



ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Jan 16, 2025

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	
Thurs, Jan 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Basketball – Senior’s Night TONIGHT– see details in Athletics 5:00 pm ● Jazz Camp Evening - rehearsal for VSO Encounters
Mon, Jan 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rockridge VP Stew Baker Visits Caulfeild @ 1pm
Tues, Jan 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rockridge VP Stew Baker Visits Gleneagles @ 1pm
Wed, Jan 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EducationplannerBC Virtual Info Session 6:30 – 7:30pm Register
Thurs, Jan 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rockridge VP Stew Baker Visits BICS @ 1pm
Fri, Jan 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rockridge VP Stew Baker Visits West Bay @ 9 am
UPCOMING	
Jan 27th, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ProD Day - No Classes in Session
Jan 29th, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early Dismissal 11:50 ● Parent Teacher Conferences - Virtual 1:00 – 5:00pm
Mar 6, 7 & 8 @ 7:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Theatre Company Performance in Player’s Hall “She Kills Monsters- Young Adventurers Edition”
FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS	
2024-25 At A Glance Calendar	
WV Youth Services click here	

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

There are many special moments in a day in the life of the Rockridge principal and last Friday afternoon was definitely one of them. To follow up on our Grade 7 to 8 Open House last Thursday, we invited our feeder school students from Bowen Island, West Bay, Gleneagles and Caulfeild to Flock to The Rock. This was a spirit filled afternoon for future Ravens to see a high school basketball game, but also featured our athletic leadership students, drumline and theatre company. In short, ‘all things Rockridge’ were packed into two spirited hours that definitely left our guests impressed and excited to come to The Rock next year.

[Flock to The Rock 2025](#) - check out the one-minute video showcasing the inaugural Flock to The Rock.

Another one minute video I am very pleased to share with you comes from our performing arts students here at Rockridge. This link takes you to our Theatre Company Spring Production Trailer - shows are coming up in the first week in March. [Rockridge Theatre Company Presents- She Kills Monsters.mov](#) Look for posters and details for ticket sales coming soon.

My last thoughts to share this week are congratulations to the Class of 2027. These hardworking Gr. 10 Ravens completed their first round of Graduation Literacy Assessments this week (GLA). As I have seen in previous years, our grade 10 students put in their best effort and dedicated themselves to completing this demanding online assessment. In speaking with many Gr. 10 students this week, their responses indicated that they were well prepared for the level of questions but found the assessment very long.

*Be sure to check out this week's attached **Raven Life** PDF. It is another fantastic edition! You'll see updates on student learning, sports, posters of upcoming events, photos and more from this week at The Rock.*

PARENT TEACHER VIRTUAL CONFERENCES – Wednesday, January 29 FROM 1:00-3:00pm, 3:30-5:00pm

We are once again using an online Parent-Teacher Interview scheduling program

[\(<http://rss.schoolappointments.com>\)](http://rss.schoolappointments.com). Access to the system opens at 6:00 pm on Monday, January 13 and will close at 10:00pm on Sunday, January 26. You will be able to create an account, enter your children and then schedule interview times for you to meet with their teachers virtually. Please review [these instructions](#) to set up your account and book appointments.

Appointment scheduling will run in five-minute intervals. It is advisable to schedule your appointments with one five-minute block in between, to allow yourself time and not be rushed. There is a maximum of three appointments per student. Due to a limited number of timeslots, it is recommended that parents make their teacher selections accordingly. However, while this time is specifically set aside for parents to connect with teachers, at Rockridge we always welcome parents to reach out to teachers via email should you have further questions.

The system is very easy to use, and it should take only a few minutes to set up your account, add your children and schedule your appointments. To get started, click on the "REGISTER" tab. See the attachment for detailed instructions. On the day of the appointments - please review [these instructions for how to access the meetings through google meet](#).

Parents please note there will be an early dismissal & the bell schedule is as follows.

Early Dismissal	Times
Period 1	8:30 - 9:30 am

<i>Break</i>	<i>9:30 - 9:40 am</i>
<i>Period 2</i>	<i>9:40 - 10:40 am</i>
<i>Break</i>	<i>10:40 -10:50 am</i>
<i>Period 3</i>	<i>10:50 - 11:50 am</i>
<i>Dismissal</i>	<i>11:50 am</i>
<i>PT Interviews</i>	<i>1:00 - 3 pm</i> <i>3:30 - 5:00 pm</i>

FROM YOUR MYP COORDINATORS:

Self-Study! Self-Study! Self-Study!

