



# ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Dec 12, 2024

**ROCKRIDGE LINKS:**

[Rockridge Secondary School website](#)

[WV School District Website](#)

[Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram](#)

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

[Morning Announcements](#): *Bookmark this link for daily news, updates and Rockridge Athletics schedules*

CALENDAR UPDATE	
Fri, Dec 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holiday Sweater Day - Watch for more themes from Student Council</li> </ul>
Sat, Dec 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raven Ruckus at the Rock - Wrestling Team - Gym</li> </ul>
Mon, Dec 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tour of the Rock   12-1 pm</li> </ul>
Thurs, Dec 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Join Student Council &amp; Jazz Band for Hot Chocolate in the Cafeteria   8:00 am</li> <li>LSP to Grouse Mtn   9:00am – 3:00pm</li> <li>Alumni Insight Event   12:50 – 1:35pm</li> <li>Arts 8 Rotation #1 Reports Posted</li> </ul>
Fri, Dec 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pancake Breakfast   7:45 am</li> <li>12:00 PM Student Dismissal - Happy Holidays!</li> </ul>
UPCOMING	
Winter Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dec 23 - Jan 3 - School Closed</li> </ul>
Jan 7th, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents as Education and Career Coaches virtual presentation - Register <a href="#">here</a></li> </ul>
Jan 9th, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Night for Incoming Gr 8 Students and Families</li> </ul>
FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS	
<a href="#">2024-25 At A Glance Calendar</a>	
<a href="#">WV Youth Services click here</a>	

**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

With the holiday break approaching, excitement is building among our Raven students, families, and staff as we look forward to the holiday season. At the same time, December brings the challenge of balancing busy social and family schedules with the important work of staying on top of assignments and learning tasks before the break.

In our school community, we value the importance of doing our best learning and encourage students to maintain their focus and commitment even during this special season. This shared dedication—among families at home, students in the classroom, and our staff—ensures a strong finish to the calendar year, setting a positive tone for the new year ahead.

Rockridge students and staff are just a week away from the last school day of 2024. Next Friday features a special schedule for our morning of festive fun for the Raven community! It is a great *last day* tradition that kicks off with the pancake breakfast and concludes a whole school dance event in the gym before an early dismissal at 12:00PM. Students will see the details of the schedule posted next week on our announcements and hallway TVs.

**LOST & FOUND** - is on display in the hallway of the school - Students, please collect your belongings

### **SANTA'S BREAKFAST**

Rockridge Student Council welcomes all students and staff to attend our annual Santa's Breakfast on Friday, Dec 20th. Cost is by donation (suggested donation \$5) with all proceeds supporting community philanthropic initiatives.

*Be sure to check out this week's attached **Raven Life** PDF . . . it is one of our best of 2024. You'll see updates on student learning, sports, posters of upcoming ROPAC events, photos and more from this week at The Rock.*

From your MYP Coordinators: **PARENT COMMUNITY: WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!**

From **April 14 - 16, 2025** we will be having a virtual visit from the International Baccalaureate to evaluate the ongoing implementation of the Middle Years Program here at Rockridge. We are looking for a group of parents who would be willing to participate in the evaluation of the program. ***Thank you to the parents who signed up already! We'd like some other voices to be added as well!***

Your commitment would mean that you'll:

- Try to attend two 'Coffee with the Coordinators' mornings from 7:30 - 8:30 (*January 21 & March 6*) to help set you up for the topics that would be discussed with the virtually visiting officials.
- The evaluation meeting with the IB evaluation team in April (*30 minutes maximum during school hours on Tuesday April 15*).

The evaluation meeting is a time for honest discussion with the IB team regarding your knowledge and thoughts regarding the MYP program here at the school.

*Could this be you? Could we add you to our parent feedback team?*

If so, please fill out [THIS FORM](#). Thank you! (We will be in touch soon!)

### **SAVE THE DATE: PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION**

You're invited to save the date for this year's Personal Project Exhibition!!! (***see the Raven Life for our poster***)

This is an exciting day where we celebrate our Grade 10'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 6th, 2025 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 then EVEN more beyond that! 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!

