

Westview Secondary School

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER #4

Feb. 1st, 2023

Message from the Principal

Hello Westview Community,

As we look forward to the second semester we are heading into an exciting and busy time at Westview. It is fantastic to see so many students supporting our basketball teams by attending games and cheering on their fellow students.

Our Wrestling team is heading to the island for Provincials, our Drama Club is putting on their production of Alice in Wonderland and we are eagerly anticipating the play as our students and Ms. Allan is putting in countless extra hours in rehearsals, set design & construction, and costume designs. There is information below about purchasing tickets.

Our teachers are amazing at providing opportunities for students that cover a number of interests including knitting, running, ultimate frisbee, board games, art to name a just a few. Getting involved in extracurricular activities is a fantastic way to connect with peers with similar interests and enhance a student's school experience! Additionally, we encourage parents/guardians to become involved through our PAC as this is a great way to support school programs and learn about what is going on in the school.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me at cathryn_blanco@sd42.ca with any comments, questions, ideas or feedback.

Important messages from the office

Use of School & Community Grounds

It has come to our attention that our school turf field is being disrespected by dog owners in our community. Dog feces on the field has been a primary issue for our Soccer Academy Coaching staff and students that regularly use this field. Whilst we all love animals, please remember, unleashed pets are prohibited on school grounds. Please pick up after your dog if you choose to walk them on school grounds.

We have also had a number of complaints from nearby neighbors about the amount of garbage that is being left behind in the surrounding parks & along the sidewalks when students are loitering in the area. We have been told that neighbors will be calling the City of Maple Ridge bylaws and reporting the littering issue, which could result in fines to the student(s). We are asking you to please ask your child to make sure they are finding an appropriate home for their garbage, such as a garbage can at the school. We appreciate your help in this matter.

I-Days, Semester Turn around & Report Cards

As we approach the end of Semester 1, if your child is at risk of not successfully completing a course they may be invited to attend I-days on January 31 and February 1 to be given the opportunity to complete assignments to work towards successful completion of the course. Teachers will be reaching out to parents/guardians by email or phone if they need your child to attend on one or both of these days.

Semester 2 will begin on February 2 and students were given paper copies of their schedule on Monday January 30. Report cards will be published on Feb. 8th. Please ensure you have a MyClass account and can log into it. If you have any questions or issues with logging in, please contact the Myclass helpdesk at myclass@sd42.ca.

Students Fees

Student fees are payable to Westview Secondary for the amount of \$28.00. Student Fees support a multitude of student activities in the building that build culture and foster a warm and caring environment for WSS community members. Student Fees are payable through the portal by credit card, cash or cheque in the office. (payable to Westview Secondary)

Grad 2023 Fees

Grad fees are payable by February 15th, 2023. Any students with outstanding fees will not be able to participate in commencement activities. If you are unable to make the February 15th deadline, please contact Cathryn Blanco directly at cathryn_blanco@sd42.ca. Detailed information about Graduation 2023 can also be found on our school website here:

<https://secondary.sd42.ca/wss/grad-2023/>

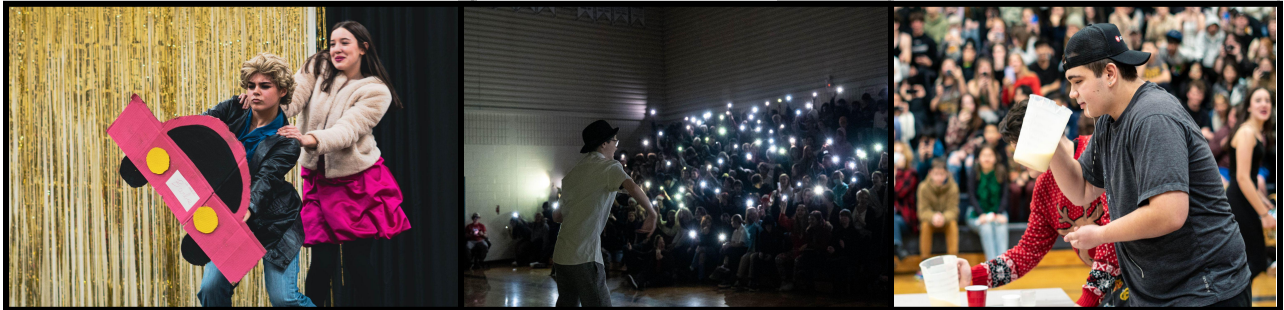
Course Planning for 2023/2024

It is time to start planning for the next school year! On February 23 our Counseling Team will host a course information session for Grade 8s - 11s so students can learn about elective options available at WSS. Counselors and the Admin team will visit students in their classrooms from February 27 - March 10 to complete course selections. You can find the course selection forms and booklet here <https://secondary.sd42.ca/wss/course-selection-process/>.

