ECOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

1131 Frederick Road, North Vancouver, BC V7K 1J3 (ph) 604-903-3300 (fax) 604-903-3414

September 2011

Argyle Grad Newsletter

Hello Grads,

GRADE 12, though a daunting prospect for some, is a pivotal time in your lives: it is an exciting, thought-provoking year; a stepping-stone to a more adult world of continual learning, increased responsibilities and new experiences. While you might not be clear on where you are headed, your final year of high school provides many opportunities to accept new challenges, to explore options, to self-reflect and, of course, to have some fun in the process. It is important not to panic, but rather to map out your Grade 12 year in the most productive way possible. Some things to consider are grad and post-secondary requirements, scholarship opportunities, volunteer or part-time work experience, career choices, and planning for your future, both short and long-term. Remember, too, that you have a network of family, teachers, counselors and friends here to support and encourage you on your journey.

This newsletter aims to get you started on the path to a successful academic year and to bring to your attention important future dates. **This will be the only printed Grad Newsletter you will receive.** From now on, Grad information will be relayed to you via email and through your TP 12 classes. Through both email and Argyle's website, you will receive the most current information on graduation requirements, scholarship opportunities, post-secondary institution news and Grad activities. To ensure you don't miss out, submit your email addresses asap to your Transition Planning 12 teacher. Parents are welcome to be on the list as well!

Two key questions you should ask :

1. Do I satisfy the Ministry of Education Requirements for Graduation?

Check graduation requirements on Page 3 of this newsletter.

2. Do I satisfy the admission requirements of the post-secondary institution and programme I want to enter?

a) Check for this information in the post-secondary institution calendars available in the Student Services office, the Career Centre (next to the cafeteria) or on the Internet.

b) Attend special noon-hour sessions when representatives from universities, trade schools, colleges, and businesses come to Argyle to present information about their institutions and programs. As we receive new information frequently, listening carefully to announcements will keep you informed.

c) Plan to attend the **Post-Secondary Information Session at Argyle** on **Tuesday, October 18th from 3:15 to 5:15pm** and the **Canadian Universities Event** held at **Collingwood Secondary on Tuesday, September 27 from 9:00am to 10:15 am.**

Do the research to become well informed! The responsibility is yours!

Please do not confuse satisfaction of Graduation requirements with admission requirements to a particular university, college, technical institute or career program. If you have questions, your Grade 12 counsellor, Mr. Ruben, or any other Argyle counsellor will be happy to help you. We wish you a very successful, memorable and joyful graduation year!

IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES

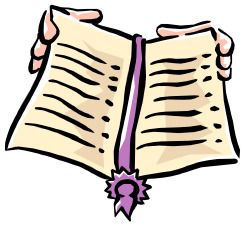
Sept. 15– 8:45 AM	Grade 12 Assembly
Sept. 16	**Last day for any course changes**
Sept 26	Canadian University Event at Rockridge Secondary – 6:30 am – 8:00 pm
Sept. 27	Canadian University Event at Collingwood Secondary – 9:00 am – 10:15 am
End September	Language Challenge Application Packages available online **http://web.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/secondary/challenge-exams**
October	**Scholarships** – presentation in your TP 12 classes
Oct 13	Grad Parent Night – 7-8:30 in Small Gym
Oct. 18	**Post-Secondary Information Session** ~ 3:15 to 5:15 pm
Oct 24-Nov 4	Ticket Sales for Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance - in Counselling Centre
Oct. 28th	**Language Challenge Application due date**
Nov. 2	Study Skills Workshop ~ 7 – 8:30 pm in the Small Gym
Nov 7-18	Ticket Sales for Mother Son Dinner Dance - in Counselling Centre
Nov 8	Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance – 6:30-10:30 @ Vancouver Italian Cultural Centre
Nov 22	Mother Son Dinner Dance - 6:30-10:30 @ Vancouver Italian Cultural Centre
December	Grad Photos - Appointment Sign-up in Counselling Centre
Jan. 4 to 12	**Grad Photos** – Mountain West Studio
Jan. 12	Grade 12 Assembly - 8:45 am in small gym
Jan 26	**Argyle Scholarship Application - Due 3:30 pm**
Feb 15	**Grad Photo Retakes** – Mountain West Studio
March 12- 23	Spring Break
March 30	**TP 12 Portfolio Due**
March - May	**Portfolio Presentations (May 18 final appointment without penalty)**
April 10	**Deadline for students to register for LPI – www.lpitest.ca)**
April 19	**LPI – Language Proficiency Index exam at 3:30 pm**
April 13 and 14	BCIT Open House- Burnaby Campus
May 14- 25	Grad Banquet tickets on sale 1:00- 1:45 pm each day
June 1 -15	Grad Ceremony tickets on sale 1:00- 1:45 pm each day
June 3	**Grad Banquet** – Vancouver Trade and Convention Center 4:00-10:00 pm
June 7	Grad Ceremony Rehearsal in the Small Gym – Period 1
June 14 tentative	Grad Gown hand out TBA
June 18 -29	Exam Period
June 16-22	**Grad Ceremony** Date, Time, Place TBA
June 27/28	Final Report Card

Other important dates or any changes will be posted as soon as they become available. For up-to-date information please check your email regularly, the Grad Bulletin board adjacent to the Main Office, and the Grad Calendar on the Argyle website. EMAIL and the Grad Calendar will be the primary method of correspondence used this year.

