



WVSS Information Bulletin

A Weekly Update of School Information for Parents and Guardians

May 16, 2024

This information bulletin includes several updates for families:

1. Pro-D and Victoria Day Weekend
2. Grade 12 Graduation 2024 Information
3. Highlander Yearbook – 2023-24 orders
4. Socials Studies – Europe Tour – March 2025
5. Grad Assessments – Numeracy 10, June 10 - 14
6. Youth & Vaping – Rockridge Secondary - June 12th
7. Grad Show 2024 – May 9 – June 2nd
8. Homestay Families Needed
9. Career & Counselling Corner Updates
10. WVSS Athletics – Spring Sports Teams
11. Premier Academies and District Programs 2024-25
12. PAC - Grad signs!
13. School Fees
14. Community Events and Information

Important Calendar Reminders

Friday May 17 – Pro D Day – No Classes in session

Friday May 17 – Last day of IB exams

Monday May 20 – Victoria Day – Schools are closed

Wednesday May 22 – District Honour 10th Anniversary Concert & Celebration – Centennial Theatre

Wednesday May 22 - Evening Event with Valerie Jerome – Kay Meek Theatre

Saturday May 25 – WVSS Grad Banquet – 6pm – Westin Bayshore

Tues & Wed May 28 & 29 – Grade 7 Orientation at WVSS (9AM-12:30PM)

Thursday May 30 – Collaboration Day – classes start at 9:30am

May 27 – May 31 – Capstone presentations

Friday May 31 - Day of Awesome

Friday May 31 – West Vancouver Community Cultural Fest 4-9:30pm

1. Pro D Friday May 17th and Victoria Day Long Weekend

A reminder that tomorrow is a Pro Day and classes will not be in session. In addition, Monday is a holiday, and the school will be closed. We wish all our Highlanders a safe and enjoyable Victoria Day long weekend!

2. Grade 12 Graduation 2024 Information – Ticket Sales

Tickets for the Banquet, May 25th and Commencement, June 11th are now on sale. Please refer to the attached [Grad Information Bulletin](#) for all the details on purchasing tickets.

3. Yearbook 2023-24

This is a friendly reminder that the **2023/2024 WVSS Yearbooks** are still available for purchase, in limited supply! It is the Yearbook Crew's aim to convey WVSS Student life, highlights of the year, photos, events, and ultimately represent the school's creativity, fun times, and memories that students have achieved throughout the year. Students will receive the book before the end of the school year, and there will be opportunities to have it signed by teachers, friends, and peers, and to reflect on all the positive moments they've experienced at WVSS through the 2023/2024 school year. Thank you so much and please click the link below to purchase the yearbook!

<https://westvancouver.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/26040/105/False/True>

4. D-Day and Liberation Tour, Europe 2025 – Lunch meeting: May 28th or 30th

The WVSS Social Studies department is planning an exciting overseas learning opportunity for students in Grade 10-12. May 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian forces in WWII. The trip will follow in the footsteps of Canadian soldiers who were instrumental in the success of the D-Day invasion and subsequent liberation of Europe from Nazi occupation. The tour will begin in London, where students will visit the Imperial War Museum and participate in archival research before travelling by sea from Portsmouth to the Normandy region of France. There we will visit key sites such as Dieppe, the Normandy beaches including Juno beach, and Dunkirk, and stay in the coastal town of Honfleur before travelling overland to Bruges, Belgium. Our final destination will be the Netherlands, where we visit historical sites including the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and the Airborne Museum in Arnhem. Finally we will take part in a ceremony recognizing the Canadian contribution to Dutch liberation, on May 4th, 2025. The tour will also include visits to popular cultural and general history sites such as Buckingham Palace, the canals of Amsterdam and Belgian chocolate making in Bruges. Tentative dates for the tour are April 25th to May 5th, 2025. If you are interested in learning more about the tour, please contact Dr. Christine Paget at cpaget@wvschools.ca or Trevor Stead at tstead@wvschools.ca and encourage your child to attend an info session in W241 at lunch on Tuesday, May 28th or Thursday, May 30th.

5. Graduation Assessments – Numeracy 10 – June 10-14

Grade 10 students will write the Numeracy 10 Graduation Assessment the week of June 10 – 14. This assessment is required for graduation purposes. **Students should prepare for this assessment** by trying the sample assessments below. Grade 11 - 12 students who have not written Literacy 10 , Literacy 12 or Numeracy 10 will also write the week of June 10-14.

Students will receive an email in June indicating the exact time, date, and room for the exam. Please see or email Crystal Tanfara (ctanfara@wvschools.ca) with any questions.

Numeracy 10 sample exams and info can be found here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment>

Literacy 10 sample exams and info can be found here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

Literacy 12 sample exams and info can be found here <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>.

