



Point Grey stəywətə:ŋ

Secondary School

5350 East Boulevard, Vancouver, BC. V6M 3V2 604-713-8220



August 25, 2023

Dear Point Grey families,

Re: Point Grey Secondary School Opening Information

On behalf of the Point Grey Secondary staff team, we welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year! We look forward to a year of engaging educational and extracurricular opportunities.

We especially look forward to welcoming our new Grade 8 group to *HOUNDS* culture and tradition! We also welcome new staff members:

- J. Barnes (ELL and Social Studies Teacher) – previously at PG on a temporary basis
- A. Burrows (Student Support Worker)
- C. Cohen (Student Support Worker) – returning from maternity leave
- A. Kang (Math and Science Teacher)
- P. Mach Thiessen (French Teacher) - previously at PG on a temporary basis

Throughout the year, we will use email messages and school newsletters to share information and updates with Point Grey families. The Point Grey Secondary website also contains a wealth of information including school calendars, updates from the VSB, and is a platform to share and celebrate student success.

Best wishes to all our Point Grey students in their 2023 - 2024 school year!

Sincerely,

Sonia Blair (Principal), Grade 10 and 12 Administrator

Andrew Humphries (Vice Principal), Grade 8, 9 and 11 Administrator

What's the school schedule for Tuesday, September 5?

It's important that all students attend a short homeroom class on Tuesday, September 5.

- Attendance (we have a wait list of students hoping to attend Point Grey Secondary, so this attendance check is important).
- Pick up a *School Opening Package*.

Homeroom lists will be posted by grade outside of the office. After homeroom class students may go home.

Classes for all LALS and Lifeskills Program students begin on Wednesday, September 6.

Homeroom Schedule:

Grades 9 to 12 – 9:30 – 10:00 am

Check the Homeroom Lists posted outside the school office (there have been changes from the previous year) and proceed to homeroom class.

Grade 8's start in the Auditorium.

12:30 – 1:15 pm (Grade 8 Welcome Afternoon including an assembly, orientation).

1:15 – 1:45 pm (school scavenger hunt led by the Grade 12 HOUNDS Leadership Team).

1:45 – 2:15 pm (Homeroom class).

What is the school schedule for Wednesday, September 6?

- First full day of Semester 1 classes for all students.

What is the school schedule for Thursday, September 7?

- Second full day of Semester 1 classes for all students, including FIT (Grade 8-11 students stay with their 1.3 teacher for a FIT Orientation).
- Grade 12 Assembly during FIT.

What is the school schedule for Friday, September 8?

- Third full day of Semester 1 classes for all students, including FIT.
- **Photo Day!** Students will be called down by PA to go to the cafeteria by grade and alpha by last name groups.

What does the school schedule for 2023-2024 look like?

Point Grey Secondary (along with all VSB Secondary Schools) is on a Semester System. In general, each student will have 8 courses. The year will be divided into 2 semesters. Students will take 4 courses during each semester.

Semester 1 Course Schedule:

September 5 – November 10: Blocks 1, 2, 3, 4

November 14 – January 31: Blocks 2, 1, 4, 3

Semester Turnaround Days: February 1 and 2 (classes not in session)

Semester 2 Course Schedule

February 5 – April 19: Blocks 1, 2, 3, 4

April 23 – June 27: Blocks 2, 1, 4, 3

Where can I find the Student/Parent Monthly Calendar?

Please go to the Point Grey website, on the main page under Announcements. Information changes during the year so please check back periodically. Here's the link... [2023 - 2024 Monthly Parent/Student Calendar](#)

What does the weekly schedule look like?

POINT GREY SECONDARY - WEEKLY SCHEDULE				
Five-minute Warning Bells at 8:35 am and 12:10 pm				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40 - 10:00 (80 min) Period 1	8:40 - 9:40 (60 min) Period 1	8:40 - 10:00 (80 min) Period 1	8:40 - 10:00 (80 min) Period 1	8:40 - 9:20 FIT
Break 10:00 - 10:10	9:45 - 10:25 FIT	Break 10:00 - 10:10	Break 10:00 - 10:10	9:25 - 10:25 (60 min) Period 1
10:10 - 11:30 (80 min) Period 2	10:30 - 11:30 (60 min) Period 2	10:10 - 11:30 (80 min) Period 2	10:10 - 11:30 (80 min) Period 2	10:30 - 11:30 (60 min) Period 2
11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch
12:15 - 1:15 (60 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:15 (60 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3
1:20 - 2:20 (60 min) Period 4	Break 1:35 - 1:45	Break 1:35 - 1:45	1:20 - 2:00 FIT	Break 1:35 - 1:45
2:25 - 3:05 FIT	1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4	1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4		1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4

How do I pay School Fees?