Graduation Program Requirements

80 Credits over Grades 10, 11 and 12

The list below is an overview of what you **NEED** to graduate.



48 required credits:

Planning 10 (4 credits)
Language Arts 10 (4 credits).....Provincial Exam
Language Arts 11 (4 credits)*
Language Arts 12 (4 credits)*.....Provincial Exam
Social Studies 10 (4 credits)
Social Studies 11, Canadian Civics 11.....Provincial Exam
Science 10 (4 credits).....Provincial Exam
Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)*
Mathematics 10 (4 credits)*..... Provincial Exam
Mathematics 11 or 12 (4 credits)*
Physical Education 10 (4 credits)
Fine Arts and/or Applied Skills 10, 11 or 12 (4 credits)*
Transition Planning 12 (2 credits)
Graduation Transitions (4 credits)
*one from a number of course options

Students must also:

- Earn 4 mandatory credits for Graduation Transitions 12
- Complete a minimum of 28 elective credits for Grade 10 to 12 courses

An unlimited number of credits from board or independent school authority-authorized or post-secondary electives may count toward graduation.

A minimum of 16 credits from either Ministry or board-authorized or post-secondary courses are required at the Grade 12 level, including a Language Arts 12.

Five Graduation Program Exams in Grades 10 – 12 are required for graduation, including a Grade 12 Language Arts exam.

Please Note:

1. It is possible to graduate with Communications 12 (not offered at Argyle) instead of English 12; however, it is unlikely that Communications 12 will be acceptable for university entrance or to most university transfer programs.
2. **When planning your courses, make sure you consider any post-secondary programme requirements.**

Board Authorized Courses - BAA

As well as provincially authorized courses, there are also Board Authorized courses. These courses are not offered at every school. In order to achieve secondary school graduation, students must earn 28 credits in selected studies and there is no limit to the number of Board Authorized courses that may count towards the 28 elective credits needed for graduation. Grade 12-level BAA courses may count toward Grade 12 credits required for graduation.

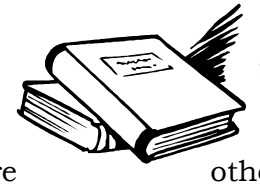
Academic Courses Admissable for Post-Secondary Institutions

	UBC	UVIC	SFU	CAP	UNBC
Accounting 12				X	
English 12 (Provincial Exam)	X	X	X	X	X
Literature 12	X	X	X	X	X
History 12	X	X	X	X	X
Geography 12	X	X	X	X	X
Geology 12	X	X	X	X	X
Biology 12	X	X	X	X	X
Chemistry 12	X	X	X	X	X
Physics 12	X	X	X	X	X
Principles of Mathematics 12	X	X	X	X	X
Applications of Math 12				X	X
Francais Langue 12	X	X	X	X	X
French 12	X	X	X	X	X
Spanish 12	X	X	X	X	X
Information Technology 12				X	
Writing 12		X		X	X
Comparative Civilization 12		X	X	X	X
Calculus 12	X	X	X	X	X
Law 12	X	X	X	X	X
Social Justice 12		X	X	X	X
Korean 12 (Challenge)		X		X	

SAT Program

Thinking of attending a post-secondary institution in the United States? You will need to write the SAT test. Please log on to www.collegeboard.com for information re test and exam dates. Our school ID number is **821237**.

Argyle On The Web



To find out about many of the features, programs and activities at Argyle, you are encouraged to visit Argyle's web site. Go to www.nvsd44.bc.ca/ click on schools, select Argyle then click on school maintained website. If you go to Student Services and then scholarships you will see that we have placed links to many of the sites where other information is available.

LPI Exam

Why are students being asked to write the LPI (Language Proficiency Exam)? In the past many new students to universities and colleges have been deficient in writing skills and have had difficulty meeting the university's and colleges' English requirements. The LPI is used as a **screening exam** to help identify those students in need of extra writing or language instruction before they take an English course for credit. All BC universities and most BC colleges require the LPI. There will be **one LPI exam sitting at Argyle** on April 19, 2012. **You must register online at** www.lpitest.ca . Deadline for online registration is April 10th.

