



# Welcome to Pinetree

Twitter: @PinetreeSD43

www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/pinetree/

August 2014

MISSION STATEMENT: Working with our community, we are dedicated to preparing our students for success in a rapidly changing world by providing a supportive learning environment which recognizes and respects individual differences, encourages students to challenge personal limits and promotes excellence.

## Events Calendar 2014-2015

August 2014	
25-29	Counsellors in attendance
25-29	ESL Assessment
28	Gr. 9-Orientation & picture day, 10 am-12 pm
September 2014	
02	School opens~1st day of classes
03	Student and staff photos
15	PAC meeting 7:00 pm
18	Grade 10-12 Awards Ceremony 5:00pm-6:30pm
18	Meet the Teacher Night 7:00pm-8:30pm
17	PAC Meeting-Library, 7 pm
19	Pro-D Day
26	Senior Sail
October 2014	
02	Picture retakes in the morning
08	Sem one Interim Reports
13	Thanksgiving Day (no school)
24	Pro-D Day
November 2014	
3	PAC meeting 7:00 pm
10	School Closure Day
11	Remembrance Day STAT holiday
12	Sem one Midterm Report
18	Parent/Teacher Conferences
19	Pro-D Day
December 2014	
12	Grade 2015 Winter Formal
19	Last day before Winter break

## Principal's Message

We hope that students and families have enjoyed their summer break and are anxious to return to Pinetree. For students in grade 9 and new students to Pinetree we are looking forward to meeting with you over the course of the school year. It won't take long for you to discover that Pinetree is an outstanding secondary school!

Our first day of school is Tuesday, September 2nd. All students are expected on Wednesday September 3rd to have their picture taken for our school records, go card/student card and yearbook. Photos are also available for purchase. Our "Yearbook", a colour history of the school year includes pictures of all students by grade, as well as the many activities that happen over the course of the year.

Please check our website often for information about Pinetree, events that are occurring and our school calendar. We also use an automatic phone/email message (Synervoice) system to notify families regarding student daily attendance, as well as reminders of important events and dates.

At Pinetree we expect all students to be in attendance on a daily basis and ask parents to assist us by making sure that their kids are at school on time with their work completed to the best of their ability. The recipe for success is not absenteeism, the Key ingredient is LEARNING. Being at school is important! For this reason, I will be monitoring the learning and achievement of all students.

With this in mind, we request that parents do not plan early holidays during the school year specifically Christmas Break, end of Semester One, March Break and end of the School Year. Thanks for supporting your kids and our staff.

All students will be given a "Student Agenda" planner that contains information for students and parents. We ask that parents review with their children the first 17 pages. We also ask that parents visit our website and go to the e-form section and fill out the e-forms that are listed there.

Page two of the Student Agenda Planner discusses "Integrity". We are not only preparing

your children for future studies in many fields but also developing in each and every student a set of character skills – Integrity – that will guide them through secondary school and into adult life. The major benefit to students who build and develop this essential value at Pinetree, are the rewards of having a finely tuned and magnetically true moral compass with which to meet the challenges of life. At Pinetree we want to reinforce the same beliefs that you instill at home.

For parents please make note of the School Events Calendar 2014-2015 on the inside cover of the Student Agenda Planner. Students will bring home a magnetic calendar during the first week of school.

From time to time we have incidents of theft at Pinetree. We educate all students as to their responsibility for their personal belongings, as well as school issued learning materials. The safest and best plan is to secure all articles on them otherwise belongings can be kept in their locker in A/B wing. They should not be left in the boys or girls change room lockers or left alone in a classroom, hallway or washroom. Lock combinations should not be shared. The school cannot take responsibility for their personal belongings however, we do care and will assist whenever possible.

We are pleased with our growing reputation that characterizes Pinetree Secondary as an outstanding place for students to learn. Please read through the Student Agenda Planner. We believe that everyone should, "Dream Big Dreams" and have the courage to commit the energy to make those dreams come true. We are looking forward to working with all students and families over the course of the next ten months.

Please feel free to contact me by email or phone should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Mr. John McCullough Principal

## The First Day

**Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014**

The first day is an important one for all students. Our goals for the day are to:

- Collect Student Information
- Distribute timetables
- Collect fees
- Discuss the opening week, school supplies, student photos, school goals.