Frost Fest

The school wide holiday assembly was a glowing success! We had so much participation and fun. A big thanks to all the Drama students who spent hours practicing the choreography, and memorized each of their performances. They were outstanding and blew everyone's expectations away.

As well I would like to give a big shout out to all of the Elves that helped with the set-up and running of Frost Fest. Leadership as well did an amazing job at the different challenges during the assembly. Overall, the entire Frost Fest was a great way to send off the students into winter break and Westview is excited to bring back this tradition for years to come.



WildCat Den News!

Library Open House

On **Wednesday, February 22nd** come any time between 6 and 8 pm to explore the WSS Library and complete a treasure hunt for a prize – all ages welcome! Check out our graphic novels and special interest books and any other titles that interest you and your family! Use laptops - and get help exploring district resources (Google Classroom, MS Teams, etc.)

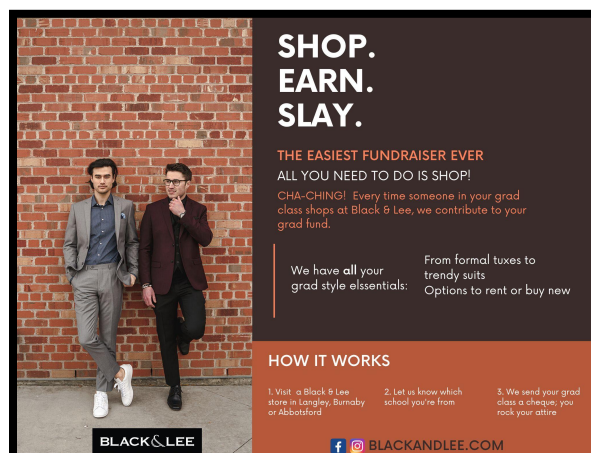


Grad 2023 Update

Dry Grad Fundraisers

Black and Lee is offering a fundraiser for Grads of 2023! All you need to do is shop! If you are looking for your grad outfit, check out Black and Lee!

- Level 1 - 10+ students shop with B&L - WSS will receive \$150
- Level 2 - 20+ students shop with B&L - WSS will receive \$250
- Level 3 - 30+ students shop with B&L - WSS will receive \$400
- Level 4 - 50+ students shop with B&L - WSS will receive \$700



**SHOP.
EARN.
SLAY.**

THE EASIEST FUNDRAISER EVER
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SHOP!
CHA-CHING! Every time someone in your grad class shops at Black & Lee, we contribute to your grad fund.

We have all your grad style essentials: From formal tuxes to trendy suits. Options to rent or buy new.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Visit a Black & Lee store in Langley, Burnaby or Abbotsford.
2. Let us know which school you're from.
3. We send your grad class a cheque, you rock your attire.

BLACK & LEE

f @ BLACKANDLEE.COM

Watch the Website for more information <https://secondary.sd42.ca/wss/grad-2023/>

Career Planning Dept

SD42 Student Financial Awards Booklet is now out. It, along with all fillable appendices, can be found on the Career Centre website at: <https://wsscarrercentre.wordpress.com/> under the Scholarships Tab. All scholarships from categories A, B, D & E are due to the Career Centre by **Tuesday, March 7, 2023** any applications for category C will go directly to the organization by their specified deadline date. Student's can drop by the Career Centre any Monday or Wednesday for assistance in assembling their scholarships or with any questions they may have.

What's happening in the Classroom!

Art Gallery Field Trip with Mr. Watson

Mr. Watson and his students will be visiting the Vancouver Art Gallery in March to take in the Robert Davidson Exhibit. Robert Davidson is a well-known Canadian indigenous artist. Find out more about this talented artist <https://www.robertdavidson.ca/>

Music Department

Thank you to the friends and family who came out to support our music students at our Winter Concert in January. A few highlights of the evening included the joint collaboration between the WSS Choir and Jazz Band for the chart, Stand By Me. A Choir highlight was the Greatest Showman Medley featuring many Westview soloists!

Registration for Beginning Band 6/7 and Advanced Band 7 will open on line in February at <https://sites.google.com/view/westviewmusic/home>

Registration for Band 8, Choir, Band 9-12 and Jazz Band 8-12, this fall, will take place through the course selection process in February. For more info please contact Linda Jensen at ljensen@sd42.ca

Sexual Exploitation Education will be presenting: CYBERSAFE!

On February 28 all students at WSS will attend grade level assemblies to learn about how to protect themselves online from sexual exploitation. The presentation is put on by [Sexual Exploitation Education](#), a Canadian agency that provides education focussed on preventing sexual exploitation and human trafficking to schools across Canada. You can learn more at their website by clicking this [link](#).

