



# École Secondaire Handsworth Secondary School

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## DISTRICT COMMON TIMETABLE

Dear Parents and Students

As many of you are aware, North Vancouver School District has implemented a District Common Timetable. Over the past number of years, the expectation has been that all secondary schools would adopt the District Common Timetable. With the exception of Handsworth and one other Secondary School, all mainstream secondary schools have adopted the common timetable.

*What is the purpose of the District implementing a Common Timetable?*

One of the contributing factors to the declining enrollment in North Vancouver School District has been the impact of students attending secondary schools in neighbouring districts. One of the main attractions of schools in other districts is their ability to accommodate specialty programs and courses through their timetable.

The District Common Timetable has an inherent ability to be flexible and responsive to the needs of students who are enrolled in specialty programs and/or courses offered within the school. As well, the structure of the common timetable enables students to access specialty programs, courses, academies, training facilities, etc. outside the school.

*What are the main features of the District Common Timetable?*

In point form, the features are as follows:

- Linear 8 block system
- 75 minute blocks of instructional time (4 classes a day)
- Morning blocks rotate independently of the afternoon blocks

Beginning last spring, the Handsworth staff, students and parents have participated, to varying degrees, in an extensive consultation and planning process. Rather than implement the common timetable in September 2008, Handsworth chose to use the 2008/2009 school year to prepare for implementation in September 2009.

In September of this year, a Timetable Committee was formed whose mandate it was to address certain topics and variables that were at the discretion of the school. The Timetable Committee made a point of ensuring staff, students and parents were informed of the imminent change and solicited input from each stakeholder group.

With representatives from NVTA, CUPE and Administration, the Timetable Committee met a total of eight times with the mandate of addressing best practices as they relate to:

- 75 minute blocks of instructional time
- Instructional strategies
- Assessment strategies

The Committee focused on utilizing the November 28<sup>th</sup>, Curriculum Implementation Day to select a model within the parameters of the District Common Timetable and as well, to address best practices associated with the new structure.

In summary, the staff actively participated in the following activities:

- A presentation of variables within the District Common Timetable parameters
- A presentation of research in support of 75 minute blocks of instructional time
- A presentation from Kathy Romses, District Dietitian/Nutritionist addressing appropriate food/drink choices and break times for students and staff
- A panel composed of Handsworth teachers and teachers from another District sharing their views on the benefits of the District Common Timetable
- A discussion within Dept. groupings followed by reporting out to the full staff
- Identification of staff's preferences amongst the choice of variables within the District Common Timetable consisting of Break Time, Lunch Time and Dismissal Time (Timetable is posted on school web site).

In conclusion, I am confident that the District Common Timetable as adopted by Handsworth will serve the needs of our community in a way that will bring new and exciting teaching and learning opportunities. Handsworth has the capacity to excel in all areas with this timetable given our rich history, traditions and reputation as an outstanding place of learning.

*Peter Ewens*  
Principal

## DECEMBER 2008

**Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Life Cycle 2 Started/TERM 2 Started

**December 11<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>**

Senior Girls Basketball REB Tournament

**Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

Grade 9 Immunization Clinic

**Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Basketball Grad Game Senior Girls/Boys

**Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

Last Day of School Before Christmas Holidays

**December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>**

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**NEW YEARS DAY**

**Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**

**SCHOOLS REOPEN AFTER HOLIDAYS**



### Sign up to be added to the Handsworth Email List!

You will receive:

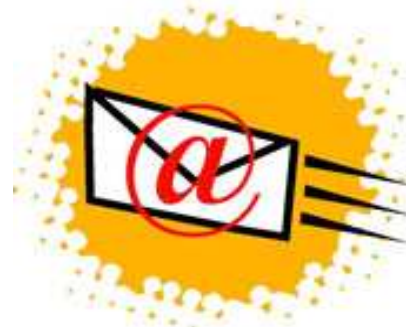
- » important notifications when they occur
- » a periodical list of news items from the website

To sign up:

- » go to our homepage
- » scroll to the bottom and click "Subscribe"

[Privacy](#) | [Subscribe](#)

North Vancouver School District



## GRAD PHOTO DATES

Grad Photo dates is January 12<sup>th</sup> to January 17<sup>th</sup>. They will be taken in the studio between the hours of 3:15 pm during the weekdays and 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on the weekend days. Watch for sign up sheets in the gallery in December. *Ms. Schwegler*

## “O Ambassadors Club”

We, the “O Ambassadors Club” of Handsworth are so excited about our commitment and dedication to help the children of India and Sri Lanka.

