



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

August 27, 2025

Dear Britannia Secondary School Families,

On behalf of the entire Britannia Secondary staff team, we are delighted to welcome you to the 2025–2026 school year!

The year ahead will include engaging learning experiences, meaningful connections, and enriching extracurricular opportunities. Whether your child is returning or joining us for the first time, we are committed to fostering a school environment where every student feels safe, supported, and inspired to thrive.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and warm wishes to the following staff members who are moving on from Britannia:

- Ms. Deborah Mackie (Mathematics Teacher and Department Head)
- Mr. Cameron Cook (Science and Mathematics Teacher)
- Ms. Kaera Ross (Counsellor)
- Mr. Eric Dann (Indigenous Education Teacher)
- Ms. Alie Lawrence (Leadership Resiliency Program Worker)
- Mr. Josh Morabito (SACY worker)

A warm welcome and in some cases welcome back to the following staff members who will be joining our Britannia team this fall:

- Mr. Evan Braun (Mathematics Teacher and Department Head)
- Ms. Erin Rickbeil (Resource Teacher)
- Ms. Shylo Gerritsen (Counsellor)
- Ms. Rae Postulo (Indigenous Education Teacher)
- Ms. Rossana Canofari (SSA – Mainstream)
- Ms. Sarah Gutri (Leadership Resiliency Program Worker)

We are especially excited to welcome our new Grade 8 students to the BRUINS community! We look forward to introducing them to the rich traditions and vibrant culture that make Britannia such a special place to learn and grow. Grade 8's are expected to report to the gym at 10am to meet with our link crew leaders on Tuesday, September the 2nd.

At Britannia, we are committed to building a culture of caring, open communication, and mutual respect. Our school values—Bravery, Responsibility, Integrity, and Tenacity (BRIT) - help shape a learning environment where students can be their best selves.

This year, our collective focus is on creating vibrant learning environments where every student feels seen, supported, and inspired. Together, we aim to strengthen student attendance and engagement, deepen numeracy skills across all grades, and continue nurturing leadership and cultural pride among our Indigenous learners. We believe in the possibilities that lie ahead—and in the power of our community to make them real.

Throughout the year, we will continue to share updates and important information through email and school newsletters. Our Britannia Secondary website is also a valuable resource for school calendars, district news, and celebrations of student achievements.

We wish all our students and families a joyful, successful, and inspiring school year ahead. See you on Tuesday, September the 2nd!

Sincerely,

Ms. Sonia Blair (Principal), Grade 12

Mr. Kelly Egilsson (Vice Principal), Grade 8 and 10

Mr. Dale Ambrose (Vice Principal), Grade 9 and 11



MESSAGE FROM COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT

All students will receive a copy of their schedule on the first day of school in their homeroom on Tuesday September 2.

The priority will be to reconcile incomplete schedules and schedule new students first followed by course change requests. Please note and follow the process below to make a change to your schedule. Students are to follow their current schedule until a schedule change has been made by their counsellor.

Incomplete Schedules

- An incomplete schedule means you are missing a course(s) and do you have course(s) scheduled in all eight blocks.
- During the week of September 3 – 5 if you have a missing class on your schedule, please report to the counselling suite during that missing class.

Course Change Information – September 8–12

Limited course changes will be available from **September 8 to 12**. Students may request a course change for the following reasons:

1. There is a course on their schedule that was **not** one of their selected electives or alternate elective choices.
2. **Grade 11 or 12 students** require a different course to meet **post-secondary program requirements**.

If you meet one of the above criteria and would like to request a course change, please **email your counsellor** between **September 8 and 12**, including details of your request.

Thank you!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LATE RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

Any students not returning to school on Sept 2, 2025, must notify the office of the date they expect to return in order to hold their place. Please complete a late return form available in the office and on the website under school opening. If we have not received information about a late return by Fri, Sept 5, 2025, students may be withdrawn from their classes.

ATTENDANCE REPORTING

A reminder to all parents and guardians to call the school at 604-713-8266 or email britabsences@vsb.bc.ca to report student absences. Absences must be reported by a parent or guardian. Written notes for absences must be signed by a parent/guardian and include the student's full name, student number, dates for the absence and a reason for the absence. An absence message report will be sent home via phone/email at the end of the day to report unexcused absences, so please inform the school in a timely manner if your child needs to be absent to ensure accurate attendance reporting.

IMMUNIZATIONS

There will be Immunization Clinics at Britannia Secondary School on the following dates:

Clinic 1 Thursday, November 27, 2025

Clinic 2 Thursday, May 14, 2026

For more information, please call the Robert and Lily Lee Community Health Unit at 604-675-3980

MYFORMS – PARENT/GUARDIAN USER GUIDE

MyForms is a new application from the Vancouver School District intended to replace paper-based consent and acknowledgement of risk forms typically sent home with students.

