École Windsor Secondary

Family Newsletter | November 2026

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Səlilwətaɬ Nation, on whose unceded traditional territory École Windsor Secondary resides.



CHEAKAMUS RETREAT — Grade 11 Leadership students Nina and Grace put their weaving skills to work while supporting Grade 8 students at the Cheakamus Retreat.

IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

Nov 2 — PAC Meeting, 7:30 PM, Library
Nov 3 — LIT 12 Assessments
Nov 4 — Grade 9 Take Your Kid to Work Day
Nov 11 — Remembrance Day, School Closed
Nov 12 — Early Dismissal, 1 PM
Parent-Teacher Interviews, 2–4 PM & 5:30–7:30 PM
Nov 13 — Early Dismissal, 1 PM
Nov 25 — Mandatory Grade 12 Meeting, 8:30–9:10 AM, MPR
Nov 27 — Review & Completion / End of Term 2, No Classes
Nov 30 — Term 2 Begins
Band & Strings Concert, 7 PM, Kay Meek

DECEMBER

Dec 2 — Choir Concert at Windsor

GRAD 2027 — SAVE THE DATES

Dec 7–9 & Dec 11 — Grad Photos at Windsor
Jan 25 — Grad Semi-Formal
Seymour Golf Club, 6–10 PM
June 6 — Graduation Ceremony
Orpheum Theatre, 11 AM
June 19 — Graduation Banquet
Vancouver Convention Centre
Group Photo: 5:30 PM | Banquet: 6–10 PM



931 Broadview Drive, North Vancouver, BC V7M 2K6 Tel: 604 604-903-3700 Web: https://windsor.sd44.ca

COUNSELLING RESOURCES

Counsellors

Grade 8 — **Chris Barnes**
Grade 9 & 10 — **Megan Brady**
Grade 11 — **Sue Maquignaz**
Grade 12 & International — **Mancy So**

Counselling - École Windsor Secondary - please see this link on the School Website for all Grad, Post-Secondary, community resources, courses and scholarships info.

GENERAL INFO

North Shore Foundry

North Shore Foundry: Comprehensive Youth Services for mental health, substance use support, peer support and social services for youth. See: www.foundrybc.ca/northshore Also has parent navigator services, and urgent response 604-984-5060

Test anxiety

Struggling with Test Anxiety? Here is a helpful link: https://www.heretohelp.bc.ca/workbook/test-anxiety



WHO'S THE TEACHER'S PET? A fun new staff display has popped up in the main hallway! Can you match each staff member with their four-legged friend? A big thank you to Ms. Lohnes for creating this adorable bulletin board.

SERVICE HOURS AWARDS

Service Hours Awards: for students who have contributed to school service in activities such as club executive positions, peer tutoring, coaching, fruit delivery, or hours completed as part of service clubs (fundraising, providing school tours with Ambassadors, parking lot attendants, parent teacher interview managers, working with special needs students, etc.) Recognition is given to students accumulating the following hours over the course of their entire time at Windsor:

30–99 hours	Service Certificate
100–199	Bronze Medal
200–299	Silver Medal
300–399	Gold Medal
400–499	Bronze Plaque
500–599	Silver Plaque
600–699	Gold Plaque
700+	Platinum Plaque

Submit by May 14

Students are encouraged to complete this form by May 14th. School Service is DIFFERENT from the 30 hours of Work Exposure (paid or unpaid work in the wider community) that is required for Careers 12. Grade 12's need to have completed the required 30 hours document through their CLC 12 course any time after Grade 10.

Career Centre

Career Centre: Opportunities Await !

Looking for volunteer or paid work, or opportunities to explore future career paths?

- Visit the Windsor work experience Blog for current opportunities
- Stop by Room E203 and speak with Ms. Senoner or Ms. Misceo.
- Check the CAREERS BOARD in the stairwell between the 200 & 300 levels

New opportunities are added throughout the year, so be sure to see what's available!

POST SECONDARY & SCHOLARSHIPS

Post Secondary

Thinking of post-secondary options? Come to the counselling suite and pick up some booklets/brochures from the over 50 Post-Secondary Institutes that are stored on our bookshelves. You can also book an appointment with your counsellor.

Visits & Open Houses

For all post secondary visits and Open Houses, please see this link on the Windsor website.

Reminder
Upcoming visits include: University of Alberta & Bishop's University.

