



THE “BEST” INFORMER



FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

TODAY IS DAY 1

****Please note: All new and changed items are in red****

JANUARY

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HONOURS STANDING INFORMATION

The end of semester 1 marks are the first set of marks to determine Honours Standing for students in grade 10 – 12. Please see the previous newsletters (Dec. 5th and 19th) for the criteria, further details, and information.

COQUITLAM EXPRESS JR. A HOCKEY TEAM IS HOSTING A CHARLES BEST SPIRIT NIGHT!

“On Friday, January 23rd, the Coquitlam Express will be taking on the Chilliwack Chiefs, and we would love to partner with Dr. Charles Best Secondary by hosting a **Dr. Charles Best Night** at the game.”

- Wear school colours or apparel
- Are you interested in singing *O Canada*? The team would be happy to welcome you. Please email tali@coquitlamexpress.ca if you are interested.
- Best teams are encouraged to attend together and wear their team jerseys or swag. Let's fill the rink and have more in attendance than Cent. and PMSS had!

Check your student emails for your FREE ticket! Game time is 7:00pm.

JAN 19-23 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS NOW POSTED

The schedule of events for I-Week is now posted around the front lobby, various stairwell bulletin boards and main floor exit doors. ***IMPORTANT- Students writing assessments need to check your student email and assessment schedule in the lobby for your correct room placement and time.**

JAN 19-23 ASSESSMENT SCHEDULES POSTED IN LOBBY

Literacy, Numeracy and FRAL assessment room assignments and times are now posted in the front lobby. Grade 10's and 12's, please check to ensure your name is on the list. This is the only assessment period being offered this school year. See Ms. Thibault in the office if your name is missing.

LITERACY ASSESSMENT PREP

This is a reminder that the **Literacy 10 and 12 Assessments** will take place during I-week (**Jan 19-23**) for all Grade 10 and 12 students. This is an important provincial requirement that assesses reading and writing skills across various contexts.

To help students prepare, the ministry has provided resources and practice materials at the following links:

Literacy 10: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment>

Literacy 12: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment>

We encourage you to review these materials ahead of the assessment.

LAST CHANCE TODAY - BLUE GYM LOCKER LOCKS

Students who are using a small blue gym locker for semester 1 must have their personal locks removed **by Friday, January 16th** so semester 2 students have the opportunity to use them. Locks not removed by January 16th will be cut off and locker contents will be bagged up and put in lost and found.

GRADE 12'S TODAY - SEMESTER II COURSE CHANGES

With semester II starting on January 27th, we want to make the transition as smooth as possible. As classes are very full and it will be a busy January start up for counsellors doing programming at the middle schools, we are going to ask students to see their counsellors **ONLY** on the following dates for the following course related reasons: **Courses required for graduation and missing courses.**

Requests for teacher changes or lunch block changes cannot be accommodated.

IN PERSON changes only from 9:00am to 3:00pm on your applicable date.

Grade 12- January 16th (during your lunch or off block only)

Grade 11- January 22nd (before or after Capstone observations)

Grade 10- January 19th (before or after your assessment)

Grade 9- January 20th (before or after your digital literacy presentation)

There will not be any schedule changes after January 22nd. Thank you!

END OF SEMESTER 1/START OF SEMESTER 2

The last day of Semester 1 classes is **Friday, January 16th**.
Check the schedule from the Dec. 5 & 19 newsletters for days to attend from **Jan. 19-23**.
Monday, January 26th is a Pro D Day.
Semester 2 classes begin on **Tuesday, January 27th**.

LAST CHANCE TODAY - LOST AND FOUND

Please check out the lost and found bin in the main hallway **BEFORE Friday, January 16th**.
After then, unclaimed items will be donated to a needy cause.

WINTER ESSENTIALS DRIVE PART 2

We will be holding another winter essentials drive on **Saturday January 31st 9:30-2:00** at the front of our school. **Kindly limit clothing donations to coats, boots and warm socks thank you.**

CAPSTONE DAY

Capstone Day is next week on **Jan. 22nd**. **All Grade 12's**: please arrive at 10am for attendance and an opening ceremony in the large gym. The first shift of presenters will move from there.
Grade 11's with the last names A – LEE, please check-in at 10:15am near the front office.
Grade 11's with the last names LEF – Z, please check in at 12:45pm.
Taco and Burger Food trucks will be on site all day.