We now have over 80 members and are still growing. We have had three fundraisers so far and our goal is to create more awareness in our school community. Our students want to build a better future for all those children. They want to tell Handsworth “SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR EYES WIDE OPEN”; therefore becoming the best global citizen that they can be.

*Parents you should be proud! Mme*

*Ricux*

## HANDSWORTH SCHOOL COOKBOOK

The Handsworth School Cookbook is now sold out. With 700 books printed, over \$13,000.00 was raised for “PROJECT HANDS SOCIETY”. This is enough money to pay for all the medical supplies needed for the Spring 2009 surgical trip of over 30 doctors traveling to Guatemala to perform surgeries on impoverished Mayan people. A big thank you to the “PROJECT HANDS” students who helped with the many fundraising sales last year as well as helping to sell cookbooks this fall. Thank you to the Handsworth moms who typed recipes. It was a great success!

*Mrs. Stanhope*

## COATS FOR THE HOMELESS

If we all work together we can make a difference. This year, the Learning Center’s “Coats for the Homeless Project” is teaming up with PE Fitness Block 5 to inspire all students at Handsworth to donate clean and no longer needed warm items for the Homeless. You may drop your donations off to Room 210. It is easy to go home and forget that many don’t have the luxury of a warm home so please don’t forget to bring a warm item. We at Handsworth can make a difference.

Laura Terness & Michelle Pye



FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

As Fall turns to Winter, the Handsworth Athletic Department sees the sports season changing. Before we look at our winter sports teams we should take a look back at an incredible opening to the 2008/2009 sports year.

Most recently our Senior Boy's Soccer team capped an incredible season with roller coaster ride through the Provincial Championship Tournament. Despite an opening game loss in penalty kicks the boys bounced back to advance from pool play in first place. This led to a semi-final match with Victoria's Stelly's in which the Royals dominated play and advanced to the finals with a 2-0 victory. In the finals against Kit's Secondary the boys controlled the play for most of the game and came away with a 2-1 win and their 2<sup>nd</sup> Provincial Banner in 3 years! Coaches Torres and Barrett were proud of the total team effort that also produced Alex Rennison as the tournament MVP and Rob Johnson named to the Commissioner's XI for top players. Congratulations to the entire team!

Our Senior Girls Field Hockey team finished their year with yet another exiting and successful season. Our girls started off on the right foot winning their first tournament of the year in Osoyoos with no goals against them. They carried on throughout the season proving themselves to be a force to be reckoned with on the North Shore (already the most competitive league in the province). At the Bridgeman Tournament (the most prestigious tournament in North America) the girls crushed their rivals, West Van, on their way to the final where they beat Carson Graham 1-0, taking home the Bridgeman Cup and the infamous Birks Field Hockey pins. Our Royals carried on in their successful ways for the rest of the season, however losing a hard fought battle over the North Shore banner. Ten of the 21 girls graduate this year, nonetheless the future looks bright for the next season as they have a very strong squad for next year. Thanks to Mr. Win, Anne Thicke, Julie Shier, Mrs. Shanks our teacher sponsor, as well as all of our incredible fans! ohana girls...ohana.

Still on the field hockey pitch, both Junior Girls teams finished the season qualifying for the play-offs. The Blue team had an early exit but should be proud of a fantastic season. The Gold team advanced all the way to the North Shore final where they faced West Van. The girls played tremendously well but West Van was too strong and the final was 2-0 in a terrific game. This was the only team to beat the Gold team all season!

