



ROCKRIDGE

ESSE QUAM VIDERI



Jan 23, 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	
Fri, Jan 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rockridge VP Stew Baker Visits West Bay @ 9 am ● Atelier Cuisine visits French Classes 10:00am – 12:00pm ● IPS Student Orientation Visit 12:45 – 1:30 pm
Sat, Jan 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drumline Camp @ Rockridge
Mon, Jan 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ProD Day - No Classes in Session
Tues, Jan 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
Wed, Jan 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early Dismissal 11:50 am ● Parent Teacher Conferences - Virtual 1:00 – 5:00pm
Thurs, Jan 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaboration Day 9:30 AM start for students (schedule below) ● Grad Winter Formal - Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier 6:30-9:30 pm
Fri, Jan 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VMUN Jan 31 – Feb 1, 2025
UPCOMING	
Feb 4 – 5, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Foundations of Math 12 Midterms
Feb 6, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PERSONAL PROJECT EXHIBITION 6 pm
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” - see poster in Raven Life
<u>FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS</u>	
<u>2024-25 At A Glance Calendar</u>	
<u>WV Youth Services click here</u>	

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Looking at the calendar we have a lot of opportunities ahead for students, parents, and staff to talk about learning here at Rockridge in the days ahead. Parent Teacher Interviews are perhaps top of mind for many of you and if not . . . there is still time to make requests in our system - just see the details below. Monday’s Professional Development Day gathers all staff across the district at WVSS for a variety of learning sessions. There are two notable upcoming presentations of learning we would like you to attend - the Grade 10 Personal Project Exhibition and Theatre Company Performance. In the Raven Life this week there is a unique photo from our AP Psychology class showcasing one of the unique learning opportunities in that course.

Earlier this week I was speaking with some ROPAC members, and we were reflecting on how important it is for me to share stories of student success from all realms of experiences here at The Rock. With this in mind, we have a new feature in our E-Bulletin called **Did You Know We Rock?** (I haven't settled on this title, but will try it out for this week).

DID YOU KNOW WE ROCK?

In response to the question above, I say “The results speak for themselves”. A remarkable 85% of our graduates transition to postsecondary education directly after graduation, with over half attending top universities outside of BC and Canada including McGill, U of T, Oxford, and UCLA. Two years after graduation, this number reaches 90% and higher. Alternatively, the average across BC of graduates who attend post secondary directly after graduation is approximately 50%. This level of success is no coincidence—our counsellors and Careers Department provide unmatched guidance, ensuring students have the tools to navigate competitive admissions processes and secure spots in elite programs, from Ivy League schools to direct-entry medicine, law, and beyond. This kind of leadership and guidance at Rockridge is not common in a public school setting, but it is part of the culture of our school and is one of the structures that leads to our student’s success.

*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
Student Early Dismissal 11:50 am**

We’re excited to welcome families to our online Parent-Teacher conferences next week. Please sign up to meet with your child’s teachers through the following link: (<http://rss.schoolappointments.com>). Access to the system will close at 10:00pm on Sunday, January 26. Please review [these instructions](#) to set up your account and book appointments. On the day of the appointments - please review [these instructions](#) for how to access the meetings through google meet.

COLLABORATION DAY - Thursday, Jan 30th

During our upcoming 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. See the bell schedule for the day below.

COLLABORATION DAY SCHEDULE

COLLAB DAY	Times
School Collab (55 min)	8:30 - 9:25am
Break (5 min)	9:25 - 9:30am

Period 1 (65 minutes)	9:30 - 10:35 am
Break (10 minutes)	10:35 - 10:45 am
Period 2 (60 minutes)	10:45 - 11:45 am
Break (10 minutes)	11:45 - 11:55am
Period 3 (60 minutes)	11:55 - 12:55 pm
Lunch (45 minutes)	12:55 - 1:40pm
Period 4 (65 minutes)	1:40 - 2:45 pm

FROM YOUR MYP COORDINATORS:

It's almost time for our favourite MYP event of the year! In just two weeks, the **Personal Project Exhibition** will take place on **Thursday, February 6th**. The event will take place throughout our First Floor **from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** and will feature almost 200 passion projects by our current Grade 10 students.

