



VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

2600 East Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5M 1Y5 Tel: 604-713-8215 • Fax: 604-713-8214
vantech.vsb.bc.ca



Acknowledging that we live, work, and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples – skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓wítlh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓m (Musqueam) nations

Family Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2022

Important Information – Please Translate

这是一份重要资讯 — 请找人为您翻译 这是一份重要信息 — 请找人为您翻译
 Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika
 Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch
 महत्त्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें
 महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें
 Información importante - Por favor traducir 重要な情報-翻訳してください
 중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다 重要な情報-翻訳してください

Dear Vancouver Technical Community...



It is difficult to believe that we have completed the first half of Semester 1 already. Time flies! Students are settling into their routines, getting involved in sports, clubs, and athletics in addition to their classes. We have enjoyed seeing our students engaged in their learning in a variety of ways.

One highlight included the Summit 8 class hosting a Hobbit Banquet, where they created J.R.R Tolkien's fictional



universe within the Hobbit and shared their understanding Bilbo Baggins journey within the novel.

We are appreciative of the student leaders and the music program for creating a reflective and meaningful program for the Remembrance Day grade assemblies. The poems, music and reading of the 50+ names of fallen Vancouver Technical Grads was quite a moving experience.



@_nikitakrishna / (@vtssmusic)

Another highlight of this past month was the Jazz Cabaret featuring the VT After

Dark Jazz Band & VT One Vocal Jazz. The music was amazing and had many dancing the night away! Congratulations on such a successful evening.

As a reminder to our community, Semester 1 mid- semester grades will be published on November 25 by 3pm. Parent/Guardian- Teacher Conferences will be on December 1. Please stay tuned for more details!

#gotechgo

Vancouver Technical Administration



Mr. Roberto Moro, Principal (Grade 12)



Ms. Sangeeta Kauldher, Vice Principal (Grades 9,11)



Mr. Adam Tuerlings, Vice Principal (Grades 8,10)

HOLIDAY HAMPERS



Can Van Tech Support your Family?

Each year, Van Tech organizes a Holiday Hamper event to support families who would appreciate some financial and food support during the holiday season. With COVID and inflation, we know that this year has been perhaps the hardest in modern history for families dealing with food insecurity. We want to be able to help and we have new support this year so that we can expand our help. We have connections with many families individually and are able to support them (over 100 each year), but we know that there are others that may be having a particularly challenging financial year right now and we'd like to extend our support to them as well. If your family would appreciate and could benefit from a Holiday Hamper this year, can you please let Mr. Van (nvaniersel@vsb.bc.ca) know and he'll organize setting that up. We deliver the hampers during the final week of school before the break.

Supporting Our Holiday Hamper Drive

Van Tech will once again be rallying together to support our families and we would love your support if you are able. For the last six years, we have supported over 100 of our own families each year. We know this year will almost certainly be our biggest. Watch for information about collecting food and donations to build our Holiday Hampers from Friday, December 2nd until Friday, December 9th. If you are interested and able, we can receive online donations and provide an instant tax receipt [HERE](#). Just make sure to select "S-Vancouver Technical" as the Fund Destination and in the notes write "Holiday Hampers." And if you have questions, please contact Mr. Van (nvaniersel@vsb.bc.ca).

PAC INFORMATION



We invite all parents/caregivers of Van Tech students to join us for PAC meetings!

PAC meetings are an opportunity for folks to hear from, and ask questions of, the school administration and we welcome suggestions for topics for future meetings! Our meetings will follow a hybrid model of in person and on zoom. Agendas, with Zoom links, can be found on the [PAC webpage](#) along with notes from previous meetings.

During our November meeting, we will also be discussing the school liaison officer (SLO) program so we invite you to join us to share your views. Any questions, please contact PAC chair, chairvt@gmail.com

Join us at the next meeting on November 22 at 7pm in the Library or Zoom - all are welcome!

Zoom- Meeting ID: 870 9182 7786 Passcode: 339775

REPORTING & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT INFORMATION

All students will be receiving a mid semester report on Friday, November 25, 2022. These reports will include a work habit and comment for each Semester 1 class. Please note that your child's report card is **electronic** and will be published to their MyEducation BC account. Semester 1 interim reports will be available until November 24th, 2022. **It is recommended that you download and save a copy for future reference.** Detailed information on how to access this report will be sent to families later this week.

If your child receives an Incomplete/In Progress Report (also known as an "I" Report) for any of their classes, it is crucial that they connect with their teacher(s) to develop a plan to complete the missed work. Please note, that all work must be submitted prior to the end of the semester to be assessed and evaluated for the semester 1 Final Report unless specified by the teacher. The end of the semester is the end of the course and teachers are unable to accept and assess work after the semester ends. If you have any questions about your child's progress, you are welcome to email the teacher or grade counsellor directly. Click [HERE](#) for our staff directory.

