



VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam Nation), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Welcome Back Van Tech Students!

Message from the Administration, September 2023

Dear Students and Caregivers,

Welcome to Van Tech! Whether you are new or returning, we are excited to have you as part of our community.

Van Tech offers a range of programs to meet the needs of diverse learners, including various academic, athletic, and artistic opportunities for our students.

Students, we encourage you to become active participants in the valuable learning opportunities extended through our programs, clubs, Student Council, and service activities. The level of positive engagement displayed by our students reflects what we believe as a school community:

- We do our best to succeed.
- We respect ourselves and others.
- We are responsible for our actions.
- We value the diversity of individuals.
- We create and maintain a safe environment.
- We appreciate the positive things we have in our lives.

Van Tech is committed to creating an equitable learning environment where every student can experience a sense of belonging. The school's western exterior staircase (Penticton St.) has been painted in the colours of the Progress Pride flag to show our support of LGBTQ2S+ community members.

Van Tech's equity work is grounded in the [First People's Principles of Learning](#). To honour this, in the third week of September, we plan to celebrate the installation of an Entrance Carving by Xwalactun. We'll send out more information about this exciting event once the details have been finalized.

It is a privilege to serve the Van Tech community, and we look forward to the upcoming school year.

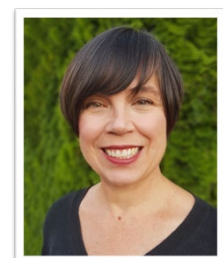
~Van Tech Administration



Mr. Roberto Moro,
Principal (Grade 12)



Mr. Adam Tuerlings,
Vice Principal (Grades 9, 11)



Ms. Janet Thompson,
Vice Principal (Grades 8,10)

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਸਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

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

معلومات مهمة - الرجاء الترجمة

COUNSELLING DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Please welcome Ms. Adele Esnault-Oka and Mr. David Johnston as the Grade 8 and 9 counsellors respectively. Mr. Johnston will be at Van Tech while Mr. Cuerrier is on leave. We are excited to make connections with students and build community within our grade groups. We offer a variety of services in the counselling department, so swing by and we will be happy to help you!

Counselling Services



Anything on your mind? Having troubles with your friends or family? Please come by the counselling suite if you would like to talk. Your information is confidential.

Courses & Scheduling



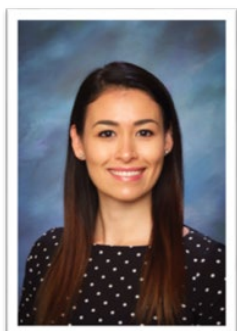
If any course conflicts are present in your schedule, or if things aren't working out for you, come by and we will try to work something out for you.

Anything Else



We will try our best to assist with anything within our abilities, if there is anything not listed, feel free to stop by and let us know what's up!

Meet the Team ...



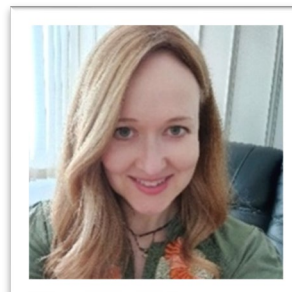
Ms. Adele Esnault-Oka
Grade 8 Counsellor
aaesnault@vsb.bc.ca



Mr. Nick van Iersel
Grade 10 Counsellor
nvaniersel@vsb.bc.ca



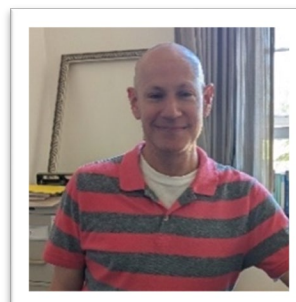
Mr. David Johnston
Grade 9 Counsellor
djohnston@vsb.bc.ca



Ms. Leanne Hagglund
Grade 11 Counsellor
lhagglund@vsb.bc.ca



Mr. Alin Cuerrier
Grade 9 Counsellor
(on leave)



Mr. David Waisberg
Grade 12 Counsellor
dwaisberg@vsb.bc.ca

NOT RETURNING TO SCHOOL ON SEPTEMBER 5th?

Any student not returning to school on September 5, 2023, must notify the office of the date they expect to return in order to hold their place in classes. If we have not received information about a late return, students may be withdrawn from their classes and the school. Please complete a late return form available in the office and on the website [HERE](#).

