<b>Period 3</b> (60 minutes)	11:55 - 12:55
<b>Lunch</b> (45 minutes)	12:55 - 1:40
<b>Period 4</b> (65 minutes)	1:40 - 2:45

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## ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

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### Raven Athletics: #GoRavens

Follow us on Instagram [@Rockridge.Athletics](#) Follow us in X / Twitter [@RockridgeAthlrc](#)

Check out our [daily announcements](#) for schedules for all our Raven teams. We would love to have you come out to cheer on our athletes at one of our home or away contests this week.

We are proud of the efforts of our 10 fall teams that are well under way:

- X-Country Running - Zones Race coming up Wed. Oct 25 at Jericho Beach #GoRavens
- Volleyball - Senior Girls
- Volleyball - Junior Girls
- Volleyball - Juvenile Girls
- **Volleyball - Bantam** Girls Volleyball Tournament @ Handsworth Secondary Oct 27th and 28th  
Volleyball game at Elphinstone on October 23 @ 4pm  
The Bantam Girls Volleyball team won their first game against West Van Red, this past Monday!
- Field Hockey - Senior Girls
- Rugby - Bantam Boys
- Soccer - Senior Boys
- Soccer - Junior Boys
- Aquatics - Junior and Senior Boys & Girls
- Wrestling - Winter Sports are just around the corner and Wrestling is making a return to Rockridge! All athletes interested in wrestling should check in with Mr. Stefanon in E207. There will be an informational meeting to be announced soon for all interested.  
Practices will begin in November in Players Hall! No experience required.

**Fresh To You Fundraiser - Order deadline is October** 20th. Bundles will be ready for pick up sometime between November 15 - 25th. Specific dates to be determined. To order, click [here](#)

### **BC University & College Information Session @ Rockridge Monday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30PM**

Rockridge will host 14 BC post-secondary institutions Monday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students and their families are invited to participate in two information sessions from 6:30 to 7:10 PM and then from 7:15 to 7:55PM. Then from 8:00 - 8:30 PM all university representatives will be in Player's Hall to answer questions. Institutions attending include UVIC, SFU, CapilanoU, BCIT, etc. These institutions will not be presenting at the school again this year so please attend these sessions. Not only is this a great opportunity for our grade 12's but also for students in grade 11 and 10 who are starting to plan and explore their options.

### **2024 Grad Event - Boat Cruise - Thursday, November 2nd**

The Grad Committee and Rockridge Administration are organizing a Grad Boat Cruise on November 2nd. Details are provided in the attached letter. [Rockridge Boat Cruise Parent Permission](#)  
The cost of this event is \$75.00 and will be payable on School Cash Online beginning Wednesday, October 18th.

### **Rockridge Grad Photos**

Grad Cap and Gown + Fashion Photos + Video 'Shout Out' AND Buddy sessions are quickly approaching! Grad Sessions will take place from November 7-10 & 14, at the school. Buddy sessions are also scheduled on November 14th.

Don't miss out on your opportunity to celebrate and mark this memorable time in your life! These photos will be included in the yearbook, grad wall composite and will include a proofing gallery for you to view and order. For more information on the sessions please visit this link:

[www.gradsbc.com/school/rkr](http://www.gradsbc.com/school/rkr)

**To book your preferred session time, please visit these links:**

**Grad Cap and Gown** <https://gradsbc.as.me/schedule.php?appointmentType=3507613>

**Buddies (Friend group photos)** <https://gradsbc.as.me/schedule.php?calendarID=9057679>

The web link [www.gradsbc.com/school/rkr](http://www.gradsbc.com/school/rkr) will also give you specific details on the services and products you will be receiving from GradsBC; starting with fall portraits all the way to your yearend grad events. You will also find highlight videos from past grad years so you can get a glimpse of what's to come!

**Questions?** Please call the GradsBC office: 604-461-3722 or [info@gradsbc.com](mailto:info@gradsbc.com)

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## **ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS**

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### **October PAC Meeting: Notes & Resources**

At the PAC meeting yesterday morning, Lisa McComb, CPA BC, spoke to parents on financial literacy for pre-teens, teens and emerging adults. It was a very informative and helpful session. As such, we are [sharing the presentation slides and worksheets](#) with you on the PAC website. Minutes, which will include Principal Kolkea's presentation, will be distributed next week. Thanks to everyone who attended!

**[A Not So Silent Night: Sat, Nov 25th - Tickets on Sale Now!](#)**

We are getting ready to kick off the festive season at “A Not So Silent Night” Party & Fundraiser to support the PAC in raising funds for projects and programs that directly benefit our students.

Join friends under the twinkling lights for an evening of festive fun and delectable bites at the Gleneagles Clubhouse. Enjoy the silent auction and hit the dance floor as our DJ sets the soundtrack for an unforgettable evening. [Tickets are \\$75 per person and are available online.](#) *Note: when you check out, there is a “support the free Canadian platform” line item that defaults to 15% - it works like a tip, and you can enter whatever you wish incl. 0%. We chose Zeffy because it’s a free fundraising site so 100% of the ticket value goes to our event with all proceeds supporting our school.* Event poster is in Raven Life!

### **P2P Social Events**

Great to see so many parents at the first P2P social last Friday at The Orchard! We’re excited for this year ahead and many more opportunities to get together. To join the conversation, sign up for the [P2P WhatsApp group](#).

Follow Rockridge PAC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)! Find more [upcoming events](#) on the ROPAC website.