***FIND YOUR PACK NUMBER  
ON THE COURTYARD WINDOWS***

students entering

**Grade 11 and 12**

**PACK 10:00 a.m.**

on

**Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014**

**\*\*Grade 9 & 10 students  
do not come at this time\*\***

Students entering

**Grade 9 and 10**

**PACK 1:00 p.m.**

on

**Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014**

**\*\*Grade 11 & 12 students  
do not come at this time\*\***

**Wednesday, September 3 - Day 1**

8:00	Block 2
9:05	"PACK"
9:30	Block 3
10:30	Nutrition Break
10:45	Block 4
11:45	Block 5
12:45	Lunch
1:30	Block 1

**Friday, September 5 - Day 1  
(regular Friday Schedule)**

8:00	Block 1
9:05	"PACK"
9:10	Block 5
10:15	Nutrition Break
10:30	Block 2
11:40	Block 3
12:45	Lunch
1:30	Block 4

**Thursday, September 4 - Day 2**

8:00	Block 1
9:05	"PACK"
9:30	Block 4
10:30	Nutrition Break
10:45	Block 5
11:45	Block 2
12:45	Lunch
1:30	Block 3

**Monday, September 8 - Day 2  
(regular Monday Schedule)**

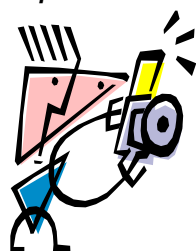
**Tuesday, September 9 - Day 1  
Regular Tuesday Schedule**

**\*\*IF LABOUR DISPUTE IS UNRESOLVED BY SEPTEMBER 2nd THE ABOVE SCHEDULE WILL  
COMMENCE WHEN SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION\*\***

Visit our website for updates [www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/pinetree/](http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/pinetree/)

## School Photos

Photographs for grades 9's will be taken **August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am** Artona Studio will return to Pinetree on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>** to photograph grade



10, 11 and 12 students and any grade 9 students who have not had their photo taken. All students must get pictures taken for school records, "Go Cards" and the yearbook.

**Retakes: October 2nd**

## Re-scheduling courses due to cancellation of Summer School

Students that require course changes or re-programming due to the cancellation of summer school are priority.

Students will receive a priority **Course Change Request Form** in PACK and **MUST** present this form to see a counsellor on the first day of school.

## First Day Answers To Students' Questions

### Where do I go when I get there?

Please use either the main entrance to the school, (that's the one off Pinewood Avenue directly across from the Fire Hall), the cafeteria entrance or the entrance from the overpass. Come early so you can be sure to get to your "PACK" room on time. We will begin on time and we expect you to be there.

### What's my "PACK" Room?

Your "PACK" room is the room you go to every Wednesday with the same teacher; it's Pinetree's version of "homeroom". "PACK" will be the first class you attend on the first day of school.

### How do I know where my "PACK" Room is?

Your "PACK" and room number will be posted on the windows in the main courtyard. If you have trouble, there will be many student guides around to help you – don't be embarrassed to ask.

### What do I need to bring?

For the first day you will need:

- a pen and pencil
- a cheque payable to "Pinetree Secondary School" (SEE FEE SECTION)
- a smile – you will love Pinetree
- completed e-forms-please visit our

website and complete the e-forms listed

### What about school supplies?

You shouldn't bring school supplies until you meet your teachers; they will tell you what kind of notebooks and supplies you need for each class. Even though all the stores will be advertising fantastic sales, wait until you've met your teachers before shopping for school supplies.

**For the first week, a notebook, pens and pencils will be all you need.**



## Grade 9 Orientation

PINETREE SECONDARY SCHOOL

**August 28th**

**9:00 am**

have your photo taken  
choose your locker  
tour the school  
meet your classmates



## NEWPACK numbers this year

This year we have new  
PACK numbers!

### FIND YOUR PACK

posted on the courtyard windows  
on the first day of school

Pinetree Secondary  
is on Twitter!



Follow us  
on Twitter  
@PinetreeSD43

## STUDENT AGENDA BOOKS

Students will be issued a Pinetree Student Agenda Book. This book contains information about the school, important dates and expectations of Pinetree students. It is also a short and long term planner which we urge students to use effectively to organize their time and manage their assignments.

