

Oct 9, 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	
Mon, Oct 13	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED
Tues, Oct 14	ROPAC Meeting 8:30 – 10:00 AM Library Learning Commons
Wed, Oct 15	Grade 8 Assignment: ATL Reflection 1 - Self-Management - Math
	Parents As Education and Career Coaches Webinar with EPBC 6:30 –
	7:45pm
Thurs, Oct 16	GREAT BC SHAKEOUT 11:55am – 12:10pm
Fri, Oct 17	Music Camp at the Rock Oct 17 & 18
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

Live from Camp Summit! The annual Gr. 8 trip is underway and I was able to arrive in time for last night's campfire and enjoyed spending the morning with the Class of 2030. There's something special about seeing our newest Ravens connect beyond the walls of Rockridge laughing, learning, and building friendships through shared experiences that will shape their road to graduation. As we head into the long weekend, it's a great time to pause and be thankful for the energy and spirit our students bring to The Rock, for the dedicated staff who make experiences like Camp Summit possible, and for our incredible senior student leaders who guide and encourage our younger Ravens every step of the way. The moments of connection that happen during experiences like Camp Summit remind us what community truly means to our Rockridge school community.

Today's *Raven Life attached to this email* includes images from the Class of 2026, our fall sports, the Class of 2030 Camp Summit Trip, upcoming ROPAC events and more.

FROM YOUR MYP COORDINATORS: See photo in Raven Life

Hello Parent/Guardian Community!

It's early October and the start-up/wildness of September is winding down. So, it seems like a good time for us to reintroduce ourselves to you all!

HI! Our names are Rhonette Millare and Meghan LeSieur. We are the MYP Coordinators here at Rockridge. This is the beginning of our 4th year together in this role. We began back in September 2021 (in a semestered system that very much limited our ability to collaborate)! As the school years have passed since, we have continued to grow in this role as a team, working together to guide our staff through various collaborations, developments and analyses of the MYP (Middle Years Program) here at Rockridge.

Here are 5 things to know about us as a duo:

Meghan LeSieur & Rhonette Millare

- 1) One of us teaches Math and the other teaches English. We love this interdisciplinary connection and how much we've learned from each other.
- 2) We meet regularly with Principal Kolkea to talk about all things MYP and its goings on within the school.
- 3) Both of us have 10+ years of IB teacher training through various workshops and university courses.
- 4) We both knew that we wanted to be teachers since we were kids (it was a true calling)!
- 5) We love Jellycats and coffee (both separately and together).

 If you want to put a face to a name, you can check us out in the Raven Life this week.

 We look forward to highlighting the program at Rockridge for you throughout the school year.

ROCKRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

Mental Health Awareness Week this week AND World Mental Health Day on Friday!

Students are invited to drop by the counselling suite on Friday – we will have Mental Health resources on display. Plus, you can meet our new Youth Worker, Dominique AND you can enter the contest to win books and popcorn! For more information and resource links, please see Counsellors' Corner below.

GRADS BC PHOTO PACKAGE & STUDENT ID CARD DISTRIBUTION

Due to the current postal strike, Grads BC has delivered photo packages to Rockridge for distribution. We will have a homeroom next Thursday, October 16th from 8:30 - 8:40 for distribution of these to students, along with their Student ID Cards.

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS

Admissions for the 2026/2027 school year open 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, 2025. 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 this week (via email) and need to be submitted by Monday, October 27, 2025 For further information, contact Careers 8/9 Counsellor; Mr. Pandher MPandher@wvschools.ca

GRADUATION ASSESSMENT DATES

GLA / LTE 12 Assessments - November 3 – 6, 2025 GLA / LTE 10 Assessments - January 12 – 16, 2026 GNA / NME 10 Assessments - April 20 – 24, 2026

CLUBS LIST - Here - see Announcements for meeting times and locations

Parents as Education & Career Coaches Webinar, Wed, October 15, 2025, from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.

Learn about post-secondary education in B.C. Did you know there are 25 public post-secondary institutions with over 4,000 programs across the province? Come explore all your opportunities at EducationPlannerBC.

We'll show you how to use EducationPlannerBC's website to 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.

Have a student that attends a Burnaby, North Shore, or Sea to Sky Region school? Register HERE

Scholarship Information Webinar, Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 6:00 - 7:15PM

Rockridge PAC is once again generously hosting the very informative **Key to Scholarships Session** virtually on Oct.28th at 6:00PM. Students in all grades and parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. It is never too early to get started. This comprehensive presentation covers topics ranging from building your scholarship foundation to crafting a strong personal statement. Contrary to popular belief, students do not need 95% averages or international achievements to win scholarships. Through this seminar, we will debunk common scholarship myths and break down the complex process into a manageable form. Please see details on how to join this session on the link provided above. This session will not be recorded.

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: rockridge@wvschools.ca

ACTION ITEMS FOR ROCKRIDGE PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Student Council Halloween Decorations Drive!

Rockridge students and families, we need your help to spook up our school! Starting Thursday, October 9th, Rockridge Student Council is hosting a Halloween Decorations Drive. We're looking for pumpkins, cobwebs, spooky lights, and any other Halloween decorations you'd like to donate!

There will be a box outside the office where you can drop off your contributions. All donations will help transform our school into a Halloween spirit that everyone can enjoy!

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**; 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 81% of students' P&P consent successfully submitted online. We need to be at 100% - please help us get there next week!

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 -

Tickets remain on sale for Grads until <u>Tuesday, October 14th</u> after which sales will include guests. There are limited spots available so please purchase a ticket on School Cash Online. This year students will have a 3 hour harbour cruise departing from the Denman (Coal Harbour) Marina at 6:30-9:30 PM. Forms are attached to the Grad 2026 Google Classroom and hard copies are available at the school.

ROCKRIDGE PAC NEWS

Register Now: Dr. Molly Lawlor at Kay Meek – Oct 20 at 6:30 PM - see poster in RL

Join us for this free DPAC Education Speaker event featuring **Dr. Molly Lawlor**, expert in adolescent well-being and emotional regulation. This talk is perfect for parents looking to better understand how to support their teens in today's complex world. Register <u>here</u>.

Call for Holiday Silent Auction Donations

We're collecting donations for our **Holiday Silent Auction** running **Dec 1-12, 2025**.

Do you have something to contribute – or know a business that might? We're looking for: *gift cards, tickets, vacation stays, services, art, sports gear, lessons, beauty treatments, food and drink baskets...* All proceeds will go to our **Teacher Wish List** fund, supporting valuable classroom enhancements so please consider doing some of your holiday shopping at our auction.

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

PAC Meeting Reminder – Tuesday, Oct 14 at 8:45 AM

Join us in the Rockridge Learning Commons for coffee, treats and a great discussion at our upcoming PAC meeting. We're honoured to welcome **School Board Vice Chair, Sheelah Donahue** as our guest speaker. She'll address parent submitted questions and share updates from the Board. Find the agenda here.

Updated Year-at-a-Glance

We've updated the **ROPAC Year-at-a-Glance** graphic to include the **Dr. Lawlor** event and other upcoming highlights. Find the graphic here.

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!



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 Schoolwebsite.

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 <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 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 <u>international.reception@wvschools.ca</u>

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 Register: 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 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. 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