



# WVSS Information Bulletin

A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardian

**February 23, 2023**

*This information bulletin includes several updates for families:*

1. Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences
2. WVSS Performing Arts Presents: SPRING JOY!
3. Grade 10 & 12 Parents – Student Learning Surveys
4. WVS District 2023/24 Budget Input Survey
5. Grad Updates
6. Spring Sports Try outs
7. 2022-23 Yearbook for Sale
8. Baseball Academy open House
9. WVSS Premier Sports Academies-Accepting Registrations
10. New Course Offering- Computer Information Systems 12: Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence
11. Youth Train in Trades 2023/2024
12. Parent Education Night – Physical Literacy
13. Parents as Education and Career Coaches - March 8<sup>th</sup>
14. Winter Coat Drive
15. PAC updates
16. Community Reminders

## **Important Calendar Reminders**

**Thursday, Feb 23:** Parent teacher bookings start at 9am

**Friday, Feb. 24:** Grads Cap and Gown order deadline

**Monday, Feb. 27:** Informal Progress Report posted

**Wednesday, March 1:** Physical Literacy – Parent Education Night, 7pm at WVSS

**Thursday, March 2:** Linear Reports Posted

**Thursday, March 2:** Additional PT Conference bookings can be made

**Friday March 3:** PT Conference Bookings close – 9pm

**Tuesday, March 7:** Parent/Teacher Conferences – On-Line / Student Dismissal at 12:35pm

**Wednesday, March 8:** WVSS Spring Concert – 7:00pm– Kay Meek

**Wednesday, March 8:** Parents as Education & Career Coaches – 6:30 pm, online

**Friday March 10:** Deadline for WVS Budget Survey

**Monday, March 13 to Friday, March 24: SPRING BREAK**

**Tuesday, March 28:** Lockdown Drill – 10:45 am

**Thursday, March 30:** WV Zone Concert – 7:00pm – Kay Meek

**Thursday April 6:** Gr. 9 Immunization Clinic - Those who missed fall immunizations

## **1. Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences – March 7<sup>th</sup> 1:30 – 4:00**

**REGISTRATION OPENED TODAY FEB 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 9:00 a.m.** Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. These meetings are for semester two and linear courses. Meetings will be virtual using Google Meet. You may create an account and register for appointments using School Appointments Online starting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

<https://westvan.schoolappointments.com/admin/>. Two bookings per student per family may be made at this time. More bookings can be made after March 1<sup>st</sup>. **Bookings will close at 9:00 pm on Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Student's lists of courses and teachers can be found under the Family tab on the MyEducation BC portal <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/asp/en/logon.do> or by asking your student. If using MyEd remember to have the schedule set to LIST VIEW not MATRIX VIEW. Please see the attachments [here](#) and [here](#) for all the information for parent teacher conferences and booking appointments. Students will be dismissed at 12:35 p.m. on March 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be no X-Block unless indicated by your teacher.

## **2. WVSS Performing Arts Presents: SPRING JOY! Wednesday March 8 at 7pm Kay Meek**

The West Vancouver Secondary School Performing Arts Department is pleased to present their annual spring concert – **Spring Joy!** Featuring performances by the following groups: Junior Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Dance Crew Dance Level 1 & 2, and Rock Band. Tickets for the concert are \$5 with proceeds supporting the programs. Tickets are available from the teachers (Ms. Castro, Mr. Daudlin & Ms. Fulton). Tickets also available at the main office and will be on sale at the door of the concert. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **3. Ministry of Education 2023 Student Learning Survey – Gr 10 & 12 Parents**

**Live now!** Grade 10 and 12 parents /guardians are asked to complete the Student Learning Survey 2023 at the following link: <https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>. The Student Learning Survey gathers information on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. Please see [this attachment](#) showing the Parent Log on screen. Scroll down to the “parent section” and use the “Direct Access – No Logon number” on the right side. Feel free to call the school at 604-981-1100 if you need assistance! THANK YOU, Highlander Families!

## **4. School District Budget and Survey – March 10<sup>th</sup> deadline**

Our school district is welcoming community members interested in providing feedback regarding the School District Budget for next year to go to the following website and complete the survey: [Budget Feedback 2023-2024 | West Vancouver Schools](#). The survey will remain open until March 10<sup>th</sup>.

## 5. Grad Updates:

### **Grad Photos: Retakes and Missed Photos – *Call now!***

If you have missed you have not taken your Grad photo yet, please contact Edge Imaging directly and as soon as possible. Email or call Jordan Kirk at [jkirk@edgeimaging.ca](mailto:jkirk@edgeimaging.ca) or 778.899.4116 (cell).

