



Weyt-kp and Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year.

My name is Domenic Comita, and I am honoured to introduce myself as the newly appointed Principal of Westsyde Secondary School.

As we prepare for the new school year, we would like to extend a warm welcome to both our returning families and those who are joining our school community for the first time. I trust that everyone has had a restful and rejuvenating summer and is ready for what promises to be an exciting and productive school year.

We are also pleased to announce that Westsyde Secondary School has officially been designated a [UNESCO](#) school - one of only nine schools in the Province of British Columbia to achieve this prestigious distinction. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and students, who are committed to fostering an inclusive, caring, and sustainable learning environment where all learners can thrive and pursue their passions.

In preparation for the upcoming school year, we will be implementing important changes regarding the use of personal digital devices, including cell phones, in alignment with the [Ministry of Education guidelines](#). These changes are aimed at creating safer school environments with a focus on student well-being and learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who participated in the recent school survey regarding personal device use in schools. The survey results indicated that 96% of our Westsyde community supports restrictions on cell phone use during school hours. In response to this feedback, we are working diligently to develop a fair and consistent digital device policy, which will be shared with students and families once finalised.

The first day of school is set to start September 3, 2024, we would like to share some important information regarding student schedules and opening day procedures:

Student Schedules:

Student schedules will be available through the MyEd portal on August 28. Additionally, Homeroom lists will be posted at two locations on the first day of school - the school's main entrance and the Band Lounge entrance. Students will also receive a printed copy of their schedule during their Homeroom.

Opening Day Procedures:

Grade 8 students only

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Grade 8 Orientation - meet in the school gym

Grade 8-12 students

12:25 pm - 1:10 pm

Block A (Homeroom)

1:15 pm - 1:45 pm

Block B

1:50 pm - 2:20 pm

Block C

2:25 pm - 2:55 pm

Block D

We are looking forward to seeing you soon. Should you have any questions or need further information, please contact us at the school.

Respectfully,

Domenic Comita
Principal, Westsyde Secondary School