



# WVSS Information Bulletin

A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardians

**November 23, 2023**

*This information bulletin includes several updates for families:*

1. Collaboration Day - Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup>
2. Formal Learning Update #1 – December 1<sup>st</sup>
3. Grad Class 2024 – Grad Photos Dates & Information
4. PAC – Winter Fundraiser & Optional Donation
5. 2024 Provincial Scholarship Awards
6. School Fees
7. WVSS Athletics – Winter Sports Teams
8. Community Events and Information

## **Important Calendar Reminders**

Saturday Nov 25: VIQRC Robotics Tournament South Gym

Tuesday Nov 28: PAC Winter Plant Fundraising Deadline

Tuesday Nov 28: Grad Photos start at Edge Photos

Thursday Nov 30: Collaboration Day – Class starts at 9:30am

Friday Dec 1: Learning Update 1 Published - End of day

Monday Dec 4: Professional Development Day

Wednesday Dec 6: District Honour Choir - 7pm, Kay Meek

Saturday Dec 9: VIQRC Robotics Tournament - 8:30am -4pm, North gyms

Wednesday Dec 20: Winter Concert - 7pm, Kay Meek

### **1. Collaboration Day: Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup>: 9:30am class start**

A reminder to our Highlander students and families that next Thursday is a Collaboration Day. The first class (2-1) will start at 9:30am. Students are welcome in the school at the regular starting time and may work in the cafeteria and available learning spaces.

## 2. Formal Learning Update #1 (Report Card)

This will be coming out on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Parents and students will be alerted by email on Friday afternoon when the report cards are ready to be viewed.

## 3. Graduation Class of 2024 – Grad Photos

Edge Imaging is excited to host WVSS grad photos at our studio at 15 Victoria Drive in Vancouver starting November 28<sup>th</sup>. **Sign up at [bookmygrad.ca](https://bookmygrad.ca)**. There are limited spots available so please sign up early to book the date and time that works best for you.

- **Casual Portraits:** Personal lifestyle photos will be available if you wish in addition to the formal grad portraits. Edge Imaging offers a multitude of backgrounds, posing, and props in our custom Vancouver studio. Please wear your favorite outfit. We encourage you to bring any personal accessories such as sporting equipment, musical instruments, etc. to commemorate this special milestone.
- **Traditional Portraits:** For the formal grad portrait sittings Edge Imaging will provide the gowns, sash, and cap. Gentlemen, please wear a dress shirt and tie. Ladies, please wear a mandarin collar or a V-neck. Please take note that the gown colour is black, and the sash colour is red.

We are looking forward to seeing the class of 2024 soon!

## 4. WVSS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### WINTER FUNDRAISER:

West Vancouver Secondary School PAC is fundraising with the sale of beautiful winter holiday plants. Poinsettias, planters, holiday wreaths, outdoor greenery arrangements, and more!

**Please see this [Winter Plant Flyer](#)**. Fundraising will help the PAC to support: scholarships, curricular purchases in support of the school, staff appreciation lunch, meet the teacher nights, and more! See this link to place your order: <https://westvansecondary.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

**Deadline to order is November 28th @ 5pm.**

**Pick-up on Wednesday December 13th at the South Campus Cafeteria between 2pm-4pm.**

The PAC thanks you for your support of our fundraiser! Great for gifts and decorating your home.

### 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 any time 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.

## 5. 2024 Provincial Scholarship Awards (Secondary)

Grade 12 (and grade 11) WVSS students should be looking into obtain scholarships and now is the time to start your research! The Ministry of Education and Child Care awards 13,500 scholarships to eligible

graduating students annually. Please review this [Scholarships Program infographic](#) to understand the variety of scholarships offered by the Ministry. More information can be found on the [BC Achievement, District/Authority, BC Excellence](#), or [Pathway to Teacher Education](#) scholarship web pages. Contact [scholarships@gov.bc.ca](mailto:scholarships@gov.bc.ca) if you have questions.

## 6. School Fees 2023-2024

The 2023/2024 School Course Fees are now available for payment on School Cash Online as of Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. All school fees and field trips are added to this site and can be paid easily online with this website: <https://westvancouver.schoolcashionline.com/>. If you have not signed in before, you will need your child's Student Pupil number which can be found on MyEd or on a previous report card. You can find [Registration Instructions here](#). Please contact Taryn Patterson ([tpatterson@wvschools.ca](mailto:tpatterson@wvschools.ca)) in the main office if you have any questions or assistance with logging in.

## 7. WVSS Athletics

**Practice times for winter teams:** These have been made by coaches and the facilities schedule and links to the league schedule can be found at <https://www.highlandersathletics.ca/leagues/homeHighlanders.cfm?leagueID=0&clientID=5626&link=Highlanders>

**Please check the Athletics Bulletin Board (between New and Old Gym) for Winter sport information:**

Basketball Grade 8 Boys Coach: Mr. Hunter

Basketball Grade 9 Boys Coach: Mr. Meldrum

Basketball SR Boys Coach: Mr. Eberhardt, Mr. Panah

Basketball Grade 8 Girls Coach: Mr. Daudlin

Basketball JR Girls Coach: Mr. Mathers, Ms. Towers (teacher sponsor)

Basketball SR Girls: No team this year

Skiing/Snowboarding: Ms. Lambie, Ms. Lawson, Mr.

Wrestling: Mr. Huh, Ms. Walton (teacher sponsor) Google Classroom Code **yp3mqz2**

## 8. COMMUNITY EVENTS SECTION

### Nutcracker Performance: December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

West Vancouver students will be participating a performance of the Nutcracker at the Kay Meek Theatre. See the following [Nutcracker poster](#) for details on tickets and 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](#)

## 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.

### 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.

### 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 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. Finally, our teaching staff love it when students arrive on-time or early! Classes start every day, except for Collaboration days, at 8:30am.

### 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

### District Policies & Procedures Form – Please complete

All parents/guardians 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*. For assistance, please contact Ms. Naomi Fraser at 604-981-1100 or [wvss@wvschools.ca](mailto:wvss@wvschools.ca)

## Student Lockers (Grade 9-12) – Google Form Required

Grade 9 - 12 students wanting a locker must request by completing this [Locker Request 2023](#) 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.

## Useful Links

[WVSS website:](#)

[WVSS Counselling Page:](#)

[WVSS Athletics Website:](#)

[West Vancouver Schools District Website](#)

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