*Your RR MYP Coordinators, Meghan LeSieur & Rhonette Millare*

### **West Vancouver Schools Registration Opens January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**K-12 registration for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on January 15!** If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help spread the word about this important date.

West Vancouver Schools offer a wonderful opportunity to be part of a community that values excellence in education. Our schools take pride in creating meaningful learning experiences and providing opportunities that support the growth, well-being, and success of every student.

To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page: [West Vancouver Schools Admissions](#)

We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our vibrant and supportive school community!

**\*Information Night for Incoming Gr 8 Students and Families-Jan 9th, 2025 | 6-7:30 pm - see Raven Life**

### **PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICE EXPECTATIONS**

As we reflect on the first four months of the school year, we're proud to recognize the progress we've made together in implementing our Personal Digital Device (PDD) expectations. Thanks to the collective efforts of our students, families, and staff, we've seen a significant improvement in how digital devices are used in our schools. This has fostered more focused and engaged learning environments, aligning with our shared goal of supporting student success.

This success would not have been possible without everyone's ongoing support and commitment. While we celebrate these strides, it's important that we remain consistent in maintaining these expectations and continue to remind and support students to ensure this positive momentum is sustained.

### **Why We're Doing This**

The purpose of these expectations is to minimize distractions and maximize learning opportunities. Digital devices, when used appropriately, are powerful tools for collaboration, creativity, and communication. However, ensuring they don't interrupt instructional time or disrupt the learning environment remains a priority.

## What You Can Continue to Do

Here are some ways families can help reinforce these expectations at home:

1. **Celebrate Progress** - Acknowledge your child's efforts in adhering to the guidelines and discuss how this has positively impacted their focus and learning.
2. **Reinforce Healthy Habits** - Continue encouraging a balanced approach to device use at home by promoting activities like reading, outdoor play, and family time.
3. **Model Consistency** - Show your support by modeling mindful device use when on the school grounds or in the school building AND during shared family time.
4. **Support School Communication** - Please avoid contacting your child during instructional time, this includes communication through phones and smartwatches. Remind them that non-urgent messages can wait until after school. If urgent communication is needed, please contact the school office.
5. **Stay Engaged** - Revisit the Parent/Guardian Guide to Personal Digital Devices to refresh your understanding of the expectations and discuss them with your child.

Thank you for your partnership and continued support in making this initiative a success.

Add the Personal Digital Device Expectations for the New year blurb to eBulletins on January 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

## Personal Digital Device Expectations for the New Year

As we begin a new term, we'd like to remind students and families of our **Personal Digital Device (PDD) expectations**, which have been key to fostering focused and engaging learning environments.

Students are expected to use personal digital devices only with the explicit permission of a teacher or administrator, ensuring their use is intentional and supports learning.

Families can continue to support this by:

- Encouraging balanced screen time at home.
- Avoiding calls or texts to students during school hours.
- Modeling mindful device use when on school property and at home.

*Let's keep building on the success of this initiative and continue supporting safe, focused learning for all!*

## Annual Winter Weather Reminder - See [Weather Closures and Procedures](#)

With the recent weather events and the potential of flurries, we wanted to remind everyone of the West Vancouver Schools *Winter Weather* protocols.

West Vancouver Schools endeavours to keep schools open on regular instructional days, including those with accumulating snowfall ([Weather Closures and Procedures](#)). Any decision to close schools will be made by the Superintendent and will be based on the safety of students and staff. We aim to communicate any decision to close schools by 6:00 am.

Please check the [school district website](#) for the most current information on school closures.