Canadian University Event – Monday, September 27, 2010 – 9:00 Am to 10:15 Am

This year Collingwood High School is hosting the 4th Annual Canadian University Event. Approximately 40 major Canadian universities will be represented in a "fair-like" venue in Collingwood's **Large Gym**. Senior students from all the North Shore schools are also invited.

Post-Secondary Info. Sessions – Tuesday, October 18, 2011 – 3:15 PM - 5:15 PM

Representatives from various colleges and universities from BC will be at Argyle to present their programs and to answer your questions. It is expected that all Grade 12's will attend this Post-Secondary night.

Planning for Further Education

Some things to consider:

...about programs

- How long is a program?
- How do colleges, universities and institutions differ?
- Can I begin a program elsewhere and then transfer?
- Do programs differ in content or length from other similar programs?
- Do I have to choose a specific program before I apply?
- What is the program format? Lectures, labs, tutorials? How big are classes?
- Do programs include work and/or practica ?
- How does equipment and facilities compare to those currently being used in industry?

Meet University & College representatives!

...about admission

- What high school courses are necessary for admission to a program?
- How is my eligibility for admission determined?
- Are there any entrance tests required?
- How do I apply? Is there an application fee?
- Is there a restriction on the number of students accepted for any of the programs?
- What can I do if I am not eligible for admission, either because my grades are too low or because I lack the correct courses?

...after acceptance

- Who do I see about choosing my first-year courses? Do I need an appointment?
- Which courses do I have to take during my first year/semester?
- Are there a minimum number of courses which I must take each term?
- Can I visit your campus at any time? If so, can I attend classes or visit labs?

...about financing your education

- How much does it cost for tuition, books, residence? What other expenses are there?
- What kind of scholarships, financial awards and assistance are available from the institution?

PASBC
Visit PASBC to apply online to BC's post-secondary institutions

...about student services

- What is residence life like?
- How do I go about finding a place to live off-campus?
- What counselling services are available?
- What about clubs, cultural, athletic and recreational activities?

...about universities, colleges and institutes

- How many students attend your institution on a full-time basis?
- How many hours per week does a student typically spend in classes? Studying out of class?
- What types of degrees, certificates and diploma programs are offered?

REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE ENTRANCE

Please read the admission requirements carefully for the college or university of your choice to make sure you qualify for the program you want. Admission requirements are ever changing so it is imperative that you check and re-check to ensure you have all the necessary prerequisites.

APPLYBC

ApplyBC (formerly PASBC) is an online tool that lets students from anywhere in the world apply for admission to any of BC's public post-secondary institutions. Hosted by BCcampus, this service underwent a name change earlier this year to better reflect the purpose of this resource.

ApplyBC works this way. Prospective students go to https://applybc.ca and provide basic personal information that can be submitted as a common form to institutions of the applicant's choice. Thus begins the application process.

For more information or to provide feedback, please see our How To - With the ApplyBC Wiki (https://portal.bccampus.ca/confluence/display/pasbc/How+To+-+With+the+ApplyBC+Wiki).

For students requiring assistance, please direct them to our FAQ and help form (https://mycusthelp.ca/BCCAMPUS/_cs/FindAnswers.aspx) .

BC TRANSFER GUIDE

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL ON ADMISSIONS & TRANSFER BCCAT Online

For information about how to transfer credits between post-secondary institutions in BC, or how to plan a transfer route to a degree, visit the BC Transfer Guide at www.bccat.bc.ca

YWCA ONE STOP CAREER SHOP FOR YOUTH

FREE employment services for youth - people aged 15 – 30 years old, including: one to one employment counselling, skills upgrading (including HRDC), career & education resources, employment workshops, resume and cover letter writing workshops, up-to-date job board, computer lab with Internet, career assessments, mentorship program, hiring fairs, community referrals etc. Check them out at suite A – 15 Chesterfield Place, North Vancouver (right near the Seabus at the foot of Chesterfield) or online at www.ywcajobseeker.org

YWCA ONE STOP CAREER SHOP ONE STOP

Employment & Career

Scholarship and Bursary Information

In most cases, awards are intended to assist graduating students in their pursuit of further education. In some cases, recipients are required to provide a tuition fee receipt from a recognized post-secondary institution before payment of the award will be made. **Students are encouraged to check the Argyle website for additional Scholarship/Bursary information as well as the scholarship bulletin board in Student Services.**

Scholarships: awarded on the basis of performance in courses and exams. Some awards may require community achievements, extracurricular involvement and or leadership experience.

Bursaries: awarded on the basis of financial need (proof may be required) and may or may not consider academic achievement.

