



WEST VANCOUVER SECONDARY  E-BULLETIN

WVSS is an IB World School



February 26, 2026

 July
17

Important Dates & Calendar Reminders

- **Frid. Feb. 27:** Deadline to hand in Course Planning Requests
 - **Wed. March 4:** Parent Meeting for Through the Iron Curtain Trip | WVSS Library | 6:00pm
 - **Thurs. March 5:** Collaboration Day - **Classes begin at 9:30am**
 - **Frid. March 6:** Learning Update #2 Posted Online
 - **Tues. March 10:** Lockdown Drill - 11:40am **note changed time/date*
 - **Tues. March 10 - Thurs. March 12:** Theatre Production | Kay Meek Studio | 7:00pm
 - **Mon. March 16 - Frid. March 27:** Spring Break (School not in session)
 - **Frid. April 3:** Easter Friday (School not in session)
 - **Mon. April 6:** Easter Monday (School not in session)
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NEW UPDATES:

Celebrating Student Success: Featured at the end of the bulletin

Every last Thursday of the month, we will highlight Highlanders who shine in our school programs. Check out **Highlander Success** stories of 2026 below!

2026-2027 Yoga Teacher Training Course

The district's 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training course is an 8-credit course (4 PE course credits and 4 Yoga course credits) that will provide students in grades 9 to 12 with the skills needed to effectively and safely teach yoga to all levels of students.

For more information or to register visit [200 Hour Yoga Teacher Training | West Vancouver Schools](#) or email Mariam Pirbhai mpirbhai@wvschools.ca

REMINDERS

CARPENTRY: YOUTH TRAIN IN TRADES APPLICATIONS OPEN for 2026-2027

The West Van School District's Carpentry Program: Youth Train in Trades is for students who are keenly interested in acquiring industry recognized skills and certification in carpentry/construction.

By completing this program students receive 16 credits (4 courses) towards high school graduation, in addition to Level 1 Carpentry Training. To learn more about the program visit [Train in Trades Application Form | West Vancouver Schools](#). If you have any questions, please email Parnaz Kashani: [Parnaz Kashani](#) **The deadline to apply is March 12th, 2026**

YOUTH WORK IN TRADES

Any students 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 Chris Campagnolo: [Chris Campagnolo](#)

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE UPDATE



Information about IB and PDP, as well as the application form, can be found on our website:

[Welcome to the IB Diploma Programme at WVSS!](#)

Applications are due February 27.

Any questions? Please email Ms. Colhoun, IB Coordinator, at [Nicola Colhoun](#)

Capilano University Access programs information session – March 5

Capilano University is hosting a [virtual information session](#) on Thursday, March 5 at 4 p.m. for students and their families to learn more about two Access programs designed to support students with learning differences: [Discover Employability](#) and [Education and Employment Access](#). Both programs are full-time at the Capilano University North Vancouver main campus and start in September 2026.

WVSS Theatre Company Presents...

NOT ANOTHER MURDER PODCAST

A new play by **Julianne Hoyak**

 **March 10 - 12, 2026**  **7:00pm** | KMC Studio Theatre

They say the past never really dies... it lingers... in old, stained letters, in dusty antique vases, in awkward internet takes we wish we never posted. They all have a story...

What starts as an excuse for not finishing a school project turns into a twisty-turny murder mystery involving a hometown hero... and a terrifying ghost. One podcast episode at a time, a team of meddling kids peel back the chilling layers of secrets until the shocking truth is revealed! This original production features a student-led cast and crew, comedic moments, spine-tingling costumes and special effects, AND live music by the WVSS Rockband!

 \$15 advance tickets go on sale **March 2 during lunch in front of the WVSS cafeteria or at the door before each show.**

Content warning: flashing lights, haze, discussion of murder, and a super creepy ghost.



Through the Iron Curtain European Tour

Parent Meeting:  Wed. March 4, 2026  6:00pm | WVSS Library

The WVSS Social Studies department is planning an exciting international learning opportunity for students in **Grade 10-12 from April 14th-25th, 2027**, to Austria, Czechia, Slovakia and Germany:

Step into history on an unforgettable European tour. Students will explore key sites such as the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, Bunker BS-8, the Museum of Communism, and Mauthausen Concentration Camp, while also experiencing cultural highlights including St. Stephen's Cathedral, a Danube River cruise, Mount Klet', and the Brandenburg Gate. The journey begins in Vienna, continues through Bratislava, Český Krumlov, Prague, and Dresden, and concludes in Berlin.

