

SUTHERLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

Dear Class of 2025 and Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the start of your Grade 12 year! I hope the first few days of classes have been enjoyable and that students are settling back into the routine of school after summer break. The beginning of the year is an exciting time, and one that is full of opportunities for students and their families to engage in.

As Grade 12 comes with a lot of information and important dates to manage, students should ensure they have access to the **Grade 12 Team**. The school website is also frequently updated with events and information for Grads and their families/guardians. The Grade 12 Team, however, should be students' first stop for information on post-secondary visits, volunteer opportunities, scholarships and bursaries, and Grad events. Students are also welcome to make an appointment with Ms. Dhanji, our Grade 12 Counsellor, for a check-in or to ensure that their classes meet the requirements for any post-secondary programs they would like to pursue.

We already have a few important dates for you to keep in mind as you look ahead in your calendars:

Canadian Universities Event (CUE): *Thursday, September 19th, from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Sutherland Secondary School (Large Gym).* We welcome students and their families/guardians to an evening event that will feature representatives from major universities across Canada. Please see cuebc.org for more information.

Grade 12 Parent Information Night: *Thursday, September 26th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm on Microsoft Teams.* <u>Teams meeting link is accessible here</u>. This event will cover some of the frequently asked questions parents/guardians have about Grade 12. We hope to see you (virtually) there!

Post-Secondary BC (PSBC) Mini-Fair: Wednesday, October 9th, during the school day. This is an opportunity for Grade 12 students to interact with representatives from some of our local post-secondary institutions. More details to come.

Artona Graduation Portraits – Individual Sessions: *December 7-9th, 2024, at Artona's Studio in Vancouver*. <u>Please visit this link to book</u>.

Graduation 2025 Commencement Ceremony: *Thursday, June 19th, 2025,* at the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver. More details will be released as we near this important date. Tickets are subsidized by the school to ensure that family members can attend without significant financial burden.

Graduation 2025 Banquet (Dinner and Dance): *Saturday, June 21st, 2025,* at the Marriott Pinnacle Hotel in Vancouver. As with the Ceremony, you will receive more details about this event closer to the date. Often, students and one or more guardians attend the Banquet together. Students will be able to request table groupings.

As students begin their final year at Sutherland, Ms. Dhanji and I would like to encourage them to make the most of Grade 12. This is a perfect time to join a new club, try out for a new sport, or to engage in learning in a new area. One I'd like to highlight is **Grad Council.** We had our first Grad Council meeting this past Monday, and the meeting space was packed with students wanting to get involved in their last year of high school. Grad Council is an excellent opportunity for students to bond with classmates and show leadership and initiative by planning and organizing events. Please reach out to Ms. Dhanji or Mr. Bruchesi on Teams to learn more.

If you need support, Ms. Dhanji and I are here to help, and are excited to see all the wonderful things this outstanding group of graduates will accomplish over the next ten months.

Kindly,

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Shannon Smart (Vice Principal) and Khatija Dhanji (Grade 12 Counsellor) Sutherland Secondary School