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Tuesday September 5th: Grade Assemblies in the Auditorium (approximately one hour):

Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
1:00 PM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM


ALL STUDENTS should attend as we will be covering important information including locker sign-up instructions, and Grade 8s will be assisted with locker registration.

Wednesday September 6th: First full day of instruction. Classes start at 8:40 AM.

Thursday September 7th: Photos and forms

Grade 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Photo day• Pick up agenda• <u>Student Information Verification 2023</u> form: please complete and return to the office.
Grades 9-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Photo day• <u>Reunification Authorization</u> form: please complete and return to the office.• Student Information Verification 2023 form: please check your email inbox for a message from MyEd that this form has been published. Click on the "Published Reports" button. If changes need to be made to the form, please print and return to the office.

PHOTO SCHEDULE – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

DSP, LAC (SR/JR) 8:40- 9:00 <u>or</u> 10:00- 10:15	 <p>To access photos, students and staff will be given a card with their unique access code to keep after their photo is taken. This card has also a special QR code that when scanned takes students straight to their personal gallery. Families also have the option to log in online with just the access code.</p> <p>Go Cards will be distributed to students in the first weeks of school.</p> <p>Retakes will be held on <u>Oct 4, 2023</u>. More details to come.</p>
<p>Schedule is by student LAST names and is tentative:</p> <p>GRADE 11 A-L 9:00 - 9:30 AM M-Z 9:30 - 10:00 AM</p> <p>GRADE 10 A-L 10:15 - 10:45 AM M-Z 10:45 - 11:15 AM</p> <p>GRADE 9 A-L 12:20 - 12:50 PM M-Z 12:50 - 1:15 PM</p> <p>GRADE 8 A-L 1:20 - 1:45 PM M-Z 1:45 - 2:05 PM</p> <p>GRADE 12 A-L 2:10 - 2:30 PM M-Z 2:30 - 3:00 PM</p> <p>*Students who miss their photo time will be called down with the 2:30 pm group</p>	

TIMETABLES

Timetables can be accessed on [MyEd](#) starting **Friday, September 1st @ 9:00 am**.

Students can logon to [MyEd](#) using last school year's passwords and their student number as the user ID. ([LINK FOR MYED HELP](#))

Students new to Van Tech (including Grade 8s) have a generic district password: Dist\$2024 and will be prompted to change their password after they login for the first time.

Grade 8s who have been unable to access their Timetable (by logging in to [MyEd](#) or at the Grade 8 Orientation Day) can pick up a copy just before or after the 1 PM Sept. 5th Grade 8 Assembly in the main foyer.

Our priority is to ensure students have complete timetables by having at least eight blocks scheduled. Students who are missing classes or would like a timetable change can contact their grade-based counsellor in the counselling suite during the Period they are missing.

The deadline for timetable changes is Friday September 15.

LOCKER DISTRIBUTION

Locker sign-up instructions will be provided at grade assemblies on September 5th.

Locker registration is open to:

- Grade 8s: during the Grade 8 assembly on Tuesday, September 5th
- Grades 11 and 12: Wednesday, September 6th, @ 8 AM
- Grades 9 and 10: Wednesday, September 6th, @ 11:30AM (lunch)

Note: Grade 12s will have the opportunity to participate in the Grad Hallway Locker Fundraiser. Details will be shared during the Grade 12 assembly.

Locks can be purchased in the Office. Bring \$15 (cash or cheque) to the accountant. Students may wish to purchase a second lock for PE.

Important:

- Contact Ms. Thompson (jthompson@vsb.bc.ca) for any issues regarding lockers. Write LOCKERS in the subject line.
- If you choose a locker without registering online, your lock will be cut & contents removed.
- Lockers and locker combinations should not be shared.

TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

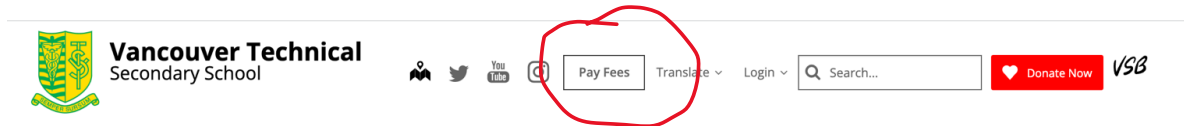
Students will become familiar with the following programs over the school year. We encourage students to note their password in a secure place.

