

G.P. VANIER NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Important Dates

Nov 1	FLEX Day/Literacy 12 Assessments
Nov 8	Beginning Band Concert 6:30 pm Multi-Purpose Room
Nov 10	Quarter 1 Ends
Nov 13	Schools Closed
Nov 14	Quarter 2 Begins
Nov 21	PAC Meeting 6:30
Nov 27 – 30	Careers Week
Nov 30	Grad Photos

Dec 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Grad Photos
Dec 6	FLEX Day
Dec 6	Winterfest 6 – 9 pm in the Gym
Dec 12	Winter Concert 6:30 pm in the Gym
Dec 22	Winter Assembly am
Dec 23 – Jan 7	Winter Break

NEWSLETTER CONTENT



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Grad Attire Program

The Grad Attire Program welcomes all grade 12 students in Comox Valley Schools to have the opportunity to wear a gown or suit on graduation day without the financial burden of purchasing a brand-new outfit for their milestone event.

*** All clothing and accessories are free of charge**

The Grad Class Attire project will operate out of Comox Valley Dodge at 278 North Island Highway (Old Canadian Tire building) on the following dates from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm:

Saturday, November 18th

Saturday, January 20th

Saturday, February 24th

Saturday, April 20th

Saturday, May 4th

Saturday, May 25th



You can book a fitting appointment [HERE](#)

For more information on the Grad Attire Program, click [HERE](#)

Donations can be dropped off at G.P. Vanier on school days between 8 am – 4 pm. Items can also be dropped off at Comox Valley Dodge during operating hours. There is a huge demand for smaller sized suits, pants, shirts, and accessories. Financial donations are also accepted to help offset costs to repair, or purchase required items students may need.

**After a period of time, clothing that was generously donated but not selected, will be distributed to a local second-hand clothing store.*



If you have any questions or would like to donate to the program, please contact Kelley Giorgianni kelley.giorgianni@sd71.bc.ca or Susan Quinton susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca

Post-Secondary BC Mini-Fair

Post-Secondary BC (PSBC) will be hosting a Mini-Fair at Vanier in the MPR from 1:00 – 2:35 pm on Thursday, November 2nd. All grade 11 and 12 students will have the opportunity to visit the fair and connect with representatives from the following post-secondary institutions:

North Island College

Vancouver Island University

University of Victoria

Camosun College

University of British Columbia 

British Columbia Institute of Technology

University of Northern British Columbia

Thompson Rivers University

Trinity Western University

Canadian Armed Forces-Royal Military College

Canadian Coast Guard

Capilano University

POST-SECONDARY BC

Upcoming Post-Secondary Visits to Vanier:

University of Alberta (Info Booth) – Friday, November 3rd

From 8:30 – 9:15 am outside of the counselling office.

UVIC Gustavson School of Business (Info Booth) – Thursday,

November 16th at lunch outside of the counselling office.

University of Calgary (Info Booth) – Thursday, November

23rd at lunch outside of the counselling office.



Comox Valley Schools
A Community of Learners

Information for Parents & Caregivers

K-12 Student Reporting Policy Support Materials

K-12 Student Reporting Policy implementation resources have been developed to support educators, school leaders, and district leaders. These resources include Policy Guidelines with a new comprehensive FAQ section, an Educator Summary Guide, presentation slides, information sheets, and a self-paced webinar series. Support materials for parents and caregivers that explain the shifts in how student learning will be communicated are also available.

[K-12 Student Reporting Information for Parents and Caregivers | Building Student Success - B.C. Curriculum \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/curriculum-instruction/assessment-reporting/parent-caregiver-information)

Indigenous-Focused Graduation Requirement

The Indigenous-focused graduation requirement has come into effect for the 2023/24 school year. All students working towards the B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) – in English or French – are now required to complete the new graduation requirement, including students at B.C. certified offshore schools.

Updated resources including an Implementation Handbook, Parent Brochure (available in 8 languages), Q&A, and Board/Authority Authorized (BA) Guidebook are available for students and parents.



ERASE Sessions for Families

ERASE

Three virtual erase learning sessions for families will be held on November 8, 28, and 30, focusing on establishing safe, caring, and respectful digital communities. These online sessions are best suited for families and youth aged 10 and above.

Family Session: Establishing Safe, Caring, & Respectful Digital Communities – Everyone Welcome!