6. Youth & Vaping - Information, Consideration & Impacts – June 12th

Vaping has continued to decline in our schools, and we are committed to ensuring school environments are tobacco and vape free. However, we know that vaping still occurs. In addition to ongoing student education, our schools regularly monitor and supervise all school spaces and post visuals in our schools reminding students that our facilities are vape free. One of the ways we would like to support our families and youth in learning more about vaping is partnering with Foundry for an upcoming series entitled “Youth & Vaping – Information, Considerations & Impacts” on June 12th at Rockridge Secondary. This evening event will be led by keynote speakers: Lindsay MacDonald and Lauren Wilkinson, both of whom have extensive knowledge surrounding the world of youth and vaping. Registration for this event will come out in mid-May. Topics to be discussed will include: Youth vaping rates, Stats, Products, Industry influence, Health impacts including addictions and local supports for youth.

7. Grad Show 2024 – May 9 – June 12

West Vancouver Schools presents the Grad Show 2024 opening May 9th – June 2nd at the Ferry Building Gallery in West Vancouver. This is an annual mixed media exhibition by graduation students from Collingwood School, Mulgrave School, Rockridge Secondary, Sentinel Secondary and West Vancouver Secondary. See [this Poster](#) for all the details.

8. Homestay Families Needed

Each year, the West Vancouver School District welcomes students from around the world to live and study in our vibrant community. We strive to place secondary school international students with families who live in West Vancouver to support each student’s integration into the school and wider community.

1. Share your home and your heart
2. Full-service homestay team support
3. \$28,000* in reimbursements
4. Single placements and 5-month students available

*Based on two international student both hosted from September to June.

If you are interested in hosting an international student, please reach out to our Homestay Coordinators at homestay@wvschools.ca. More information about the homestay program is available on our website at <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/international/>.

9. Careers & Counselling Corner

Grade 7 to Grade 12 Volunteers needed:

West Van schools is looking for Grades 7-12 student volunteers to support the West Van Schools Pavilion and Stage on May 31st and June 1st. See [this poster](#) for all the details.

CAMP IGNITE Mentorship Program - August 2024!

The Camp Ignite Mentorship program is open to girls in grades 11 – 12 (ages 15 – 18) living in British Columbia. This is an amazing confidence builder and encouragement to realize your future possibilities. The camp runs from August 8th to 11th, 2024 and the deadline for applications is May 1st, 2024. See [CAMP IGNITE POSTER](#) for details!

10. WVSS Athletics

Spring Sport: What a Spring it has been and continues to be in WVSS Sports!

Congratulations to our Jr Girls Soccer team! They are the Div 1 North Shore champs, beating Windsor in overtime yesterday. Well done Highlanders!

Congratulations to our Senior Boys Rugby 7s team! They took home the Sea to Sky Banner and are now headed to Provincials! Well done!

Congratulations to our Senior Girls Rugby 7s team! They took home the Sea to Sky Banner team who have made it to Provincials! Bravo!

Good luck & Congratulations to our WVSS Hockey Team. They finished first in their division (top seed) and will start they start playoffs this coming Tuesday at 2:15pm on home ice (West Van Arena). Waiting to hear who they will dominate next!

Congratulations to our Golf team! They are the North shore Champs and have made it to Provincials!

Congratulations as well to our Mountain Bike team who have also made it to Provincials!

Finally, Good luck to all the track and field athletes competing in the upcoming Provincials! Way to go Track & Field Superstars!

Please reach out to our Athletic Directors: Mr. MacGillivray (cmacgillivray@wvschools.ca) and or Mrs. Lambie (dlambie@wvschools.ca) with any questions.

11. Premier Academies and District Program Registration is Open!

The 2024-2025 Premier Academies and District Programs are open for registration! Please visit <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/programs/> for further information.

Premier Academies: Badminton, Baseball, Basketball, Fencing, Field Hockey, Robotics, Rugby, Soccer, Tennis, Volleyball

Premier Programs: Carpentry, Cybersecurity and AI, Fashion Industry, FAST, Honour Choir, Outdoor Recreation, 200 Hour Yoga, YELL Entrepreneurship 12

Youth Work in Trades

If your child is interested in pursuing a trade or just gaining experience in the trades industry, then the YWT program may be for them. Students can do an apprenticeship in a recognized trade and receive course credit, while also taking courses required for graduation. For any inquiries, please contact Linda Caruth: lcaruth@wvschools.ca

12. WVSS Parent Advisory Council - Grad signs!

Grad 2024 signs:

PARENTS & SUPPORTERS OF WEST VANCOUVER SECONDARY 2024 GRADS

ORDER YOUR YARD SIGN TODAY!

2024 West Vancouver Custom Yard Signs are ready to be ordered. Help celebrate your Grad or to show community spirit to all our WVSS Graduates. Orders are made through WVSS PAC.