## TOUR OF THE ROCK DAY

The next tours will be Monday, December 16 and January 13th @ 12:00PM to 1:00 PM. Do you know a family that may be interested in registering at Rockridge in the future? Please pass along this information to them so they can join us for our next school tour. The Tour of the Rock is hosted and led by our principal or vice-principal and senior student leaders. Inquiries and RSVP:

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

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## ROCKRIDGE SENIOR STUDENTS' INFORMATION

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### **Alumni Insights Event - Thurs, Dec 19th from 1:00-1:40 pm in Player's Hall**

We are reaching out to our Rockridge alumni who are eager to share their diverse post-secondary experiences, spanning a wide range of paths such as gap years, trades work, international exchange, internships, university programs, clubs, athletics, and more. We are hoping their unique journeys can provide invaluable insights and inspiration to our current senior students who are navigating their own paths towards higher education and beyond.

Alumni interested in attending should email [laldred@wvschools.ca](mailto:laldred@wvschools.ca)

### **Parents as Education and Career Coaches**

**EducationPlannerBC invites parents, families, and student supporters to join our virtual presentation on Tuesday, January 7, 2025.**

Learn about post-secondary education and career opportunities, as well as tools to best support your student in planning for their future. The information will be especially helpful for families with students in grades 10-12.

Come explore our website! Search thousands of programs, get to know trades, and discover career paths. Find helpful resources, including financial aid options, admission requirements, FAQs, and the Glossary. Learn how to create an account, save programs, paths, and careers to My List, and apply to post-secondary in B.C.

**EducationPlannerBC with SD 44, 45, 46, 48**

**School Districts: North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Sunshine Coast, Sea to Sky**

**Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

**6:30 – 7:45 p.m.**

Registration is required. Register [here](#).

The session will be on MS Teams.

For more information: [support@educationplannerbc.ca](mailto:support@educationplannerbc.ca)

**School district contact: SD 45 West Vancouver: Leesa Aildred [LAlldred@wvschools.ca](mailto:LAlldred@wvschools.ca)**

**Also note, we will not be recording the session. We will, however, email all registrants the next day with some links and resources shared during the presentation.**

## Rockridge Grad Class Calendar 2025

To assist parents and students in the Grad Class of 2025, please see the following Rockridge calendar links:

- **For Students:** [bit.ly/postsecondaryrockridge](https://bit.ly/postsecondaryrockridge)
- **For Parents & Guardians:** [Here is the link to view the calendar using your browser](#)

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## ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

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### SCHOOL FEES - SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

- Course Fees have now been posted to School Cash Online (SCO) accounts.
- You can find Registration SCO Instructions [here](#). Please contact Rockridge Accounting [rockridgeaccounting@wvschools.ca](mailto:rockridgeaccounting@wvschools.ca) in the main office if you have any questions or require assistance with logging in.

### ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS THIS WEEK

#### Online Policies & Procedures [Form 2024-2025](#) - Now at 84% of online consent forms completed!

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 in September, as the upload gets very onerous with multiple submissions. 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.

### FEEDING FUTURES

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare [Feeding Futures initiative](#), the West Vancouver School District has established a food security structure to confidentially assist students and families. The West Vancouver School District Food Security Plan will help students and families by providing confidential financial support for families facing food insecurity. Families are encouraged to reach out directly to Mr. Kolkea [tkolkea@wvschools.ca](mailto:tkolkea@wvschools.ca) or to [feedingfutures@wvschools.ca](mailto:feedingfutures@wvschools.ca) if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.

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## ROCKRIDGE ATHLETICS

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If you are looking to keep up with our Raven Athletics Events, just scroll through our [Morning](#)

[Announcements](#). The second page of the announcements is dedicated to Raven Athletics teams, schedules, upcoming events and results.

We are always looking for passionate individuals who want to create positive experiences for our student athletes. If you are keen to volunteer your time with us next year, please complete the Coaching Expression of Interest form linked below: [Expression of Interest Form](#)

Should you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to our new Athletic Director Mr. Stefanon, [mstefanon@wvschools.ca](mailto:mstefanon@wvschools.ca) *Go Ravens!*

