

VISION

*Learning with Purpose
Striving for Excellence
Growing through Community*

At NDSS, our mission is to inspire all to be curious, have confidence, use imagination, and persevere in their learning journey.



NDSS SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Subsequent newsletters and important information will be sent electronically. Please ensure that we have your correct email address.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of NDSS, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning students and staff for the upcoming 2019/2020 school year. September is always an exciting time for students, as they transition from summer activities to a the regular routine of school. At NDSS we pride ourselves with our new Vision: Learning with Purpose, Striving for Excellence and Growing through Community. This vision is the guiding light for everyone within our community, and September is a great time to reflect upon this and get off to a strong start.

Students, a firm commitment to academic success should always be your priority and that is Learning with Purpose. Achieving strong academic results is hard work that takes a lot of effort, that is where Striving for Excellence comes in. Working with your teachers and classmates, and taking advantage of all that high school has to offer with clubs and teams is Growing through Community. Nanaimo District Secondary School is a terrific high school with a long history of excellence. Let's have a great start to the new year and write the next chapter in our school story.

Sincerely,
Geoff Steel, Principal NDSS



SCHOOL PHOTOS
Wednesday, September 18

TIMETABLE CHANGES—IMPORTANT!

Students will receive their new timetables for 2019/20 in their homerooms. It is important for students to remember, that their timetables are based on their personal requests for courses. The counsellors will be working with students that have incorrect or incomplete timetables in the first week but will not be able to entertain course changes for other reasons. It is immensely important that all students attend all of their courses and do not come to the counselling area unless called down.

SPRING BREAK IN PUERTO RICO!!!

There will be a student/parent information meeting Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 5:30pm for an upcoming service trip to Puerto Rico for students in Grades 9-12. See you in room 207! Please see Ms. Cunnian or Mr. Bueckert for more information.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Geoff Steel Principal, Grade 12s
Mr. Shawn Shahi Vice-Principal, Grades 8-11, A-Jack
Ms. Ricki Bartlett Vice-Principal, Grades 8-11, Jacklin-Z

COUNSELLOR STUDENT ALLOCATION

Ms. Al-Hajj: A- Culic
Francophone, Human Services
Mr. Kral: Cullon—Kapalka
Ms. Tomiyama: Kashmere—Parker
Ms. Smith: Parkes—Z
Ms. Pyne: International Students
Scholarships

CONTACT INFORMATION IS CRITICAL.

Make certain that the office has your correct address, phone number and email address.

Please ensure **STUDENT MEDICAL CONCERNS** and **EMERGENCY CONTACTS** are current.

NDSS communicates primarily via email. Do not miss a newsletter or other information!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF:

Ms. T. Atherton	Education Assistant
Ms. T. Brandner	Library Clerk
Ms. J. Cornthwaite	Student Support Teacher
Ms. K. Daley	Child and Youth Care Worker
Ms. T. Lund	Math, Science, English
Ms. V. Manhas	Child and Youth Care Worker
Mr. D. Richardson	Info Tech/CompEd/MA/Media
Mr. S. Roy	Francophone Principal
Mr. C. Schaub	Math/Science/Careers
Mr. S. Shahi	Vice-Principal
Ms. M. Tolsma	English

**OPEN HOUSE /MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT
& MyEdBC Parent Information Session**



September 19, 6:00-7:30PM

This is a valuable information session for parents who do not yet have a MyEdBC family portal account. Portals will be created in September for those who do not yet have them.

TERRY FOX RUN

Wednesday, September 25th
10:45-11:30 AM

Bring a twoonie (or more) for Terry!

#TerryFoxRun

STAY INVOLVED! PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Stay involved! The NDSS PAC meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the NDSS Library. The first meeting will be **September 10th**. Parents should park in the rear of the building behind the band shell. Our PAC does NOT fundraise.

YOUTH WELLNESS CENTRE

****NOW OPEN AT THE NANAIMO AQUATIC CENTRE (NAC)****

Open Tuesday and Thursdays from 9am - 4pm and Wednesdays from 3-6pm.

Semester 1 Friday Rotation

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
6 ABCD	4 ABCD	1 BADC	6 DCBA	10 BADC
13 CDAB	18 CDAB	8 DCBA	13 ABCD	17 DCBA
20 BADC		15 ABCD	20 CDAB	24 ABCD
27 DCBA		22 CDAB		31 CDAB
		29 BADC		

ATTENDANCE

NDSS encourages excellent attendance.

Missed instruction frequently means **missed opportunities** for students to deeply comprehend course material, thoroughly understand assignment instructions, and actively participate in lessons and instructional activities.

Students who are absent must accept the responsibility and consequences of missed class work, assignments, tests and quizzes.