Additional signs will be ordered by WVSS PAC to be placed at the front of the school in June.

They are produced locally and will be available by Friday, May 24th, prior to the Grad Banquet, to allow parents to take memorable photos prior to the event.

Cost: \$15 per sign – See the [attached poster](#)

Virtual Parent Workshops – PARENTING TEENS! Please see [this Poster](#) for details on the Virtual Parenting Teen workshops. The next one is “Developing Resilience in Teens” on May 28th. The TEAMS links will be provided closer to the date.

2023/2024 Optional PAC Contribution: 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.

13. School Fees 2023-2024 Overdue

2023/2024 School fees are now overdue. Please log in here to pay your outstanding fees:

<https://westvancouver.schoolcashionline.com/>. If you have not signed in before, you will need your child's Student Pupil number (not the PEN 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) in the main office if you have any questions or assistance with logging in.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & INFORMATION SECTION

An Evening Event with Valerie Jerome - Wednesday, May 22nd, 2024 – 7:30 – 9:00 pm – Kay Meek

Please join us for a discussion with author, education, Olympian and advocate Valerie Jerome hosted by broadcasters Kevin Evans. Ms. Jerome grew up running on the track at West Vancouver Secondary and has been instrumental in securing the necessary funds for the construction of the new track, now dedicated to her brother, Harry Jerome. Her new book "*Races: The Trials and Triumphs of Canada's Fastest Family*" provides a candid account of her family's history, and the racism they fought along the way. Complimentary tickets can be reserved online at the Kay Meek Theatre website. Please register [here](#) for this free event!

NATIONAL FORUM ON PHYSICAL MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH – Active Youth!

Registration details can be found here: [Active Youth](#) - Sunday, June 2nd at Sentinel Secondary

NATIONAL FORUM ON PHYSICAL MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH – Walk with your Doc!

Registration details can be found here: [Walk with your Doc](#) -Saturday, June 1st at Park Royal South

West Vancouver Memorial Library e-newsletter

The WVML Late April / May 2024 e-newsletter for kids, families and educators is here! We still have lots going on, even with the weather taking a beautiful turn. As always: everything is free, open to all and no library card is required.

See our E-newsletter here: <https://wvmlbc.patronpoint.com/email/preview/200>

Youth Action Grants

Youth Action Grants of up to \$750 are available to BC youth aged 12-19 to deliver projects that:

- Promote well-being.
- Build connections.
- Tackle inequalities.

Applications should be informed by findings from the BC Adolescent Health Survey (mcs.bc.ca/ahs) and supported by at least one adult. Application forms are available at mcs.bc.ca/youth_action_grants
Questions? Email: yag@mcs.bc.ca Phone : 604.291.1996 ext 235

West Vancouver Basketball Club Summer Camps

May is here which means the WVBC summer camps are right around the corner. This year, the WVBC will be offering 4 weeks of camps beginning July 8 for players in Grades 2-10. All camps will be held at West Van Secondary School and will be led by former Canadian Men's National Team player and WVS Teacher/ Basketball Academy Head Coach Greg Meldrum. Many camps

sold out last summer so don't wait too long to sign up. To view the full schedule of camps and to register, please go to <http://www.wvbc.ca>

Executive Functioning Group & Coaching (for students 16+)

Compass Clinic is currently offering a 9-week program for a group of students ages 16 and above who are struggling academically or personally due to Executive Functioning. There will be 2 weekly sessions: a group session and a one-on-one session. More information and the flyer can be downloaded from [here](#). Compass Clinic also offers personalized Executive Functioning coaching and support for students. Reach out to the Compass Clinic for more information and to discuss how they can help <http://compassclinic.ca>

Digital Resources to Combat the Exploitation and Trafficking of Minors

[The Prevention Project](#) is a project that Tiana Sharifi and the Ally Global Foundation have been working on and is now public and ready to share. The Prevention Project is an online hub of free, interactive digital resources to combat the exploitation and trafficking of minors in Canada. Developed in consultation with survivors and education experts, these resources have been created to empower children and youth (Grades 3-12) with knowledge on safe relationships, cybersafety, the risks of trafficking, red flags of grooming, and so much more. We have also created it with safe adults in mind, adding facilitation tips to each page, and making all resources free to download.

Mental Health and Wellness Resources and Supports

Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) has prepared new resources and videos on the Non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI) and Suicide Prevention. Resources can be found at the following links: [Healthy MindsBC: Suicide Prevention and Self Harm Video Series and Resources](#) and [CYMH Mental Health and Wellness Resources and Supports](#)

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.

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 parking on Mathers (during our construction phase) 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. Bornea in the accounting office or email jbornea@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

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. Bornea in the accounting office or email jbornea@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](#)

Follow Us On...



[@wearewvss](#)



[@wearewvss](#)