As we've been mentioning over the past weeks, as part of our upcoming Evaluation by the IB (in April), we are required to complete a reflection and consolidation process regarding our running of the Middle Years Program here at Rockridge. That process is called a Self-Study!

Teachers were continuing to complete their associated portions during Collaboration time today.

We need YOUR help with YOUR portion of the Self-Study! We would truly appreciate you taking the time to click and complete [this form](#)!

Personal Project Exhibition is Coming!

It's almost time for our favourite MYP event of the year! You are all invited to attend next week's **Personal Project Exhibition on Thursday, February 6th**. The event will take place throughout **our ENTIRE first floor** from **6:00 to 7:30 p.m.**, and will feature over 190 passion projects by our current Grade 10 students. This will truly be a special and memorable occasion, and we honestly can't wait for you to experience the beautiful celebration that is the Personal Project Exhibition.

Grade 10 Parents and Guardians!

We have visited all of the CLE 10 classes this past week to talk about what the Exhibition will be like and how students should prepare.

We let them know that the set-up will take place AFTER SCHOOL on Wed. Feb. 5, so that if students have

any larger items to bring in, that you might be able to support them with that at that time (so they're not so stressed on Feb. 6!). Please help them plan accordingly. :)

West Vancouver Schools Registration:

K-12 registration for both in-district and out-of-district students opened 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](#)

TOUR OF THE ROCK DAY

The next tours are Monday Feb 10th & March 10th. Tours are 12:00 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

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!

[Some Digital Parenting Thoughts for 2025](#) - If you are not already following WV Schools or Superintendent, Chis Kennedy on Instagram, you may not have seen his most recent post. Superintendent Kennedy's blog is always a good read, and this week is no exception!

ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

Grade 8 Ski Day at Whistler – February 12th!

A fun and unique opportunity for students to get outside, stay active, and build their skills while learning to ski or snowboard. Students will be supervised and guided by certified Whistler Blackcomb instructors in small groups to ensure a safe, fun, and educational experience for all skill levels.

- Spots are limited to 40 students!
- Cost - \$160 (includes transportation, lift, lunch and rentals (if needed) and lesson)
- Permission forms are available through Ms. Brown Chelsea.Brown@wvschools.ca or on Google Classroom pa6vn3s.
- Forms are due ASAP

The University of Waterloo Math Contests

The University of Waterloo Math contest (Pascal for Grade 9s, Cayley for Grade 10s, and Fermat for Grade 11s) takes place on Wednesday, February 26th, 2025, from 8:30 – 9:30 am (1 hour) in the Library. This math contest challenges students from around the world with a range of abilities to grow valuable problem-solving skills.

If any student is interested in writing this contest, please pay \$6.00 on School Cash Online by February 9th. Questions can be directed to Matt Glover, Math Department Coordinator MGlover@wvschools.ca

More information and past contests for practice can be found at <https://cemc.uwaterloo.ca/contests/pcf>

ROCKRIDGE LSP is taking the plunge, again!

That's right! We loved this freezing cold fundraiser so much last year that we have registered *"The Chilly Ravens"* once again! If you would like to sponsor our team, please click [here](#)

Rockridge LSP will participate in the **North Shore Polar Plunge** on February 18th at Ambleside. This awesome and icy cold event raises money for [Special Olympics BC](#).

Grade 8 Advisory UPDATE

Congratulations to the **Supportive Green Snakes** for getting the most points for our trivia bingo activity this week!

Grade 8 Careers

Career Education 8 is a course that is delivered outside of the regular timetable. It is designed to support students as they grapple with questions related to identity, sense of belonging, and future career possibilities.

Moving forward, Careers 8 will leverage the support of our grade 10 mentorship program. What this means is that students will report to Players Hall according to their teams (see below). To facilitate the transition, mentors will collect students from the class prior to FIT, and bring them down to Players hall. With this change, we hope to increase engagement and a sense of belonging as students will be grouped in their teams, with the support of their G10 mentor.

