

G.P. VANIER DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Important Dates

Dec 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Dec 6

Dec 6

Dec 12

Dec 22

Dec 23 – Jan 7

Grad Photos

FLEX Day

Winterfest 6 – 9 pm in the Gym

Winter Concert 6:30 pm in the Gym

Winter Assembly am

Winter Break

Jan 8

Jan 17

Jan 24

Jan 26

Jan 29

Jan 30

Jan 31

First Day Back

Flex Day

FLEX DAY/Assessments

Quarter 2 Ends/Semester 1 Ends

NID Day – No Classes

Quarter 3 Begins/Semester 2 Begins

Bursary Program Opens to Students

NEWSLETTER CONTENT



Grad Winterfest..... Casino Night

Grad 2024..... Important Dates

Grad Class Attire Program.....Dates and Booking Info

News From SD71.....Parent Resources/Upcoming Events

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Parent Volunteers..... Form Info

Vanier Athletics.....Team Updates

MYED Parent Portal.....Login Info



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 have been contacted via email and have the 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).



IMPORTANT DATES

- * 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 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, 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.***

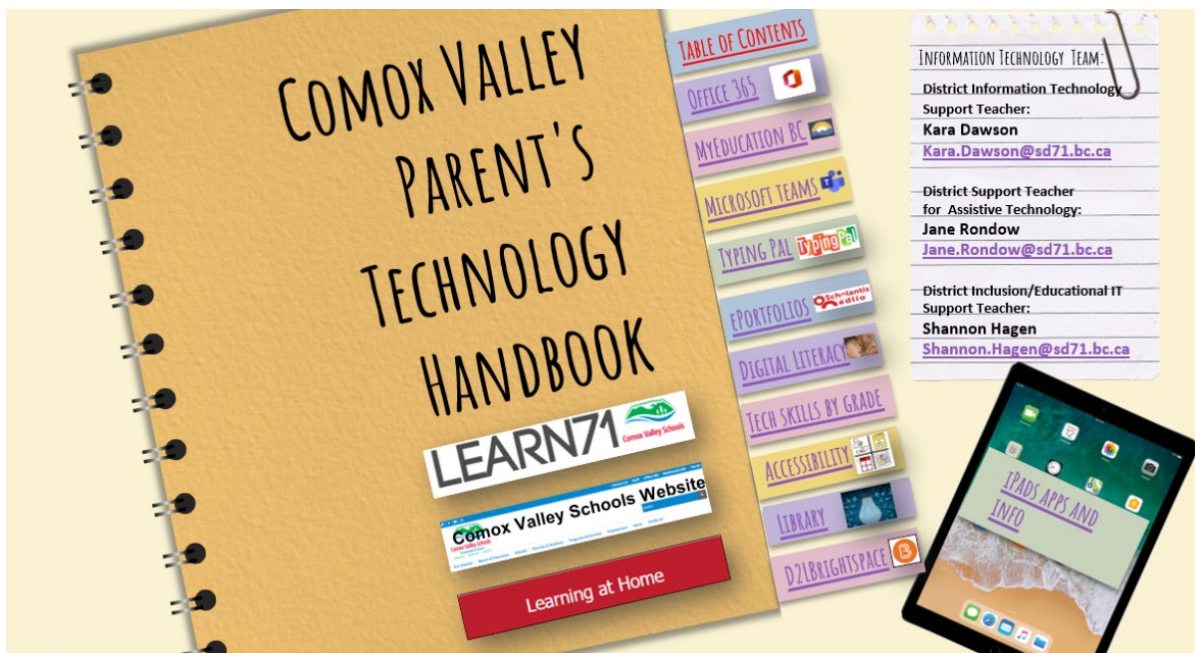


If you have any questions or would like to donate to the program, please contact Kelley Giorgianni kelly.giorgianni@sd71.bc.ca or Susan Quinton susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca



Comox Valley Schools

A Community of Learners



Parent Technology Resources

Parent's Technology Handbook can be found [HERE](#)
Support learning at home. Find out more about Microsoft Teams, D2L Brightspace, Scholantis/ePortfolios, Office 365 and Email, Counsellor's Corner and other tools.



**youth centre
& Indoor Skatepark**

300 Old Island Highway, Courtenay

250-334-8138

Youth Winter Break Resource Fair

Thursday December 14

2:00 - 5:00 pm

The LINC Youth Centre

Free

Arm yourself with information and resources
for your winter break:

- Mental health support
- Sexual Health
- Safe partying
- Recreation
- and more!

Sandwiches, snacks, games and prizes - including a
\$50 gift card to downtown Courtenay!