The application allows parents/guardians to confirm and revoke their approval of topics and activities related to a student's studies.

Please take a moment to review the attached: <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca/>

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BRITPAC)

Did you know that if you're the parent or guardian of a Brit student, you're already on the PAC?

Come to our "Town Hall" meet-and-greet on Tuesday, September 16, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

- Meet other Brit parents
- Find out how the PAC works and what we've been doing
- There will be treats!

Maybe you'll decide to join the PAC and help support student learning in 2025/26.

The first PAC meeting of the school year will be on Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00 p.m.

CONTACT the PAC: britpac1908@gmail.com

Visit our web site: www.britpac.ca

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTION TIME (FIT)

Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) is instructional time designed to support students' personalized learning. During this time, all staff are onsite, and students have flexibility and choice to determine how, when and where their learning takes place. Students may choose to access extra help from teachers, collaborate with peers and/or pursue other learning activities. Each FIT period is 40 minutes long and takes place every Monday and Friday in the morning and every Tuesday and Thursday in the afternoon.

During FIT, students are expected to be in a classroom or learning space. The first FIT session will be on Monday, September the 8th from 8:45 - 9:25am

DAILY SCHEDULE

STUDENT TIMETABLE: Periods will rotate in Semester 1 on the Day1/Day 2 schedule. Day 1: 1 2 3 4 Day 2: 2 1 4 3 and only mornings rotate in Semester 2 due to hockey academy, Day 1: 1 2 3 4 Day 2 2 1 3 4.

Monday (AM FIT)	Tuesday (PM FIT)	Wednesday (NO FIT)	Thursday (PM FIT)	Friday (AM FIT)
FIT 8:45-9:25	PERIOD 1 8:45-10:05	PERIOD 1 8:45-10:05	PERIOD 1 8:45-10:05	FIT 8:45-9:25
PERIOD 1 9:25-10:25				PERIOD 1 9:25-10:25
TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION
TRANSITION	PERIOD 2 10:10-11:30	PERIOD 2 10:10-11:30	PERIOD 2 10:10-11:30	TRANSITION
PERIOD 2 10:30-11:30				PERIOD 2 10:30-11:30
LUNCH 11:30-12:15				
PERIOD 3 12:15-1:35	PERIOD 3 12:15-1:15	PERIOD 3 12:15-1:35	PERIOD 3 12:15-1:15	PERIOD 3 12:15-1:35
	TRANSITION		FIT 1:15-1:55	
TRANSITION	PERIOD 4 1:20-2:20	TRANSITION	TRANSITION	TRANSITION
PERIOD 4 1:40-3:00		PERIOD 4 1:40-3:00	PERIOD 4 2:00-3:00	PERIOD 4 1:40-3:00
	FIT 2:20-3:00			

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL 2025-2026

Tuesday, September 2 – School Opening – Homeroom Only

Grade 8

10:00-10:30 to meet in Gym A/B (Community Education & Link Crew Leaders will be there)

10:30-11:15 – Homeroom (Link crew leaders deliver students to HR classroom)

11:15-11:45 Tour/Scavenger Hunt

11:45–12:30 BBQ/Dismissed at Teen Center

Grades 9-12

Report to homerooms at 12:30pm - listed in the Skywalk and Outside the Main Office

Wednesday, September 3 – First Day of Classes – No FIT

8:45-9:25 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:25- 10:25 Block 1 1-1

10:25-10:30 Transition

10:30-11:30 Block 2 1-2

11:30–12:15 Lunch

12:15 -1:35 Block 3 1-3

1:35–1:40 Transition

1:40–3:00 Block 4 1-4

Thursday, September 4 – Classes in Session – No FIT

8:45-9:25 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:25- 10:25 Block 1 1-1

10:25-10:30 Transition

10:30-11:30 Block 2 1-2

11:30–12:15 Lunch

12:15 -1:35 Block 3 1-3

1:35–1:40 Transition

1:40–3:00 Block 4 1-4

Friday, September 5 – Classes in Session – No FIT

8:45-9:25 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:25- 10:25 Block 1 1-1

10:25-10:30 Transition

10:30-11:30 Block 2 1-2

11:30–12:15 Lunch

12:15 -1:35 Block 3 1-3

1:35–1:40 Transition

1:40–3:00 Block 4 1-4



SCHOOL FEES

Please find the [2025-26 Britannia School Fee Schedule](#) in the link. The list details standardized school fees for the 2025-2026 school year. Some of these fees are program specific and others apply to all students attending Britannia Secondary School.

To pay school fees, please refer to this document: [Parent Step by Step Guide](#)

Link to School Cash Online: <https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com/>

*Please note that supplemental course fees for workbooks and class materials will not appear on accounts until September 19 when student schedules will be settled.

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING TIME SCHEDULE

Eight Wednesdays have been designated to include collaborative planning time. Teachers use this time to meet and plan teaching strategies and goals.