Technology Tool	MyEd	TEAMS	My Weekly Planner	Office 365
LINK	MyEd Website	TEAMS Website	https://vantech.myweeklyplanner.net/	https://www.office.com/
USE	Attendance, grades, class schedule, report cards	Classroom Materials, Student Hub, Career Ed 8 & Career Ed 9	To create plans for FIT sessions.	Student use of Microsoft Suite of Programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
HELP?	LINK FOR MYED HELP	TEAMS TRAINING	How to SIGN UP <i>Note: Outdated video. Information relevant to 2023 information starts at 1:55 mins</i>	LINK FOR OFFICE HELP
Where can I go to reset password?	Click I forgot my Password, Office Staff	Any teacher, Office Staff	Click "I forgot my password" button, any teacher, Office Staff	Any teacher, Office Staff

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Fees

To pay school or course fee, create an account using [School Cash Online](#). The school fee schedule (an itemized list of fees to be paid by grade), can be found [HERE](#). **Please pay by Sept. 30th**. Any future fees, for events such as field trips, will be available on School Cash Online. NOTE: direct links to School Cash Online and the school fee schedule can be found at the top of the Van Tech [website](#):



Absences & Attendance

To report your child's absence, please contact the school at 604-713-8215 (then select option #1) and leave a message. Information required:

- Date of absence
- Student number
- Student name
- Reason for absence (ie, sick, appointment) Note: Students cannot report their own absence.

Daily Health Checks and masks

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.

Although masks are not required, we remain a mask friendly environment. It continues to remain a personal choice for staff and students to wear a mask.

Vancouver School Board Cafeteria

Lunch service in the cafeteria will begin on **Thursday September 7th, 2023**. Students will be able to eat lunch on site, but we continue to encourage students to utilize our outdoor spaces (garden, front lawn) to maximize physical distancing.

Healthy eating helps children learn. Lunch is provided daily at the school cafeteria. There are 3 options for purchasing lunch:

- Option 1: Pay by cash, debit, or credit card.
- Option 2: Download the [VSB Lunchsmart™](#) App (QR codes on the poster linked [HERE](#)) and create an account then select the App's VSB CASH CARD. This VSB CASH CARD feature of the App, allows families to preload their account with funds and use a declining balance method to pay without the need of cash or using a credit card by simply scanning a barcode in the App.
- Option 3: Families may purchase a [Lunchsmart™](#) card and pay the full amount each month. Once purchased, this card can be linked to the [VSB Lunchsmart™](#) App, allowing students the option of using their phone to scan a barcode. This card is limited to a one-time purchase of \$8.25 per day. A limited subsidy is available for families who require help with nutrition services at school. To register for the program and/or apply for a subsidy, please come to the school office to pick up the necessary forms.

DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FIT	8:40 AM - 9:20 AM				8:40 AM - 9:20 AM
BREAK	9:20 AM - 9:25 AM				9:20 AM - 9:25 AM
PERIOD 1	9:25 AM - 10:25 AM	8:40 AM - 10:00 AM	8:40 AM - 10:00 AM	8:40 AM - 10:00 AM	9:25 AM - 10:25 AM
BREAK	10:25 AM - 10:30 AM	10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	10:00 AM - 10:10 AM	10:25 AM - 10:30 AM
PERIOD 2	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	10:10 AM - 11:30 AM	10:10 AM - 11:30 AM	10:10 AM - 11:30 AM	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
LUNCH	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
PERIOD 3	12:15 PM - 1:35 PM	12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	12:15 PM - 1:35 PM	12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	12:15 PM - 1:35 PM
BREAK	1:35 PM - 1:45 PM	1:15 PM - 1:20 PM	1:35 PM - 1:45 PM	1:15 PM - 1:20 PM	1:35 PM - 1:45 PM
FIT		1:20 PM - 2:00 PM		1:20 PM - 2:00 PM	
BREAK		2:00 PM - 2:05 PM		2:00 PM - 2:05 PM	
PERIOD 4	1:45 PM - 3:05 PM	2:05 PM - 3:05 PM	1:45 PM - 3:05 PM	2:05 PM - 3:05 PM	1:45 PM - 3:05 PM

Linear / Full year courses (music courses, Leadership) occur OFF Timetable / before or after school.