School fees are to be paid online. Information and instructions are part of the *School Opening Package* that will be distributed on September 5.

Where can I find the Student Agenda?

Please go to the Point Grey website, on the main page under Announcements. Here's the link...

[2023 - 2024 Student Agenda](#)

Paper copies of the Student Agenda will be distributed to all Grade 8 and 9 students, plus any Grade 10-12 student who requests one from the office.

COVID-19 Safety Procedures and Practices

We will continue to implement COVID-19 safety procedures and practices as directed by Vancouver Coastal Health. We ask students and staff to stay at home when they're not feeling well.

Student Attendance

Regular attendance is the number one predictor of success in secondary school. We encourage families to make dental/medical appointments, etc., outside of class time. Together we support students in developing successful, life-long habits.

Student Illness / Lates / Absences

There is no need to call the office if your child is absent or late. For attendance procedures please read page 7 of the Student Agenda here's the link ...[2023 - 2024 Student Agenda](#)

District and School Code of Conduct

The framework that guides decision-making for all Point Grey students and staff is our school's code of conduct . . . H.O.U.N.D.S (Honour, Ownership, Unity, Niceness, Determination, Safety).

In-person grade-level assemblies will be held in early September during Flexible Instructional Time (FIT). This will allow us to review the District and School Code of Conduct.

How do I obtain my individual timetable?

Returning students can obtain their schedule by logging into MyEd – hardcopies will not be printed. MyEd will open on Friday, September 1 at 3:00 pm.

All grade 8's and new students will receive a printed copy from their homeroom teacher.

What do I do if I want to change one of my courses?

All students will need to use a grade specific Microsoft Forms link. Using this electronic form, you will be able to send a course change request to your grade counsellor. Course changes (if possible) will only be permitted until September 15. **Course Change information will be sent in a separate email.**

How do I login to my MyEd account?

- The MyEd Family Portal can be used for first time logging into an account, changing a password, changing security question, primary email associated with the account can be found on the Point Grey website under **Families > My Education BC Family Portal**. Here's the link ... [MyEd Login & Help](#)
- Login using your Login ID (student number) and password.

What if I forgot my MyEd password?

- Select "I forgot my password"
- Enter the Login ID (student number) and Primary email
- A temporary password will be sent to the Primary email

Note: If this doesn't work, and you're locked out of your account, please report to the main office on September 5th after homeroom class to have your password reset.

Who is my counsellor?

Grade 8 (last name starting with A to K): Mr. Cordoni ccordoni@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 8 (last name starting with L to Q): Ms. Chittenden kchittenden@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 8 (last name starting with R to Z): Ms. Sim jsim@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 9: Mr. Cordoni ccordoni@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 10: Ms. Sim jsim@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 11: Ms. Chittenden kchittenden@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 12: Ms. Agius lagius@vsb.bc.ca

What is my teacher's email address?

Teacher emails are all on the Point Grey website . . . here's the link: [Staff Emails](#)

Who is my grade administrator?

Grade 8: Mr. Humphries (Vice Principal) ahumphries@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 9: Mr. Humphries (Vice Principal) ahumphries@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 10: Ms. Blair (Principal) sblair@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 11: Mr. Humphries (Vice Principal) ahumphries@vsb.bc.ca
Grade 12: Ms. Blair (Principal) sblair@vsb.bc.ca

Student Council

Student voice and representation is of critical importance at Point Grey Secondary. Grade 9 – 12 Reps and the Student Council Executive Team for 2023-2024 were elected last spring. A nomination, campaign, and election process for Grade 8 Reps will begin in early September. Further details to follow.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The Point Grey PAC is vital to the operation of our school. This group of parent volunteers provide:

- support to our students, staff, and parents
- a parent voice in discussion and decisions
- a conduit between the school and home
- occasional guest speakers on topics related to learning and teen development
- fundraising

The PAC Co-Chairs for 2023-2024 are Erica Lau and Connie Lowe.

Please join our first PAC meeting on Wednesday, September 20 at 7:00 pm in the school staff room (203).

Will the school cafeteria be open for food service?

Yes. The first day of food service will be Wednesday, September 6.

Are parents permitted to enter the building?

Yes. As with all visitors, please proceed directly to the office (2nd floor) to sign in.

Where should I drop-off/pick-up my child?

Student safety before and after school are of paramount importance. Please drop-off/pick-up your child well away from the school (this will also help with traffic congestion). Make certain not to wait in no stopping zones... this practice endangers students as it reduces visibility for all. Please do not enter the Staff Parking Lot... this area is reserved for staff vehicles and school bus drop-off and pick-up. Point Grey Secondary encourages "active transportation." As much as possible, students should arrive by foot, bike, etc.

How will locker distribution work?

Lockers will be distributed by your homeroom teacher on Tuesday, September 5.