Notification of absence

The parent/guardian is expected to telephone **250-740-2000** on the morning of the absence AND/OR send a note stating the date and reason for absence. By making this call and/or sending a note, it will be recorded as an **Excused Absence** in the new attendance system. Lack of a parent phone call will have your child recorded as an **Unexcused Absence**.

LATES

Students are expected to be on time. Entering classes late disturbs the class and the student will likely have missed part or the day’s entire lesson. Students who have arrived to school late must report to class immediately with a note, excusing their tardiness or accepting the class consequences. **Teachers will hold students accountable for being late to class.**

NIC/NAC - GOOD NEIGHBOURS

The Nanaimo Aquatic Centre (NAC) and the Nanaimo Ice Centre (NIC) *are community recreation facilities that are not configured to supervise our students.*

The NIC is to be accessed only by students that are participating in the NDSS Hockey Academy, Silvertips, or a supervised Physical Education Class

NAC Access:

Before School – Students may access the NAC before school hours.

During Class time – Only Grade 12 students with a study block should be at the NAC during class time.

Lunchtime – Students may access the NAC during lunch hours.

After School – Students may access the NAC after school hours.

NDSS Students Without Access – Students that are in **Grade 8, 9, 10, and 11** should **NOT** be in the aquatic center during class time, or between their morning or afternoon classes. Students in Grade 8-11 should only be at the NAC before school, at lunch, and after hours.

Please help us stay in good standing with our neighbours at the NIC and NAC!

STUDENT PARKING

Student parking is **ONLY** available in the nearest half of the gravel parking lot at Serauxmen stadium, by the Aquatic Center. VIU students will be using the far half of the lot. This parking lot is monitored by the City of Nanaimo and vehicles parking without a parking pass will be subject to towing at owner’s expense. All students must apply for a parking pass through the NDSS office. Staff, RCMP and visitor parking are located in the front of NDSS and are clearly labeled as such. If you park in these areas, you risk being towed.

PARENTS: Staff parking is monitored, so guests should park in one of the four clearly marked spots in front of the school by the office, to avoid getting a ticket. Should these be occupied, please check in with the office for a temporary parking pass.

NAC PARKING: The Nanaimo Aquatic Center does monitor their parking lot as well. Tickets received while parked at NAC are not the responsibility of NDSS.

Unauthorized vehicles WILL be ticketed.

FOOTBALL: FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS!

Friday, September 6th

Kocher Classic NDSS vs. Barsby

Come cheer on the start of the 2019 Football season as our NDSS Islanders take on our cross-town rival John Barsby Bulldogs. Support high-school football under the lights and bring money for the concession!

Senior Varsity 6:00pm Kick-Off
NDSS Community Field



NDSS FIELD VANDALISM

The NDSS Artificial Turf Field was vandalized in August resulting in a costly repair. Any information regarding this incident should be passed along to NDSS Administration, who will connect with the RCMP. Thank you.

NDSS CALENDAR FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

2019

Sept. 3 (Tue)	School Opens
Sept. 18 (Wed)	School Photo Day (Large Cafeteria)
Sept. 19 (Thu)	Open House/Meet the Teacher night (6:00-7:30pm)
Sept. 25 (Wed)	Terry Fox Run
Oct. 1-10	*OCSL (Gr 8-9)/Interim (Gr 10-12) Update Week
Oct. 3 (Thu)	Midway Term One
Oct. 9 (Wed)	Early Dismissal 1:46
Oct. 10 (Thu)	Parent Teacher Contact: 3-4pm (<i>Classroom meetings</i>)
Oct. 11 (Fri)	School Based Curriculum Day
Oct. 14 (Mon)	Thanksgiving Day
Oct. 23 (Wed)	Photo Retake Day
Oct. 25 (Fri)	Professional Development Day (BC)
Nov. 8 (Fri)	Term 1 Last Day
Nov. 11 (Mon)	Remembrance Day
Nov. 12 (Tue)	Term 2 First Day
Nov. 21 (Thu)	Report Card Available on <i>MYEDBC</i> , <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i> - <i>TENTATIVE</i>
	Parent-Teacher Interviews/Gr 8/9 SLC's <i>Dismissal 1:46pm (3-6pm Lg. Gymnasium)</i>
Nov. 28 (Thu)	Grad Photos
	Midway Term Two
Nov. 29 - Dec. 6	Winter Concert
Dec. 4 (Wed)	Last Day of School before Christmas Break
Dec. 12 (Thu)	
Dec. 20 (Fri)	

