

Oct 30, 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			
TONIGHT	GRAD BOAT CRUISE 6 pm Boarding - Coal Harbour - 501 Denman Street		
Fri, Oct 31	Hallowe'en Costume Contest @ Lunch - PH - see details below		
,	Grade 8 Assignment: ATL Reflection 1 - Self-Management - Math		
Nov 1, 2025	AP COURSE AND EXAM FEES - DUE		
Tues, Nov 4	Indigenous Youth - Rockridge Pizza Lunch		
Wed, Nov 5	Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day - see details below		
Thurs, Nov 6	Grad Portraits - Nov 6 – 7 - see details below		
Fri, Nov 7	Grade 8 Assignment: Task 3 - The Myth of Learning Styles		
UPCOMING			
Take Our Kids to Work Day (Grade 9) – Wednesday November 5th			
Remembrance Day Ceremony - Friday, Nov 7 10-11 AM (Block Rotation Day 2 - 2,3,1,4)			
MADD Canada Monday, November 10 Block 2-1			
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 here			

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Halloween will be celebrated here at The Rock tomorrow with lots of costumes and treats. The annual costume contest in Players Hall will once again be packed with staff and students. Days like this certainly reflect the positive school spirit that makes Rockridge a special and fun place to be. This time of year, and this weekend especially, always sparks the topic of safety. It is important to note the sale and use of fireworks are banned in West Vancouver and the City of North Vancouver. The District of North Vancouver permits private pyrotechnic displays on a limited basis, but permits are required to be purchased by those 19 years of age and older.

Tonight, I will be celebrating with the Class of 2026 on our annual Grad Boat Cruise. It looks like a lovely night to be out on the ocean with 170 of my Grade 12 students. Next Friday, all of Rockridge will take part in our annual Remembrance Day assembly at 10:00am. Staff and students have been preparing for

many weeks to create a special school-wide gathering to honour the memory of the fallen and pledge to care for the living. We will remember them.

Today's *Raven Life attached to this email* includes images from some of our classrooms, athletics celebrations from our fall sports, field trips, BC post-secondary fair, upcoming ROPAC events and more.

MYED ACCESS

It is important that parents/guardians can access MYED BC for their children's learning updates throughout the year. We know most of our families have already logged in to access their student's schedule in August or September, but as Informal Progress Reports were posted last week, we wanted to remind everyone that these documents are important for families and students, so please be sure to upload and save them for your future reference. Student success happens because of the strong partnerships and communication we have between school, teachers and home.

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

ROCKRIDGE ADVANCED PLACEMENT - COURSE AND EXAM FEES DUE November 1, 2025

Students must create an AP User account to order their exam. Class teachers and the AP Coordinator are assisting students. A reminder that both course and exam fees for all AP courses are due November 1st. After this date, late fees will apply. Details can be found on your School Cash Online account. Please contact Mr. Thomson, AP Coordinator if you have any questions.

FROM YOUR MYP COORDINATORS: See photo in Raven Life

This week, we are continuing to highlight the Interdisciplinary Unit (IDU) development happening at Rockridge!

Interdisciplinary Units (or IDUs) are opportunities for students to make intentional connections between different subject areas and across their learning skills. In Grade 9, a team of teachers across our Careers, Math and Foods classes have developed a unique learning exploration that examines the various experiences of food security through an IDU called Feeding Change.

Two weeks ago during Careers, students had a presentation from both Mr. Pandher and EA manager Isabell Nielsen. They introduced the importance of service learning, tracking hours and finding opportunities to engage in volunteering in the wider community. Intentionally, students were introduced to the work of one of our local partner organizations - the Greater Vancouver Food Bank (GVFB). Isabell has been a long time volunteer and advocate for the GVFB and has regularly worked to provide students with opportunities to engage in its ongoing mission and work throughout the school year. Exploring the impacts of food insecurity helps students build a greater understanding of the issues lots of people in our community face and the part they can play in helping!

But the exploration doesn't end there!

In another facet through Math classes, students will be looking at the impacts of food insecurity on budgeting and accessing proper nutritional values via clear planning and rationale. And yet again, in another lens through Foods classes, students will be exploring the minimization of food waste through methods like preservation and using up produce in baked goods. Students will be compiling and reflecting on their learning from this interdisciplinary exploration in a slide deck on their Grad Class of 2029 Google Classroom. These interdisciplinary explorations are opportunities for students to see things

not only from multiple vantage points, but make realizations about the true interconnectedness of our learning, society and world.