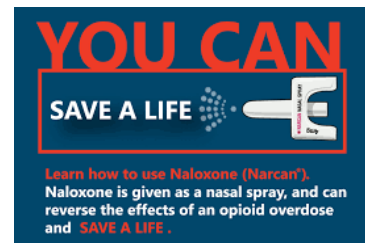
Details: Recommended for Parents/Caregivers/Grandparents and youth aged 10 and up as a way to facilitate the conversation of safe and caring use of technology at home and in the community. This session covers all things digital, from how to be a good digital citizen, the criminal consequences of cyberbullying, and how to report and receive support in cases of sexting/sextortion. Some of the most prominent concerns currently surrounding use of social media platforms, smartphones, and artificial intelligence will be discussed.

Schedule:

November 8, 2023	6:30pm – 7:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732334942527?aff=oddtcreator
November 28, 2023	7:00pm – 8:00pm	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732343096917?aff=oddtcreator
November 30, 2023	6:30pm – 7:30pm	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/732346587357?aff=oddtcreator

Back to Wellness Toolkit

Back-to-School Wellness Toolkit Back-to-school transition can be a stressful time for students and their parents/guardians or caregivers. The B.C. Children's Hospital has released a **back-to-school wellness toolkit** to help support families. Schools may share this toolkit to support families with practical guidance and resources to support their child or youth as they adjust to the school routine and change in their environment.



Naloxone Training

Naloxone Training for interested Vanier students and staff will be taking place on November 14th and 28th over the lunch hour. Please talk to your school counsellor if you would like to attend or email katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca

Naloxone training was created to support any person interested in learning how to prevent, recognize and respond to opioid overdoses. It includes the key knowledge and competencies required to administer naloxone.

QuitNow!

QuitNow has launched a brand-new site made for youth who vape and are interested in quitting or reducing their use. The site provides information and interactive activities on the health risks of vaping, the benefits of quitting vaping, and coping with addiction and mental health. There is also a step-by-step guide that youth can use to quit or reduce vaping.

Click [here](#) for more info

Cut Down or Quit Vaping: The steps towards a vape-free life | QuitNow

quitnow.ca





SILENT AUCTION | 50/50
PUCK TOSS | INFO BOOTHS
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!!

GLACIER KINGS VS. FIRST RESPONDERS/CAF CHARITY GAME!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
WOUNDED WARRIOR RUN BC
SCAN TO FIND OUT
MORE AND DONATE



**DECEMBER 1, 2023 | 7PM TO 10 PM |
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM!
COMOX VALLEY SPORTS CENTRE**



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

**ADULTS \$15
STUDENTS/SENIORS \$12
KIDS 5-11 \$8
UNDER 5 FREE!!**

PRE-SALE TICKETS (CASH ONLY) available at:
Happy's Source For Sports (256 6th St, Courtenay)
Comox Valley RCMP (Mon-Fri 9-3)

GAME DAY TICKETS available at:
Comox Valley Sports Centre
3001 Vanier Dr, Courtenay

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'intheknow'

Connect and Learn

MONTHLY ONLINE EVENTS FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS FALL 2023

Every month, we host events for parents & caregivers who are parenting a child or youth with a mental health and/ or substance use challenge called "in the know."

SEPTEMBER

Mental Health and Preparing for the Transition to Post Secondary

Speaker: Dawn Schell, University of Victoria and Melissa Feddersen, University of British Columbia Okanagan

OCTOBER

Working Together: Families and Schools

Speakers: Ashley Ragoonaden, Principal at École KLO Middle School

NOVEMBER

Emotion Regulation

Speaker: Nicole Allen, RCC

DECEMBER

ADHD - The Real Deal

Speaker: Dr. Don Duncan

Join us to watch a video and talk with other families about what helps. Online events are facilitated by FamilySmart Parent Peer Support Workers.

familysmart.ca/events



News from the Counselling Office

Post-Secondary Information for Vanier Parents and Guardians can be found [HERE](#)



The Vanier Scholarship, Bursary & Student Loan Newsletter is available on our school website for grade 12 students who are starting to research ways to pay for their post-secondary education. Click [HERE](#)





Our goal is to empower students toward positive change and to help them to have the most successful high school experience possible!