This coming Monday (January 20th) will be (mentors to collect students)

RESILIENT Red Bulls

ADAPTABLE Black Penguins

VALIANT White Polar Bears

Thursday (January 23rd) will be (mentors to collect students)

EMPATHETIC Yellow Blobfish

NOBLE Orange Tigers

SUPPORTIVE Green Snakes

ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS

Reminder: First P2P Parent Coffee of the Year Tomorrow! - flyer

Start your morning with a warm cup of coffee, great company, and meaningful conversations! Don't miss the chance to connect with fellow parents at our first P2P Parent Coffee of the year. See you tomorrow at 9 am at the Bakehouse at Dundarave!

Parent Webinar: Support your Kids to Quit Vaping

Join [QuitNow BC](#) for a free, informative webinar designed to help parents navigate the challenges of youth vaping. Discover practical tips on talking to your kids and supporting them in quitting. Plus, learn about valuable QuitNow resources to assist your family.

- **When:** January 20, 7:00-7:30 pm
- **Register Now:** [link](#)

January PAC Meeting

Thank you, parents, for joining this morning's PAC meeting with Constable Jack Yee from the West Vancouver Police Department. We appreciate his valuable advice on keeping our kids safe in the digital world, including insights on digital footprints and their lasting impact.

DPAC Career and Post-Secondary session Nov. 29th, 2024 Video Recording

For any parents who didn't get a chance to attend the Career and Post-Secondary information DPAC session on November 29th here is a [LINK](#) to the video of the session. If you would like a copy of the powerpoint slides please see this [LINK](#).

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

ROCKRIDGE SENIOR STUDENTS' INFORMATION

Rockridge Grad Winter Formal

Grads are invited to attend their Winter Formal on Thursday, January 30th, 6:30-9:30 pm at The Pinnacle Hotel North Shore Ballroom.

- Tickets are available for purchase on [School Cash Online](#) from Jan 9 - 18th with limited seating
- Permission forms can be found on the Rockridge Grad Instagram or in the School Office.

ROCKRIDGE ATHLETICS

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. See *Raven Life* for highlights from the past week.

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 Athletic Director Mr. Stefanon, mstefanon@wvschools.ca *Go Ravens!*

Basketball – Senior's Night TONIGHT, Thursday Jan 16 – **see poster in Raven Life**

- **SENIOR Girls vs Bodwell @ HOME | 5:00 PM** (Festivities at 6:30 PM)
- **SENIOR Boys vs Bodwell @ HOME | 7:30 PM** (Festivities at 6:30 PM)

Wrestling - Boys

- Congratulations to the Boys Wrestling team who finished **3rd in the overall boys division at the Duke's Cup** this past weekend, and **2nd overall in the juvenile boys** division! Your Raven wrestler of the tournament was **Isa Gaffney!**
- Notable Results;
 - 1st Place | Evan Healey (66 kg Juvenile Boys)
 - 2nd Place | Isa Gaffney (66 kg Senior Boys)

- 2nd Place | Alex Chisholm (74 kg Senior Boys)
- Friday Jan 17 | The Raven Invite @ [Terry Fox Secondary School](#) | 10:00 AM (**Excused All Day**)
- Saturday Jan 18 | Westie's Cup @ [530 Queens Ave](#) | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Thursday Jan 23 | NSSAA Senior Championships @ [Sentinel Secondary](#) | 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (**Excused 2-4**)

COUNSELLORS' CORNER

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.

ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

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

WV SCHOOLS DISTRICT PROGRAMS

West Vancouver Schools has created a richly woven learning experience designed to educate the 'whole child' through academics, athletics, citizenship and the arts. Click here to view [WV SCHOOLS DISTRICT PROGRAMS](#)

Applications from students registered in any one of the school district's secondary schools are now being accepted. See the attached document for further information about the following Premier programs.

- **Computer Information Systems 12 – Cybersecurity & Artificial Intelligence [Apply](#)**
- **FAST (First Aid Swim Training) Program - [CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY NOW!](#)**
Program Information Night - Tuesday, February 4th 6:00 pm – Rockridge Secondary School

- [Yoga Teacher Training Information Session – Tues Feb 4th 5:30 p.m. WVSS Library - Apply](#)
- [YELL Entrepreneurship 12 - APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW!](#)
- [PHE Outdoor Recreation program - Click here for more information and Apply now](#)

ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS

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 or to 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.

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.

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. More information about the homestay program is available on our website at <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/international/>.

FAQ & HELPFUL INFORMATION

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 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

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.