Thank you to Ms. Ferrajohn, Mr. Glover and Ms. Grant for sharing your inspiration, time, leadership & heart for the community through the development of Feeding Change!

ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

"The Rockridge Improv Club is holding a fundraiser to raise money to enter this year's Canadian Improv Games. They will be selling Krispy Kreme donuts for \$16 a box of dozen on November 3rd at lunch, but if you would like to preorder please complete this <u>form</u>:

HELMET, BIKE and SCOOTER SAFETY

Fall is not over yet and as a result there are many days remaining for students to ride, roll and wheel to school and around the community. As a reminder, for electric and personal powered bikes and scooters, students need to abide by traffic rules and ensure they wear a helmet. We have spoken to a few students recently about bike/scooter safety. Families are encouraged to have this safety conversation at home as appropriate.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST

Do you like dressing up for Halloween for candy and prizes? Grab a buddy and make your way down to Players Hall this Friday (October 31st) during lunch. We'll have different categories for costume, this year's are:

- Funniest (our personal favourite)
- Scariest
- Most creative
- Best duo/trio
- Best group

ALL participants win prizes and winners of each category win Forecast gift-cards (group category gets a full-size candy box!) Come and join in on the fun, either by participating or watching! For those who are entering the contest, meet in the drama room at the start of lunch:)

Have fun and be mindful on October 31st

Rockridge students are welcome to wear a Halloween costume to school on Friday, October 31st but they are reminded that costumes must be appropriate for school. To better define this, please see the bullets below:

- Students must be easily recognizable and/or able to identify themselves to staff members when asked.
- It is important that students choose costumes that uphold our values of diversity and inclusion and refrain from wearing any costumes that would be deemed offensive.
- While Halloween costumes are designed for fun, some perpetuate stereotypes. We want to ensure that culturally based and identity-based costumes are not part of our Halloween this year, because cultures and identities are not costumes.
- Replica weapons of any sort are not allowed.

When Halloween falls on a weekday it always adds a lot of energy to our building and community. Students are encouraged to keep safety top of mind so that responsible decisions are made throughout the day and into the evening. Dressing up for Halloween provides us with an opportunity for fun and community building, and we always look forward to seeing the creativity demonstrated by students and staff.

Wish List Items for STEM 10 class - CDs

STEM 10 is in the process of making mousetrap powered cars. However, they need CDs as the wheels. Currently, they do not have enough to finish their projects. If you have any old CDs that you are no longer in need of, please drop them off in the donation bin in front of the office?

Hello Rockridge Grads and Families!

If you have questions on the information below, please contact GradsBC directly: info@gradsbc.com

Grad Cap and Gown Yearbook Portraits + Fashion Photos AND Buddy sessions will take place in early November, at your school. For More Info on Important Dates & to Book your Preferred Session Time, please visit: www.gradsbc.com/school/rkr

The above link will give you specific program details on the services and products you will be receiving from GradsBC; starting with fall portraits all the way to your year end grad events.

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. **Questions?** Please call the GradsBC office: 604-461-3722 or info@gradsbc.com

GRADS BC PHOTO PACKAGE & STUDENT ID CARD DISTRIBUTION

During the postal strike, Grads BC delivered photo packages to Rockridge for distribution. If you have ordered photos from GradsBC, Please remind students to come to the main office to pick up their Photo orders. We still have many photo packages not yet picked up.

