



# HOME OF THE PIPERS

## ÉCOLE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025



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## Principal's Update

Happy New Year Argyle Families!

We hope your winter break was restful and 2025 has been off to a good start for you.

Argyle is back in full swing right now: read through this month's newsletter for lots of updates about courses, athletics, drama, music and more.

February marks the start of course programming season, where students need to select their courses for the 2025-2026 school year. Student course selection is the first step in our process of staffing and building the school timetable for next year. Please have conversations with your students at home and, especially for senior students, please start researching courses students need to prepare for post-secondary. We rely on your help to make sure students make informed and accurate course choices now to avoid changes in September, which can be hard or impossible to accommodate. There is more information included in this newsletter about supports for course programming, researching post-secondary institutions, and resources for parents and students.

We hope to see you in the school in some of the many events coming up through February.



Laura Ames, Principal

Tim Ireland, Vice Principal

Shahrzad Motaghedi, Vice Principal

## Upcoming School Dates

**Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday- Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

Grad Semi Formal

Mandarin Film Celebration

Grade 8/9 Play – The Brother's Grimm Spectaculathon

Grade 7 Parent Night

Argyle Basketball Senior's Night – 6:00pm & 7:30pm Games

Grade 8-11 Course Selection Information Evening

School photos: new students & winter teams

District Pro-D Day – No Classes

Family Day – No Classes

PAC Meeting

Staff Collaboration – Classes start 9:50am

Course Requests Due on MyEd

## School Information

<b>Argyle Contact Info</b>	<a href="#">Contact Info &amp; Map - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Daily Schedules &amp; Block Rotation</b>	<a href="#">Daily Schedules - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Full Year Calendar</b>	<a href="#">Calendars - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Reporting Attendance</b>	<a href="#">Attendance - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Argyle Policies</b>	<a href="#">School Policies - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Daily Announcements</b>	<a href="#">Daily Announcements - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>
<b>Staff Contact Information</b>	<a href="#">Staff Contacts and Links - École Argyle Secondary (sd44.ca)</a>

## Graduation Assessments

Students graduating in British Columbia need to complete three [provincially mandated assessments](#): Literacy 10, Numeracy 10, and Literacy 12. Students in the French Immersion Program also need to complete French Literacy 12. Assessments can only be offered by schools four times per year.

This year, students in Grade 12 wrote Literacy 12 in October; students in Grade 10 write Literacy 10 and Numeracy 10 in January. French Literacy 12 is scheduled for June, 2025.

We will be offering make up assessments in April and June 2025. If your student is missing an assessment, they need to reach out to Vice Principal Ms. Motaghedi [smotaghedi@sd44.ca](mailto:smotaghedi@sd44.ca) to ensure they are scheduled to write in April.

## Course Programming Information

In February, students will need to select their courses for the 2025-2026 school year. We will be sharing important course programming information with students and parents in upcoming course programming events:

### Student assemblies

**February 11<sup>th</sup> 8:30am** – Current grade 8/9 – Large Gym (students arrive 8:15am for 8:30am start)

**February 12<sup>th</sup> 8:30am** – Current grade 10 – Large Gym (students arrive 8:15am for 8:30am start)

**February 13<sup>th</sup> 8:30am** – Current grade 11– Large Gym (students arrive 8:15am for 8:30am start)

### Parent Events

**February 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm** – Parent/ guardians of current grade 8/9 students in Large Gym

**February 12<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm** – Parents/ guardians of current grade 10/ 11 students in Cafeteria

## Online Course Selection Only

This year, we are doing away with paper forms. Students will need to select their courses for 2025-26 online in MyEducation BC: they will have the chance to list required courses, electives, and alternate choices. In April, we will be sending home course verification reports requiring parent/ guardian signature to confirm students' course choices for 2025-2026. Please contact the Argyle office if your student does not have access to MyEducation BC.

## Graduation Status Update

Graduation status update reports will be published to MyEducation BC student and parent accounts of current grade 10, 11, and 12 students the week of February 10<sup>th</sup>. This report shows the graduation requirements students have completed or that are in progress, as well as which requirements are outstanding. Please consult this report to assist in course selection for 2025-26.

## Post Secondary Information

The January 22<sup>nd</sup> parent session about post-secondary information is available on the Argyle website [here](#). MyBlueprint and Education Planner are valuable tools for post-secondary research. Please see more information about both websites in the "Parent Resources" section at the end of this newsletter.

