



# École Secondaire Windsor Secondary School

FAMILY NEWSLETTER- OCTOBER 2024

We would like to thank the Coast Salish people, specifically the Skwxwú7mesh Nation and Səlilwətał Nation, on whose unceded traditional territory École Windsor Secondary resides.

## IMPORTANT DATES:

### OCTOBER 1

[National Principal's Month](#)  
[Canadian Library Month](#)  
[Circular Economy Month](#)  
[Cyber Security Awareness Month](#)

### OCTOBER 2

[Rosh Hashanah](#) (October 2-4)  
8:30am- Gr. 12 Mandatory Meeting (Multipurpose Rm)  
Photo retakes (am)

### OCTOBER 5

[World Teachers' Day](#)

### OCTOBER 7

Gr. 9 Immunizations  
7:30pm - PAC meeting (Library)

### OCTOBER 8

7:00pm- Parent-Teacher Interviews Sign-Up #1 opens

### OCTOBER 10

[World Mental Health Day](#)

### OCTOBER 11

[Yom Kippur](#) (October 10-11)

### OCTOBER 14

Thanksgiving (Schools Closed)

### OCTOBER 15

3:00pm- Parent-Teacher Interviews Sign-Up #1 closes  
7:00pm- Parent-Teacher Interviews Sign-Up #2 opens  
7:00pm- Gr. 11/12 Post Secondary Pathways - Windsor  
Parent Info Night

### OCTOBER 17

[The Great British Columbia ShakeOut](#)

### OCTOBER 20

11:59pm- Parent-Teacher Interviews Sign-Up #2 closes

### OCTOBER 23

1:00pm- Student Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher  
Interviews (see page 3)  
2:00pm-4:00pm & 6:00pm-8:00pm - Fall Parent-Teacher  
Interviews

### OCTOBER 24

1:00pm- Student Early Dismissal (see page 3)

### OCTOBER 25

District-Wide Professional Day (No Classes)

### OCTOBER 28

[Canadian School Library Day](#)  
7:00pm- Post-Secondary BC Fair (Gr. 11/12)

### OCTOBER 30

9:50- Staff Collaboration - Student Late Start (see page 3)

### OCTOBER 31

[Diwali](#)  
[Halloween](#)  
12:50- Student Council Halloween contest  
(Multipurpose Rm.)

October 2024

Dear Windsor Community,

I want to express my appreciation for your support and cooperation with the new personal digital device (PDD) guidelines that were introduced at the start of this school year. As we move forward with these changes, it's clear that the success of this initiative relies heavily on the collaboration between families, students, and staff, and I'm incredibly grateful for your efforts.

As you are aware, across all NVSD secondary schools, access to and use of personal digital devices will not be permitted during instructional time. At the teacher's discretion, an exemption may be made when the use of such devices supports a specific curricular objective and is part of instructional planning.

I want to acknowledge how well students have adapted and how staff has been instrumental in ensuring a smooth transition. Their dedication to creating a focused, engaged, and distraction-free learning environment is making a positive difference in the Windsor community.

"Devices off, learning on" captures the essence of what we are all working toward: a space where students can focus on their education without unnecessary distractions. Your role in reinforcing this message at home is invaluable, and we are grateful for your partnership in helping your child(ren) understand the importance of these guidelines. As you work with your child(ren) to foster healthy digital habits, you may find the following resources helpful to support these conversations:

\* [Cell phone restrictions in schools](#) (published by the Government of British Columbia)

\* [Digital media: Promoting healthy screen use in school-aged children and adolescents](#) (published by the Canadian Paediatric Society)

Please reach out if your child(ren) requires additional support in following these guidelines or if you have any questions. By working together—families, students, and staff—we can create an environment where all students can thrive, both academically and personally.