Students will be showcasing what they've developed and learned through their Personal Project journey. From science experiments to product designs, cookbooks to handcrafted goods, creative compositions to technical innovations—we'll have all this and so much more! For the parents of Grade 10 students, the Exhibition will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate your child's tremendous efforts and unique skills; for parents of junior students, the Exhibition will give you some insight and ideas into what your own child can look forward to accomplishing in a year or two.

Please come! We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Parents of Grade 10 Students:

To aid in planning both students' and your schedules, please be aware we've invited students to set up their Personal Project on Wednesday, February 5th after school. This is so that students who have larger products can coordinate bringing them to school with support as needed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Your MYP Coordinators,

Rhonette Millare & Meghan LeSieur

rmillare@wvschools.ca mlesieur@wvschools.ca

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

ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

You're invited to: *She Kills Monsters-Young Adventurers Edition* by Qui Nguyen - see poster in RL
Presented by Rockridge Theatre Company

A comedic romp into the world of fantasy role-playing games, *She Kills Monsters* is a high-octane dramatic comedy laden with homicidal fairies, nasty ogres, and 90s pop culture – a heart-pounding homage to the geek and warrior within us all.

See Trailer here: [Rockridge Theatre Company Presents- She Kills Monsters.mov](#)

- When: March 6, 7, 8- 7pm
- Where: Rockridge Players Hall
- PG-13

Purchase Tickets [here](#)

Follow us on Instagram [@rr_theatre_company](#)

Whistler Ski Snowboard day is now open to Grade 8, 9 and 10 students – 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](#).

ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS

Back by Popular Demand: Fireside Chat with Principal Kolkea and VPs Baker and Thomson

After the success of last year's fireside chat, we're excited to bring it back at next month's ROPAC meeting! This is your chance to connect with our school leadership team and hear about topics that matter most to you. We'd love to hear from you! To help us plan a focused and productive discussion, please email your questions to ropac@wvschools.ca by **Wednesday, February 12** so we can include them in the presentation. Don't miss this chance to connect and engage with our school admin team!

Mark your calendar for the **PAC Fireside Chat on February 20th, 6:30 pm in the Learning Commons**

Thank you for Joining our January PAC meeting

A big thank you to all the parents who attended our first ROPAC meeting of 2025! It was wonderful to start the year with such an engaged and enthusiastic group. A special thank you to Constables Yee and Tschritter from the West Vancouver Police Department for joining us to share valuable information about community safety, online safety and for answering parents' questions. For more information about online safety, they recommend visiting Foundry - <https://foundrybc.ca/articles/online-safety-the-basics/>

Missed the meeting? Check out our meeting minutes for a full recap of the discussion. Click [here](#) to view them.

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

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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!*

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 links below for further information about the following Premier programs.

- **2025-2026 CARPENTRY: YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES** Learn more [here](#) and apply [here](#)
- **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](#)

2025-2026 CARPENTRY: YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES PROGRAM INFORMATION. Applications OPEN - due Friday March 14th, 2025

Offered by West Vancouver Schools, this hands-on program is perfect for students passionate about learning practical skills in carpentry and construction. Whether you're exploring a future career or simply gaining a skill that lasts a lifetime, this program delivers. Learn from a Red Seal-certified instructor, earn 16 high school credits, achieve Level 1 Carpentry Training certification, and master essentials like blueprint reading and advanced tool use. Applications are OPEN until March 14, 2025. Learn more [here](#) and apply [here](#), or email pkashani@wvschools.ca
Bowen Community Recreation
[Click here](#) to explore extra-curricular activities available for students.

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.