### **Wrestling - Boys**

- [Team Schedule](#)
- The team has a busy week heading up the coast to Elphinstone for the Richie Rumble and then hosting our inaugural "Raven Ruckus at The Rock" this Saturday Dec 14.
- Thursday Dec 12 | Richie Rumble @ [Elphinstone Secondary School](#) (**Excused All Day**)
  - **9:45 AM Sailing - Meet @ Ticket Booth for Walk-on by 8:50 AM**
- Saturday Dec 14 | Raven ruckus at The Rock @ [Rockridge Secondary](#) | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

### **Alpine Race Team - Ski & Snowboard**

- [Team Schedule](#)
- **Please complete payment this week on SchoolCash or your spot will be given to the next in line.**

### **Basketball - Senior Boys**

- [Team Schedule](#)
- Thursday Dec 12 | Day 1 Jake Creasy Tourney @ [GW Graham Secondary School](#) (**Excused All Day**)
- Friday Dec 13 | Day 2 Jake Creasy Tourney @ [GW Graham Secondary School](#) (**Excused All Day**)
- Saturday Dec 14 | Day 3 Jake Creasy Tourney @ [GW Graham Secondary School](#)
- Monday Dec 16 | Game vs Sentinel @ [Sentinel Secondary](#) | 7:30 PM
- Wednesday Dec 18 | Game vs Sentinel @ **HOME** | 7:30 PM

### **Basketball - Senior Girls**

- [Team Roster](#) & [Team Schedule](#)
- Thursday Dec 12 | Game vs Seycove @ [Seycove Secondary School](#) | 7:30 PM

### **Basketball - Junior Boys**

- [Team Schedule](#)
- Thursday Dec 12 | Game vs Seycove @ **HOME** | 6:00 PM
- Wednesday Dec 18 | Game vs Sentinel @ **HOME** | 6:00 PM

### **Basketball - Junior Girls**

- [Team Schedule](#)

### **Basketball - Juvenile Boys**

- [Team Schedule](#)
- Wednesday Dec 18 | Game vs Sentinel @ **HOME** | 4:30 PM

### Basketball - Bantam Boys

- [Team Schedule](#)
- Thursday Dec 12 | Capilano Blues Tournament Day 1 vs TBA @ [Capilano University](#)
- Friday Dec 13 | Capilano Blues Tournament Day 2 vs TBA @ [Capilano University](#)
- Saturday Dec 14 | Capilano Blues Tournament Day 3 vs TBA @ [Capilano University](#)
- Monday Dec 16 | Game vs Carson Graham Black @ [Carson Graham Secondary School](#) | 4:00 PM  
*(Dismissal 2:40 PM)*

### Basketball - Bantam Girls

- [Team Schedule](#)
- Thursday Dec 12 | Game vs Collingwood @ **HOME** | 4:00 PM
- Tuesday Dec 17 | Game vs Windsor @ [Windsor Secondary](#) | 4:00 PM *(Dismissal 2:20 PM)*

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## ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS

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### Let's Spread some Holiday Cheer – Time is Running Out!

The Staff Appreciation Holiday Luncheon is **next week on Friday, December 20**, and we need your help!

We're still looking for:

- **Homemade or store-bought dishes** – mains, sides, desserts, or beverages
- **Festive poinsettias** to add a holiday touch
- **Volunteers** to assist during the celebration

Click [here to sign up](#) now and show your support.

**IMPORTANT:** Label all dishes with a complete list of ingredients.

- Disposable dishes preferred. If you are sending dishware, please label it with your name and number. Pick-up available the same day after pick-up or on Jan 6 outside the main office.
- No time to provide food? A monetary donation would go a long way in creating a special meal.  
[Click here to donate](#)
- Questions? Reach out to Sophie Ukani at [sophieukani@yahoo.com](mailto:sophieukani@yahoo.com)

We need you to make this holiday season truly unforgettable for our wonderful Rockridge teachers, support staff and administrators!

### Thank you for joining us!

Big thanks to everyone who came out to last week's **P2P Coffee at the Bakehouse**. It was awesome to catch up over a cozy cup. We can't wait to see you at the next one in the new year! Stay tuned for details.

Follow ROPAC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) Rockridge WhatsApp Groups: [Parent Info](#) (brief one-way info) and [P2P](#) (parent conversation).



