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Principal: Patrick Niwa pniwa@cisdv.bc.ca

Vice Principal: Ciaran McLaverty <u>cmclaverty@cisdv.bc.ca</u>

<u>Mission Statement</u>: St. Andrew's Regional High School strives to develop Catholic-Christian values in students by openly stating and celebrating our belief in the values Jesus taught. Our commitment to excellence in education of the whole person guides our decision-making. Our goal is to provide each student with opportunities to gain the knowledge, skills and values necessary to respond to personal challenges with faith, hope, and love.

Friday, February 14, 2025

Dear St. Andrew's Families,

Stepping into our school isn't just about attending classes and academics; it's about immersing yourself in a community that nurtures the whole person—mind, body, head, and spirit. The environment vibrates with a sense of purpose, where education goes beyond textbooks and dives deep into values that shape our students' character. Here, students don't just learn facts and figures; they're engaging with ideas that challenge you to think critically and act compassionately. In this space, students are empowered to discover their unique gifts and how they can be used to serve others.

Our teachers aren't just instructors; they're mentors who inspire our students to reach higher, dig deeper, and work harder – to do their best. The families who attend our school establish friendships that are rooted in shared values, a common purpose, and faith



This is the environment we have at St. Andrew's Regional High School. As we are in the midst of reregistration, preliminary numbers suggest our school will be approaching or meet capacity. I encourage you to submit your intentions early to ensure your child gets a seat. If you have friends who are considering our school, please encourage them to submit their application as soon as possible.

Blessings,

Patrick Niwa Principal



Meeting for new families at 6pm and official opening at 7pm

RETREAT DAY NEWS!

Grade 11 retreat is coming soon!

March 6th is Grade 11's Retreat day and April 30th is grade 10's Retreat Day!!

Grade 11 parents if you have not received the PINK permission form to sign for this special day, please ask your child to come get one from Ms. Gilbert ASAP.

The retreat program at St.Andrew's is part of the religion program for ALL grades and many hours of planning and work goes into these days by our grade 11/12 Leadership class.

If there is the 'rare' situation where you need to keep your child home for an appointment, please contact the school today.

Thank you for your consideration for all involved. It's a great day to be a Sabre!

Mark You Calendars:

February 19	Grad photo retakes
February 26	Pink shirt day
February 26	Open House! 6pm—meeting for new families, 7pm—official start
March 5	Ash Wednesday, 10:30am school mass
March 5	PSG meeting 7pm
March 6	Grade 11 retreat
March 14	Last day of school
March 15-30	SPRING BREAK

Sports Parents

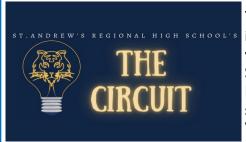
We are so excited to have Mr Adeit Omule as out Athletic Director. We have our first meeting with him on February 20 at 7pm. Please join us as we make a plan.

DEBATE TEAM

Congratulations to our student **debate teams** that represented St. Andrew's at the Vancouver Island Regional competition at GNS last month: Lucy O and Alex T, Sean Z and Ronald T, and Caitlyn M and Sofia N. A special shoutout to **Lucy and Alex** who qualified for provincials!

Way to go, Sabres Debate Team!





The February edition of our school's student newspaper, **The Circuit**, is now live! Read online today! Highlights include: welcoming wonderful Mrs. Wynans, sports wins, Year of the Snake, Catholic Schools Week, and loads of tips and advice just in time for Valentines Day! Check out @sarhscircuit on Instagram, or visit https:// sarhscircuit.wordpress.com/ Way to go, student writers!

Parent Information Night

The Parent Support Group would like to invite you all to join us for parent education night this coming **Thursday, February 20th at 6:30pm** in the school library.

We are delighted to have Constable Alex Omoding in to speak with us about a variety of topics relevant to teenagers and their parents.

RSVP would be greatly appreciated here: <u>Register for Parent Info Night</u>

If you can not RSVP please come anyway. We look forward to seeing you there.





Important Dates:

February 22th: Sea can clean out 9am-12 pmMarch 4th: planning meeting 7pm at the school50/50 tickets are still on sale. Draw date February 28th. Contact angelagrohovac@gmail.com for more tickets. January winning ticket was \$6215.



2025/26 Course Selection: Due Monday, March 3, 2025

Thank you to all parents and guardians who attended our Course Selection Information Night on Wednesday! Your engagement and support are appreciated.

All returning Grade 8-11 students will receive in-person instruction on the course selection process during Focus Block in the Commons with Mr. McLaverty and Ms. Fowlie on the following dates:

Grade II: Tuesday, February 18

Grade 9: with Grade 8 to follow: Thursday, February 20

Grade 10: Monday, February 24

Students will receive a paper copy of the course selection form during their session, along with step-by-step instructions on how to complete their course selections online through MyEducation BC. The Course Selection Handbook, Course Planning Forms, and course selection instructions for Grades 8-11 will be posted on the school website by early next week. You can access them under the "Student" tab > "Course Selection and Forms" at https://standrewshigh.ca/students/.