## Course Programming Questions

Any questions about course programming can be directed to your grade counsellor:

**Grade 8:** Tracy Romano [tromano@sd44.ca](mailto:tromano@sd44.ca)

**Grade 9:** Lauren Lyons [llyons@sd44.ca](mailto:llyons@sd44.ca)

**Grade 10:** Jessa Peers [jpeers@sd44.ca](mailto:jpeers@sd44.ca)

**Grade 11:** Erin Malone [emalone@sd44.ca](mailto:emalone@sd44.ca)

## School Updates & Upcoming Events

### Yearbook Orders

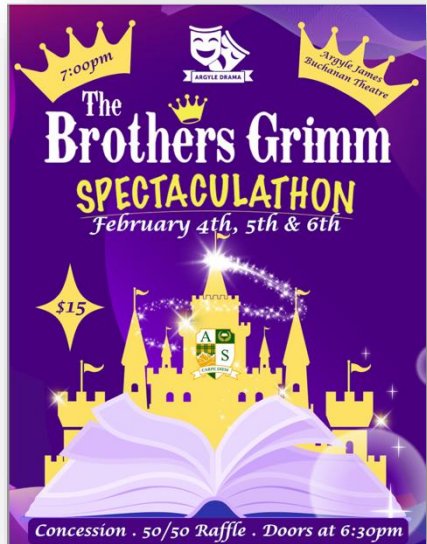
The order deadline for the 2025 yearbook is **January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Yearbooks are for sale for \$50 on School Cash Online. We do not order extra yearbooks: students who do not order a yearbook now will not be able to receive one in June.

### Spring Athletics - Coaches needed!

Argyle is hoping to get our **badminton** and grade 8/9 **boys' volleyball** programs up and running again. If you are interested in coaching either badminton or Grade 8/9 boys' volleyball, please contact our athletic directors Mark Pearce [mpearce@sd44.ca](mailto:mpearce@sd44.ca) and Stina Avefjall [savefjall@sd44.ca](mailto:savefjall@sd44.ca). Students should listen to announcements and watch Teams throughout February for information about ultimate, tennis, rugby, mountain biking, golf, and girls soccer.

## Upcoming Events in Drama and DMA

[Event tickets available here](#)



The Argyle grade 8 and 9 cast is thrilled to present *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon* —a fast-paced, hilarious mashup of over 200 fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm.

For many students, this is their Argyle Theatre debut, while others are excited to return to the stage. Get ready to laugh, cheer, and interact as the cast breaks the fourth wall and keeps you on your toes.

Argyle's 2021 student film "Gotcha" has been remade this year and translated to Mandarin for the Lunar New Year.

Join us for the premiere on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Tickets \$10 at the door. [Read more about this project in the North Shore News.](#)

## DMA Information Night

Interested in Digital Media Academy (DMA) or DMA Lite? Come to our information evening on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Argyle Library. More information about DMA applications [here](#).



## Drama Moja Coffee Fundraiser

The Argyle Drama Association is partnering with local coffee roasters, Moja Coffee, to bring you some amazing coffee options. More than 40% of the group sales for this fundraiser will go to directly supporting our growing and dynamic drama program!

**Order Deadline:** Thursday, February 20, 2025 (via School Cash Online)

**Order Pick-up:** Tuesday, March 4, 2025 (in front of the school)





## Argyle Basketball Senior's Night

We are excited to announce that the Student Council, in collaboration with Argyle Athletics, is hosting **Seniors Night** for our basketball teams on **Thursday, February 6th**. We would love for you and your family to join us in supporting our athletes!

- **6:00 PM:** Sr. Girls Basketball - NSSSAA Final
- **7:30 PM:** Sr. Boys Basketball - Last Home Game of the Season

In addition to the action on the court, we'll have a **vintage Argyle swag sale** happening throughout the evening, with all proceeds going directly back into the Athletic Program. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community, show your Argyle pride, and cheer on our athletes. We hope to see you there!

Piper Pride - What's happening around the school?

## Athletics Updates



A big congratulations to all of **Argyle's basketball teams**, who have made North Shore playoffs. Playoffs for all teams will be starting in early February.

**Argyle's Wrestling team** is bigger than ever this year with over 60 members. Students are heading to Port Alberni this weekend to compete in the annual tournament. **Argyle Gymnastics** is having a great season with many students placing in top 3 in recent tournaments. Stay tuned for more standings to come. The **Argyle Ski and Snowboard** team took their first trip to Whistler on January 15<sup>th</sup>. The team competes at Whistler throughout the winter season.

