



WVSS Information Bulletin

A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardians

October 19th, 2023

This information bulletin includes several updates for families:

1. ProD Day Friday – no classes in session
2. WVSS Music Concert! Fall Fest '23
3. Take Our Kids To Work Day
4. Updates to Google and Third-Party Apps
5. Grade 9 Immunization forms & clinic
6. WVSS Parent Advisory Council
7. Counselling Corner
8. Graduation Assessments
9. WVSS Athletics
10. West Van Library Cards for Grade 8
11. Student Drop off, Parking and Punctuality
12. Policy & Procedure Forms – now overdue!
13. Community Events and Information

Important Calendar Reminders

Friday, Oct 20: Professional Development Day – Classes not in session

Monday, Oct 23: Learning Update Report

Wednesday, Oct. 25: WVSS Fall Performing Arts Concert – 7:00 pm – Kay Meek

Saturday, Oct. 25: VIQRC Robotics Tournament

Friday, Nov. 3: Grade 9 Immunizations – 9:30 – 12:00

Friday, Nov. 3: Language Challenge Exams Applications Due
Friday, Nov. 10: Remembrance Day Class Observance
Friday, Nov. 11: Remembrance Day – ‘Lest we Forget’
Monday, Nov. 13: Remembrance Day Observance – School Closed!

Google Calendar Link

We have created a WVSS google calendar for students that includes the days (regular, FIT, Collab and the block rotation) plus significant student events. If you would like to subscribe to this calendar, please follow this [link](#) and add it to your google calendar.

1. Pro D Day Tomorrow – Friday October 20 - No classes

A reminder to our highlander families that tomorrow is a Provincial Professional Development Day and classes will not be in session. We wish our students a safe and enjoyable longer weekend.

2. WVSS Music Department Fall Concert: FALL FEST '23! Wednesday, October 25, 7 PM, Kay Meek Grosvenor Theatre

Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, October 25 and **FALL FEST '23** - our first Music Concert of the year! Groups performing will include the Orchestra, Junior Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, Jazz Band, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir and Rock Band! Tickets are only \$5 and will be available starting next week from music teachers in class (B. Daudlin, S. Fulton & J. Shin) and at the main office. See you there!

3. Take Our Kids to Work Day – Wednesday, November 1st

Attention Parents of Grade 9 Students - TOKW DAY!!

Wednesday, November 1st is Take Our Kids to Work Day. Students all across Canada will be spending the day at a workplace. Participation is required as there are assignments that students will need to complete based on their experiences that day. There will be no classes at school that day. If you cannot bring your child to work, please ask a relative or friend, or you can approach a business in your community. Please sign the blue form sent home with your child and have them return it to their English teacher, or complete the digital form emailed home. Please complete and return the form no later than Wednesday, Oct 25th. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Campagnolo at 604-981-1171, or you can email him at ccampagnolo@wvschools.ca

4. Updates to Google and Third-Party apps as of October 23

On October 23rd, Google is enacting new provisions that will disable the ability of students to use their school Google identity to log into untrusted third-party apps. The district realizes that some students

will be surprised when they can no longer log into other apps with their school Google identity however, Google's decision is intended to help keep our students safer, which is in their best interest.

5. Grade 9 Immunization forms & Clinic on November 3rd

An immunization consent form was recently sent home via the student. If your child does not have an immunization consent package, please contact your public health nurse at:

Name: Sophia Knowles Ph #: 778-984-4913 Email: Sophia.knowles@vch.ca

The school clinic is scheduled for: November 3, 2023. Please sign the consent form and return to the school office as soon as possible. Please complete the consent form with a YES or NO by each vaccine. If the immunization record that we have for your child is incomplete please include a complete history when you return the consent form or email to NorthShoreVaccineRecord@vch.ca
We will be offering the following routine Grade 9 vaccines to students this year:

- **Meningococcal vaccine:** A 4-strain meningococcal vaccine will be provided that protects against strains A, C, Y and W-135.
- **Tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine:** One dose boosts childhood immunity.
- **Catch up vaccines:** If needed for those missed at younger ages.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by email or phone.

6. WVSS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Optional PAC Donation - School Cash Online

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) would like to thank West Vancouver Secondary School parents who make the annual contribution to WVSS PAC to support your children in both the classroom and in extra-curricular and sporting activities. The 2023/2024 Optional PAC Contribution is available on **School Cash Online**. **You have the option to choose one of three donation amounts: \$25, \$50, or \$75. You can contribute more than once and at anytime throughout the year!** Please see the [PAC optional Donation attachment](#) for all the details. (see [Mandarin translation](#) and [Farsi translation](#)). To allow us to continue with this support this year, please include the PAC Optional Donation on your School Cash Online fee payment. Your donations enhance your child's school experience in so many ways. Your PAC donation works alongside the BC Gaming Grant funds that the PAC applies for each year.

7. COUNSELLING CORNER

Language Challenge Exams

This is for students wishing to write a language challenge exam for level 11 or 12 credit in Farsi, French, Japanese Korean, Mandarin, Punjabi, or Spanish. The exam is administered through the Delta School District. The application is below, along with detailed information on the process.

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/09/Challenge-Exam-Application-Package-2024v3.pdf>

Applications are due to the WVSS counselling office by November 3rd, 2023.

