

Community Newsletter

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With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the $x^w m = \vartheta k^w = \vartheta m$ (Musqueam Nation).

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

Happy December! As the holiday season approaches, we take a moment to highlight exciting events happening at our school over the next few weeks.

This week, our Breezeway Theatre Company is proudly presenting "No Substitutes," by Don Zolidis. Congratulations to our students on their fantastic performances, with closing night taking place this evening at 7:00 pm. Next week on December 10th, our music students will present the Winter Concert at 7:00 pm in our school auditorium. They have been working hard in rehearsals to create a beautiful evening of music for our school community.

We also have students participating in the annual <u>CANley Cup</u> fundraiser and, including those in Social Studies 10, Student Council, and multiple clubs. We are proud of our students' commitment to this important cause. In addition, thank you to our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) for hosting a parent social and connection event happening this afternoon from 3:30 pm - 5:00pm in our school staffroom.

In this newsletter, you will find information about school office reminders, communicating student learning, provincial graduation assessments, CANley Cup Fundraiser, athletics highlights, counselling updates, photography highlights, PAC updates, and important dates for 2025-2026. Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and for connecting with your students about their learning.

We wish all students, families and staff a joyful December a restful, relaxing and rejuvenating upcoming winter holiday.

With Appreciation,

Michelle Wood Principal

Mission Statement

We are committed to supporting and teaching a diverse group of students to learn, to critically reflect, and to care for themselves and others as they prepare to find their places in the world.



Be in the know, winter is coming!

Follow VSB on social media to stay updated about school closures due to severe weather.

During extreme weather conditions (heavy snowfall, extreme cold, freezing rain, extreme heat, etc.) VSB schools will remain open if possible.

If a District-wide closure is necessary, it will be announced by 6:30 a.m.

Stay updated:

Facebook: Vancouver School Board

Instagram: @vsb39

X: @vsb39

VSB website: vsb.bc.ca



School Office Reminder – Attendance Procedures

Parents/Guardians, please email <u>pointgreyattendance@vsb.bc.ca</u> for reporting absences. Please make sure to include in the email the following information to avoid delays in updating attendance records:

- 1. Student's first and last name
- 2. Student number
- 3. Grade
- 4. Date(s) of absence
- 5. Time of absence or periods of missed classes
- 6. Reason for absence

VSB School Forms

If you haven't already done so, please complete the required VSB student forms online. These forms only need to be completed once, and you will not need to submit them again each school year unless you wish to change your consent for any of the forms. Please visit: https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca. To log in you will need the student nine-digit PEN # (Personal Education Number). Please note this is different from the School Student #. The PEN # can be found:

- On any previous report card;
- Logging into MyEd, under top tab My Info; or
- Clicking "Request Student PEN" on the sign-in page at https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca

Communicating Student Learning

The purpose of assessment is to move learning forward in an equitable and inclusive way. It helps us answer the following questions:



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

Each reporting period is an opportunity to celebrate learning and offer feedback for future learning. These reports will be available from the MyEducation Student Family Portal for four weeks. Please ensure you download or print a copy for your records. Parents/Guardians are also encouraged to contact individual subject teachers or counsellors for information on student progress.

Reporting Timeline

Semester 1

- o Informal Learning Update published October 10, 2025
- Written Learning Update published November 20, 2025
- Summary of Learning published January 30, 2026

Semester 2

- o Informal Learning Update published March 6, 2026
- Written Learning Update published May 1, 2026
- Summary of Learning published June 25, 2026

Full Year Courses

- Informal Learning Update published November 20, 2025
- Written Learning Updates published January 30 & May 1, 2026
- Summary of Learning published June 25, 2026

Parent-Teacher Conferences

There are two virtual Parent-Teacher Conference Evenings this year:

The first was on **Thursday, November 6, 2025** (for Semester 1) and the other will be on **Tuesday, May 12, 2026** (for Semester 2).

You are also welcome to contact your child's teacher directly by email.

Provincial Assessments for Grades 10 & 12 Students

The Grade 12 Literacy Assessment, originally scheduled for November 3–7, 2025, was postponed. **It will now take place January 12–16, 2026.**

The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment will proceed as planned during January 19–23, 2026.

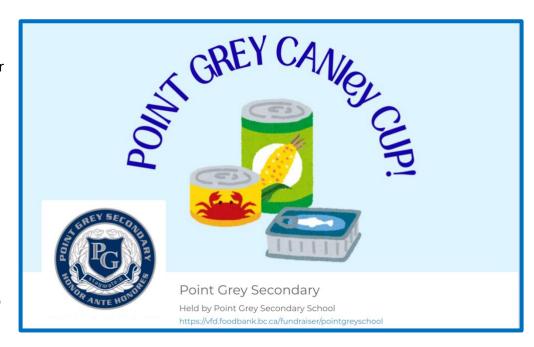
These assessments are mandatory graduation requirements, so please ensure students are available and avoid scheduling appointments during these dates. A schedule will be posted in early January.

For an overview of the provincial graduation assessments, visit: Ministry of Education Assessments

CANley Cup Fundraiser

Every year, stəywəte:ń Point Grey participates in the Canley Cup, a Vancouver-wide competition where schools collect monetary donations for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank.

Point Grey Secondary has been supporting the Greater Vancouver Food Bank (GVFB) for over 20 years. The GVFB is an amazing organization that helps provide nutritious food to children, families, seniors, and individuals facing tough times. Our school has been the top donating Vancouver school every year since 2005, and we hope to keep our winning streak! No donation is too small and thanks to GVFBs 2:1 buying power, your contribution will go twice as far!



Donations can be made by clicking on the link below:

https://vfd.foodbank.bc.ca/fundraiser/pointgreyschool

We greatly appreciate your support!

