

# Oct 2, 2025

#### **ROCKRIDGE LINKS:**

**Rockridge Secondary School website** 

**WV School District Website** 

Follow Rockridge Secondary on Instagram

Morning Announcements - Daily updates for students and parents/guardians. Information at this link is updated daily by 8:30am.

CALENDAR UPDATE	
Oct 5 - 11	Mental Illness Awareness Week
Tues, Oct 7	US University Mini Fair @ Rockridge Player's Hall   12:50 – 1:50pm
Wed, Oct 8	Grade 8 Camp Summit Oct 8-10
Thurs, Oct 9	Grade 8 Camp Summit Oct 8-10
Fri, Oct 10	WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY
	Grade 8 Camp Summit Oct 8-10
	UPCOMING
	FULL ROCKRIDGE WEBSITE CALENDAR with BLOCK ROTATIONS
	2025-26 At A Glance Calendar
	West Vancouver Schools Registration click <u>HERE</u>
	WV Youth Services click <u>here</u>

# **MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Tomorrow we will celebrate our remarkable Rockridge staff on World Teachers Day. Every staff member at The Rock plays an important and often unique role in supporting student learning. We could not operate a successful high school without every adult taking pride in the work they do to help our Ravens learn in a supported and safe space. Today is also a nice opportunity to welcome our newest staff member to Rockridge. Dominique Joseph will begin in her new role as our Youth Worker in the Counselling Suite on Monday, October 6th. We are thrilled to have filled this vacancy with Ms. Joseph who graduated from WV Schools and has experience supporting teenage youth here on the north shore. Students will be able to meet Dominique next week.

Speaking of next week, I am looking forward to spending time with the Class of 2030 at our annual Grade 8 camp at Camp Summit. I will be joining 15 Rockridge staff and 12 senior student leaders who will be supporting this outdoor adventure next week along with camp leaders from Camp Summit. It is a wonderful opportunity for our new Ravens to make new friends, build relationships with staff and challenge themselves in a variety of team building and personal pursuits.

Today's *Raven Life attached to this email* includes images from our fall sports, the annual surf trip, as well as upcoming ROPAC events.

#### **ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS**

**THE ROCKRIDGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT** Coffee Fundraiser is underway! See the *Raven Life* for details. All proceeds will offset student travel and equipment costs for our upcoming trips this year. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps to minimize individual costs at the time of travel.

## LANGUAGE CHALLENGE EXAMS - application deadline Oct 24th

Application available online, please print off, complete and bring to your counsellor by October 24th. Please follow this <u>link</u> for all information related to the 2025/26 Language Challenge Exams - Jan 31st & Feb 1st, 2026.

This year we are offering:
ASL 11 (American Sign Language)
Farsi 11 & 12
French 11 & 12
Japanese 11 & 12
Korean 11 & 12
Mandarin 11 & 12
Punjabi 11 & 12
Spanish 11 & 12

### **TOUR OF THE ROCK DAY**

Upcoming monthly Tours of The Rock are scheduled for Monday Oct 20th followed by Nov 17th. Tours run from 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: <a href="mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca">rockridge@wvschools.ca</a>

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

PARENT/GUARDIANS TO DO TODAY: Thank you to those who have completed the two forms required for each of our students. To ensure a safe and successful start to the school year, we ask you to complete two important forms for each student in your household. One is reviewing, making any updates to, and signing the single paper form called the **Student Verification Form**, which students were asked to bring home on the first day of school. The second form is the Online Policies & Procedures Form; <a href="https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP">https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP</a>

Both forms must be submitted at the start of each year. Without them, your child's participation in activities both in and outside of the classroom will be limited. Thus far we have 73% of students' P&P consent successfully submitted online.

If you have not yet completed these please see the attached letter called 2025-2026 Required Annual Parent/Guardian Forms Communication for full details.

#### **GRAD EVENTS - ROCKRIDGE GRAD BOAT CRUISE - OCTOBER 30th**

Our first school sponsored Grad event will be held on Thursday, October 30th. This year students will have a 3 hour harbour cruise departing from the Denman (Coal Harbour) Marina at 6:30-9:30 PM. Parents can purchase a ticket on School Cash Online. Forms are attached to the Grad 2026 Google Classroom and hard copies are available at the school. *Tickets remain on sale until Friday, October 10th.* 

## **ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS**

### We Want to Hear from You – Send us Your Questions for Our School Trustee

School Board Vice Chair, Sheelah Donahue will be our special guest at the next PAC meeting on Tuesday, October 14 from 8:30 am – 9:30 am in the Learning Commons. She's invited you to **submit questions in advance** for her to address during the session. Please send them to ropac@wvschools.ca by Monday, October 6.

We look forward to hearing your questions and hope you'll join us for some engaging conversation and light refreshments. Can't attend in person? No problem - we will include her responses in the meeting minutes, so you won't miss out on the discussion.

## 2025/26 Teaching Wish List Program – Now Underway!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of this year's **Teacher Wish List Program**, which gives Rockridge teachers the opportunity to request items that directly enhance student learning and classroom engagement.

Teachers have already started submitting their requests, and this program will be the primary focus of ROPAC fundraising this year. We can't wait to share more about the inspiring ideas coming from our educators – and the impact your support will make!