CPT Dates		CPT in the AM		CPT in the PM	
AM	PM				
Sept 17 Nov 5 Feb 25 May 13	Oct 8 Jan 21 Apr 15 Jun 3	CPT TIME	8:45-10:05	PERIOD 1	8:45-10:05
		PERIOD 1	10:05-10:45	TRANSITION	10:05-10:10
		TRANSITION	10:45-10:50	PERIOD 2	10:10-11:30
		PERIOD 2	10:50-11:30	LUNCH	11:30-12:15
		LUNCH	11:30-12:15	PERIOD 3	12:15-12:55
		PERIOD 3	12:15-1:35	TRANSITION	12:55-1:00
		TRANSITION	1:35-1:40	PERIOD 4	1:00-1:40
		PERIOD 4	1:45-3:00	CPT TIME	1:40-3:00

MYEDUCATION ACCOUNTS

MyEducationBC (MyEd) accounts will be available Friday, August 29, 2025, and it's been updated for the new school year, featuring a new login screen. MyEd is the student information system for the Vancouver School Board. An account known as a Student Family Portal Account has been created by the district for all students at Britannia Secondary School. This account is a shared account where students and parents can access student schedules, daily/class attendance, course grades and report cards. It is imperative that you share the account information (password) as a family (with your child). Your login for this account is your child's student number (7 DIGITS).

For returning students, carry on with your existing Student Number, Login ID, and password. For new students to Britannia, your first password is **Dist\$2026**. Clearing your browser cache is essential to ensure you access the latest version of the site, instructions on how to do this are below. Once you have entered MyEd for the first time, follow the prompts to create a new password. Contact the school office if you have problems accessing the account (604-713-8266).

[How to Clear Browser Cache](#)

Website link: [MyEducationBC](#).

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

September 1	Labour Day
September 2	First Day for Students – Homeroom Only
September 10	School Photo Day
September 19	Professional Development Day
September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – School Closed
October 13	Thanksgiving – School Closed
October 16/17	Grade 8 Camp
October 24	Professional Development Day
October 30	Photo Retake Day
November 11	Remembrance Day – School Closed
November 20	Report Cards published
November 21	Professional Development Day
November 27	Family Teacher Conference – Early Dismissal 2pm
December 9 -10	Artona Grad Sessions
December 19	Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation
Dec 22-Jan 2	Winter Break
January 5	School Re-opens after Winter Break
January 15/16	Bruins B-Ball Invitational
January 26/27	Semester Turn-Around Days
January 28	Semester 2 Begins
January 30	Semester 1 Final Marks Published
February 13	Professional Development Day
February 16	Family Day Holiday
March 13	Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Break
March 16-20	Spring Break
March 23-27	District Closure Week
March 30	School Re-opens after Spring Break/District Closure
April 03	Good Friday - School Closed
April 06	Easter Monday - School Closed
April 20	Professional Development Day
May 1	Semester 2 Mid-Term Reports Published
May 6	Family Teacher Conference – Early Dismissal 2pm
May 15	Professional Development Day
May 18	Victoria Day
June 09	Graduation Ceremony – Early Dismissal 2pm
June 25	Semester 2 Final Marks Published
June 26	Administration Day

BRIT SECONDARY

OUR MISSION/OUR BELIEFS

The mission of Britannia Secondary School is to graduate responsible citizens with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to fulfill their potential for lifelong success.

The staff at Britannia:

- Believes in and provides a safe, positive, and purposeful environment which stimulates learning;
- Believes in and provides caring relationships and a positive climate that supports learning;
- Believes in and provides a broad range of curricular and cocurricular activities that challenge the abilities of all students while addressing their diverse needs;
- Believes in the importance of involving families as partners in education;
- Believes in and implements a school code of conduct based upon respect and responsibility.

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Team:

Sonia Blair– Principal

Dale Ambrose – Vice Principal

Kelly Egilsson – Vice Principal

Office Staff:

Janet Griffiths – Secretary

Jenefer Cousineau - Records Clerk

Paula Ferraz – Accounting

Jennifer Franzen – Reception

Counselling Team:

Shylo Gerritsen – Grade 10 & 8 (P-Z)

Joann Liu – Grade 12 & 8 (A-H)

Kaitlee Simonson – Grade 9 & 8 (I-O)

Mike Wiskar – Grade 11 & International, OUTR, STFT

Indigenous Education:

Rae Postulo - Teaching

Tori Ayi-Bonte – Youth & Family Worker

Megan Cozac – Youth & Family Worker

SCHOOL ADDRESS

BRITANNIA SECONDARY SCHOOL

1001 Cotton Drive

Vancouver, B.C V5L 3T4

Tel: (604)713-8266

Vancouver School Board: (604)713-5000

Website:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/britannia-secondary>

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̅əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

BRITANNIA BRUINS