## Outdoor Education Winter Trips

Outdoor Education students spent a beautiful sunny day snowshoeing on Grouse Mountain on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Students winter camped on Mt. Seymour on January 27<sup>th</sup>



## Argyle Junior Music Concert

On Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, junior students wowed the crowd at the Argyle music winter concert. There were great performances by grade 8/ 9 concert band, junior jazz, and more.



## BC Lions Visit

On Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, the BC Lions visited Argyle Secondary and presented to Grade 9 students and the Argyle football program as part of their [Team Up to End Racism](#) Program. We are grateful to the BC Lions for this visit to Argyle!

## School-wide survey

On Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, all students completed their second goal setting session of 2024-2025. This is a skill we are working on with students throughout the year. As part of this goal setting session, we also surveyed students about our progress towards our [current school plan](#). Results will be reported out as part of our school plan on an updated platform later this spring.

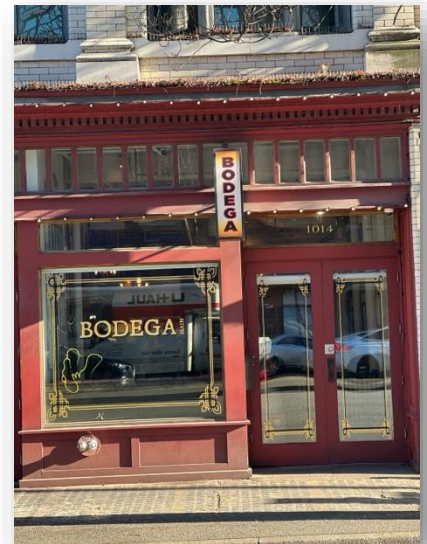


## Seaspan Tour

As part of our co-op program, students toured SeaSpan on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. A big thank you to Seaspan for their continued partnership with our work experience and tech ed programs!

## Spanish 12 Field Trip

Senora Arreaga's Spanish 12 students put their Spanish to the test in the real world on January 15<sup>th</sup> on a field trip to La Bodega restaurant in Vancouver.



## Parent Resources

### MyBlueprint

Every student has access to [MyBlueprint](#) through their SD44 account. MyBlueprint is a powerful tool to build resumes, research post-secondary institutions, and more. Parents can create a free account linked to their student's to help with post-secondary research. Information and instructions are [here](#).

### Education Planner BC

[Education Planner BC](#) allows students to search for post-secondary programs and apply to most post secondary institutions in BC.

### Foundry North Shore Presents: Keeping Kids Safe Online

**Sign Up Here: FREE Virtual Event on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:45 pm**

Key Note Speaker, Courtney Liem, from PLEA Community Service, will be delivering a 60-minute presentation designed for parents, caregivers and service providers to learn how to help children/youth stay safe online while using apps, social media, and gaming platforms.

***Discussion points will include:***

- Different forms of online sexual exploitation, including sextortion and intimate image sharing, as well as red flags of luring and grooming.
- App Literacy – a review of today's most popular apps used by children and youth.
- Practical Conversations - how to talk children and youth about online safety and sexual exploitation.

## PAC Updates

**Welcome to our new PAC Chair, Gergana Kouzeva!** The rest of the PAC Executive is:

**Vice Chair** – Mark Howard

**Past Chair** – Leslie Jaremchuk

**Secretary** – Mary Ann Bell

**Treasurer** – Jess Sprowson

**Communications** – Angie Howden-Duke

**Fundraising** – Shelley-Lynn MacKinnon

**DPAC Representative** – Neesha Blajberg



## PAC Fundraising Social

**Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wildeye Brewing.** Help raise funds for PAC initiatives such as Grade 12 scholarships, staff lunch and other fun things that the Gaming Grant cannot cover. Expect, food, drinks, 50/50 draw, a raffle and a silent auction. [Tickets will go on sale on Eventbrite](#) on Wed Feb 5 at 9am.

**Next PAC Meeting;** February 19, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Argyle library.

More information about the Argyle PAC is available on their [website](#).

## Argyle Music Association West Coast Seeds Fundraiser

1. Go to <https://fundraising.westcoastseeds.com/>
  2. Select **ORGANIZATIONS**
  3. Search **Argyle Music Association**, and start ordering by following the instructions.
- 40% return to cover the costs of music trips for individual students or general music development.