



SUTHERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

1860 Sutherland Avenue, North Vancouver, BC V7L 4C2 Telephone 604-903-3500

January 15, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to the start of the course programming process for the 2025-26 school year! This is an exciting time full of possibilities for students and families; however, it can also feel a little overwhelming. Please see below for details about several different supports available to assist you and your student(s) in making appropriate requests for the coming year as well as information about the course request process and required documentation.

2025-26 Course Programming Guide

To equip students and families with important details about our planned course offerings, such as course descriptions, fees, and program details, we have created a Course Programming Guide. This PDF is now available through the [Sutherland website](#). Please refer to this guide as you consider options for next year.

Parent Information Sessions

As in previous years, we will also hold Programming Meetings for parents as well as for students. For students **currently in Grade 8 and 9** (going into Grades 9 and 10), the parent information session will be held on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 6:00pm in the Sutherland Theatre**. For students **currently in Grades 10 and 11** (going into Grades 11 and 12), the parent information session will be on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 7:00pm in the Sutherland Theatre**. If you also have a student entering Grade 8 next year (currently in Grade 7), we will hold a Grade 8 Parent Meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025, starting at 5:30pm with a school tour and with the programming presentation beginning at 6:00pm. These are not required sessions but may be helpful if you or your child is feeling unsure about what classes to select for next year or beyond.

Student Information Sessions

Students will be asked to attend a **mandatory Programming Meeting during Tutorial time**. These meetings, like the parent sessions, will be led by Grade Counsellors and will cover many important topics. At these sessions, students will also be given their **Course Request Forms**. Please refer to the table below for programming session dates/times. Counsellors will also share this information with students via Microsoft Teams, but parent/guardian assistance in getting your student to school for the 8:30am session start would be much appreciated. If students are not able to attend, they should communicate in advance with their Grade Counsellor to arrange an alternate time to meet.

Details of both parent and student information sessions are outlined in the table below.

2025/2026 Programming Information Meetings

Grade Level	Parent Information Meeting	Student Information Meeting
Grade 8 (current Gr. 7)	Thursday, February 6, 2025 in the Cafeteria. <i>A school tour will be offered at 5:30pm, leaving from the main office. Presentation will go from 6:00-7:00.</i>	February 24-28, 2025 Sutherland staff will visit Grade 7s at their elementary schools to present secondary transition and programming information.
Grade 9 (current Gr. 8)	Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Theatre.	February 19 and 20, 2025 Students will be invited to a mandatory presentation from Ms. Dhanji during Tutorial time.
Grade 10 (current Gr. 9)	Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Theatre.	February 10 and 11, 2025 Students will be invited to a mandatory presentation from Ms. Lo during Tutorial time.
Grade 11 (current Gr. 10)	Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Theatre.	February 12 and 13, 2025 Students will be invited to a mandatory presentation from Ms. Dhanji during Tutorial time.
Grade 12 (current Gr. 11)	Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Theatre.	February 6 and 7, 2025 Students will be invited to a presentation from Mr. Pather during Tutorial time.

Selecting Courses – Paper and Online Forms

After attending their information sessions, students will have access to MyEdBC’s online course request platform. As in previous years, **students will need to fill out their paper Course Request Form and return it to the Main Office with a parent/guardian signature in addition to making their course requests online.** We ask that students complete both the paper and electronic requests to ensure that 1) families are apprised of students’ selections (the paper form requires a signature) and 2) to create a paper backup of student requests in case any technological issues arise with the MyEdBC submissions.

Students can access MyEdBC for course selection using the instructions available under “Course Programming” on the [Sutherland Website](#). However, the MyEd BC course request window will not open until after the Student Programming Meeting for each grade.

Selecting courses can feel particularly daunting for students who are going into Grades 10, 11, and 12, where there are graduation and post-secondary entrance requirements to consider. The Ministry of Education provides a helpful planning guide, available on Pages 18-20 of this document: [2024 BC Grad Program Policy Guide \(gov.bc.ca\)](#). Sutherland staff, counsellors, and administrators are also good sources of information. If, after attending the parent programming presentations and the student presentations, you still have questions, please schedule a time to speak with your Grade Counsellor about your requests. Please also ensure that you check the specific entrance requirements for schools or programs you hope to

attend after graduation.

The deadline for students to input their course requests for next year and to return their paper Course Request Forms to the Main Office is Friday, February 28th, 2025. Please ensure you make your requests in a timely manner, and please don't hesitate to contact your Grade Counsellor if you have any questions.

Kindly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Smart', written in a cursive style.

Shannon Smart
Vice Principal
Sutherland Secondary School