FMI ksmith@courtenay.ca



PRIDE SOCIETY
OF THE COMOX VALLEY

JohnHoward
the John Howard Society of North Island

FOUNDRY
COMOX VALLEY



D2D DAWN TO DAWN
SOCIETY



SASAMANS SOCIETY
VOICES OF OUR CHILDREN



AVI.org
where harm reduction works



*We respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather on is Unceded Traditional Territory of the
K'omok's First Nation, the Traditional Keepers of this land.*



**CITY OF
COURTENAY**
Recreation

courtenay.ca/rec

Lewis Centre 250-336-5371 | The LINC 250-334-8138 | FERG Centre 250-336-1000

ROBOTICS71

ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE

Tis the season to donate...

The Robotics71 district program is comprised of 50 - 60 students from Highland, Isfeld, Vanier, Cumberland & NIDES and is looking to fundraise for travel/hotel costs this year!
Please be generous and support these students with a donation of any of the following...

Drop off @ Highland - AutoBOT Shop with Travis Lawrenuk & Greg Downing

Old Christmas Lights



House Wiring



Network Cables



Copper Pipe/Fittings



Any other wiring...



Thank you for your support!



The Robotics71 competition season is now underway and there is a need for old Christmas lights, house wiring, cables, copper fittings and other wiring. Donations can be dropped off at the Highland AutoBot shop during school hours.

Saturday, December 9th, the Vex Robotics Tournament will be at Highland Secondary. 40 + teams from across Vancouver Island are competing including our own local Robotics71 teams (made up of Cumberland, Highland, Isfeld, NIDES and Vanier students). This is the second of five tournaments of the season for Robotics71.



ROBOTICS71
ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE

ERASE (Expect, Respect and a Safe Education)



[ERASE \(Expect, Respect and a Safe Education\)](#)
[Click HERE](#)

ERASE is all about building safe and caring school communities. This includes empowering students, parents educators, and the community partners who support them to get help with challenges, report concerns to schools, and learn about complex issues facing students. The ministry website has been updated to include information on [consent and the prevention of gender-based violence \(click HERE\)](#).

[Erase Report It \(click here\)](#) – an important tool for ensuring students or caring others can anonymously share something they've seen or heard that concerns them.



erase | EXPECT RESPECT &
A SAFE EDUCATION

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-learning/schools/k12-student-reporting-information-for-parents-and-caregivers)



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.



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





Date **December 1, 2023**
Time **6:00pm – 9:00pm**
Place **Comox Valley Sports Centre**
Admission **\$15 for Adults / \$8 for Kids**

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

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



**DECEMBER 1, 2023 | 7PM TO 10 PM |
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COMOX VALLEY SPORTS CENTRE**

'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



GRASP Training will be at Vanier on January 10, 17, 24 & 31st in the afternoons. GRASP training is ideal for students who are looking at going into a health care, psychology, social work or other helping professions. Please contact katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca by email or in the counselling office if you would like more information.

GRASP is a fun and interactive gatekeeper training program presented in Vancouver Island schools for students Grades 8 to 12 interested in learning skills to be effective peer helpers. We cover self-awareness, communication, healthy relationships, boundary setting, community resources, suicide awareness, and how to access help for others.

The program is presented in four, two-hour sessions. Through a series of games, interactive discussion, group activity, written work, and role play, youth learn:

- Active listening skills
- The impact of social and cultural biases on listening and helping
- Why difficult situations can be turning points for the better
- The power of our choices
- How to respectfully communicate in an open and direct manner
- The differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships
- How to recognize manipulation
- When to set boundaries
- How to set boundaries
- Coping with crisis
- Suicide awareness, the importance of reaching out, and never keeping suicide a secret
- Community resource information

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OVERVIEW

Schulich Leader Scholarships are the largest and most prestigious undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) scholarships in Canada, with a value of up to \$120,000 per award. This scholarship was established to encourage our best and brightest students to be the next generation of entrepreneurial-minded, technology innovators. Launched in 2012, 800 students have received this celebrated award – a top student can win from our school!

ELIGIBILITY

Schulich Leader Scholarships is open to all Canadian high school students planning to pursue an undergraduate degree in an eligible STEM program at one of our 20 partner universities. Every high school in Canada may nominate one student per academic year.

DEADLINE

The deadline to submit your Schulich Leader Nominee is January 12, 2024. The application includes a cover letter why you should be the school's nominee and a resume outlining your experience making you the best nominee.

LEARN MORE

For more information about the program:

Visit our website at schulichleaders.com



**SCHULICH
LEADER
SCHOLARSHIPS**

**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 Season is Winding Down

2 participants at the Cross Country Provincials

1 participant at the Aquatics Provincials

3 Volleyball teams at the Island Championships

Jr Boys (5th), Sr Girls (8th), Sr Boys (5th)

1 North Island Champion Volleyball team – Jr Boys



Winter Season Sports Have Started!

Basketball – Gr 8, Gr 9, Jr, Sr Teams

Wrestling Team

Ski and Snowboard Team



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