Follow ROPAC on Facebook and Instagram

**To join our Parent Info and P2P groups**: click <u>here to email us</u> with your name, your child(ren)'s name(s) & grade(s) and your phone number

## **ROCKRIDGE ATHLETICS**

Fall Sports: Boys Soccer, Swim Team, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Bantam Boys Rugby

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. The *Raven Life* also features highlights from our Rockridge Athletics teams. Follow us on Instagram @Rockridge.Ravens.Athletics

student a	othletes. If you are keen to volunteer your time as a coach or assistant or have any questions, esitate to reach out to our Athletic Director Mr. Brychan Williams <a href="mailto:bwilliams@wvschools.ca">bwilliams@wvschools.ca</a> Go
	ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS
For <b>"Com</b>	munity Connections" including local North Shore programs, events, and resources click HERE
	COUNSELLORS' CORNER

We are always looking for passionate individuals who want to create positive experiences for our

# **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.

# **FOUNDRY Drop In Counselling @ Rockridge - every Tuesday**

- Located in the office beside the Counselling suite
- For more information contact Shannon: 236 558 2489 or email: <a href="mailto:shannon.eberts1@vch.ca">shannon.eberts1@vch.ca</a>

Foundry is a province-wide network of integrated health and wellness services for young people ages 12-24. Their integrated services make it possible for young people to access five core services in one convenient location: mental health care, substance use services, physical and sexual health care, youth and family peer support, and social services. For more information, please visit the Integrated Youth Services website.

FAMILY SMART Monthly Events - LINK - Online & In-Person for Parents and Caregivers 2025.

# 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.

#### **FEEDING FUTURES**

As part of the Ministry of Education and Childcare <u>Feeding Futures initiative</u>, 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 <a href="mailto:tkolkea@wvschools.ca">tkolkea@wvschools.ca</a> or to <a href="mailto:feedingfutures@wvschools.ca">feedingfutures@wvschools.ca</a> if they need support with food-related costs. Please be assured that all requests will be addressed with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.

## FAQ & HELPFUL INFORMATION for 2025-26

#### STUDENT PARKING AT ROCKRIDGE

Parking is available for Senior Students (Priority is given to Grade 12) in the Upper Lot east of the Gym. Students must complete a parking <u>Registration form</u>, noting vehicle details, insurance expiry, obtain parent signature and submit to the office. The \$25 decal fee must be paid through <u>School Cash Online</u>. Once the form is returned and payment completed, we can issue a decal.

Note: At no time are students permitted to park in Visitor or Staff designated spots

#### **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!

### **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 - <a href="mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca">rockridge@wvschools.ca</a> If your student will be arriving late, leaving early, or missing part of the day, please include approximate times of arrival and dismissal in your email. Please include your child's first and last name and reason for absence in your email. This will ensure that the absence is noted as excused and you will not receive an email/voicemail alert regarding the absence.

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.

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS?**

If there are any changes to address, legal custody, or citizenship status, please upload documentation to support the changes using <a href="mailto:THIS LINK">THIS LINK</a> and email <a href="mailto:rockridge@wvschools.ca">rockridge@wvschools.ca</a> to inform us of the change and document upload. Any changes will not be reflected in the student database until the documentation is submitted.

# SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION 2025-26 - Questions - transportation@wvschools.ca

Students taking the school bus are required to <u>Register</u>: The district has secured only enough buses to accommodate the number of students that have been registered for the service, and we need to ensure that all riders are able to secure a seat. Please ensure you have registered so that no students are

## turned away.

For details on eligibility, routes, and service guidelines, please visit our Student Transportation webpage: Student Transportation Information

# **SMS** for Parents/Guardians:

Parents and guardians have an option to receive text messages for school emergencies or other important alerts: Part of the WV Schools communication system allows families to opt into receiving important information additionally by text. For parents/guardians who would like to be notified of a school emergency such as power outages, severe weather or safety alerts via SMS please text a "Y" or "Yes" to 978338 to ensure you are on the list.

# 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.

# MYED BC Parent Portal - Accessing your child's timetable

If you have not done so already please visit the <a href="MyEd Parent Portal">MyEd Parent Portal</a> where you will find instructions on registering your MyEdBC parent portal account. You only need to do this once when you first begin in WV Schools. Each parent or guardian has their own separate account. Your child's **schedule** and **learning updates** are accessed in MyEd, so parent access is essential for supporting your child's learning and success at Rockridge.

Trouble logging in? - Click on the <u>School District's My Ed Family Portal Page</u> If you have further questions, please email Rockridge@wvschools.ca

### **OPTIONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE for Families**

West Vancouver Schools reminds families each year that personal injury or accident costs are not covered by the district or its insurance provider. To help protect against expenses from accidental injury, unexpected medical costs, or critical illness, families have the option to purchase voluntary accident insurance plans. A variety of providers offer different levels of coverage, so families are encouraged to review their options carefully and choose a plan that best meets their needs.

**LOCKERS** - Lockers have been assigned to all grade 8 students. Students in Grade 9 to 12 can sign up for a locker through the link in their Grad Class Google classroom, and pick up their locker assignments in the office.

A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT: Google Classroom Reviews

Parents do not have access to Google Classrooms (GC), however, we feel it is important to review your child's GC regularly with them so that they can inform you about their classes, learning and upcoming or incomplete assignments. This looks like sitting down with your child at their laptop and having them open and scroll through their GC. A helpful thing for parents and guardians to see this week are the Grade Level (or Grad Class Google Classroom) for Homeroom Presentations from Opening Week. Each Rockridge student should be a member of their Grad year Google Classroom. There is grade and schoolwide information, announcements and opportunities posted here regularly.

Grad Class of 2030 (Current grade 8's): pr5xsotl Grad Class of 2029 (Current grade 9's): ecuxnrk Grad Class of 2028 (Current grade 10's): 77pe2df Grad Class of 2027 (Current grade 11's): 2xp55nq Grad Class of 2026 (Current Grade 12's): ibcy3ua

### **ATTENTION DOG WALKERS**

The Rockridge sports field is a Classroom space, used by classes and teams, especially now that spring has arrived. 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