Awards are available in four broad categories:

1) **Provincial Government Scholarships and Awards**
2) **Post-Secondary Institutions**
3) **Private awards**
4) **Argyle awards**

1) Provincial Scholarships and Awards:

- **Graduation Program Examination Scholarships:**

New Criteria

The Graduation Program Examination Scholarships (formally the Provincial Scholarship Program) rewards graduating students for **academic excellence** on their provincial exams and the monies are for further education. The awards are for $1000 to any student who achieves at least one "A" (86% or higher) and three "B"s (73% or higher) on four of their best provincial exams. In addition students must achieve at least a "B" (73% or above) final mark (provincial exam and school mark combined) in English 12 or Communications 12. Normally students may rewrite an exam once within the twelve-month period following their initial attempt; however, **the examination rewrite rule will be relaxed for one year (until August 31, 2012) to allow students to rewrite a required exam to improve their scores**. AP scores will no longer count towards scholarships. In addition, the top 20 scholarship students in the province are awarded $2500 each. Students who qualify for a provincial scholarship are mailed a voucher, which they have five years to redeem.

- **Dogwood District/Authority Awards:**

This rewards graduating students for superior achievement in their chosen **non-academic field** with a cheque for $500 and a voucher for a further $500 to be redeemed within five years at a recognized Canadian post-secondary institution. To be eligible students must excel in a non academic area (Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Physical Activity or Second Languages). Criteria details are outlined in the *Argyle Scholarship Information Booklet*. Application is made by completing the **Argyle *Scholarship Application Form*** and **submitting before 3:30 pm Thursday January 26th, 2012**. Argyle is usually allotted 10 - 13 of these awards.

***Students can be awarded both an Examination Scholarship and a Dogwood Award**
**** To be eligible for Provincial Scholarships and Awards students must meet graduation requirements, be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident and a resident of BC.**
For more information Provincial Scholarships and Awards go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/awards

2) Post-Secondary Institution Awards

Most post-secondary institutions offer a variety of awards to students entering their first year. Many of these are scholarships based on grade point average on the application for admission and do not require a separate application. Major entrance scholarships still require an application form, and to be eligible marks in the 90% range in addition to major community involvement and may also require nomination from Argyle (students should check the scholarship board for nomination deadlines). Deadlines for these post-secondary awards vary considerably and details are always available on the website of the institution.

3) Private Awards

Any private awards require separate forms and have differing deadlines. Some of these are advertised publicly and the information we receive is posted in the scholarship billboard in Student Services. Others are available only to dependents or relatives of members of a union, for example, or employers may offer them. These will have to be sought out by the individual ~ ask your parents, check your own place of employment, don't be satisfied until you have a conclusive answer. Examples are the Paul Pollhammer award for soccer refereeing, the North Shore Community Credit Union Scholarship and the VanCity Community Scholarship for credit union members only.

4) Argyle Awards

Argyle awards are made available through the generosity of clubs, businesses and individuals and have different criteria. Argyle awards are available to students who meet the criteria outlined below. Details for specific awards and the criteria can be found in the *Argyle Scholarship Information Booklet* on the website. Please read the booklet carefully before completing the application form. **By submitting a completed Argyle Scholarship Application form students will be considered for all the awards that pertain to them. Applications are available in December on the Argyle website and are due no later than 3:30 pm on Thursday, January 26th, 2012. Late on incomplete applications will not be accepted.**

In order to be eligible for Argyle awards, students must attend Argyle and must:

- Be enrolled in a minimum of 7 courses including Transition Planning 12 with the exception of students in the Peak Performance Program
- Be enrolled in Grade 12 for the first time
- Be eligible to graduate at Argyle
- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant)
- Preference will be given to students who have been in attendance at Argyle for the past two years

The availability and value of Argyle awards may change between the printing of this newsletter and the presentation of the awards at the graduation ceremony in June. The Argyle scholarship committee (consisting of teachers, counsellors and administrators) will determine the recipients of these awards based on information provided in the application. Each student will receive no more that one Argyle award, and it is not necessary to apply for each award separately, however you will be asked to indicate awards for which you are uniquely qualified. The deadline for submission of completed applications is before 3:30 pm Thursday, January 28th, 2012.