## Attendance

Other than the academic lessons students learn at Pinetree, attitudes toward prompt and regular attendance at school and work are among the most important lessons we teach students. Please help us teach your son or daughter healthy attitudes towards school and the workplace by:

- Phoning the school** each day your son or daughter is going to be absent or late. Even if your son or daughter may insist that you needn't call, please do. We need to hear before the absence occurs whenever possible. Our switchboard is open daily at 7:30 a.m. Please call!
- Minimizing the number of reasons for absence.** We believe illness to be the only acceptable reason for missing school or work. Please arrange appointments, vacations and driving tests around school hours. Our timetable allows at least one full afternoon per week that can be used for appointments.
- Knowing your son/daughter's timetable.** With our extended day organization, it will be less straightforward than usual as to when your son or daughter starts or finishes on certain days. It is worth the time it will take you to understand his or her schedule. Attend the "Meet the Teacher" evening, **September 18, 2014**—it will help you understand our schedule!
- Calling the teacher.** If you are concerned about attendance, in a specific class or in general, please contact your son or daughter's teacher or counsellor as soon as possible.
- Stressing promptness.** Being on time shows respect for the activity and consideration for others. When each of us is occasionally, unavoidably late, it is our responsibility to:
  - hurry in order to be less late
  - apologize on arrival for disrupting class
  - accept personal responsibility for being late.

**Thank you in advance for your help!**

## Choose your locker online!

To choose your locker please visit:

<http://pinetree.lockerassignment.com>

You will be able to choose your locker and be given your locker number and combination before school starts!

**DONT FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR  
PASSWORD AND KEEP IT SECURE!!**

The safest place to keep your valuables is on your person or in your locker!!!

**Forgot your combination?** You can log in to your account to find your combination!



## Extracurricular Activities

The following list includes **some** of the clubs and sports teams at Pinetree. Many more offerings will be available throughout the school year. Announcements will be made through the HOWL, our daily bulletin. Check our website for additional CLUBS offered at Pinetree!

### Sports Teams

Basketball	Girl's Soccer	Field Hockey
Table Tennis	Volleyball	Boy's Soccer
Wrestling	Cross Country	
Tennis	Track and Field	
Badminton		

### Intramurals

Intramural Sports will operate every lunch hour. A wide variety of activities are planned for all students.

### Clubs

Alpha Wolves  
Grad Council  
Code Orange (Theatre)  
Global Issues  
...MORE CLUBS ON OUR WEBSITE



## Parent Connections 2015 Pinetree After Grad

Plans are underway for "After Grad 2015". This will be our 9th year organizing this event for our graduates. 'After Grad' is an event organized by the parents that follows the Graduation Dinner/ Dance held on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The 'After Grad' event is held at the Pinetree Community Centre. This event offers a safe and fun place for the graduates to continue the celebration of their graduation. There is a live DJ for dancing, casino games, tattoo artists, lots of games, draws and prizes to keep the graduates entertained.

We need help from our parent group

to keep this event going each year. Grade 11 parents are needed to work the event, as the Grade 12 parents are busy on that day with their graduates. We have had a great committee of volunteers each year and know that we can count on our Grade 11 and 12 parents again this year.  
Thank You.

The After Grad Committee

## Pinetree ~ A Smoke Free Environment

In our first week, we will discuss expectations we have of students at Pinetree. Until then, please be aware that Pinetree, and all other schools in SD #43, is a "smoke free" environment and there is no smoking on school property at any time.

### Student Fees

**Fees are due  
on the first day of school**

Please bring a cheque payable to Pinetree Secondary School for the fees shown below:

Activity Fee Grade 9 to 12	\$45
Yearbook (optional) Grade 9 to 12	\$45
Cap & Gown Grade 12	\$35
After Grad Grade 12	\$30

### Student Parking

Students must obtain a valid 2014-2015 Pinetree Parking Pass from the main office after school starts in September. Here are a few reminders:

- Vehicles parked in the student parking area without a valid pass will receive a parking ticket from the City of Coquitlam and may be towed.
- Students may not park or enter the staff parking lot.
- Students may not enter Community Centre lot—front or back—between 8:00 am & 6:00 pm.



### Student Messages

In order to continue to provide a high degree of service, we wish to reinforce our policy of NOT passing on messages from home to our students. UNLESS IT IS A MEDICAL OR OTHER SERIOUS EMERGENCY, we will not provide messaging service.



### Cafeteria Hours

Cafeteria hours are yet to be determined for the upcoming school year.

Principals tokens will be accepted as always.

## e-forms

Please visit our school website at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/secondary/pinetree/>

and click on the Parent e-form icon. Please complete the following forms online before coming to school on the first day:

- School Policy Form
  - Privately owned devices Form
- Please complete, print and return the following forms:
- Medical Alert Form

## An Invitation

### Meet The Teacher Evening

Thursday, September 18, 2014 ~ 7:00-8:30 p.m.

We want to meet you, have you meet our outstanding staff and tour our equally outstanding school. We hope you will come!

**Welcome to Pinetree!**



## Awards Night

2013-2014

for Grade 9-10-11

**September 18th**

5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

(refreshments will be served)