Parent/Guardian - Teacher Conferences are taking place on Thursday December 1, 2022- in the Gym. Students will be dismissed at 2:05 pm. There will be 2 sessions of conference times, Session 1: 3:00 – 4:30 pm and Session 2: 5:15 – 7:00 pm. Details and instructions are being sent to families and are also available on the [Van Tech website](#)



We are looking for Parent/Guardian's opinion on the distribution of report cards- Electronic vs. Paper Copies. Please complete the [FEEDBACK FORM](#) by: November 25 @ 4pm.

GRADE 9 IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Grade 9 Immunization Clinic Consent forms from Vancouver Coastal Health were given to students/parents. These individual forms detail the vaccination history for your child and list recommended vaccinations for 2022-2023. The vaccination clinic for our school will be on November 30th in the cafeteria. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call the Public Health Nurse, Bianca Lindner at 604 786 2223 or email: bianca.lindner@vch.ca.

On the day of the clinic, November 30th, students will be called down via the PA in alpha order to the **cafeteria** for the clinic. Please ensure that **your child wears a short sleeved shirt and has breakfast/ snack** on the day of the clinic.

GRADE 12 INFORMATION



Grade 12 Family Information Night (November 9)

Thanks to Mr. Landry, Ms. Bighorn and Ms. J. Lee for sharing information on grade 12 requirements, post secondary, graduation ceremony and the dinner dance. If you were unable to attend or need a refresher, please see our school website for the slide deck: [HERE](#)



Grad Photos

Grade 12's can book an appointment for grad photos at Artona Studios. Van Tech's Grad Photos have been scheduled from the studio from **Nov 29- Dec 4**.

Please go to <https://www.artona.com/schools/VANT/programs/graduation> book your appointment.



Grad Winter Formal

Grad Committee is delighted to invite Grade 12's to Van Tech's Senior Winter Formal. This event will be held in the Gym on Wednesday, December 14th from 6:00PM - 9:00 PM. Desserts will be prepared, music will fill the room and there will be a complimentary photo booth. Get ready to polish up, as the dress code is formal. Grads will find a Code of Conduct that they must complete. Please read and sign the form, acknowledging your responsibilities. No Code of Conduct = No ticket. We look forward to a dazzling night, grads!

ACCESSING GRADUATION ASSESSMENT RESULTS

For students who want to access their results and a personalized performance report for the Numeracy 10 or Literacy 10 or 12 assessment, go to [Student Transcripts Service](#) website and register for a BCeID . Once you have created an account to access the site, click on "Graduation Assessment/Provincial Exam Results" to view results.

Note, this site is where you are also able to "View Your Transcript", "Send/Order Your Transcript" as well as other options. The Ministry transcript contains only your completed courses, not in-progress courses.

On January 25th, 2023- Grade 10s will write the Numeracy 10 assessment and Grade 12 Semester 1 FRAL 12 students will complete the written portion of Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année . More details to come in the New Year.

CAREER EDUCATION 8/9 & CORE COMPETENCIES 8-12

Career Education & Core Competencies 8 AND 9 will be delivered over MS TEAMS this year. We encourage families to remind their children about checking this TEAM as a number of assignments have been posted. This course is a part of the grade level package of courses and is a ministry requirement. Most assignments are based on career exploration and being an educated citizen of the world. We will continue to go over information in Grade assemblies during FIT (Grade 8- December 8 Grade 9- December 6) as well as posting on the Student Hub.

We are moving towards a new reporting format next school year, in which students must complete self-assessment of the Core Competencies. Currently we are piloting this with Grades 8-12. Students are expected to complete a self- assessment on their learning at least twice a year and to share this learning with their parents/guardians. This self-assessment will be collected electronically on TEAMS and each student has been added to a Grade Core Competency TEAM. Students were given time and asked to complete their first self-assessment on Tech Day. We encourage students to share this with their families as it does give an interesting insight to their individual learning.

TECH DAY

On November 3, we had our first TECH DAY of the year. There were not "regular classes", but opportunities for students to attend a variety of workshops, hear presentations, complete assessments and much more! November's theme was FIND YOUR FIT, exploring careers and future plans. Topics of workshops included transition to high school, transitioning out of high school, post-secondary information, a living library focused on Career Journeys and more! Grade 11 students even had an opportunity to go on site tours of UBC, SFU and BCIT. We thank the staff and students who have spent their time creating and leading sessions for this "real-world" day of learning.

Next Tech Day will be Wednesday January 25, 2023 with a Theme of Sustainability & Social Justice. More details will be provided in the new year. Note, we are pooling FIT time from January 17- February 2, which means during these weeks everyday will follow a MWF schedule or four-81 minutes periods each day with no FIT periods. TECH DAY is created based on Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) periods of instructional time.



Grade 11s site visit to SFU



Grade 10s in the Living Library hearing all about Dr. Cameron's research and career path.



