

# WVSS Information Bulletin

## A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardians

**October 5th, 2023**

*This information bulletin includes several updates for families:*

1. Photo Proofs and Retakes
2. Grade 9 Immunization forms
3. Core Competencies 1<sup>st</sup> Goal Setting Session
4. Reporting
5. Student Drop off, Parking and Punctuality
6. WVSS APP: Sign up today for schedules and more!
7. WVSS Athletics
8. **Action Required:** Policy & Procedure Forms – now overdue!
9. Community Events and Information

### **Important Calendar Reminders**

Monday, Oct 9: Thanksgiving Holiday – School Closed!

Friday Oct 13: Clubs Day

Tuesday Oct 17: School Photo retake day

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. 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. School Photo Retakes: October 17<sup>th</sup> (Photo packages arrive soon)**

Photo proofs have been handed out to students. Any student who did not receive their proof should come to the office. Photos packages will be arriving soon for those who ordered. Retakes will be on Tuesday October 17, in the morning for staff or students who have not had their photos taken or who require a retake. [Here](#) are some photo tips for students. All dates regarding school photos can be found

here <https://photoday.edgeimaging.ca/>. Any questions can be directly sent to Edge Photos <https://www.edgeimaging.ca/en/contact-us/>. Our school representative is Jordan Kirk who can be reached at [jkirk@edgeimaging.ca](mailto:jkirk@edgeimaging.ca). Smile everyone!

## 2. Grade 9 Immunization forms

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](mailto: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](mailto: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, or visit: [www.immunizeBC.ca](http://www.immunizeBC.ca) for more information on immunization.

## 3. Core Competencies 1<sup>st</sup> Goal Setting Session

On **October 10<sup>th</sup> in block 2-3**, students will make goals related to personal and social responsibility on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> in their 2-3 block. Those students that have a spare in 2-3 will go to the cafeteria to receive the lesson and instructions. This is a mandatory activity for all students in grade 8 to 12 and will be shared with parents on the 1<sup>st</sup> report card.

## 4. Reporting

As communicated last Spring, the Ministry of Education and Child Care has implemented a new Learning Update Policy which defines and provides direction for the ways our school will be communicating your child's learning. The goal of the Learning Updates is to provide personalized, descriptive feedback to effectively communicate with students, parents, and caregivers about where students are in their learning, next steps, and how families and teachers can work together to support student growth. The provincial Reporting Policy mandates that students in Kindergarten through Grade 9 will be assessed using the four-point proficiency scale and students in Grade 10 through Grade 12 courses will be assessed using letter grades and percentages. Each term, students at all levels will be sharing self-reflections and making goals around British Columbia's Core Competencies – Communication Skills, Thinking Skills, and Personal and Social Skills.

Teachers will be communicating and reporting throughout the year in the following formats:

- 3 Formal Written Learning Updates (2 Mid-year Learning Updates, and 1 Summary of Learning)
- 2 Informal Learning Updates (ex. Parent-Teacher Conferences, Student-Family-Teacher Conference, Interim Report)

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, responsible for creating reporting requirements, has provided [reporting information for parents and caregivers](#). Should you have any further questions, please reach out to me directly at [srauh@wvschools.ca](mailto:srauh@wvschools.ca)

Sincerely, Steve Rauh, Principal.

## 5. 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!

## 6. 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!

## 7. WVSS Athletics

**We are excited to have 8 teams this Fall Season:**

Cross Country

Sr Girls Field Hockey

Grade 8 (Bantam) Girls Volleyball

Grade 9 (Juvenile) Girls Volleyball

JR Girls Volleyball

SR Girls Volleyball

JR Football

SR Football

SR Boys Soccer

**Follow us on @wvss\_athletics! Please check out the bulletin boards by the north gyms:**

## 8. PARENT ACTION ITEM: District Policies & Procedures Form – DUE NOW!

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! Parents and Guardians - Please CLICK HERE to access this form.** We thank you in advance! Questions, technical problems, please contact Ms. Naomi Fraser at 604-981-1100 or [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca)

## 9. COMMUNITY EVENTS SECTION

### Game of Apps – is back to a Seventh Season!

Have you ever wondered how technology products are built, what skills and abilities are required, and what the various career options are available in technology? Join us at Game of Apps (season 07) where professional software developers and product designers teach and mentor students on a weekly basis. You will learn coding, design and entrepreneurship skills and more. GoA has made a number of changes for this season, most notably: Revamp our senior program (grades 10-12) and introducing a new program, Swift Student Challenge, for returning students.

General promo video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUOK8HIWWd8>

Registration: <https://gameofapps.org/register>

Early-bird pricing is available before September 30. See details at [gameofapps.org](http://gameofapps.org). If you have questions, please email Roland Tecson (found of GoA) at: [roland@gameofapps.org](mailto:roland@gameofapps.org)

### West Vancouver Memorial Library Updates:

The WVML September / October 2023 e-newsletter for kids, families and educators is here! [September/October 2023 Update from WVML \(patronpoint.com\)](#). This issue features programs and resources related for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, an exciting Youth Department space planning project and so much more!

### Family Smart Workshop Series and Information Sessions

The following events are being offered for families and community members. Please see the attachments below for all the details. [FamilySmart Monthly Online Events - Fall Series 2023.pdf](#) and [FamilySmart Workshop Open House for Professionals Fall 2023.pdf](#) Moving to Adulthood Information Fair: [Moving to Adulthood Fair October 2023 \(1\).pdf](#)

## 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](mailto: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](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.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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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