On the football field Coach Prepchuk led the program to another successful year. The Bantam team narrowly missed the playoffs while the Senior Team squeaked in before an opening round exit to Ballenas Secondary from Nanaimo. The Junior Team advanced the furthest in the program. After hosting a series of playoff games the Royals traveled to the valley to play Pitt Meadows in the Provincial semi-final. Despite a fantastic 2<sup>nd</sup> half the boy's play-off run came to an end as the first half deficit was too much to overcome - with the final score of 40-6.

From outside to inside the Handsworth Royals Volleyball program had another banner year with both the Junior and Senior Girls winning their respective North Shore and Lower Mainland Championships! The Junior team, coached by Guntis Grikis, competed in the Junior Provincial Invitational championships in

November and played extremely well, battling tough competition all weekend and playing their first playoff match to the eventual provincial champions from Earl Mariott. The girls gave it their all falling just short in a 15-13 loss in the third set to finish for a respectable 9<sup>th</sup> place tie.

The Senior Team traveled to Kelowna to participate in the AAAA provincial championships late last month. The girls fought hard for the 3 day tournament and played in the finals Saturday night against the 3 time reigning provincial champions Semiahmoo in a best of 5 matches. The girls won in the 5<sup>th</sup> set 15-11 to clinch the championship title, the first since 1993. To earn the title they had won all seven matches over the tournament!

Jackie Hunter, the team's hard swinging power hitter, was named tournament MVP while Shenise Power and Rebecca Oxland were named to the first all-star team. The impressive part of this 12 member team was that each member played a pivotal role in clinching the provincial banner. Lauren Welgan, Leigh Vaandering, Jessica Cyr, Meaghan Willmer, Amelia Stubbs, Brittney Gee, Lindsay Adair, Heather Swail and Keely Baker were all equally important in Handsworth finishing with the title.

Another memorable moment of the tournament was watching Argyle and West Van players and parents walk into the gym for the gold medal match at Kelowna Secondary School wearing royal blue and gold to join our parents, siblings and friends in the stands to cheer us on. They had banners and were cheering so loudly. They demonstrated such sportsmanship and such North Shore solidarity; it was fantastic to see that their competitors on the North Shore were now their biggest supporters.

One last astonishing accomplishment was the selection of all 6 grade 12's to the North Shore all-star team. Jessica Cyr and Lauren Welgan were selected to the 2<sup>nd</sup> All-star team and Jackie Hunter, Rebecca Oxland, Shenise Power and Leigh Vaandering were chosen as 1<sup>st</sup> All-stars.

A special thanks to our head coach, Tom Oxland, our assistant coach, Trina Hewlitt, our manager, Mary Jane Devine, teacher sponsor Ms. Staite and all other parents who helped make this a memorable season!

Still in the gym the Badminton team returned to North Shore competition after a 1 year hiatus. The lay-off didn't seem to bother the players! The junior team narrowly missed the play-offs while the Senior team finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place and hosted the North Shore Championships. Despite strong play during the season the Royals faced the only team to defeat them all season in the opening round. Howell seemed to have our number and edged us out, ending a fantastic season.

Our swim team capped another great year which saw several athletes advance off the North Shore to compete in the Provincial Championships. Two of the Royals strongest swimmers qualified for their respective finals to finish in the top 10 in the province

Last but not least our Cross-country team has remained strong with 25 runners battling the elements weekly in an attempt to qualify for Provincials. In the end Lindsay Butterworth finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Provincial Championships! Also of note were our Grade 9 runners Laura Wynne finishing 16<sup>th</sup> and George Hill finishing 18<sup>th</sup>. The whole team showed steady improvement all season and many of them will train with running clubs over the winter.

As we transition from such a successful season we look ahead to the winter. We have 9 basketball teams again this year from Bantam through to Senior. Early rankings have our Junior Boys, Junior Girls and

Senior Girls noted in *The Province* newspaper's power-15 poll. Don't forget to cheer on the Royals as the Senior boy's open the annual North Shore Invitational tournament at 2:15pm December 11<sup>th</sup>.