2020

Jan. 6 (Mon)	School Re-Opens
Jan. 20 (Mon)	Evaluation de Numeratie 10(<i>French Immersion Numeracy Assessment</i>)
Jan. 21 (Tue)	Evaluation de litteratie 10 (<i>French Immersion Literacy Assessment</i>)
Jan. 21 (Tue)	Grad Retakes
Jan. 21 (Tue)	Last Day of Classes for Grades 8-12
Jan. 20-24	Numeracy 10 and Literacy 10 Assessments
Jan. 22 (Wed)	English 12 Provincial Exam (8:30-11:30am)*Student missing exam, or re-write.
Jan. 23 (Thu)	Comm. 12 (8:30-11:30am) *Students missing exam, or re-write
Jan. 23 (Thu)	Francais Langue 12 (12:00-3:00pm)*Student missing exam, or re-write.
Jan. 27 (Mon)	Semester 2 Term 1 First Day
Feb. 6 (Thu)	Semester 1 Report Card Available on <i>MYEDBC</i> <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>
Feb. 17 (Mon)	BC Family Day
Feb. 24 (Mon)	Non-Instructional Day (District Pro-D)
Feb. 25 (Tue)	Non-Instructional Day (School-based Pro-D Day)
Mar. 2-5	*OCSL (Grade 8-9) / Interim (10-12) Update Week
Mar. 2 (Mon)	Midway Term One
Mar. 4 (Wed)	Early Dismissal 1:46 pm
Mar. 5 (Thu)	Parent Teacher Contact: 3:00-4:00 pm (<i>Classroom meetings</i>)
Mar. 13 (Fri)	Last day of classes before Spring Break
Mar. 30 (Mon)	School re-opens after Spring Break
April 10 (Friday)	Good Friday
April 13 (Monday)	Easter Monday
April 14–20	Numeracy 10 and Literacy 10 Assessments
Apr.14 (Tue)	Evaluation de Numeratie 10 (French Immersion Numeracy Assessment)
Apr. 15 (Wed)	Evaluation de litteratie 10 (French Immersion Literacy assesment
Apr. 20 (Mon)	Term 2 First Day
May 6 (Wed)	Report Card Available on <i>MYEDBC</i> <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>
May 7 (Thu)	Parent-Teacher Interviews/ Gr. 8/9 SLC's <i>Dismissal 1:46pm 3-6 pm Lg. Gymnasium</i>
May 18 (Mon)	Victoria Day
May 20 (Wed)	Midway Term Two
May 21 (Thu)	Aboriginal Graduation, John Barsby (tentative)
May 28 (Thu)	Fine Arts Night
May 29 (Fri)	Non-Instructional Day
Jun. 3 (Wed)	Grade 10-11 Awards Assemblies, in school
	Grade 12 Evening Awards 6:00 pm Lg. Gym
Jun. 4 (Thu)	Athletics Awards Recognition
Jun. 19 (Fri)	Last Day of Regular Classes for Grades 8-12 (Tentative)
Jun. 22 (Mon)	English 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am*students missing, or re-write
Jun. 23 (Tue)	Francais Langue 12 Prov. Exam 12-3pm*students missing, or re-write
Jun. 23 (Tue)	Comm. 12 Prov. Exam 8:30-11:30 am*students missing, or re-write
Jun. 24 (Wed)	Commencement Rehearsal <i>(Nanaimo Conference Centre) - TENTATIVE</i>
Jun. 25 (Thu)	NDSS Commencement 9:00am <i>(Nanaimo Conference Centre) - TENTATIVE</i>
Jun. 26 (Fri)	Year End Administrative Day
Jul. 3 (Fri)	Semester 1 Report Cards Available on <i>MYEDBC</i> <i>Parent -Portal (Electronic Distribution)</i>

COMMUNITY CORNER

Flash Food Mob

Flash Food Mob is in Room 164 Thursdays from 1:45pm – 2:15pm. Service for students needing food to get them through the weekend. No early birds, please!

Jumpstart

Jumpstart provides funding from Canadian Tire for children across Canada to participate in physical activities from homes that could use financially support. Please check the website for further info. <http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/content/microsites/jumpstart/en/apply.html>

STUDENT COUNCIL

Join NDSS Student Council! Find your passion through one (or more) of our six committees: Global, Spirit, Environment, Sport, Tech and Executive. Help plan fun school events, make new friends, and get involved to make this year a fun year for everyone. Come out to our first meeting on Tuesday, September 10th in room 207 at lunch. Hope to see you there!

Students interested in getting outside, working with forests, wetlands, amphibians, endangered species, sustainable food projects and much more, are invited to join the NDSS Environment Club. The Club will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, September 11, in room 135 at lunch. For further information, see either Mr. Grey, Ms. Johnston or Mr. Parker.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @NDSSIslanders



Stay current with the **MY NDSS WEBSITE:** myndss.ca