Grad photos

Grad photos are fast approaching on December 7th –9th or Dec 11th, 2026. Students must book an appointment time online through the Grads BC website at: https://gradsbc.com/book-portrait-session All photo sessions take place at Windsor Secondary. Photos are used for the yearbook and the composite that hangs in the front foyer, and families can purchase their own.



External Scholarships

Please visit our Windsor webpage that lists them all by deadline**: Windsor External Scholarships Link** if you are a very strong Science, Technology, Engineering and Math student with financial need, please speak to your counsellor about the Schulich scholarship by Dec 3rd. For the Queen's University Chancellor's scholarship, please see Ms Maquignaz by Nov 9th.

Important scholarship dates

The Grade 12 Scholarship Application is due **Thursday Dec 3rd at 11:59 pm**. This document is used to determine all nominated and Internal (Windsor) Scholarships, which are granted *not only* for high marks. Many scholarships look for community service, commitment to careers (trades, teaching), talent in the areas of art, performance, technology, athletics, etc. ***You never know!*** Application forms are being sent out via MS Teams on the Grade 12 Information Team on Nov 6th . You can only submit ONCE, so please take the time to complete it thoroughly. Honesty and integrity are expected, and dishonesty will result in loss of eligibility of scholarships.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

North Shore Community Resources

Are you interested in finding a great community volunteer opportunity on the North Shore? The North Shore Community Resources website has a variety of social, economic, cultural and environmental volunteer positions for youth aged 12-19. Click here for more info: North Shore Youth Volunteering Link

House of Commons Page Program

Are you graduating this year, bilingual, have over 80% average, and planning to attend a university in the Ottawa area next fall? You can apply to the House of Commons Page Program, which pays you for 15 hours a week to serve the parliamentary offices and House officials for the year. Please apply by Monday Nov 8th through: www.ourcommons.ca/page

SHAD

SHAD is an intense science, technology, engineering, arts and math-based program that focuses on academic learning at one of the Canadian Universities during July for students currently in grade 10, 11 and 12. You need to apply directly to https://www.shad.ca/apply/ . Applications close Jan 6th , 2027, early bird deadline is Nov 8th 2026.

Minerva BC Career Boost

Minerva BC is hosting a Career Boost free event for self-identifying girls and diverse youth aged 15-25. Friday Nov 20th downtown Vancouver. To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1985527658676?aff=oddtdtcreator

Education Planner BC

Education Planner BC is the website used for researching career paths including trades, admission requirements and for applying to any university in BC. There is a virtual presentation for parents and students on Nov 25 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm to discover resources to support your student in post secondary pathways. To register, visit educationplannerbc.ca/go/virtual-sessions

Teen Advisory Group

The Parkgate library is launching their Teen Advisory Group, offering volunteer hours to students who want to contribute ideas to shape library programs and gain leadership experience. Check out: Teens | NVDPL Public Library for monthly meeting info.

The North Shore Women's Centre

The North Shore Women's Centre is offering 3 free programs: a) Self-Discovery and Career Empowerment program – for girls and gender-diverse youth from ages 14-18: engaging workshops and interactive discussion circles each Thursday for 10 weeks. b) Youth events at the Centre (see their website) and c) Volunteering . For more information visit this LINK

Windsor Teacher Toni Lazarova Receives BC Home Economics Teacher of the Year Award

Windsor Secondary is proud to congratulate Toni Lazarova, recipient of the BC Home Economics Teacher of the Year Award, presented by the Teaching Home Economics Specialist Association (THESA).

This award recognizes exemplary educators who demonstrate outstanding leadership and service within the home economics profession, a commitment to ongoing professional growth, and a dedication to sharing ideas, resources, and expertise with others. Toni embodies each of these qualities and more.
As a teacher of Foods and Textiles at Windsor Secondary School, Toni creates learning environments where students feel supported, challenged, and valued. Her calm and caring presence and exceptional organization help students develop confidence, practical skills, and a strong sense of belonging. She has a remarkable ability to connect with students from all backgrounds, making every learner feel welcome and capable of success.



Windsor Secondary teacher Toni Lazarova receives the BC Home Economics Teacher of the Year Award from the Teaching Home Economics Specialist Association (THESA) in recognition of her outstanding leadership, service, and commitment to home economics education.