School Counsellor:

Katherine Brach (A-G) katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca

Stephanie Morris (H-N) stephanie.morris@sd71.bc.ca

Jocelyn Schultz (O-Z) jocelyn.schultz@sd71.bc.ca

Youth and Family Support Worker:

Sherry Patterson – sherry.patterson@sd71.bc.ca

To Book an Appointment Click [Here](#)



If you are planning on volunteering for field trips or sporting events, drivers MUST complete the following:

Volunteer Driver Form Click [Here](#)

Criminal Record Check Click [Here](#)

Code of Conduct Form Click [Here](#)

Driver's Abstract

Copy of Driver's License

Proof of Insurance (1 million 3rd party liability)

If you are planning on volunteering as a coach or chaperone, you MUST complete a Criminal Records Check – Click [HERE](#)

***Code of Conduct forms must be signed before participating in any sport.**

***Criminal Record Checks are held for 3 years in our database and may be accessed by other schools in the district.**

For more information, please contact Susan Quinton

susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca

G.P. VANIER ATHLETICS



Fall Sports

Fall sports are winding down, and several students have already qualified for the BC School Sports Provincial Championships in their respective sports. Congratulations to **Sadie Williams who will be representing Vanier at the BCSS **Aquatics** Provincials November 17/18 in Nanaimo. Congratulations to **Violet Ford** and **Bella Saccucci** who will be representing Vanier at the BCSS **Cross Country** Provincials November 4th in Surrey. Congratulations to the **Jr Girls Volleyball** team that placed 1st in the North Island Zone Championships. They will be competing at the Island Championships November 6/7 in Ballenas.**



The *Jr Boys volleyball* team has had a very successful season so far and is hoping to qualify for the Island Championships in Nanaimo on November 14/15. They are also looking sharp in their new uniforms. Thank you to the Vanier Parent Advisory Council for helping to keep our uniforms up-to-date.

Our *Sr Girls Volleyball* team is working to qualify for the Island Championships November 17-19 in Nanaimo. The *Sr Boys Volleyball Team* will be hosting the 3A Island Championships at Vanier November 17/18. *Sr Boys 3A soccer* is playing Francis Kelsey this Wednesday for a spot at the Island Championships November 8/9 in Nanaimo.



Winter Sports

Basketball practices are starting in November. We will have Grade 8, 9, Jr and Sr teams for both boys and girls. Watch the announcements for tryout times. At the grade 8 level we include all students who make the commitment to the team. From grade 9 and up there is a tryout process. If you are interested in checking out our Educational Athletics Vision and Philosophy, please take a look at our [Vanier Athletic Policy](#).

Wrestling is also underway with practices happening in the Multi-Purpose Room Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday from 3:45 – 5:30 pm. The **Ski and Snowboard** team is also getting organized and ready to start their season. See Mr. Erickson if you are interested in joining.



IMPORTANT DATES

- * Nov 30, Dec 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 - Grad photos in the MPR
- * Dec 6 – Winterfest 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- * Feb 5, 6, 7 – Grad Photo Retakes
- * May 8 – Grad BBQ 8:00 pm
- * June 21 – Grad Rehearsal 10:30 am
- * **June 26 - Grad 2024**



Grad Winterfest – Casino Night

The Grad Winterfest – Casino Night planning has begun. This event, for Grads and their parents, will take place on December 6th from 6 pm to 9 pm. There will be Casino games such as Black Jack, Roulette, and Texas Hold'em, as well as live music, photobooths, desserts and appetizers and much more.



Parents will be contacted via email in the coming weeks and will have an opportunity to sign-up for various duties to help support the events of the evening. We will be attempting to gather raffle prizes for our grads. If you would like to make a donation to the raffle table, please connect with Lee McKillican at lee.mckillican@sd71.bc.ca (thanks and appreciation will be given to all sponsors during the Winterfest event).



MYED PARENT PORTAL

Parents, are you on MYED?

Our student system, MyEducation BC, is a great resource for parents.

You can access:

Your child's schedule

Your child's assignments, completed and outstanding

Your child's attendance

Teacher email addresses

If you have not accessed your account before, please contact susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca to help set up your account.

If you have an account, but have not used it for more than three months, you will need to request a new password.

Please note, as this is a Ministry of Education website containing confidential information, passwords need to be changed every 3 months.

If you have any concerns, please contact your child's teacher. Our administrators are also available to speak with and work on the last name alpha system:

A-G **Dave Mayert** david.mayert@sd71.bc.ca

H-N **Jennifer Fritzsche** jennifer.fritzsche@sd71.bc.ca

O-Z **Lee McKillican** lee.mckillican@sd71.bc.ca





SchoolAdmin

Beginning November 1st through November 24th, Vice Principal, Lee McKillican will be away from G.P. Vanier. During this time, Lee will be filling in at Airport Elementary as Acting Principal for Principal Tracey Croonen. Lee will still be maintaining communication with his Vanier related duties via email. In his absence, Mr. Dave Randall and Mrs. Audrey Kelly will be doing some admin related work and will be supporting students in Lee's O-Z alphabet.