TIME	WHAT	WHO
10:00am - 10:25am	Attendance and opening ceremony in the large gym. Come 10 min. early to get your nametag and avoid the rush	All Grade 12s
10:30am – 12:00pm	Shift 1 - in various classrooms around the school. ½ Grade 12s present ½ Grade 12s observe ½ Grade 11s observe Observing students move room to room respectfully. Presenting students present repeatedly for 1.5 hours (once to an assessing teacher)	All Grade 12s Grade 11s (A-LEE) Grade 11s check in at front foyer
12:00pm – 12:55pm	Lunch in Devil's Den area (students should pack a lunch) Cafeteria will be closed. Enjoy Photo booths, music, games, mascot, etc.	Grade 12s
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Shift 2 - in various classrooms around the school. ½ Grade 12s present ½ Grade 12s observe ½ Grade 11s observe Observing students move room to room respectfully. Presenting students present repeatedly for 1.5 hours (once to an assessing teacher)	All Grade 12s Grade 11s (LEF-Z) Grade 11s check in at front foyer
2:35pm – 2:45pm	Name tag return and closing ceremony in the large gym. Congratulations on completion of Capstone Day!	All Grade 12s

SCHOLARSHIP/AWARD/BURSARY INFORMATION

BCSTA STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Awarded to graduating BC students for their outstanding contributions to school and community. 3 x \$750 (one is reserved for Indigenous students). [Apply here](#) by **February 15**.

DISCOVER UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BURSARIES

Up to 30 awards are available, up to \$8,000/year. Open to Canadian students, PR or refugees, based on demonstrated financial challenges and barriers to attending university. [Apply here](#) by **February 15**.

QUEEN'S MAJOR ACCESS AWARDS

Financial aid for the highest-need applicants so that they are empowered to accept their offer of admission to Queen's. \$10,000–\$18,000 per year (depending on program) for a recipient's four years of study to help them complete their degree. [More here](#). **Deadline: February 15**.

PATHWAY TO TEACHING SCHOLARSHIPS

The B.C. Ministry of Education is awarding \$5,000 to 20 outstanding high school graduates who have demonstrated a commitment to and aptitude for a career in K–12 teaching. **Due by February 17, 3 pm**.
[More here](#).

CAREER CENTRE NEWS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS

PAID EMPLOYMENT WITH PRO WORKS PAINTING TRI-CITIES

Motivated and friendly door-to-door marketers are wanted for the Spring/ Summer season. Introduce services, provide basic information, and generate leads for the ProWorks sales team. Flexible hours, \$20/hour plus commission. [More info.](#)

Hard working, motivated individuals are wanted to join their spring/summer painting team. Must have a license and a vehicle (changing work sites), must be able to work full-time for **most of Summer Break**. Average pay is \$28/hour. [More info.](#)

WESTERN IVEY BUSINESS CASE COMPETITION

Students in grades 10-12 can get an understanding of the “case” method of learning for which the Ivey Business School is well recognized. Students are given a case describing a real-world situation in which some type of business problem is being faced, and they will work as a team to implement an action plan. [Apply by February 23](#) to participate in this free one-day event at Mulgrave School in Vancouver, **Sat, April 18, all day.**

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS ASAP

Kids Innovative is looking for high school students who enjoy working with younger kids.

You must have block 5 off due to the early start. [Register.](#)

- Baker Drive Elementary: Assist students with creative arts & crafts projects, guide them through basic art techniques and help keep materials organized. **Thursdays, starting ASAP** - March 5. 2.45 - 4 pm
- Montgomery Middle - Cooking class: Assist with kitchen setup, guide young chefs and keep the space safe and organized. **Fridays, starting ASAP** - March 6, 3-4.30 pm.

STARTS THIS WEEKEND - SFU SCIENCE ALIVE: EXPLORING AI: THE GOOD, THE BAD, & BEYOND

In this free online workshop series, Grade 8-12 students will explore artificial intelligence (AI), while learning more about generative AI, ethics of AI, and real-world uses of AI in STEM fields, while learning more about coding! Some experience in text-based coding is recommended. **Saturdays, Jan 17 – March 7, 10 am – noon.**

[Register.](#)

UBC SAUDER CAP CASE COMPETITION

The UBC Commerce Advocate Program (CAP) is inviting high school students to participate in an immersive, full-day business case competition hosted at UBC’s Sauder School of Business. Experience what business education at the university level looks like and network with Sauder student volunteers. Work in a team to analyze a real-world business case, develop strategic solutions and present your idea to judges.

Saturday, January 31st, 9.30 am – 5.30 pm. Cost: \$10 (includes food during the event). [Sign up here.](#)

ROTARY ADVENTURES IN CITIZENSHIP

150 students between 16-18 will be able to learn more about our federal government (May 24-27). There is ONE SPOT available for a Coquitlam student. Participation is fully sponsored by the Coquitlam Rotary Club incl. travel to Ottawa, accommodation at U of O, food, etc. **Apply by Sunday, February 22, [details here.](#)**

Selection criteria include academic standing, demonstrated leadership, community service.