COURSE SCHEDULE & PERIOD ROTATION

Semester 1 Courses	Sept. 6, 2023 – Jan. 31, 2024		
Quarter Courses <small>(Gr. 8 Fine Arts Rotation, Gr. 9 Electives)</small>	Q1: Sept. 6- Nov. 14	Q2: Nov. 15-Jan. 31	
Term Courses <small>(Gr. 8 Applied Skills Rotation)</small>	T1: Sept. 6 – Oct. 19	T2: Oct. 23 -Dec. 5	T3: Dec.6 – Jan.31

Semester 1 Rotations:

September 6- October 11	Rotation 1: Course A- Course B - Course C- Course D
October 12- November 15	Rotation 2: Course B - Course A - Course D - Course C
November 16- December 15	Rotation 1: Course A- Course B - Course C - Course D
December 18- January 31	Rotation 2: Course B - Course A - Course D - Course C

Semester 2 Courses:	Feb. 5, 2024 - June 27, 2024		
Quarter Courses <small>(Gr. 8 Fine Arts Rotation, Gr. 9 Electives)</small>	Q3: Feb. 5- April 22	Q4: April 37- June 27	
Term Courses <small>(Gr. 8 Applied Skills Rotation)</small>	T1: Feb. 3 –April 2	T2: April 3 – May 13	T3: May 14 – June 27

Semester 2 Rotations:

February 5- March 6	Rotation 1: Course A - Course B - Course C - Course D
March 7- April 22	Rotation 2: Course B - Course A - Course D - Course C
April 23- May 24	Rotation 1: Course A - Course B - Course C - Course D
May 27- June 27	Rotation 2: Course B - Course A - Course D - Course C

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING TIME

This year the Vancouver School Board calendar will include 8 shortened school days for students while staff remain on site for the full day to participate in Collaborative Planning Time. This time provides staff an opportunity to come together to engage in activities and discussions unique to each school community that support and enhance student progress and achievement. During Collaborative Planning Time, teachers work to share, discuss, and learn from each other to enhance their teaching practice within the "Four Pillars" of education:

Curriculum ♦ Instruction ♦ Assessment ♦ Social / Emotional Learning.

Students should not be at school during this time, unless special arrangements have been made with a staff member. To ensure equitable instructional time, four sessions of Collaborative Planning Time occur in the morning and afternoon respectively. The Provincial government sets out minimum hours of instruction for all grade levels, and the Vancouver School Board calendar, with Staff Collaboration Planning Time included, meets the Provincial requirements.

Collaborative Planning Times:

AM
8:40 AM – 10:00 AM
September 18
January 15
May 13
June 10

PM
1:45 PM – 3:05 PM
November 14
December 12
February 13
April 16

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL TIME (FIT)

Van Tech is excited that our schedule will once again incorporate Flexible Instructional Time. This year, FIT will happen four days a week, for 40 minutes:

- Monday and Friday, **8:40 AM - 9:20 AM.**
- Tuesday and Thursday, **1:20 PM - 2:00 PM.**

Details:

- This is school (instructional) time, and students get a choice of how to spend it doing either schoolwork or personal 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.

Students will sign up for **Tuesday and Thursday FIT** sessions each week using <http://vantech.myweeklyplanner.net> They are expected to be in the building in an area supervised by a staff member.

For **Monday and Friday FIT**, students in the building are expected to be engaged in a learning activity of their choice; students do not need to sign up for these FIT days. Teachers will communicate with students how to best utilize FIT in support of their academic success throughout the school year.

REPORTING INFORMATION & DATES

The purpose of assessment is to facilitate learning and move it forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps students answer three questions about their learning:

- Where am I now?
- Where am I going?
- How do I get there?

Quality assessment is ongoing and responsive. It informs the instruction cycle and provides **teachers** with evidence to plan. It helps **families** understand and support their children's learning. Most importantly, it provides **students** with meaningful feedback to guide their learning and help them reflect on their growth.