Toni's influence extends well beyond her own classroom and school. Toni's leadership has also been felt throughout the wider Home Economics community. She previously served as President of the North Shore Home Economics Chapter, where she championed collaboration, professional learning, and the sharing of best practices among educators. She is known throughout our School District and the Province by fellow educators as a generous colleague who is always willing to share lessons, resources, and expertise. Whether mentoring new teachers, offering advice, or simply being a supportive friend, Toni consistently helps others grow in their practice. During the shift to online learning, she generously shared numerous digital resources and learning opportunities with colleagues to help them navigate a challenging period in education.
A strong advocate for professional learning, Toni earned her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Pedagogy from the University of British Columbia and continuously seeks opportunities to enhance her practice. She is a passionate mentor who regularly welcomes student teacher candidates into her classroom, helping to develop the next generation of educators.



At Windsor Toni is the staff sponsor of the school's thriving Sewing for a Cause Club where students use their creativity and skills to support both school-based and community initiatives. She also serves as the teacher sponsor for Windsor's Rotary Interact Club, inspiring students to become engaged citizens and community leaders. Her commitment to service learning has had a meaningful impact on countless students and community members alike. In the Spring of 2026 Toni was recognized by Rotary Canada for her significant contributions to youth leadership and service.
Those who know Toni describe her as hardworking, energetic, compassionate, and endlessly supportive. She leads with humility, encourages others to do their best, and consistently puts students at the centre of her work. Her dedication to school and professional communities exemplifies the very best of the profession. This award recognizes not only her excellence as a Home Economics educator, but also her leadership, generosity, and unwavering commitment to students, colleagues, and the broader school community.

Congratulations, Toni, on this well-deserved recognition. The Windsor community is fortunate to have you, and we celebrate this outstanding achievement with you.

WINDSOR MUSIC

PURDY'S CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Want to know the most DELICIOUS way to support Windsor Music?
Order Purdys chocolates through our fundraiser! Proceeds will go toward our program initiatives, including purchasing equipment, sheet music, music technology, and supporting our student scholarship fund.
There is a fantastic selection of chocolates and holiday treats to choose from—perfect for gifts for family, friends, neighbours, or yourself!
Order deadline: November 30, 2026 Order pickup: December 9–10, 2026

How to Order:

- Visit Fundraising | Windsor Music 2026 Holiday Fundraiser | Purdys chocolate fundraiser
- Click "Start Supporting Now"
- Click "Shop Online."

GROWING SMILES WINTER PLANT FUNDRAISER

Our Growing Smiles Winter Fundraiser has also begun!
Add some holiday cheer to your home with beautiful poinsettias, wreaths, and other festive Christmas arrangements. These make wonderful additions to your home or thoughtful gifts for family and friends.
Order deadline: November 24, 2026
Order pickup: December 9–10, 2026

How to Order:

Visit Windsor Secondary Music Department to browse the selection of plants and holiday arrangements available.
Thank you, everyone, for supporting Windsor Music! We truly appreciate your support, and please feel free to share these fundraising links with friends and family.



IMPORTANT DATES

Growing Smiles
Deadline: Nov 24
Pickup: Dec 9–10
Purdy's
Deadline: Nov 30
Pickup: Dec 9–10

NVSD Student Inclusive Education Sub-Committee Opportunity

The Student Inclusive Education Committee is a sub-committee of the school district's Inclusion Committee and was created in 2022. The sub-committee will provide neurodivergent students and students with disabilities an opportunity to share their experiences and perspectives and provide advice to the NVSD on all matters pertaining to students with autism and/or intellectual disabilities to ensure support for their education and school journey.

Participation is open to students in Grades 6-12 with intellectual disabilities and autistic students. All students have the option to attend meetings with the support of a family member, peer or support person.

The sub-committee meets three to four times per year, with meetings taking place after school usually at the Education Services Centre on Lonsdale Avenue.

If your student would like to participate on this sub-committee for the 2026-2027 school year, please email, inclusiveeducation@sd44.ca and provide the student's name, school, grade and contact information. The number of sub-committee participants will depend on the number of applicants.

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OBU/Windsor Sister-School Exchange 2027-28

Since 2008, Windsor Secondary and Obu Secondary High Schools (outside Nagoya, Japan) have participated in a sister-high school exchange program. Our next proposed exchange is for 2027-28 and will mark our 20th anniversary!

Our exchange will occur NEXT year and will be open to all grade 9-11 students in the 2027-28 academic school year. Application forms will be distributed in early December at an info session and will be accepted starting in January 2028.

In early October 2027 (all exact dates to be determined), the group from Obu Secondary will arrive for one week of visiting, sightseeing, cultural exchange and participation in learning. The Japanese students stay in the homes of Windsor students – in pairs as required by North Vancouver School District. During their stay, the Obu students visit Windsor classrooms as well as the community.