Warm regards,

Caren Hall

École Windsor Secondary School

# ADJUSTED BELL SCHEDULES

## OCTOBER 23 & OCTOBER 24

1:00PM - Student Early Dismissal for Parent-Teacher Interviews

<b>Parent-Teacher Interviews Bell Schedule (Early Dismissal)</b>		
<b>Wednesday, Oct 23</b>	<b>Thursday, Oct 24</b>	
Day 2	Day 1	
No tutorial this day	No tutorial this day	
Period 5	Period 2	8:30-9:30 am
Period 6	Period 3	9:35-10:36 am
Period 7	Period 1	10:55-11:55 am
Period 8	Period 4	12:00-1:00 pm

## OCTOBER 30

9:50AM - Student Late Start for Staff Collaboration

<b>Staff Collaboration Day Bell Schedule (Late start for students)</b>	
<b>Collaboration time</b>	<b>No tutorial</b>
Period 2	9:50 am – 10:50 am
Period 3	10:55 am – 11:55 am
Period	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Lunch	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Period 4	2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

# NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

In honour of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th, and to recognize Orange Shirt Day, Windsor Secondary School took part in reflecting and learning truth in a deeper way in order to take part in the reconciliation process. The First Peoples Principle of Learning that is central to these collective activities is “Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational, focused on connectedness, reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place.”

Windsor students collaborated and created “The Influence of Land & Story” interactive posters for display in our front foyer. Classes discussed ideas for an interactive learning activity involving researching and creating posters to generate questions. Fellow students came to visit the posters and interact with questions via QR codes.

Windsor’s Grade 8s spent Orange Shirt Day at the Cheakamus Center in Brackendale, with a focus on place-based Indigenous teaching and a variety activities specific to both Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation.





## WINDSOR BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE

If you have visited Windsor recently, you have noticed scaffolding installed around various parts of the school.

There are sections of siding and original single pane windows being replaced as a part of Windsor's Building Envelope Upgrade. The east and south sides of the school are the first part of this project. Contractors will be using the Windsor tennis courts as their parking and staging area.

There will be no access to fenced off areas by Windsor students or staff while the project is active. We have reminded all students that there is no student parking in the front (Broadview) lot for any reason this year due to demands on space by contractors. Please do not drop off or pick up students in the Broadview parking lot, please use the back lot off of Lytton where there is a roundabout for student drop off, unless your child has mobility issues.



## SCHOOL FEES

Course fees have been added to your account. Please login to [School Cash Online](#) to make the payment. We appreciate the prompt payment of these fees so the teachers are able to purchase the supplies required for this semester as soon as possible.

Note that students with outstanding athletic and school fees will not be able to pick up their Yearbooks or Grad Gowns in June until their accounts are up to date.

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

### TO REPORT AN ABSENCE:

- Email [windsor@sd44.ca](mailto:windsor@sd44.ca) (preferred) \*

Please remember to include the words **absence** or **attendance** in the subject line

- or Call Attendance Line: 604-903-3707

### WHEN REPORTING ABSENCES

-You may report an absence on same the day until 3:00 p.m., in advance for a future date if you know ahead of time, or for previous dates that were missed.

Please indicate:

- Student First Name
- Student Last Name (if leaving a voice message please spell the last name)
- Grade
- Date of absence (whole day/portion of the day)
- Explanation for absence (“excused”, “ill”, “appointment”, “vacation”).

It is critical that student absence explanations are specific to ensure accurate reporting to the School District and Public Health Unit, when necessary.

- Your name & relationship with the student. (Only messages from parents and legal guardians are accepted)

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# WINDSOR PAC

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Join the WPAC Instagram page

[https://www.instagram.com/windsor\\_pac/](https://www.instagram.com/windsor_pac/)

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**Next WPAC Meeting** - Monday October 7 @ 7:30pm in the Windsor Library

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## Parent Donations are Key!



Parent donations are thoughtfully spent in areas of the school for items that are otherwise unavailable through the school block budget. During the last school year, WPAC worked with teachers, students and the school administration to provide support where we could.

Your donation is in lieu of being asked to sell door-to-door, collect money and deliver goods. Please help us achieve our goals of supporting students and teachers by making a donation using one of the three EASY options below.

**FAST** - go to School Cash Online (<https://sd44.schoolcashionline.com/>), login and click "MAKE A DONATION". You will then choose "Windsor" as your school (and you get a tax receipt)

**SPEEDY** - send an EFT to [windsorpactreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:windsorpactreasurer@gmail.com)

**QUICK** - Scan the QR code below



Any questions can be directed to our Treasurer @ [windsorpactreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:windsorpactreasurer@gmail.com)

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- Windsor Families - join the Windsor FOS FB page (shared fundraisers) [Windsor FOS Facebook](#)

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- Windsor Families - join WPAC Instagram page [Windsor PAC Instagram](#)

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- Grade 12 - link to a contact form to get emails from grad organizers [Windsor Grad 2025 Parent Contacts](#)