**Grads: Cap and Gown – order deadline is FRIDAY February 24<sup>th</sup>** Grads: order your cap and gown today, through your CLC google classroom. <https://forms.gle/jZNugXKqC6jBkyZU9>

## 6. Sports: Try Outs Coming!

**A big congratulations to all our Winter teams on their seasons!** Try Outs and Information will be coming out for our Spring Sports in the coming weeks. Please check the Athletics Board outside the North Campus Gyms for information. Also follow us on **Instagram @wvss\_athletics**. Sports offered (depending on coach availability): Girls Soccer, Girls Rugby, Boys Rugby, Track and Field, SR Ultimate, Tennis, Badminton, Grade 8 Football.

### **Spring teams:**

JR & SR Tennis: Mr. Cowan and Mrs. Finch

JR & Sr Badminton: Mr. Davidoff and Mrs. Reeymeyer

SR Girls Soccer: Mrs. Walton and Community Coach Mr. Ahern

JR Boys Rugby: Mr. Harvey

SR Boys Rugby: Community Coach/Contact Mr. Franklin and Mrs. Lotz

SR Girls Rugby: **still looking for a coach**

SR Ultimate: Ms. McDonald, Mr. Graham, Community Coach Mr. Ketcheson

Grade 8 Football: (will start in April) Mr. Kozak, Community Coach Mr. Donaldson, Ms. McKee

Track and Field: Mr. Dignum, Mr. Stead, Community Coach Mrs. Buchanan

Golf: Mrs. Cameron, Mr. Ros

Mountain Biking: No Team this year

## 7. Yearbook: A message from our Yearbook class!

Parents! We're sure you remember your high school days, but especially cherish the stories, photos, and fun that are captured in your yearbooks. High school at WVSS is a special time in your children's lives, full of self-discovery and learning, and this edition of the yearbook had the added feature of being modelled on the yearbooks of the 90's —there is an awesome retro feel to every page. Buy your student the best reminder of their special time at WVSS. You can get your copy today through [School Cash Online](#). And for all proud grad parents, remind your students to think upon their yearbook quote, the submission deadline is nearing fast!

## **8. Baseball Academy Open House: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm, WVSS Library**

West Vancouver Schools is celebrating 10 years operating the Premier Baseball Academy where the elite student-athletes have advanced to play on Provincial and National teams, as well as both College and Professional baseball. See [THIS POSTER](#) for all the details. RSVP to Tara Ledingham [tledingham@wvsschools.ca](mailto:tledingham@wvsschools.ca)

## **9. WVSS Premier Sports Academies Registrations**

The WVS Premier Sports Academies are accepting registrations for the 2023-2024 school year. Please note the following tryout dates for students going into Grade 8 to 12 this September. Students register online for the Basketball Academy (<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/academies/basketball>) and Volleyball Academy (<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/academies/volleyball>) and the Academy Office will provide further communication regarding the try outs.

### **VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY TRYOUTS**

Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup> 3:30 to 5:00 West Van Secondary New Gym

Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup> 3:30 to 5:00 West Van Secondary New Gym

### **BASKETBALL ACADEMY TRYOUTS**

Tuesday April 4<sup>th</sup> (RTC 1 & 2) 3:30 to 5:00 West Van Secondary Old Gym

Wednesday April 5<sup>th</sup> (Development) - 3:30 to 5:00 West Van Secondary Old Gym

## **10. NEW Course Offering – Computer Information Systems 12: Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence**

Open to students from all three secondary schools, while priority is given to students entering Grade 12 in September, Grade 11s may also apply. Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence is a hybrid (in-person and virtual) course being offered by West Vancouver Schools. These areas of study impact many aspects of our lives today and demand for trained professionals in these areas is growing exponentially.

**Cybersecurity:** In Canada, the unemployment rate for Cybersecurity professionals is 0%. In this course, students will learn about Digital Citizenship, Cybersecurity, Cybercrimes, Viruses, DDoS, Phishing, Cryptography, the Internet, how to stay safe online, and will also get Cybersafe certified. Students will also compete in CyberTitan (<https://www.cybertitan.ca/>) – one of Canada's largest cyber defense competitions.

**Artificial Intelligence:** We are impacted by AI every single day, as it includes self-driving cars that navigate roads independently, face filters in apps, healthcare for early detection and treatment, sports to maintain player fitness, agriculture for pest and disease control, and smart home assistants such as Alexa, Siri, and Cortana. Students will learn about Artificial Intelligence ethics, training data & bias, machine learning, neural networks, and computer vision. We will use some of Google's Artificial Intelligence software to gain a better understanding of how AI works and its applications. Apply Here: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/cybersecurity-ai>

## **11. Youth Train in Trades 2023/2024**

The Carpentry program at our school, still has some spots available for the September 2023/2024 intake. If your child is currently in grade 10 or 11 and has an interest in obtaining a Level 1 Carpentry Certification, they can talk to their counsellor about including it in their course selections for next year. It would be offered on alternate days throughout the school year. The registration link is below.