Saying goodbye or 'Sayonara' to our Obu friends is always hard, but the great news is that we see them all again! The Windsor exchange students will depart in May 2028 for a ten-day excursion to Japan, including a two-night stay in Tokyo, seven nights in Obu and a day trip to Kyoto. It will be an amazing time seeing our new Japanese friends, attending our sister school, Obu Senior High and experiencing the wonderful culture and traditions of Japan. Windsor students stay in Japanese homes during their time in Obu and it's safe to say that we all receive VIP treatment! It's always hard to leave, but many connections are formed and most students remain friends for years to come.

If you think you might be interested in the Windsor/Obu exchange, please join us for the next one in 2027/28!

Sponsor teachers for the Windsor/Obu 2028 exchange are Mrs. Ottenbreit and Mr. Minn, and we are pleased to have Ms. Hall join us as well. We hope your son or daughter can join us for a once in a lifetime experience. Arigato!

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Fall Activity at Windsor

We are well into a busy and exciting fall at Windsor Secondary. In addition to academic courses in a variety of subjects and fine arts and applied skills electives, continue to discover new interests and passions within the various clubs, teams, and programs. Did you know Windsor has a Drag Racing Club? Students drive our modified Windsor race car at the Mission Raceway. They had their first day at the track in September. We are the only Secondary School in North Vancouver with a full Auto Shop, and have three blocks of Auto running this year with students from both Windsor and Seycove attending.

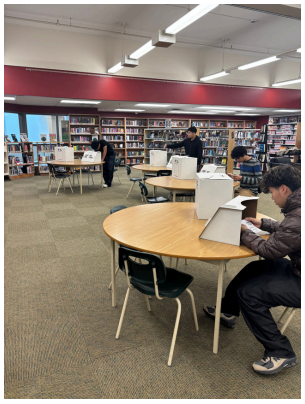


October Events

October was when school activities got into full swing with fall sports teams and clubs. Students are rehearsing and practicing in anticipation of Zone playoffs and Holiday concerts. We hosted numerous assemblies and parent nights, and are looking forward to our BC Post Secondary evening next week. This month Windsor welcomed a Residential School Survivor who spoke to some of our Grade 9-12 classes and had a profound impact on many students.

Student Vote - Civic Education

Windsor Socials and Career students came to practice voting in the Windsor Library on October 21-22 using resources provided by Student Vote BC. This exercise helped students understand democracy, and explore issues and different perspectives through a variety of lessons. Students cast their ballots which were then tallied and sent to Victoria to be included in the votes from other secondary schools. An enriching and meaningful experience for all!



Haunted House

Wrapping up October, Windsor's Student Council was working with our Drama department to put on an interactive Halloween Haunted House for all students to experience.



Remembrance Day

We will be putting on our annual Remembrance Day Service for our school community here at Windsor on November 10th. The Service will include performances by our Band and Choir students, artwork of fallen Canadian soldiers by our Art students, and speeches written and delivered by our student body. Each year, students go above and beyond to recognize the sacrifices of Canadians throughout our history.

Fall Sports

Our fall sports teams are continuing to work hard with their sights set on playoffs beginning in November. Windsor's JV Football team has their final home game vs Argyle on Wednesday November 4th at 3:30 pm on the Windsor field. All are welcome to attend to cheer on the team and show their spirit. The school will also announce any Provincial playoffs to our community on our website if you wish to attend.



📸: @cy.tamlens

Windsor's JV Football team has their final home game vs Argyle on Wednesday November 4th at 3:30 pm on the Windsor field - come cheer on our Windsor Wolves!

Windsor PAC

The Windsor PAC was able to fund school initiatives by your generous donations. This fall alone they have started to enhance student experience by paying for new furniture for our Library and Indigenous Study Room, a specialized sewing machine for our Sewing with a Cause Club, a display case which displays all the Windsor teams that have won a NS Championship since our school opened in 1961, sent our Choices program students on a team building kayak experience, and is funding our new (and very popular) Collabrynth collaborative game.

Donations are accepted year round, however if you wish to donate for the current school year, please do so by **Nov 30**.



LINK for DONATION INFORMATION.

Mailing or dropping off a cheque made out to Windsor PAC
931 Broadview Drive
North Vancouver, BC
V7H 2E9

-~the Windsor PAC