SPRING BREAK VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Rainforest Adventure Camps is providing outdoor-based camps for ages 5-12 and other programs in the Tri-Cities. They are looking for kind, patient, and respectful volunteers for their Spring Break programs. [More info.](#)

POST SECONDARY EVENTS

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Interested in studying in Montreal? Learn more about programs, how to apply, housing options, student life, etc. **Thu, January 22, 5-8 am, or 2-5 pm PST.** [Sign up.](#)

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY INFO EVENTS

- Legal Administrative Assistant program: **January 20, 7-8 pm.** [Sign up](#)
- Paralegal (degree and diploma) programs: **January 20, 7-8 pm.** [Sign up](#)
- Bachelor of Tourism Management & Tourism Co-op Education Diploma, **January 21, 6-7 pm.** [Sign up](#)
- Outdoor Recreation Management, **January 22, 6.30 – 7.30 pm.** [Sign up](#)

FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY VANCOUVER

Learn more about FDU’s Vancouver campus, program highlights, admission requirements and application process, scholarship opportunities for international students, and Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) eligibility. **January 21, 5-6 pm.** [Learn more and register.](#)

BCIT MARINE MECHANICAL PROGRAMS

Jobs like Marine Technician, Shipyard Technician, and Marine Diesel Mechanic offer excellent pay, strong job prospects, and the chance to work hands-on with small boating craft and complex mechanical systems.

Learn more on **January 20, 6 pm.** [Sign up.](#)

LANGARA COLLEGE INFO WEEK

Feb 2- 6 is your chance to learn how Langara College can get you on your way to your academic/ career goals: Health (incl. Kinesiology and Food & Nutrition), Arts (incl. Theatre, Music Production, Design, Journalism), Arts & Humanities, Business, and Science. Attend an info session or a trial class, connect with recruiters/ faculty/ student services, and get your questions answered. [Register and attend](#) to apply for free and to potentially win a \$250 Nike giftcard.

GRADE 12 INFORMATION

LAST CHANCE FOR CAPSTONE SIGN UP

Have you signed up for your Capstone Presentation yet? Make sure you stop by room 309 to sign up asap!

CAP AND GOWNS

Grade 12's, with your parents please check SCO (School CashOnline) accounts ASAP to see if you have an outstanding Commencement item (Cap and Gown). There are still over 150 outstanding which need to be ordered by the end of January. It's important we have the proper sizes ordered for each grad. Thank you!

FRIENDSHIP PHOTO NIGHT

Artona is looking forward to seeing you for your Grad Friendship Group Sessions!

Photo Date: **Thursday, January 29, 2026**

First Appointment: 4:30 PM

Location: In the Cafeteria

artona.com/bookings Students may visit our website to book an appointment or if they would like more information on the event: [Artona Grad Groups Photos](#).

CLUB EVENTS

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR EVENTS HAPPENING SOON

ATHLETICS



Dr. Charles Best Secondary Athletics
Home of the Blue Devils
@charlesbestscho
charlesbestathletics.weebly.com



For secondary sport updates and information...



@cssaasd43

[Follow Charles Best Athletics on Instagram here](#)

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

DATE	TEAM	LOCATION/DETAILS
Fri. Jan. 16 – Sat. Jan. 17	SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	Kodiak Classic Tournament @ H. Woods Sec.
Thurs. Jan. 15 – Sat. Jan. 17	SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL	Pitt Meadows Sec. Tournament
Fri. Jan. 16 @ 4:00pm	GRADE 9 BOYS BASKETBALL	HOME game vs. Centennial Sec.
Fri. Jan. 16 ALL DAY	WRESTLING	Raven Invite @ Terry Fox Sec.
Mon. Jan. 19 @ 3:30pm WILL BE RESCHEDULED	FIELD LACROSSE	HOME game vs. Mission Sec.
Mon. Jan. 19 @ 5:00pm	GRADE 9 BOYS BASKETBALL	AWAY game @ Arch Bishop Carney Sec.
Mon. Jan. 19 @ 5:30pm	JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	HOME game vs. Arch Bishop Carney Sec.
Mon. Jan. 19 @ 5:30pm	JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL	AWAY game @ Arch Bishop Carney Sec.
Tues. Jan. 20 @ 7:30pm	SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL	AWAY game @ Port Moody Sec.
Tues. Jan. 20 @ TBD	SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	HOME game vs. Heritage Woods Sec.
Wed. Jan. 21 @ 5:00pm	JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL	HOME game vs. Centennial
Thurs. Jan. 22 @ TBD	JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	HOME game vs. Centennial
Thurs. Jan. 22 @ 6:00pm (resched. from Jan. 7)	JUNIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	Rescheduled HOME game vs. PoMo Sec.
Fri. Jan. 23 – Sat. Jan. 24	SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	Tournament @ Pitt Meadows Secondary
Mon. Jan. 26 @ TBD	SENIOR GIRLS BASKETBALL	AWAY game @ Heritage Woods Sec.