The new Provincial Reporting Policy requires that students in Grades 8 and 9 will receive marks on a four-point proficiency scale (*Emerging, Developing, Proficient, Extending*), while students in Grades 10 -12 will still receive a letter grade and percentage. Report cards for all students will now also include self-reflection and goal setting, as well as descriptive feedback.

Van Tech students will receive **Written Learning Updates** and **Informal Learning Updates** such as telephone calls, e-mails, and conferences.

If you have questions concerns about your child's progress, please reach out to their teacher as soon as possible.

Semester	Learning Update: <i>Interim Report</i>	Learning Update: <i>Mid-Semester Report</i>	Learning Update: <i>Parent-Teacher Conferences</i>	Learning Update: <i>Summary of Learning</i>
1	Oct.13, 2023	Nov. 24, 2023	Dec. 14, 2023	Feb. 9, 2024
2	March 8, 2024	April 26, 2024	May 9, 2024	June 26, 2024
Linear Courses	Nov. 24, 2023	Feb. 9, 2024 April 26, 2024	Dec. 14, 2023 May 9, 2024	June 26, 2024

You can read a summary of the changes here: <https://bit.ly/3sEwBSR> or use the Ministry of Education and Child Care's website: <https://bit.ly/47XsOk6> .

If you have any questions on these changes, please reach out to any school Administrator for further information.

Your child's report card is **electronic** and will be published to their [MyEd](#) BC account. **It is recommended that you download and save a copy for future reference.**

GRADUATION ASESMENTS

Graduation assessments are used to assess students' proficiency in numeracy and literacy. They are not associated with any course mark, but **their completion is part of the BC Graduation Requirements.**

Grade 10 students will write a Numeracy Assessment and a Literacy Assessment.

Grade 12 students will write a Literacy Assessment. Students in French Immersion will complete an additional French Immersion Literacy Assessment. The provincial government has scheduled "windows" during which these assessments will occur. Van Tech's exact assessment dates and additional details will be provided closer to the dates.

Families can familiarize themselves with assessment information, preassessment activities and assessment exemplars by clicking the links below.

Grade	Assessment Date Window	Assessment	Link
12	October 30 - November 3, 2023	Literacy	https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-12-literacy-assessment
12	January 16-17, 2024 (written) January 15-26, 2024 (oral)	Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année – (French as a Second Language- Immersion)	https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/fr/provincial/evaluation-de-litteratie-francais-langue-seconde-immersion-12
10	January 15-26, 2024	Numeracy	https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-numeracy-assessment
10	April 15-19, 2024	Literacy	https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/provincial/grade-10-literacy-assessment
10 & 12	June	Missed assessment and makeups for Grades 10 and 12	

IMPORTANT DATES

September	Event
Mon, Sep 4	Labour Day – school closed
Tues, Sep 5	First Day of School – Grade Assemblies
Wed, Sep 6	First full instructional day – Semester 1 begins
Thurs, Sep 7	Photo Day
Mon, Sep 18	Collaborative Day - classes begin at 10:10am
Fri, Sep 22	Professional Development Day - classes not in session
Tues, Sep 26	PAC Meeting – 7pm Library
Wed, Sept 27	Entrance Carving Ceremony
October	
Mon, Oct 2	Day in lieu of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – school closed
Wed, Oct 4	Photo Retakes
Mon, Oct 9	Thanksgiving Day – school closed
Thurs, Oct 13	Interims Published
Fri, Oct 20	Professional Development Day - classes not in session
Tues, Oct 24	Flex Humanities Parent Info Night PAC Meeting – 7 pm Library
Wed, Oct 25	Summit Parent Info Night
November	
Fri, Nov 10	Remembrance Day Assemblies
Mon, Nov 13	Day in lieu of Remembrance Day – school closed
Tues, Nov 14	Collaborative Day - classes end at 1:45 pm
Fri, Nov 24	Professional Development Day – classes not in session Interims published
Tues, Nov 28	PAC Meeting – 7pm
Nov 26-Dec 1	Grad Photos at Artona Studios
December	
Wed, Dec 6	Grade 9 Immunization Clinic
Tues, Dec 12	Collaborative Day - classes end at 1:45 pm
Thurs, Dec 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences – early dismissal
Fri, Dec 22	Last day of school before Winter Break
Dec 25 - Jan 5	Winter Break
January	
Mon, Jan 8	School re-opens

STAY CONNECTED