List of Websites for Scholarships

BC Hydro	www.bchydro.com/scholarships	BC Ministry of Education	www.bced.gov.bc.ca/scholarships
BC School Trustees Association	www.bcsta.org	Brock University	www.brocku.ca/registrar
Canadian Awards	www.studentawards.com	Canadian Merit Scholarship Foundation	www.cmsf.ca
Canadian Principals Association	www.cdnprincipals.org	Excite Search	www.excite.com/education
Federal Student Aid (US only)	www.fafsa.ed.gov	Girl Guides of Canada	www.girlguides.ca/fun/fun-scholarships.htm
Graduate Aid	www.graduateaid.com	McMaster University	http://sfas.mcmaster.ca
Mensa Canada	www.mensacanada.ca	Millennium Scholarship	www.millenniumscholarships.ca
Ministry of Advanced Education	www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentservices/student/sp/awards	My School	www.myschool101.com
Prof. Engineers & Geoscientists of BC	www.apeg.bc.ca/outreach	Royal Cdn. Legion	www.pacificlegion.org/youth.html
Scholarships Canada	www.scholarshipscanada.com	School Finder	www.schoolfinder.com
Scouts Canada	www.scouts.ca/inside.asp?cmPageID=327	Simon Fraser University	www.students.sfu.ca/ps/entschols/
Student Business Loans Program	www.bdc.ca	T.D. Bank	www.tdbank.ca/scholarship
TD Canada Trust Scholarship	http://www.tdcanadatrust.com/scholarship/index.jsp	Terry Fox Humanitarian Award	www.terryfox.org
Univeristy of Waterloo	http://www.findoutmore.uwaterloo.ca/financing/schshp.htm	U of Western Ontario	http://www3.registrar.uwo.ca/FinancialServices/EGScholarships.cfm
University of Calgary	www.u**calgary**.ca/awards/	U of Ottawa	www.financialaid.u**ottawa**.ca/admission.html
U of Victoria	www.vu.edu.au/Services/Student_Services/Scholarships/	York University	http://www.yorku.ca/web/futurestudents/scholarships/
Youth Employment Canada	www.canlearn.ca		

The Passport to Education Program

The Passport to Education program recognizes and rewards student achievement in Grades 10 to 12 in a broad range of academic and non-academic areas. This was done to motivate all students to study consistently during the years leading to graduation, and to encourage students to pursue further education through post-secondary institutions and job-training programs. Schools receive stamps representing 15% to 20% of the school population in Grade 10 to 12. These stamps have a value ranging from $250.00 at Grade 10 and 11 and $500.00 at Grade 12 for a possible total of $1000.00.

At Argyle, Passport stamps are awarded using the following criteria:

a. At least two thirds of the weighting will be applied to students' best 5 or more, provincially authorized courses - final school percentages in these courses will be used;

b. **Up to one third of the weighting will be based upon criteria set at the school, including but not limited to,** a student's performance in Graduation Transitions course, also recognizing effort, work habits, citizenship and school/community involvement;

c. Students must be full time students in good standing with Argyle. Full time is defined as taking 8 courses in Grade 10, and 7 or more courses in Grade 11 and 12.

d. Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (landed immigrant) at the time of registration in their secondary school. (International students are not eligible)

*It is important for students and parents to note that by default, students receive full credit of the one-third weighting for effort, work habits, citizenship, social responsibility, attendance and other course marks approved by the school. **However, the school reserves the right to withhold full or partial credit of the one-third weighting if the record shows that the student has not demonstrated appropriate behavior(s) relative to criteria (b).**

Once marks are established in June, a calculation is undertaken to establish the recipients of the Passport and those students are advised by mail of their award. **Current Grade 12 students will have their Passport to Education attached to their June Report Card. All other grades will be notified of receiving an award and will have their Passports held in the Main Office until they graduate or transfer to another school. Passports to Education that have not been picked up will be destroyed five years after the date of school leaving.**

WHAT YOU SHOULD DOUBLE CHECK RIGHT NOW:

- Make sure you have **AT LEAST** 80 credits for graduation, including a Fine Arts **OR** an Applied Skills 10, 11 **OR** 12 course.
- Make sure you have the APPROPRIATE COURSES for the post-secondary institution AND program of your choice. Check appropriate websites.
- Check the application deadline dates as many programs, especially in U.S. schools, have fall due dates.
- Set academic GOALS for yourself that will allow you to follow your chosen path after your high school education.
- Use each day to get closer to your goals. USE YOUR AGENDA.
- Make sure you complete your 30 Work Experience hours. See your Transition Planning teacher for help. Forms are also available on the school network. Once you have completed your forms, keep them in a safe place as you'll need them for your Graduation Portfolio.

- Make sure you keep a record of the required 150 minutes per week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. This can be done online or in hard copy. Log sheets are available online and will be due at the end of each term.
- Please check the Bulletin Board outside the main office and be sure to check your email for Grad information and also the school's website at www.argylesecondary.ca.

TRANSCRIPT VERIFICATION:

The term transcript refers to the document that lists the courses you have either completed or are enrolled in, with final or interim marks**. ***It is YOUR responsibility to make sure the information on your Transcript is accurate and that you have met all graduation requirements as this is the information that is sent to the Ministry of Education.** You must ensure that: your name is correctly spelled, birth date is correct, you have credit for all courses completed, any mark changes are reflected, that you have enough credits to graduate, that you have 4 Grade 12 level courses including English 12 or Communications 12 and three other Ministry approved Grade 12 courses. Please see your counsellor if there are errors on your transcript or if you do not meet graduation requirements.