Who is SEE?

Sexual Exploitation Education (SEE) is a prevention focused agency that provides innovative, engaging, and accessible presentations, training, and consulting services to schools, organizations, and businesses across Canada. Their mission is to prevent sexual exploitation and human trafficking by focusing on root causes that contribute to sexual exploitation. Using humor and multimedia, we make this issue relatable to all. Their approach has been featured in media outlets such as CBC news, Global News, and local Newspapers.

Their team of experts are passionate about sharing their knowledge and raising awareness about this important issue. They believe that everyone has a role in preventing sexual exploitation, and we are committed to working with individuals, organizations, and communities to create safer environments for all.

Since its inception, SEE has been a leading agency in this field, being called upon for research, pro-d keynotes, international conference presentations, nation-wide law enforcement training, and non profit consulting. SEE is also proud to introduce the very first prevention education app, the SEE-App!

What is Cybersafe about?

At any given time, there are over 700,000 predators online looking to connect with minors

- The average age of a victim targeted is 14-17 years old
- Sextortion rates have tripled every year since the pandemic
- 42% of teens who sexted had it shared without consent
- More teens are being groomed into using certain platforms and apps for self exploitation

This presentation addresses all of the above issues and more, by discussing consent, healthy boundaries, and internet dynamics. With these skillsets, youth can truly be immune to all forms of online exploitation!

This presentation builds resiliency to online sexual exploitation while engaging students through humour, games, and activities.

Pink Shirt Day

The Ministry of Education and Child Care asked the ARC Foundation (specifically Justene Dion-Glowa) to request design applications from students across the province for this year's Pink Shirt Day design. Justene reached out to all the SOGI-club sponsor teachers on the district's mailing list (including Kaitlyn Poirier, Krystyna Doran-Eddy, and Hilaire Ford) to share the design requirements with students.

The design had to be a 1-color design with an anti-homophobia message, in the highest resolution possible in a .jpeg or .tiff file format. We got all this information on November 30th, and had to submit a design by December 16th, and we barely made the deadline because of the winter holidays! Elliot Volpe from Westview submitted the winning design!



Club Happenings!

Ultimate Frisbee

Meeting at lunch in the Library on Tuesday, February 7 for all interested! All ages and genders are welcome!

Running Club

Every Wednesday at 3pm we meet in the front foyer! Runners, joggers, walkers, rollers, combinations of any! All are welcome and new members are great!

Athletics Field Trips

The PE department will be participating in a couple of field trips to the mountains! They will be going to Whistler for a Ski and Snowboard trip on Feb. 15 and a Snowshoeing trip to Cypress on Feb. 23. Don't forget to check the parent portal for the information.

Drama Club Presents...Alice in Wonderland!



As we near February the Drama Club's production of Alice in Wonderland is in full swing. The students have been beyond busy memorizing their lines, designing the sets, and practicing, practicing, practicing.

Ms. Allan, Westview's Theatre and Drama Teacher would like to send out a big thank you to Kayse Thompson, Anne Knösel, and Frank Jimenez for your dedication, design help, and continued work and support of the entire production.

Please check out the Drama Club website for more details, and updates on upcoming events.
<https://sites.google.com/mrpm.sd42.ca/westviewdramaclub/home>

The Drama Club would like to invite the public to come out and watch their performance of Alice in Wonderland in February. There are two dates available, Thursday, February 23 or Friday, February 24. Tickets are \$10.00 each.

Both days the doors to the auditorium will open at 6:30pm and it is general admission with festival seating. There are no designated seats, except for accessible ones for those with mobility needs. We have a max number of 250 tickets per night and there is no minimum or maximum number of tickets any one student/family can purchase.

Each ticket again is \$10.00each. Everyone in attendance who will require a seat (3 years old and up) will need to have a ticket to enter. The show will begin at 7pm and we are at about a maximum of two hours long which includes an intermission.

During the performance we will be having a 15 minute intermission where there will be snacks and drinks available for purchase. All proceeds will go back into the drama/theater club and program at Westview and will go towards another production next year! ***If you are interested the students will begin sales early February, but tickets are available now at the Westview Office or from Ms. Allan. Please email Ms. Allan if you have any questions at april_allan@sd42.ca.***

Ways to Stay Connected!

1) **Website** – <https://secondary.sd42.ca/wss/>

This website features District & School announcements, upcoming events, a yearly school calendar of events, Clubs & Activities, Staff Contacts, Grad info and so much more!