Do I need to bring a lock?

Grade 8 students... NO. Each Grade 8 student will receive two locks during homeroom class on September 5th. One of these locks will be for their hallway locker; the other will be for locker use in the gym changing room. Locks are paid for through School Cash Online (this information will be in the School Opening Package students will receive on Tuesday, September 5).

Grade 9 – 12 students... YES. Please bring the locks that were distributed to you during your Grade 8 year.

Flexible Instructional Time (FIT)

What is FIT?

All students in the Vancouver School District are given four 40-minute blocks of Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) per week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday).

The purpose of the FIT block is to provide students with an opportunity to:

- Meet with teachers for support and guidance related to specific course content
- Collaborate with other students or teachers
- Work on assignments and projects related to a specific course
- Work on Career Education 8, 9, 10, or 12 goals and course content
- Meet as a School Club (Monday and Friday only) if your club sponsor is available (School Clubs can also meet before school, at lunch, and/or after school)

Student expectations for FIT

- **Focus on learning**
- Students must be working on schoolwork or personal development (gaming is not permitted)
- Grade 8 – 10 students must be in a classroom
- Grade 11 – 12 must be in a classroom or shared learning space (the library and cafeteria will be available for a limited number of students who are working in quiet collaboration)
- Have a plan for the time
- Have all materials required to work effectively and efficiently
- Remain in the selected learning space for the duration of the FIT period

Parents Supporting FIT

- We ask that parents play an active role in supporting Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) at Point Grey
- Parents are asked to review their child's plan for FIT blocks on a regular basis, and follow up as appropriate
- We want to help each student develop the fundamental character trait of self-discipline

When is FIT?

POINT GREY SECONDARY - WEEKLY SCHEDULE				
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Break 10:00 - 10:10	9:45 - 10:25 FIT	Break 10:00 - 10:10	Break 10:00 - 10:10	9:25 - 10:25 (60 min) Period 1
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11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch	11:30 - 12:15 Lunch
12:15 - 1:15 (60 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:15 (60 min) Period 3	12:15 - 1:35 (80 min) Period 3
1:20 - 2:20 (60 min) Period 4	Break 1:35 - 1:45	Break 1:35 - 1:45	1:20 - 2:00 FIT	Break 1:35 - 1:45
2:25 - 3:05 FIT	1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4	1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4		1:45 - 3:05 (80 min) Period 4

What are the benefits of FIT?

- Provides students with an opportunity to take ownership of their learning and practice self-regulation by independently completing assignments and homework, studying for an upcoming quiz/test, collaborating with peers, or engaging in a personal area of interest
- Provides the opportunity for students to receive support and guidance (teachers can require students to attend a specific FIT block to make up missed work, assessments, complete assignments and receive extra help)
- Promotes well-being for the entire school population (e.g., opportunity to reduce homework pressure, frees up the lunch break for students and teachers to eat or to participate in school-based activities like clubs)
- Provides flexible learning environments (acknowledging that learning can take place in a variety of ways)
- Supports student time management and organization, by providing an opportunity for students to practice these skills with the guidance of teachers
- Provides an opportunity for teachers to extend field trips without impacting other courses
- Provides time for Grade 8 & 9 students to complete Career Education course content
- Provides time for Grade 10 students to complete Career Life Education course content
- Provides time for Grade 12 students to complete Career Life Connections course content
- Provides a chance for counsellors or administrators to hold grade-group assemblies or activities

Collaborative Time for Teachers

Collaborative Time is an opportunity for teachers to meet with other educators, to share insights and create cohesive plans. In turn, this collaboration results in greater success for students.

Point Grey Secondary (and all other VSB schools) has ten 1-hour collaborative sessions spaced throughout the school year. On “collab days” students will have either a later start, or earlier end, to their school day (see schedule below).

Collab PM			Collab AM		
Early Dismissal for Students			Late Start for Students		
2:05 pm			9:40 am		
• Sept 13, 2023		• March 13, 2024	• Oct 11, 2023		• April 10, 2024
• Nov 8, 2023		• May 15, 2024	• Dec 13, 2023		• June 12, 2024
• Jan 10, 2024			• Feb 14, 2024		
Class	80 min	8:40 – 10:00	Class	50 min	9:40 – 10:30
Break		10:00 – 10:10	Break		10:30 – 10:40
Class	80 min	10:10 – 11:30	Class	50 min	10:40 – 11:30
Lunch		11:30 – 12:15	Lunch		11:30 – 12:15
Class	50 min	12:15 – 1:05	Class	80 min	12:15 – 1:35
Break		1:05 – 1:15	Break		1:35 – 1:45
Class	50 min	1:15 – 2:05	Class	80 min	1:45 – 3:05

That’s all for now...