WHAT TO DO NOW IF YOU WANT TO APPLY TO A UNIVERSITY IN B.C.:

- Check out the PASBC (Post-Secondary Application Service of BC) website at www.pasbc.ca
- Plan to attend the Post-Secondary Information session at Argyle on **October 18th (3:15 – 5:15 pm).** Representatives will be on hand to answer questions and parents are most welcome to attend this events. More information is in the Grad Newsletter.
- Keep in mind the APPLICATION DEADLINES for BC universities, colleges and technology institutions.
- Many universities will base their initial acceptance on your 2nd term grades. (Term 2 report card issued April 3, 2012)
- Check out the university's website for application dates. Many U.S. university applications are due before Christmas.

PSI ~ POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTE SELECTIONS FORM:

The Ministry of Education assists each graduating student planning to pursue post-secondary education by sending a copy of his or her transcript data in late July to post-secondary institutions indicated on the PSI Selections Form. The data is either sent on paper forms or electronically, depending on the institution. The PSI Selections Form link is available in January at the student secure site: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams. Students' PSI selections must be submitted by **April 30** for **interim** transcript information to be forwarded to BC and Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC) institutions in May. For **final** transcript information to be sent to PSIs by July 31, 2011students must submit their PSI selections by **June 30. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the form is submitted**. Additional information about the PSI Selections From may be found on the Argyle website under http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/handbook/

THINGS TO KNOW OR DO BEFORE GRADUATION:

1. Your P.E.N. (Personal Education Number) is a nine-digit number issued to you by the Ministry of Education. This number is unique to you and must be included on post-secondary applications and is used to log on to the Ministry of Education website (www.bced.gov.bc.ca) to check your Provincial Examination marks.
2. Think of the college, university or technology institute you plan to attend and check their application deadlines.
3. Check out the appropriate websites or phone/email the admissions office of the institution. Check for upcoming campus tours and Open Houses.
4. Check that you have the required courses needed for admission to the program that you desire.

5. Check that you have the Grade Point Average (GPA) and courses to be admitted to the institution or program that you choose.
6. The best way to gain insight into post-secondary institutions is to make an appointment with counsellors at the appropriate institutions you plan to attend.
7. Check the Post-Secondary Scholarship deadlines; some are due before Christmas (eg. U of Alberta).

REFERENCE LETTERS FROM TEACHERS, COUNSELLORS, ADMINISTRATORS OR OTHERS:
Many universities (primarily in the U.S.) and many scholarship and bursary applications require reference letters. When you are asking for a reference letter from any of the above, PLEASE GIVE TWO TO THREE WEEKS NOTICE. You will need to provide a completed Argyle School Background Information for Letters of Reference form available in Room 302.

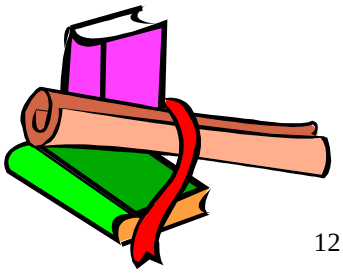
CHALLENGE FOR LANGUAGE COURSES
Challenge applications will be available at the end of September from your planning teacher and are due Oct. 31.

EXTERNAL CREDITS FOR GRADUATION
Students can receive credit for successfully completing certain external courses approved by the Ministry of Education. To find out more about External Credit, please refer to the website http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/courseinfo/0809_cid.pdf to see if your course qualifies and for information.

HAVE YOU HAVE COMPLETED A GRADE 12 COURSE OR ARE YOU TAKING A COURSE BY CORRESPONDANCE?? (AKA Distributed Learning) Make sure your counsellor knows about it by bringing in a copy of your marks.

Here are some key websites to help students prepare for graduation and beyond:

- Graduation program:
  www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation
- Provincial Exam Results Page:
  https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student/
- Provincial exam information:
  www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams
- Your Guide to Education in BC:
  www.educationplanner.bc.ca
- Transcripts, awards and scholarships and personal education numbers
  (PEN #s): www.bced.gov.bc.ca/departments/rdda
- Information about Trades and Apprenticeship in Canada:
  www.itabc.ca
- Career planning and post-secondary options in BC:
  www.bced.gov.bc.ca/careers
- Awards for BC: http://bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca
- Awards for Canada: www.studentawards.com
- Post-Secondary Application Services of British Columbia ~ apply online for admission to attend a post-secondary institution in British Columbia:
  www.pas.bc.ca
- Student financial aid:
  http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc/welcome.htm
- Graduation Transitions Information:
  www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation
  www.debtfreegrad.ca – how to get through university debt free!