2) **Parent Portal** – <https://parents.sd42.ca/Parents/ParentLoginPage.aspx>

This website features District & School announcements; Consent & Policy forms; Field trip forms; Pay School Fees; Pay Yearbook Fees; Grad Fees (cost to be advised), other fees that may come up throughout the year.

3) **MyClass** – <https://myedbc.sd42.ca/MyClass>

Student Attendance / Report Card Information / Classroom resources and communicate with your students Teachers.

4) **My School Day (App)** – <https://myschoolday.app/download>

This app is an important communication tool that parents & students can access easily on their phones. This technology provides daily updates to the calendar and schedule, your timetable, homework notifications, etc.

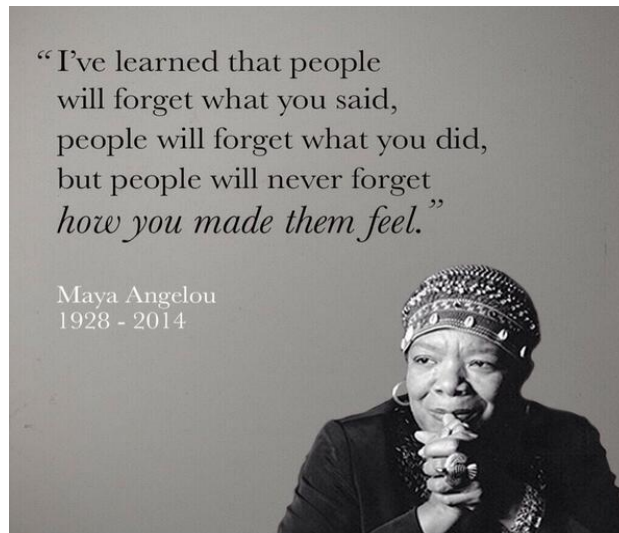
5) **Foundry (App)** – <https://foundrybc.ca/virtual/>

This is a province wide initiative supported by the Government of BC and powered by BC Children's Hospital. Young people aged 12-24 and their caregivers can use this app to drop-in or schedule a virtual counselling appointment, find peer support, join a youth group or caregiver group, or browse their library of tools and resources.

6) **Social Media Apps**

- **Twitter** - @WSSsd42
- **Instagram** - @wsswildcats
- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/WSSWildcats>
- **Youtube** - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzs3zTuPs5h_xd1mF2eUa2A

Wildcat Wisdom - *Black History Month* Quote



Important Dates

- **Wednesday, Feb 1** - Flex Learning day (No School)
- **Wednesday, Feb 1** - Dry Grad Parent Meeting @ 7pm in Library
- **Thursday, Feb 2** - First Day of Semester 2
- **Friday, Feb 3** - Day 1 (ABCD)
- **Wednesday, Feb 8** - Term 2 Report Cards published on MyClass
- **Wednesday - Saturday, Feb 8-11** - Fraser Valley North Zone Wrestling Tournament
- **Friday, Feb 10** - Day 2 (CDAB)
- **Wednesday, Feb 15** - Whistler Ski & Snowboard field trip
- **Friday, Feb 17** - Day 3 (BADC)
- **Monday, Feb 20** - Family Day (No School)
- **Tuesday, Feb 21** - PRO D Day (No School)
- **Wednesday, Feb 22** - Library Open House @ 7pm in the Library
- **Thursday, Feb 23** - Pink Shirt Day
- **Thursday, Feb 23** - Cypress Snowshoeing field trip
- **Thursday, Feb 23** - Evening performance #1 of Alice in Wonderland
- **Thursday - Saturday, Feb 23-25** - Wrestling Provincials
- **Friday, Feb 24** - Evening performance #2 of Alice in Wonderland
- **Friday, Feb 24** - Day 1 (ABCD)
- **Monday, Feb 27** - PAC Meeting @ 7pm in Library

Key Contacts

The following list of Counsellors and Administrators and their grades are listed below:

- **Ms. O’Leary (Counsellor - Gr. 9, 11 & 12s A-L)**
 - lauren_oleary@sd42.ca
- **Ms. Sharpe (Counsellor - Gr. 8, 10 & 12s M-Z)**
 - shannon_sharpe@sd42.ca
- **Mr. Kater (Vice Principal - Gr. 8 &10s)**
 - steve_kater@sd42.ca
- **Ms. Girbav (Vice Principal - Gr. 9 &11s)**
 - anne_girbav@sd42.ca
- **Mrs. Blanco (Principal - Grade 12s)**
 - Cathryn_Blanco@sd42.ca

Please do not hesitate to email the Principal if you have any questions or concerns.
Sincerely,

Cathryn Blanco

Principal, Westview Secondary School

-Inspiring & encouraging students to strive for excellence!