We are still looking for scorekeepers to help with our hectic basketball season, so if you want to earn some money sign up with Mr. Tyler to get started

Also competing again are individual athletes in gymnastics and wrestling as well as our Ski and Snowboard team. Go Royals!

Remember that all league schedules may accessed on-line through the Athletics' pages at [www.handsworth.ca](http://www.handsworth.ca)

On behalf of the Athletic Dept. we would like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

*John Tyler/Athletic Coordinator*

## SWIM TEAM

### **Congratulations Swim Team!!**

After a terrific season of 7:00 am practices and many meetings, four of our Handsworth swimmers Teo Penkov, Michael Medley, Emily Muir and John Choi qualified for the Provincial Swim Championships held at Watermarine in Richmond on Friday and Saturday November 14 and 15<sup>th</sup>. Michael Medley and Emily Muir went on to the finals on Saturday. Thanks to Carly Bleay and Tamryn Brown – our excellent student coaches!

## INTERNATIONAL BACCALEUREATE (IB) DIPLOMA INFO MEETINGS

In January, the North Vancouver School District will be offering information sessions for Grade 10 students (and their parents/guardians) who are interested in enrolling in the IB Diploma Program at Carson Graham\* in 2009. The IB Diploma Program is a rigorous two year curriculum, intended for academically motivated students aged 16 to 19. It leads to a qualification that is widely recognized by universities for the high standards it represents. For more information about the IBO and its programs, go to [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org).

Please register for the following informational meeting at [ib@nvsd44.bc.ca](mailto:ib@nvsd44.bc.ca) and provide your name, the school that you attend, and the number of people who will be attending.

**When:** Tuesday, January 20 @ 7:00 pm

**Where:** Carson Graham Secondary

**Who:** Grade 10 students from Balmoral, Carson Graham, and Handsworth

\*Carson Graham is a candidate school for the IB Diploma Program. Only schools authorized by the IB organization can offer any of its three academic programs: the Primary Years Program (PYP), the Middle Years Program (MYP), or the Diploma Program. Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.

## Report from the HPAC/HSSA

- Thanks to all those involved in this year's budget process. After a number of meetings and lots of healthy discussion a budget of just over \$50,000 will be distributed throughout the school. Great care was taken to ensure the money will be spent on items that will enhance the education of the majority of students at Handsworth.
- Please see the information in this newsletter with regards to the Handsworth **Spring Fair** and the **After Grad**. These are two great opportunities to volunteer at the school.
- For information on the meetings and workshops put on by the **North Vancouver District Parent Advisory Committee (NVPAC)** please check their website <http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC.aspx>.
- Hope to see you at our **next meeting on Monday January 19th, 2009** at 7 pm in the school library! All parents are welcome.

Note - We have an executive meeting generally one week before the scheduled HPAC meeting and that is where we set our agenda. If you have any concerns, issues, ideas, etc. that you would like to discuss at a future HPAC meeting, it would be appreciated if you would please get in touch with one of our executive members so we may discuss it and put it on the agenda.

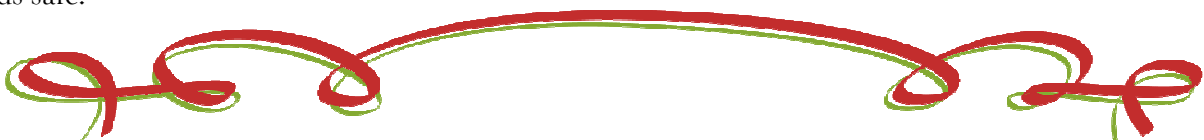
### PARENT INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL "AFTER GRAD"

Last year was the first "Handsworth After Grad Party" held at Grouse Mountain. Having the event at Grouse allowed enough room for all the graduating class to get together one last time before the end of their graduation year. The other bonus was having the event on the North Shore removing the expense and time for traveling to another venue over town. It is hoped to have the event at Grouse again and to build on last year's success.