If you are interested in receiving more information, please contact **Dr. Christine Paget at cpaget@wvschools.ca** or **Mr. Trevor Stead at tstead@wvschools.ca**. You can also have your child join our **Google Classroom** using classroom code: **wkmajbv5**

West Vancouver Schools Premier Academy



The 2026-2027 **Premier Academies and District Programs** are open for registration! Please visit [District Programs | West Vancouver Schools](#) for further information.

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

Premier Programs: Carpentry, Cybersecurity (AI and Quantum Computing), Early Childhood Education, Fashion Industry, FAST, Illuminate Choral Ensembles, Outdoor Recreation, Professional Cook 1, Yoga Teacher Training, YELL Entrepreneurship 12

2026-2027 West Vancouver Schools Admissions

K-12 admission applications for both in-district and out-of-district students opens on **January 15!** If you have students in your family or network who are looking to join our district, please help spread the word about this important date. To learn more about registration expectations and processes, please visit our admissions page: [West Vancouver Schools Admissions](#)

We look forward to welcoming new students and families to our vibrant and supportive school community!

West Van Run! March 7th and 8th

We invite students and families to take part in this fun, community run and enjoy special discounted registration. Parents and students can register for \$45 using the code **WVSCHOOLS**, and children can join the Kids 1K for \$15 using the code **WVKIDS**. These codes can also be used by other family members who would like to participate.

Whether you prefer walking, jogging, or running, this event welcomes all ages and abilities. It's a great way for families to be active together and supports our shared commitment to health and well-being across West Vancouver Schools. **Register here - [Schools](#)**

WVSS – Student Lunch Account Program

We're introducing an optional **Student Lunch Account Program** designed to make cafeteria purchases easier for families and faster for students. Parents can load funds online, and students pay using a secure QR code.

If you have questions, please contact Tony at Tony@geminifoods.ca or Geoff at Geoff@geminifoods.ca

Here are the full instructions:  Student Account Program - SD45 - Gemini Foods.pdf
Support: accounts@geminifoods.ca

West Vancouver Highlander Athletics

You can now watch all of the Highlander basketball teams home games on our livestream by going to: hudl.fan.com and just type in "**West Vancouver Secondary**" in the search bar. We also have a YouTube network with all of our basketball games archived: [West Van Highlanders Athletics - YouTube](#)

Optional Accident Insurance for Families

West Vancouver Schools reminds families each year that personal injury or accident costs are not covered by the district or its insurance provider. To help protect against expenses from accidental injury, unexpected medical costs, or critical illness, families have the option to purchase voluntary accident insurance plans. A variety of providers offer different levels of coverage, so families are encouraged to review their options carefully and choose a plan that best meets their needs.

WVSS APP

Students and families can use our WVSS APP to see their daily schedule, see a map of the school, obtain school announcements, see all calendar events and so much more!

Google Calendar Link

The WVSS google calendar for students 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 - [WVSS Student Calendar](#) and add it to your Google calendar. If you'd like to open it in Outlook or other applications, use [WVSS Student Calendar](#)

Attendance Notices

Student absences should be communicated through email at

West Vancouver Secondary School

- ★ 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.
 - ★ If students are unwell during the day, they must report to the office before leaving the school.
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Extended Absence Forms

This is a reminder to families that if a student is missing 4 or more days due to an extended absence, they must have this [Extended Absence Form](#) completed and signed by all their teachers and an administrator. Copies are available for pick up at the north campus and south campus offices. Thank you for your attention to this.

SMS for Parents/Guardians

Option to receive text message for school emergencies or other important alerts: Part of the SD45 communication system allows families to opt into receiving important information additionally by text. For parents/guardians who would like to be notified of a school emergency such as power outages, severe weather or safety alerts via SMS **please text a "Y" or "Yes" to 978338 to ensure you are on the list.**

PAC News and Parent Education

PAC Donation - School Cash Online

The 2025/2026 **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 this link, [PAC Optional Donation 2025-26.pdf](#), which highlights some of the things the PAC supported last year, as well as some further details.