Grade 8s trying out a foods lab and leaving with a tasty treat from Ms. Donaldson!



Jasper H. (Grad 2024) trying out "toys" at the BCIT site visit.

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL TIME (FIT)- REMINDER



What is FIT? Tuesdays and Thursdays, students are provided with 50 minutes of Flexible Instructional Time (FIT). FIT is intended for learning opportunities and student support.

As a reminder to students:

- All students are expected to be in a school learning space with a teacher
- **Students are expected to sign up for a teacher each week** via: <http://vantech.myweeklyplanner.net> (attendance is taken)
- This is school time (instructional time) and students get a choice of how to spend it doing school work or student interest activities.
For example, students may participate in weekly classes, collaborate with peers, see individual teachers, or pursue learning activities that may fall outside of their scheduled classes
- Staff and supports will be available for students.

STUDENT AND FAMILY AFFORDABILITY FUND

Student and Family Affordability Fund In late August the provincial government announced that new, one-time funding would be provided to BC school districts to help address some of the rising costs families currently face. The Vancouver School District was allocated \$4,712,638. The District plan will see \$4.2 million of these one-time funds distributed directly to schools to support students and families. It aligns with the Ministry's mandate that funds we used to improve student access to nutritional food and directly offset costs to families. In addition to the funding distributed directly to schools, the District will allocate \$512,638 to offset families' costs for things like fine arts opportunities, Indigenous cultural experiences, and nutritional learning opportunities. Some funding will also be used to increase access to food through existing community partnerships and to expand vegetarian options as part of existing meal programs. Information about Van Tech's plans for the use of these one-time funds will be shared in the coming weeks.

If your child and family could benefit from support, please let us know as soon as possible so we can plan how to meet the needs of our school community. All requests for support will be treated as private information and will only be shared with staff who need to know. **Please let us know if your family would benefit from support by contacting your child's counsellor.**

ATHLETICS

The fall athletic season is drawing to a close with some successes to celebrate. Notably, our senior boys soccer team won the city championships with a gritty 2-0 decision over Kitsilano. Our victory is the first at this level since 2001 and ends Kitsilano's dominance at this level dating back to 2017. The team is currently competing at the zone championships and will represent us at the AAA provincial championships towards the end of the month in Burnaby. Our juvenile boys soccer team has also had a successful season and at this time of writing, are preparing to play Kitsilano for the city championship. We wish them the best of luck!

We also put together the school's first field hockey team in at least 25 years thanks to a group of willing students who self-organized and coached and hope to build on this for next year.

On the hardwood, we successfully hosted the senior girls volleyball city championships, with our team finishing 3rd. They're off to the zone championship to try to win our zone's only bid to the AAAA provincial championship in Kelowna. Our senior boys finished tied for 7th, while both our junior teams narrowly missed out on playoff qualification. The bantam and juvenile girls teams play in the playoffs this week.

On the trails, the cross-country team saw an impressive growth in numbers from last year. While we didn't have any runners qualify for provincials, it is a young team and we hope the team members continue to train and compete in the upcoming seasons.

Lastly, the school's aquatics team had a blast competing at the zone championships held at Watermania. Six swimmers qualified for provincials that will be taking place this weekend!

The winter season is fast approaching with some teams already holding tryouts and forming teams. The winter sports season includes basketball, table tennis, girls ice hockey, wrestling, and curling. Check the Athletics Channel in the Student Hub on Teams for more info! **#gotechgo**



Grace W. (Grad 2026- Aquatics)



Senior Boys Soccer Team- City Champs 2022!

GENERAL REMINDERS

Student Absences & Attendance

To report your child's absence, please contact the school at 604-713-8215 (then select option #1) and leave a message **or** email TECHAttendance@vsb.bc.ca.

Information required are:

- Date of absence
- Student number
- Student name
- Reason for absence (ie, sick, appointment)

Please note: Students cannot report their own absence.

Student Fees

- As a friendly reminder, School Cash Online will now be offered as the preferred method of payment for all school fees. Please double check if your child owes any outstanding fees. You can register by following the steps on: <https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com>

Extended Absences

Any students who will be away for an extended period (travel, medical etc.) should see their grad counsellor to complete an extended absence form.

Daily Health Checks

Although there are no formal protocols, we encourage all students and staff to complete a daily health check. If you feel unwell, stay at home. Parents and caregivers are responsible for assessing their children daily before sending them to school. School administrators will ensure staff and other adults know they are responsible for assessing themselves daily for symptoms prior to entering the school.

Student Pick-up/Drop-off

A kind reminder that traffic signs are in place along Pentiction Street to allow space for school buses to drop-off and pick-up students. Thank you for being compliant with city bylaws. Please note that several drivers have been ticketed in the past. You can drop-off and pick-up students past the traffic signs further south along Pentiction Street