<https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/youth-train-carpentry/train-in-trades-application-form>

For more information, contact Linda Caruth, Careers & Counselling Assistant, [lcaruth@wvschools.ca](mailto:lcaruth@wvschools.ca)

## **12. Parent Education Night: Physical Literacy: March 1<sup>st</sup> 7pm-8pm, WVSS Gym**

This presentation is designed to inform parents of the ongoing important work that is happening across the district in the area of Physical Literacy. A distinguished line-up of presenters will provide interesting statistics, data, and other information that outlines not only why focusing on the importance of movement, wellness, and social connectedness is preventative medicine, but also how parents can use their influence to be the ultimate difference makers in the overall trajectory of students' physical and mental wellbeing. Please see the [attached Poster](#) for details including childcare.

## **13. Parents as Education and Career Coaches – March 8, 6:30pm**

Please join Education Planner BC and WVS for a virtual evening of "Parents as Education and Career Coaches". This information will be especially helpful for families with students in Grades 10-12. Wednesday, March 8th 6:30 - 8 pm, Hosted on Teams. Contact WVS post-secondary advisor, Leesa Alldred [lalldred@wvschools.ca](mailto:lalldred@wvschools.ca) for any questions. See [this Poster](#) to register!

## **14. WVSS Winter Coat Drive – Feb 26 to March 8**

WVSS Students are hosting a coat drive between February 26th and March 8th. Jackets and any winter clothing are appreciated (Mittens, hoodies, hats, windbreakers, etc). Any donations can be placed in the bins we have set up in front of the textiles room. Bins will be accessible every day from February 26 through March 28. With the One Warm Coat Foundation, all winter jackets and apparel will be repaired and upcycled before being donated to the homeless in our community.

## **15. PAC Updates: Optional Donation**

The 2022/2023 PAC voluntary contribution is available on School Cash Online. There is an option to choose one of three donation amounts: \$25, \$50, or \$75. Please see [this attachment](#) ([Mandarin version](#) & [Farsi version](#)) for a list of some of the things the PAC supported last year, as well as some further details. To allow us to continue with this support this year, please include the PAC Optional Donation on your School Cash Online fee.

## **COMMUNITY UPDATES**

## Public Health Resources for Families

Please see the following attachments from our public health nurse: [Vaccine Catch-Up Poster](#) - where families can receive immunizations in the community. Our Public Health Nurse is Sophia Knowles. She can be reached at [sophia.knowles@vch.ca](mailto:sophia.knowles@vch.ca)

## Spring West Van Little League Baseball! Registration NOW OPEN!

Spend your Spring playing West Van Little League baseball. Kids ages 5-16 are invited to play and all experience levels are welcome. It's a great way to develop new skills while having fun with old and new friends in the community. Registration is open [wvll.ca](http://wvll.ca).

## GENERAL REMINDERS

### Attendance Notice: Email [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca)

We are asking that student absences be communicated through email where possible. This will allow for staff to enter absences into the system faster. Please email [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca). If this is not possible, please call the school office at 604-981-1100. All student absences must be excused by a parent or guardian. Students not feeling well must report to the office before leaving the school.

### District Policies and Procedures Release Form: Please Complete 1 Per Child

All Parents (except for international students' families/ homestays) are required to complete a West Van District Policy and Procedures online release form for each of their children. For students to participate in field trips, and other activities, this form MUST be completed. **Parents and Guardians - Please [CLICK HERE](#) to access this form and complete as soon as possible.** Questions, please contact [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca) or call 604-981-1100.

### School Fees – Online as of October 24

WVSS school fees will be available for payment through School Cash Online. If you have any questions about school fees or using [School Cash Online](#) please reach out to Jenny Madill at [jmadill@wvschools.ca](mailto:jmadill@wvschools.ca) or call 604-981-1100.

### Stay Informed: Keep Your Address & Contact Information Up to Date!

All Parents and Guardians will be emailed this e-bulletin weekly to keep you up to date with our school information and upcoming events. Our student absence system will make daily contact by telephone or email to alert parents of unexcused absences. Occasionally, we do send documents and information to homes by regular mail. To ensure that you stay informed in all these ways, please email the school office at [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca) and let us know if you change your email, phone contact information or move to a new address.

## Student Parking

Students wishing to park in the WVSS student parking lot must complete a registration form and obtain a parking decal both of which can be found in the main office. Please note that there is a cost of \$10.00. Please see Ms. Madill in the office or at [Jmadill@wvschools.ca](mailto:Jmadill@wvschools.ca) with any questions.

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## Useful Links

[Link to previous E-Bulletins](#)

[WVSS website:](#)

[WVSS Counselling Page:](#)

[WVSS Athletics Website:](#)

[West Vancouver Schools District Website](#)