Please contact Linda Caruth, lcaruth@wvsschools.ca if you have any questions.

8. Graduation Assessments for 2023-2024

Please see the following [Grad Assessment 2023-2024 attachment](#) for an overview of our Graduation schedule for 2023-2024. We will start our assessments in January 2024 with Literacy 12. Graduation assessments are required for graduation purposes. Students will receive memos /emails indicating the exact time, date and location for the exam as well as links to sample assessments. Students should prepare for these assessments and attempt the sample assessments.

9. WVSS Athletics

We are excited to have 8 teams this Fall Season:

Cross Country	Grade 9 (Juvenile) Girls Volleyball	JR Football
Sr Girls Field Hockey	JR Girls Volleyball	SR Football
Grade 8 (Bantam) Girls Volleyball	SR Girls Volleyball	SR Boys Soccer

Follow us on [@wvss_athletics](#)! Please check out the bulletin boards by the north gyms.

10. West Van Library Cards for Grade 8s – extended to October 20th

Starting in grade 8, students will benefit from the use of a West Vancouver Memorial Library Card providing them with access to a wide variety of print and digital resources for research assignments. Please ensure that your child has an updated WVML card by by **October 20** by going to this direct link: <https://westvanlibrary.ca/school-library-card-project/>. If your child *already* has a card, please still fill out the form! WVML will update the card and remove any fines or charges that are blocking the account. The cards will be delivered to your child's English teacher this fall. If you have any questions, please contact the West Vancouver Memorial Library's youth team at youth@westvanlibrary.ca

11. Student Drop off, Parking and Punctuality

A reminder to our highlander families to kindly not park in the staff parking lots when dropping off students. We encourage students to use public transit, bike, or to walk to school to reduce traffic congestion and environmental impact. When needed, students can be dropped off on Mathers or Inglewood. As we anticipate darker and rainy mornings, please make sure students are crossing carefully, and have reflective tape on their outerwear or school backpacks. Finally, our teaching staff love it when students arrive on-time or early! Classes start every day at 8:30 am and having students arrive by 8:15am in the morning ensures that they are making the most of their classes and not disrupting instruction. Thank you, Highlanders

12. PARENT ACTION ITEM: District Policies & Procedures Form – PAST DUE !

WVSS Highlander parents! Please provide us with your assistance in completing this important step so that students can use our educational resources! Parents **MUST** complete a [West Van District Policy and Procedures online release form](#) for each of their children within the district. This form covers many areas including use of school internet, use of devices on school networks, Google Apps for Education consent and media parental consent form. Due to privacy laws, **THIS FORM IS REQUIRED!** Questions, technical problems, please contact Ms. Naomi Fraser at 604-981-1100 or wvss@wvsschools.ca

13. COMMUNITY EVENTS SECTION

Youth For Youth Leadership Training: Resilience & Wellness – Oct 20th

The District of West Vancouver, in partnership with our Youth Advisory Committee, has heard loud and clear from youth across West Vancouver what that they are looking for:

- Training and tips to strengthen their resilience and mental health to deal with the challenges of school and life, and to help their friends do the same;
- Meaningful opportunities to impact the development of services and programs for themselves and their peers in their own communities;
- The chance to better understand the various wellness, recreation, volunteer, employment and other resources available to them in their own backyards; and
- Social opportunities to connect with other youth, make friends, have fun, etc. ...

So we've decided to take action and bring folks together for some fun and learning in a safe environment – with food, prizes and games included! Please check out more information on the **attached Youth for Youth flyer** and at the following link (where you can also register for this wonderful opportunity). [Youth For Youth Leadership Training: Resilience & Wellness](#)

At A Glance

Time/Date: Friday, Oct 20 | 6 to 9pm (pre-workshop social event) & Saturday, Oct 21 | 10am to 4pm (workshop)

Location: Gleneagles Clubhouse – Great Hall (6190 Marine Dr, West Vancouver, BC V7W 2S3)

Other details: For grades 8-12 | \$20/person (all meals included)

GENERAL REMINDERS

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 of these ways, please email the school office at wvss@wvschools.ca and let us know if you change your email, phone contact information or move to a new address.

Attendance Notice: email 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. 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.

WVSS APP – Timetable, schedules and more!

We are working on making sure the APP is up to date! **Signing in Problems?** Let the office know or see Ms. Tanfara or Ms. Fraser. The APP is an important tool to keep students and families up to date and headed to the right class!! Details on how to sign up for the WVSS APP can be found here: <https://wvss.appazur.com/help/flyer>. Thanks for signing up Highlander students and families!

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. Patterson in the accounting office or email tpatterson@wvschools.ca with any questions

Student Lockers (Grade 9-12) – Google Form required

Grade 9 - 12 students wanting a locker must request by completing this [Locker Request 2023](http://bit.ly/WVSSlockers2023) Google form (<http://bit.ly/WVSSlockers2023>). You will be emailed your locker information once the request is processed. **Grade 8's do not need to complete this form as they will be assigned lockers.** Please see Ms. Patterson in the accounting office or email Ms. Taryn Patterson tpatterson@wvschools.ca with any questions.

Optional Accident Insurance for Families

Each year the school district reminds families that they have the option to purchase insurance coverage against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. There are many different voluntary plans that provide coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. Families are encouraged to do their due diligence when choosing a provider.

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