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## COUNSELLORS' CORNER

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### **West Vancouver Schools Counselling**

At West Vancouver Schools, we acknowledge the importance of high school course selection, post-secondary guidance and the role of schools in supporting improved student mental health outcomes. We maintain a collaborative website with the counselling teams from Rockridge, Sentinel and West Vancouver Secondary. In this website there are an abundance of resources for students that will help guide them to whatever level of education they desire: from grade school to graduate school. You can find the [Counselling site](#) under the DEPARTMENT tab on the [Rockridge Secondary School website](#).

**FAMILY SMART Monthly Events - LINK** - Online & In-Person for Parents and Caregivers 2024.

### **Federal Mental Health/Suicide Crisis helpline: 9-8-8 Call or Text**

You deserve to be heard. A safe space to talk, 24 hours a day, every day of the year. <https://988.ca/>

### **Mental Health and Substance Use: A Resource for Educators and School Communities**

[Language Matters! An Introductory Guide for Understanding Mental Health and Substance Use: A Resource for Educators and School Communities](#) is now officially available on the [mental health and well-being](#) erase website.

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## ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

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For "Community Connections" including local programs, events, and resources click [HERE](#).

### **Homestay Families Needed**

Each year, the West Vancouver School District welcomes students from around the world to live and study in our vibrant community. We strive to place secondary school international students with families who live in West Vancouver to support each student's integration into the school and wider community.

Share your home and your heart

1. \$28,000\* in reimbursements
2. Full-service homestay team support
3. Single placements and 5-month students available

\*Based on two international students both hosted from September to June.

If you are interested in hosting an international student, please reach out to our Homestay Coordinators at [homestay@wvschools.ca](mailto:homestay@wvschools.ca). More information about the homestay program is available on our website at <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/international/>.

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## FAQ & 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 and reason for absence 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.

## ROCKRIDGE CALENDAR

- This is a very helpful resource to access for daily block rotations and school events.
- Please click the following link to access the [FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR](#)
- Then click *Subscribe* in the task bar above the calendar.
- Please ask your child if they have subscribed as well!

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If there are any changes to address, legal custody, or citizenship status, please upload documentation to support the changes using [this link](#). The changes will not be reflected until the documentation is submitted.

## MYED BC Parent Portal

For all students and parents, logging into the MYED portal is a very important step in supporting your child's learning and progress at Rockridge.

If you need assistance logging onto the parent portal, please use this link [MyEd Parent Portal](#) for instructions on registering your MyEdBC account. Each parent or guardian has their own separate account. If you are having difficulty accessing your account, please see the online video aid [here](#). If you have further questions, please email [Rockridge@wvschools.ca](mailto:Rockridge@wvschools.ca)

## School Drop Off/Pick Up Safety

As you are probably aware, there can be heavy traffic around our school site at opening and dismissal times. It is difficult for vehicles to enter and exit our school parking areas as well as the Caulfeild Mall. The passage of emergency vehicles would be impeded which is of considerable concern. Please consider carpooling, dropping off and picking up your children at a predetermined location away from the school property, and encouraging active transportation (biking, walking). Another helpful action, if possible, for those that have to drive is dropping off your child early. An 8:00 AM arrival is always a great plan and chance to hang in the cafeteria, get some work done at a hallway workstation, or connect with a teacher.

Please note that designated visitor parking spaces at the front of the school are a 'no parking' zone in the morning and after school. The driveway in front of the school entrance is a NO STOPPING zone. All numbered parking spaces are designated for individual staff members. Please do not park in these spaces at any time during school hours.

## ATTENTION DOG WALKERS

The Rockridge sports field is a Classroom space, used by classes and teams, many of which have begun regular practices and games this fall. There has been a large amount of Dog Poop that is not only a

distraction and slipping hazard, but also a health issue. We remind our community members that West Vancouver Bylaw prohibits dogs on the field and thank you for your cooperation in respecting this outdoor classroom space. \*We would appreciate it if you would pass this on to other community members who should have this information.