The deadline for submitting both the paper course selection form and completing MyEd course selection has been moved up a few days to Monday, March 3, 2025. This change ensures we have enough time to follow up on any outstanding paper or MyEd submissions before Spring Break.

If students need support in making their course selection decisions, they are encouraged to reach out inperson or by email to:

Ms. Cathy Fowlie, Academic Advisor: cfowlie@cisdv.bc.ca (Room 241)

Ms. Michele Sanders, School Counsellor: msanders@cisdv.bc.ca (Counselling Office)

Catholic Schools Week

On Friday, January 31, 2025, staff, students, parents, and distinguished guests gathered together to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. During the assembly, students shared personal experiences of the benefits of Catholic schools, demonstrated St. Andrew's support of the greater community with two \$455 donations to the Canadian Legion Poppy Fund (Maya), and Our Place (Lila), made possible through funds collected during a \$3 civvies day, and led by Mr. Pawar, participated in St. Andrew's largest rock, paper, scissors play-off.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT

St. Andrew's Singers, Concert Band, and Jazz Band are continuing to prepare for an eventful next few months of performances: the rescheduled SARHS Open House (see below), ICS Music Showcase Concert, Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival, Con Brio Whistler Music Festival, and more! Please take note of these dates/times below. All are invited to come out and support our hard-working musicians!

Music students are reminded to please confirm your participation in the Con Brio Whistler Music Festival trip by emailing Mr. O'Reilly (poreilly@cisdv.bc.ca) if you haven't already done so. Also, we are looking for an additional female parent chaperone for the trip. Please contact Mr. O'Reilly at the email address above if you are interested.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Feb.26 - SARHS Open House, 7pm. (St. Andrew's Singers and Jazz Band -*please arrive by 6:30 in Full Uniform)

March 5 - Ash Wed Mass, I Iam, Sacred Heart Church (St. Andrew's Singers)

April 14-16 - Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival, date/time TBA (St. Andrew's Singers) April 15 - ICS Music Showcase Concert, 6pm, UVic Farquahar Auditorium (All groups) May 1-5 - Con Brio Whistler Music Festival (All groups)

Sports Parents Committee

Please join us February 20th, 7pm at the school. We have our new Athletic Director Adeit Omule joining us as we plan the last half of our school sports year

Sabres Athletic Apparel Store is OPEN!

We're excited to announce that the Sabre Store is now open with a few more items available, including new colors! It's a great opportunity to update your gear.

Please note that school uniform policies still apply, so headwear will not be permitted to be worn during school hours.

Check out the store and get your new gear today Athletic Store Open

Local School Council

Your Local School Council is looking for members for our 2025-26 term. We have 3 -5 spots available on our council. The LSC role in our school is to support the administrators with the management of St Andrews. We do this through HR support, ground and maintenance, finance review, PSG liaison, policy and procedure management and much more. Please consider offering the LSC your name for nomination.

St. Andrew's Rowing

Congratulations to Theo Keller (3rd) and Luca Soligo (9 th) who competed last weekend in the annual rowing ergometer 2000 m competition called "The Kracken". The competition was held at Brentwood College and was intense with over 40 competitors in this category. Well done!









Come out and support St. Joseph's Elementary School performance of Sister Art Jr. coming this March!

Tickets are found on Eventbrite! And while you are there, buy tickets for St. Andrew's -How To Get Away With A Murder Mystery, shows are in April!



St. Andrew's Parent Support Group

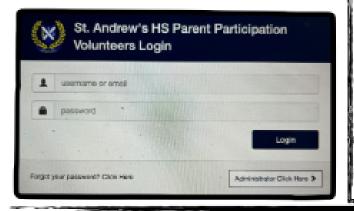
Thank you for helping us help our school!

sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca



St. Andrew's Parent Support Group

OnVolunteers



A February Sweetheart of a Deal!

Login to the OnVolunteers by midnight Feb. 28, change your password and be automatically entered for a chance to win our

Sterling Silver Jewellery Giveaway (approx. value: \$450)

Full contest details can be found in the OnVolunteers parent portal.

OnVolunteers is the 'new' central place for school parent volunteer jobs. From your secure parent portal account, you will be able to easily view, sign up for and automatically track your school volunteer activities and hours.

You can sign into your OnVolunteers parent portal account as follows:

STEP #1: Click or copy & paste the portal link below:

https://portal.onvolunteers.com/Login.aspx?s=SARHS

STEP #2: Enter the email address you use to communicate with St. Andrew's.

STEP #3: Enter the temporary password: SAParent@2024

Once you have signed in for the first time, your first task will take you 3 minutes!

At the top of the page, please click on "Start Guide" and then click on the button "Parent Portal Introduction and Personalizing Your Password". (This 3-minute video will explain the basics and show you how to reset your password.)

Please make time to view the other short videos to learn more about OnVolunteers.

If you have difficulty logging in, don't see where to record your school volunteer hours or have other questions, email sarhs-psg@cisdv.bc.ca for help!



Thank you for making a positive impact on the planet!