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- Grade 12 - join Grad 2025 parent Instagram page [Windsor Grad 2025 Parent Instagram](#)

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- Halloween costume collection for Blueridge fundraiser [Donate Costumes & Purchase](#)

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# THANK YOU, WINDSOR PAC

- Support for school-wide Student Council events
- Games for Learning Services
- Windsor Family of Schools Basketball
- Library software subscriptions
- Football uniforms
- Windsor Wolves Gym mural
- Jr. Girls and Boys Basketball uniforms
- Gr. 12 English field trip to Hamlet
- Support for student-led clubs
- Scholarships





## PARKING AT WINDSOR

Parking is at a premium during the school day and with the need to provide adequate parking for school and district staff, guests, community, and students, we request that everyone adheres to the parking guidelines we have in place.

**1. Broadview Lot:** Parking is for school & district staff and visitors. Students may not park in this lot. Parents, please park in the available visitor spots. Please do not drop off students in the Broadview parking lot.

**2. Lytton Lot:** Parking is for staff and students.  
If this lot is full, students will need to park off school site.

We have also noted an increase in the number of vehicles parked illegally including in areas clearly marked as no parking. For example, vehicles parked in yellow zones, areas marked for emergency vehicles, and in front of waste disposal bins.

While we have been reluctant to do so, having vehicles towed is an option. Vehicles parked in no parking zones and students who continue to disregard the parking guidelines may be towed. If your vehicle is towed, please contact Payless Auto Towing.

In order to park at Windsor students must:

- register their vehicles in the office
- adhere to the parking regulations
- display decal on their windshield

We continue to encourage students to walk or take transit to school.



## **FOOD ACCESS FOR STUDENTS**

Windsor has had, for a number of years, a food access program available for students in need. This year we increased the visibility and access to food by setting up a hot and cold water station with a microwave on the 300 level. There are a number of breakfast and snack items available. We encourage students to bring a bowl and spoon for some items. We want to make sure that as a community we are looking out for each other and those students who are in need are priority for this program.

## **KEEP US IN THE LOOP!**

### Contact information

Please ensure your contact information, especially email and phone number, are up to date. You can see the contact information that Windsor has in MyEd. MyEd is also where you can access your students' timetable, report cards and attendance records.

[My Ed BC Portal Tips & Resources](#)

When changing your mailing address, please attach a copy of proof of address. An example would be a utility bill, BCID, Drivers Licence, credit card invoice etc.

### Vacations and Extended Absences

If a student is away for more than a couple of days, parents need to fill in a Student Extended Absence form, to be signed by teachers. The form can be found on the [Windsor website](#).

Thank you for helping us to keep up to date!



## A bear was recently sighted in your neighbourhood.

### Here is what you need to do:



Store **garbage and organics** bins inside a shed or garage until collection morning. Freeze meat, fish and bones.



Place all **food scraps** in the organics bin, not the garbage.



Remove **bird feeders** during spring, summer, fall.



Pick or donate **fruit** early.



Keep **fridges and freezers** inside.



Clean **barbeques** after cooking.



Keep **pet food** inside.



Surround **chicken coops and beehives** with electric fences.

It is our responsibility to manage attractants on our property. Feeding bears, even unintentionally, is against the law. Bylaw fines can be up to \$500.



### Relocation is not a solution.

See a black bear in your neighbourhood? Black bears travel extensively in search of food, and it is normal for them to pass through residential areas. Problems can occur when they gain access to unnatural food sources and they remain in urban areas.

**Relocation doesn't work**—bears that are removed usually return to the area.

Every year bears are killed on the North Shore for finding food in our community, and another bear will move in if attractants remain.

The answer is to manage wildlife attractants and prevent bears from finding food in neighbourhoods.

### If you meet a bear:

Remain calm, speak calmly to the bear, back away slowly and report the sighting to the North Shore Black Bear Society. Remember that bears are wild animals—respect their space and do not approach for a photograph.

### Thank you for helping keep wildlife wild.

Use your phone to scan here, or visit [northshorebears.com](http://northshorebears.com) for more info about co-existing with bears.



### Report bear or attractant sightings to the North Shore Black Bear Society:

604.990.BEAR (2327)  
nsbbsociety@gmail.com  
[northshorebears.com](http://northshorebears.com)