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS

Admissions for the 2026/2027 school year opened on Wednesday October 15th at 8:00 am for all Grade 1 –12 **In-catchment students**. Please note that if your child is registered with one of our feeder elementary schools (BICS, Caulfeild, Gleneagles, West Bay), you do not need to complete the online registration form, as our Administrators will visit these schools in January and deliver a paper registration form for your completion. Admissions for Out-of-Catchment and Out-of-District students opens at 8:00am on **Thursday**, **January 15th**, **2026**. For more information about admissions processes, dates, guidelines, and information, please visit https://westvancouverschools.ca/admissions/ Please carefully read the information regarding documentation procedures before starting the application process. If you have further questions, please contact Careers 8/9 Counsellor, Michael Pandher MPandher@wvschools.ca

GRADE 9 CAREERS

Take Our Kids to Work Day – Wednesday November 5th

Each year Grade 9 students across Canada are asked to participate in "Take our Kids to Work" Day. This year the event occurs on Wednesday, November 5, 2025. This event allows students to visit the work site of a parent, relative, homestay or interested mentor for the day instead of attending classes at school. Permission forms were sent home via email and should have been submitted by Monday, October 27, 2025 If your child's form has not been submitted and you have questions, or for further

information, contact Careers 8/9 Counsellor; Mr. Pandher MPandher@wvschools.ca

GLA / LTE 12 Assessments - November 3 – 6, 2025 - Cancelled

NEW Date: January 26-30, 2026

Grade 12 students and parents are assured that UBC as well as other BC Institutions are very aware of the cancellation of the GLA 12 assessments and that this will not negatively impact applicants. UBC uses the GLA results at the end of the admission cycle (end of June). At this point they confirm students have successfully graduated and obtained at least a 3 in the GLA.

CLUBS LIST - <u>Here</u> - If your child is looking for a club to join, be sure to visit the Morning Announcements for meeting times and locations. The link to the Morning Announcements is always included at the top of the E-Bulletin.

TOUR OF THE ROCK DAY

Upcoming monthly Tours of The Rock are scheduled for Monday Nov 17th followed by Dec 8th. 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: rockridge@wvschools.ca

ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS

PARENT/GUARDIANS TO DO TODAY: Thank you to those who have completed the **Student Verification Form**, which students were asked to bring home on the first day of school.

Parents are also required to complete the Online Policies & Procedures Consent Form; https://eforms.sd45.bc.ca/Form/PandP

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 91% of students' P&P consent successfully submitted online. We need to be at 100% - please help us get there next week!

CELL PHONE ADDICTION AND DISTRACTION:

This is a great *three minute* read for educators and parents:

https://thisthattuesdaystechnologytips.wordpress.com/2025/10/21/do-addiction-distraction-live-in-vour-classroom/

By: Cari Wilson - District Vice-Principal of Innovation and Technology

ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS	

Don't Forget: Rockridge Plant Fundraiser Still Open!

Remember to get your holiday greenery while supporting Rockridge! Our **Growing Smiles Plant Sale** is live now:

• Order deadline: Tuesday, November 18

• Pick-up Date: Wednesday, December 3 at Rockridge

• Order link: <u>Growing Smiles</u>

Holiday Silent Auction - We Need Your Help!

Our Holiday Silent Auction (Dec 1-12) is fast approaching and we're still actively collecting donations!

Have a **gift card, service, tickets, getaway, artwork, or themed basket** you can offer? Now is the time to contribute. Every donation supports our Teacher Wish List Program, classroom enrichment experiences and school programs for all our students.

To donate, contact Rachel and Lindsay at ropac@wvschools.ca by November 28.

Save the Date – Parent Party!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 28, 2026.** Join fellow Rockridge parents for an evening of fun, food and live music at our Parent Party.

More details coming soon – stay tuned!

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

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 as a coach or assistant or have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to our Athletic Director Mr. Brychan Williams bwilliams@wvschools.ca Go Ravens!

ROCKRIDGE COMMUNITY NEWS

For "Community Connections" including local North Shore programs, events, and resources click HERE

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.

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: shannon.eberts1@vch.ca

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.

Crisis Response, Community-Led (CRCL) North Shore:

https://northwestvancouver.cmha.bc.ca/programs-and-services/crcl-north-shore/

Kids Help Phone: https://kidshelpphone.ca/

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 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.

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 - rockridge@wvschools.ca 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. Teachers are not required to provide extra classes, make-up tests or specific work to be completed.

Please notify the school a minimum of one week in advance using this <u>form</u> for an Extended Absence. Note: International Students must first request permission from the International Office via email to international.reception@wvschools.ca

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 and email rockridge@wvschools.ca 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: <u>Student Transportation Information</u>

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 MyEd Parent Portal 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. Each Rockridge student should be a member of their Grad year Google

Classroom. There is grade and school-wide 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. 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.