Parents guide to Social Media and Digital Devices:

[Parents Guide to Social Media and Digital Devices](#)

Physical Activity and Physical Literacy: Children and Youth Ages 5-17

For detailed information, please see the link [HERE](#)

Additional Notices

- **Safe Driving Around WVSS:**
 - Parents and students are reminded to drive **safely and legally** around campus. Please avoid U-turns, speeding, and stopping in the middle of the road for drop-offs.
 - **Homestay Families Needed:**
 - WVSS is looking for families to host international students. If interested, contact **Homestay Coordinator** or visit [West Vancouver Schools International](#)
 - **Community Connections and Events:**
 - Stay engaged with the community by visiting [Community Connections & Events](#)
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Useful Links

 **Reporting Absences/Lates:** [West Vancouver Secondary School](#)

 **WVSS Website:** [West Vancouver Secondary School](#)

 **Counselling Page:** [West Vancouver Counselling](#)

 **Athletics Website:** [Athletics](#)

 **West Vancouver School District:** [West Vancouver Schools](#)

 **Follow Us:**  @wearewvss

Please keep your contact information up to date to receive important school updates.

Celebrating WVSS Highlander Success

SENIOR BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM - CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to the senior boys' basketball team who had a great season this year.

They won both the **West Van Cup** (for the 4th year in a row) and the **North Shore Secondary Schools Athletic association 4A Championship** banner. Well done boys!



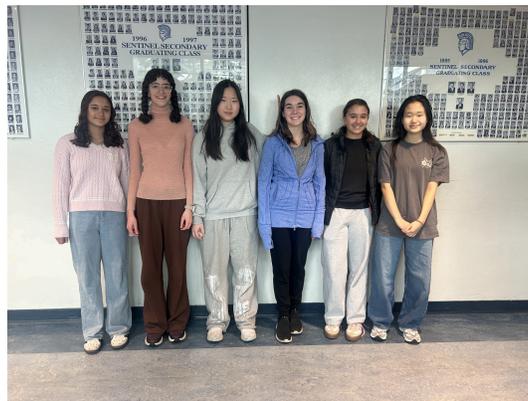
West Vancouver students shine amongst Canadian teams in the International CyberPatriot Cybersecurity Competition!

Special **CONGRATULATIONS** to Team **18-1481** & Team **18-1484** from the **Cybersecurity and AI** district program (<https://cybersecurityand.ai/>) who ranked **2nd** and **3rd** respectively amongst all **Canadian Gold Tier Teams** in the international CyberPatriot ([CyberPatriot](#)) cybersecurity competition.

The students put in many extra hours during evenings/weekends/holidays, worked extremely well together, competed against teams worldwide, and complemented and supported each other to earn this distinction. Well done!

Team 18-1484 (3rd place): Antonia Leiva-Molina (WVSS, Grade 11) not shown in picture.

Team 18-1481 (2nd place): From Left to Right (all Grade 10 students): **WVSS students Coco Gill, Sarina Khodabandehlou, Mandy Zong, Lauryn Heath, Chacha Gill** and SE student **Jisoo Kim**.



We extend our heartiest **CONGRATULATIONS** to WVSS students **Arnav Keshwani** (Grade 10, Team # 18-1482) and **Benjamin Kerr** (Grade 12, Team # 18-0803) from the **Cybersecurity and AI** district program (<https://cybersecurityand.ai/>) whose teams have qualified for the **Canadian CyberTitan IX Cybersecurity National Finals** next month.

This is a remarkable achievement. Their hard work, perseverance, dedication, collaboration and teamwork has paid off. They studied, prepared, and spent many long hours, competed with over 4,700 teams worldwide, sacrificed many weekends, and advanced through multiple competition rounds over the span of the last 5 months to qualify for the **Top 10 ICTC's CyberTitan National Competition**, which will take place **March 23–24, 2026**. They

will compete against the best of the best teams across Canada for the opportunity to be crowned **ICTC's CyberTitan National Champions**. *We wish them all the best!*

Arnav Keshwani, WVSS Grade 10



Benjamin Kerr, WVSS Grade 12



DANCE CREW 'FOOTLOOSE' COMPETITION

Congratulations to WVSS Dance Crew at the Footloose Dance Competition in Richmond, BC. They worked alongside local Vancouver choreographers and a world renowned b-boy who comes from the core of hip hop culture in New York. The crew danced super well and had a wonderful time having an evening of street dance shared by the community. We are truly proud of their efforts!