In the past, the Grade 12 parents have helped organize the event up at Grouse with the Grads input. Grade 11 parents were asked to help chaperone the event up at Grouse from 12 midnight to 5 am. It would be great if we could get some grade 10 parents involved so they can learn the ropes for when it comes their turn. The more parents that volunteer to help the shorter the shifts. The idea is to "pay it forward" so when your child makes it to grade 12 there will be grade 11 parent volunteers to chaperone your kids.

Last year there was a pancake breakfast at the school at 5 am. If the After Grad is at Grouse the grads can make their way down to the school on foot after getting off the tram and head to the school for breakfast.

There will be a Parent Information Session held on Wednesday January 14, 2009 at 7 pm in the school library. Please plan to attend and find out more about the event and how you can be involved in keeping our grads safe.



## ART CAREERS NIGHT

Mr. MacLean and Mrs. Stevenson-Moore will be hosting an evening discussion of careers in Visual Art in **Room 106, Wednesday January 14, from 7 to 9 pm.**

Topics will include secondary school course selection, portfolio development, and the choice of a post secondary institution relative to a student's career goal. This is a unique opportunity for parents to learn how to help their children prepare for art fields such as, animation, architecture, fashion design, game design, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, and photography (to name a few). Students are welcome, in fact, encouraged to accompany their parents.

### The Handsworth Royals would like to give a huge thanks to their sponsors

Sponsors	Phone/Contact	Website
Lance Phillips Macdonald Realty, West Van	604-924-8282	<a href="http://www.lancephillips.com">www.lancephillips.com</a>
Griffins Boxing & Fitness	604-980-1900	<a href="http://www.griffinsboxing.com">www.griffinsboxing.com</a>
Beauty By Jacqueline	604-985-1035	<a href="http://www.beautybyjacqueline.com">www.beautybyjacqueline.com</a>
Dragon Fly Lawn and Garden Care	778-885-1964	
The Shirley Clarke Team Realtors	604-220-2020	<a href="http://www.shirleyclarke.com">www.shirleyclarke.com</a>
Sirenz Make up Inc. - Malka Stein	604-551-6896	
Level 10 Fitness	604-985-8910	<a href="http://www.level10fitness.com">www.level10fitness.com</a>
Browns Restaurant and Bar	604 922-9306	
Western Campus Resources		<a href="mailto:wendy@westerncampus.ca">wendy@westerncampus.ca</a>
Cheryl Wheeler Art	604-715-1142	<a href="http://www.cherylwheelerart.com">www.cherylwheelerart.com</a>
Savory Island Pie Company	604-926-4021	
Tomahawk Restaurant	604-988-2612	
Sue Gedge and Anndee Devine Remax Crest Realty	604-988-8000	
O'Neill Plumbing and Heating	604-765-1007	
ALS Chemex Laboratory Services	604-984-0221	
Delaney's Coffee House – Edgemont Boulevard	604-985-3385	

Tim Horton's Marine Drive

604-983-8729

## WINTER WEATHER AHEAD

With December now upon us and the official date of winter rapidly approaching, it is timely to remind parents of our communication procedures related to potential school closures due to extreme weather conditions

The message provided below will be posted to the School District website. Although we have been enjoying seasonably 'mild' weather, this can change in a hurry!

### ***Winter weather ahead!***

*All schools in the North Vancouver School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible during winter weather, including snowfalls. Any district wide closure will be decided by 6:00 a.m. at the latest and will be announced via CKNW AM 980 radio, News AM 1130 radio, CHMJ AM 730 radio, CBC AM 690 radio, Fairchild AM 1470 radio, CHQM FM 103.5 radio, CBC television, BCTV, City TV and CTV BC.*

*Individual school closures due to unique circumstances (e.g., power outages) will be announced as early as possible in the same manner. No announcement will be made saying that schools are open. Only closures will be announced.*

Now would be a good time for all parents and families to review their own personal and home preparedness for the winter months ahead. Take care!

*John Lewis*  
Superintendent of Schools