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## **ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

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### **Student Verification & Emergency Release Forms - Overdue**

These forms were sent home with your child at the beginning of the school year. As these forms are necessary to complete the Emergency Preparedness Plan per school district requirements, we appreciate your adherence, completion and return of these forms.

### **Online Policies & Procedures Form - Overdue 2023-2024-<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/policies-and-procedures-form/>**

This online verification and consent form requires a parent login and must be submitted for each student at the start of each school year. We ask that it is submitted ONLY ONCE PER STUDENT, as the upload gets very onerous with multiple submissions. **Again, we are only at 60% and we need to be at 100%. For later changes, please inform the office.**

- If you previously created an account to complete the 22/23 form, the account is the same.
- If you have forgotten your password, you can follow the instructions to reset it.
- Once logged in, you will have the option to either update a P+P form created last year or start a new one.
- **Without a completed consent form, students will not be permitted to attend field trips, join school teams or have their photos included in the yearbook. Permissions expire on August 31 each year.**

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## **COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS**

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**West Vancouver Minor Hockey Association's 3rd annual 'Girl Power'** Fri, Oct 20th 1 - 4 p.m. WV Arena. This FREE event is open to all girls living in West Van from 5 - 18 years of age. No experience is necessary! There will be on-ice and off-ice sessions and even a pizza party! Gear will be provided for those new to the sport. That evening all interested girls can attend a UBC Thunderbirds female hockey game vs Trinity Western (transportation not provided). Tickets are free for Girl Power participants + 1 adult each! Please register [HERE](#) as soon as possible to secure your spot.

### **Library Study Club for Bowen Island Students**

Bowen Library is running a free Study Club program for high school students starting in the new year. We would appreciate it if you could share this information with interested students.

Here are the details, which are also listed online at [bipl.ca/studyclub](http://bipl.ca/studyclub)

- Wednesdays at 4-5 pm, Jan 10- Feb 28
- Held in the Bowen Library Flex Room
- Those interested in volunteer peer tutoring can email [info@bowenlibrary.ca](mailto:info@bowenlibrary.ca)

### **Kay Meek Promotional Offer**

Kay Meek Theatre is offering discounted tickets to the following concerts:

- Trio Fibonacci – Apply code TRIOF5
- Serenades and Divertimenti – apply code VETTA

Link to the website: <https://kaymeek.com/events/triofibonacci-1022>

### **COUNSELLORS' CORNER**

**[Youth For Youth Leadership Training: Resilience & Wellness - UPDATED - this event is now FREE](#)**

### **Family Smart Monthly Online Events for Parents and Caregivers October 2023**

- **Fri, Oct 20 | 6 to 9pm (pre-workshop social event) & Sat, Oct 21 | 10am to 4pm (workshop)**
- **Gleneagles Clubhouse – Great Hall 6190 Marine Dr, West Vancouver**
- **For grades 8-12 | **FREE REGISTRATION (all meals included) - Use MY as the reference****

The District of West Vancouver, in partnership with our Youth Advisory Committee, has heard loud and clear from youth across West Vancouver that they are looking for:

- Training and tips to strengthen their resilience and mental health to deal with the challenges of school and life, and to help their friends do the same.
- Meaningful opportunities to impact the development of services and programs for themselves and their peers in their own communities.
- The chance to better understand the various wellness, recreation, volunteer, employment and other resources available to them in their own backyards; and
- Social opportunities to connect with other youth, make friends, have fun, etc. ...

So, we've decided to take action and bring folks together for some fun and learning in a safe environment – with food, prizes and games included! Please check out more information at the following link (where you can also register for this wonderful opportunity).

## Language Challenge Exams

The deadline for applications to the 2023/2024 Language Challenge Exams is **November 3, 2023**.

- Exams will take place on Saturday, **January 27th** and Sunday, **January 28th**, 2024. Your exam will take around three hours – you will be informed whether your exam is scheduled for the morning or afternoon.
- In the Challenge Exam Application Package, Page 9 is to be filled out online before you print the package. You will see the highlighted areas and drop boxes where you should type.
- Confirmation emails will be sent out by **December 15, 2023**. If you have not received an email confirmation letter after that date, please contact us by email ([pmanuel@deltaschools.ca](mailto:pmanuel@deltaschools.ca)) or call 604-940-5550.
- All universities in Canada accept Language Challenge exam marks. UBC accepts Challenge credits for pre-requisite requirements for courses and second-language requirements but does not accept Challenge marks as part of the GPA calculation for admission. It is highly recommended that you check with your intended university for their admissions requirements.

If you have questions, please see your counsellor. Access the link below for application and more info.  
<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/secondary/challenge-exams>

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## REPOSTED & HELPFUL INFORMATION

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### ATTENDANCE - Notifying the Office and Extended Absences

If you know your student will not be in attendance for all, or part of a school day, we ask that you please let our office know in advance - [rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca) Please include your child's first and last name in your email.

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.

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

Apply now and welcome a student.

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 excerpt below from a new student 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](#)

### **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)

Student schedules are available on the [MyEd BC Parent Portal](#). Trouble logging in? - Click on the [School District's My Ed Family Portal Page](#) for step by step instruction.

### **OPTIONAL - Accident Insurance for Families**

Each year the school district reminds families that they have the option to purchase insurance coverage against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. There are many different voluntary plans that provide coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. Families are encouraged to do their due diligence when choosing a provider.

### **Student Bus Transportation - IMPORTANT**

Each student must register (by completing the online registration request form:

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/transportation-form/> to reserve a seat on the bus.

Please be sure to submit the online registration form via the link above, and that you have received confirmation from Transportation SD45.