Other Useful Web Links:

- Info. On Post-Secondary Programs in BC & Canada:
  www.schoolfinder.com
- Information about the world of work in Canada:
  www.jobfutures.ca
- Great Job Search Website:
  www.jobbank.gc.ca
- Transfer and Admissions Information for all BC Public Post-Secondary Institutions
  www.bccat.bc.ca
- Labour Market information in BC:
  www.whatskey.org
- Work Futures – BC Occupational Outlooks
  www.workfutures.bc.ca
- YMCA One Stop Career Shop for Youth in North Vancouver – career and employment centre, information and workshops on resumes, cover letters, interview skills etc….
  www.onestopcareershop.bc.ca
- National Link to Healthcare Careers on the Internet
  www.healthcareers-online.com
- Career and Job Search Skills on the net
  www.careers.org
- BC's most comprehensive online source of career & work information for youth
  www.workinfonet.bc.ca/youth

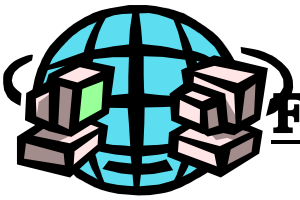
Sexual Health Information:

- www.sexualityandu.ca
- www.plannedparenthood.org

For individual post-secondary institutions, please check out their websites.

How to access

CAREER CRUISING & TYPEFOCUS CAREER EXPLORATION TOOLS



For CAREER CRUISING enter:

www.careercruising.com

Username: argyle

Password: piper

- access to colleges, universities and apprenticeship **programs**
- 500 **career profiles**, with two multimedia interviews
- an **interest assessment tool** with a skills assessment
- personal portfolio tool with a built-in **resume builder**

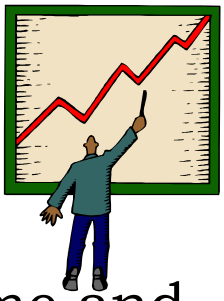
Create a new account to save your personal profiles, searches on programs and resumes (write down your user name and password for future).

For TypeFocus enter:

http://careers.typefocus.com

New User: click to register

Site Password: arg8540



You'll need to make your own user name and password (record these, as you'll need them to log in again). Then press click here to start.

* **The Best Guide to Post-Secondary Education in BC**: www.educationplanner.bc.ca

For information on Post-Secondary programs in BC and Canada: www.schoolfinder.com

A guide to Canadian universities and colleges: www.campusstarter.com

Information about the world of work in Canada: www.jobfutures.ca

Complete information about the Trades and Apprenticeships in Canada: www.itabc.ca

School Sponsored Grad Events

Safety is of paramount importance during school sponsored events. Therefore, all school sponsored grad events are **drug free (no alcohol, narcotics or tobacco).** We request the cooperation of grads and parents in making certain **none are** consumed before or during these events. Any parent or grad doing so may be required to leave an event or may not be allowed to enter an event.

Information regarding events will be posted on the school website, announced at school, placed on the grad calendar and in TP12 classes.

Grad Wear

Mr. Ruben is working with Northern Apparel to complete a Grad Logo for Grad 2012. The design process will be completed by the end of September 2011. Listen to announcements and check the grad calendar for sales information. Sales are planned for the middle of November 2011.

Valedictorian

Valedictorian nominations will take place Monday April 30th to Thursday May 4th, 2012. Students can pick up and hand in the nomination forms in the counselling centre between 8:30am and 3pm May 2nd-5th. To be considered as valedictorian students must: have a C+ average or better, must be a good citizen of Argyle, must have excellent attendance, and must be prepared to present 3 minutes of their speech to a panel of the grad council and teachers between May 24th and May 27th 2011.

Grad Council

Grad Council is sponsored by Ms. Sigurdsson and Ms. Warland. Students wishing to be on Grad Council completed an application process and are working with the sponsors. Students were chosen based on their commitment to the council, citizenship, attendance, academic performance, and goals for the council's activities this year. The final selections for Grad Council were announced at the end of May 2011.

Grad Photographs

Grad photography session will be held at the Mountain West Studios from Wednesday January 4th to Thursday January 12th 2012. Information for these sessions, including session times, will be mailed to the school in November 2011. Watch for information regarding the photo sessions in TP12 classes, announcements and on the grad calendar. Sign-up for the photo sessions will take place in the counselling centre once the information has arrived. Each session at Mountain West is approximately 7 minutes in length. Their studios are located at: The Studio at Mountain West, 1081A Roosevelt Crescent, North Vancouver, BC.

Convocation Ceremony Profile

Each grade 12 must hand in their profile write-up in the counselling centre before 3pm on Friday May 18th 2012. Grade 12s can pick up the profile write-up form in the counselling centre from Tuesday April 24th to Thursday May 17th 2012. The Grade 12 Convocation Ceremony Profile is for every grade 12 student

participating in the Convocation Ceremony. It is read as they cross the stage at the Orpheum. If students do not hand in a write-up, only their name will be read as they cross the stage.

Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance

The Daddy Daughter Dinner Dance will take place at the Vancouver Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC on Tuesday November 8th 2012, from 6:30-10:30pm. Tickets will be $30 per person. Tickets will be on sale in the counseling centre from Monday October 24th to Friday November 4th 2011. Payment must be cash or cheque (made out to Argyle Secondary, *NO post dated cheques*). Sales will be during lunch and break times. Seating is not assigned. Daddys and Daughters will have a complimentary photograph taken when they arrive that evening. Depending on the time needed for developing; the photos will be given out at Argyle in the counselling centre the next day.

Mother Son Dinner Dance

The Mother Son Dinner Dance will take place at Vancouver Italian Cultural Centre, 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC, on Tuesday November 22nd 2011, from 6:30-10:30pm. Tickets will be $30 per person. Tickets will be on sale in the counseling centre from Monday April 18th to Friday April 21st 2011. Payment must be cash or cheque (made out to Argyle Secondary, *NO post dated cheques*). Sales will be during lunch and break times. Seating is not assigned. Mothers and Sons will have a complimentary photograph taken when they arrive that evening. Depending on the time needed for developing; the photos will be given out at Argyle in the counselling centre the next day.

Convocation Ceremony Rehearsal & Gown Pick-up

The rehearsal for the Grade 12 Convocation Ceremony will take place in period 1, 12:00-1:00pm on Thursday June 7th 2012, in the small gym. Attendance is compulsory for all participants! Students will learn and practice the organization protocols for the ceremony.

Grad gown order forms will be given out and collected in TP12 classes Monday January 9th to Friday January 13th 2012. Forms will also be in the counseling centre at that time. Students must hand in their forms to Ms. Craik in the counseling centre before Monday January 30th 2012. The cost of grad gowns is covered by the grad fee.

All students participating in the Convocation Ceremony will need to be pick up their Grad Gowns and wear it to the Convocation; the gown is your ticket into the event. The tentative plan is to hand out gowns on Thursday June 14th 2012 at break time, lunch and from 3:05-4pm in the main foyer. **All outstanding fees** must be paid before gowns are given to students. Students without gowns can not participate in this event.

Grade 12 Convocation Ceremony

The Grade 12 Convocation Ceremony date and location are TBA. The possible dates fall between June 15th and June 22nd. When the venue, date and time are finalized this information will be given in TP12 class, via e-mail, posted on the grad calendar and sent by automated telephone message.

Grads will need to be at the venue one hour before the ceremony begins. Grads must arrive wearing their gown as the gown is their ticket into the event. Guests will enter through a different entrance. The entrance doors will open for guests one hour before the ceremony as well. Tickets for the event will go on sale at Argyle in the counselling centre at lunch and at break times from Friday June 1st to Friday June 15th 2011. Tickets will per $2 each. There will be no restrictions on ticket sales. Payment must be cash or cheque (made out to Argyle Secondary, *NO post dated cheques*). NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. LATECOMERS WILL NOT BE SEATED UNTIL THERE IS A BREAK IN THE PROGRAM. If you have guests that need wheel chair seating please contact Mr. Ruben.

- **Program:** Welcome from M.C., O Canada, Introductory remarks by the Principal, Valedictorian Address, presentation of scholarships, presentation of graduates, presentation to winners of major awards, recessional.
- **Formal Atmosphere:** Audience should dress and conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the formality of the occasion. (No yelling, whistling or cheering during the presentation of graduates and awards).
- **Photography:** the front row of the theatre will be reserved for families to come forward and photograph grads as they cross the stage and receive awards. Photographs of each grad will also be taken off-stage by Mountain West Studios.
- **Return Gowns at the venue IMMEDIATELY AFTER CEREMONY.** (Any photographs with the gowns **must** be taken before the ceremony.)

Grade 12 Banquet

The Grade 12 Banquet will take place Sunday June 3rd 2012 at the Vancouver Convention Centre, from 4pm-10pm. Tickets will go on sale at school in the counselling centre at lunch and break times from Monday May 14th-Friday May 25th 2011. The ticket price will be $85 per ticket. There will be no restrictions on ticket sales. Payment must be cash or cheque (made out to Argyle Secondary, *NO post dated cheques*). Seating must be arranged at the time of ticket purchase. Tables will be set for 10 people; seats will not be added to any tables. Incomplete tables will be collapsed at the discretion of the planning committee. A final seating plan will be posted outside the counseling centre Tuesday May 29st 2012. We ask that guests be at their tables at 5:00pm for the start of the formal dinner program. All guests will have to clear security before entering the event. Security will open at 3pm. There will be NO COATCHECK at this event. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

Grad Sponsor All inquiries regarding Grad related events should be directed to Mr. Ruben in the counseling centre, 604-903-3628.