Athletics Highlights

Fall Celebrations

Point Grey had a very successful fall season running ten teams. Three of our volleyball teams made it to the playoffs!

- Our senior boys' soccer team were tier 2 city finalists.
- Our cross-country team did a great job in the provincials with our senior boys finishing in third place.
- Our senior girls' volleyball team won cities, zones and earned silver medals at provincials. Seacret Schick and Addie Manning were named 2nd team all-stars while Adriana Lando and Alana Zeng were named 1st team all-stars. Congratulations!
- Our fall sports Athlete of the Week winners were: Kayla Lang, Sepanta Zavareh, Liam Boerssen, Maja Molyneux, Andreas Vergara, Miley Wong, Acton Chen, Mariam Al Hashash, Adriana Lando and Thien Lieu.

Winter Season

Our winter season is up and running with another 10 teams (basketball, hockey, wrestling, table tennis and possibly ski and snowboard teams). League games have started for almost every team and schedules can be found on the website: www.vancouverschoolsports.ca

Thank you to all the parents, coaches, teachers, student volunteers that work so hard to make athletics run at Point Grey - it is definitely a team effort!

To find out when teams plays, check out the website www.vancouverschoolsports.ca. GO HOUNDS!

~ Julie Douglas, Athletic Director



Photography Highlights

In case you didn't know, the work of our Photography students is showcased online. Congratulations to our students on their beautiful art! You are invited to visit the website here: https://pointgreyart.blogspot.com/





Photo by Kristina Imrie

Photo by Kelvin Li

Counselling Corner

We are pleased to announce that we have two experienced counsellors that have now joined our counselling team: Ms. Brigitte Patenaude, who will be here on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Ms. Kim Rebane who will be here on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

As always, our counselling team is here to support students.

Please connect with your child's counsellor if you have any questions:

- Kasey Chittenden, Counsellor for Grade 8 (Last Names A-J) and Grade 9s
- Brigitte Patenaude (M/T) and Kim Rebaine (W/Th/F), Counsellors for Grade 8 (Last Names K-R) and Grade 10s
- David Johnston, Counsellors for Grade 8 (Last names S-T) and Grade 11s
- Janice Sim, Counsellor for Grade 8 (Last names U-Z) and Grade 12s



Hall Displays: Olympic Pictograms - Graphics Class

Pictograms are simple graphic images intended to communicate ideas quickly and efficiently. You will recognize their use on road signs, safety labelling, for indicating food courts and restrooms, and perhaps most elegantly, in the Olympics. Students were asked to suggest a new sport, real or imagined, for inclusion in the next Olympic games and to imagine, inspired by past designs, what the pictography representation for it would look like.

VSB Voices – Call for Volunteers!

Parents and caregivers, are you interested in sharing your voice and shaping important decisions for our schools? We are looking for volunteer participants to join VSB Voices, a trusted group of students' families and caregivers who provide feedback about different topics through surveys, focus groups and panels. Your voice matters and it is vital in shaping important decisions for our schools. To join VSB Voices for the 2025/2026 school year, please take five minutes to complete the <u>following questionnaire</u> by December 15, 2025.

More information on VSB Voices can be found here.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Holiday Gift Card Fundraiser – Deadline: December 5 at 8:00 PM

Families can purchase gift cards for many favourite stores and restaurants, and a percentage of every purchase will support PG PAC and our school community.

How to order:

- Order online through **ShopFunds**
- Be sure to select "Cecilia, Point Grey PAC" as your coordinator

Payment:

Please send an e-transfer to **info@pointgreyparents.org** for the *face value* of the gift cards you order.

December Parent Connect Event – Winter Celebration

Join us for a cozy winter gathering to connect with other families:

Friday, December 5
3:30–5:00 PM

Staff Lounge

Coffee and refreshments will be provided. All parents are welcome - come meet one another and celebrate the season!

PG Parents "Supporting Teens" Survey is Now Open

We welcome all parents to share their interests and needs for upcoming parent workshops and speaker sessions.

The survey takes **about 3 minutes** to complete, and we kindly ask families to participate by **December 31**, **2025**.

Survey link: https://forms.gle/H2fkHeHskEnRVmQW6

Our first PAC meeting of **2026** will include a presentation by school counsellor **Kasey Chittenden**, focusing on the **course planning process for students**.

We warmly invite parents to join us to learn more about:

- The course planning and request process
- Navigating the school website to view course planning information
- How to support students in making informed choices

To be mindful of everyone's time, Mrs. Chittenden will be accepting questions in advance of the meeting via this link: Course Planning Questions – Fill out form. She will address the questions in her presentation.

Please save the date: January 15th, 2026.

We look forward to seeing you at this informative session!

Upcoming Dates in December and January

Remember to check our <u>school website</u> main page under "About Us" for daily schedules, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other information as the school year progresses.

Friday, December 5	Breezeway Theatre Company Show @ 7pm
Wednesday, December 10	Winter Concert @ 7pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, December 16	Mini Parents' Association Meeting @ 7pm
Friday, December 19	Last Day of Classes before Winter Break
Monday, January 5	First Day of Classes after Winter Break
• January 12-16	Grade 12 Literacy Assessment Week
• January 15	PAC Meeting @ 7:30pm (Library)
• January 19-23	Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment Week
• January 21	Grade 7 Student & Parent Information Night @ 7pm (Auditorium)
• January 26 & 27	Semester Turnaround Days (No formal classes)
• January 28	First Day of Semester 2 Classes
• January 30	Summary of Learning Reports for S1 Published in MyEd

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Information for Parents and Caregivers

Resources to support you and your child





Have a conversation

Talk with children and youth about things they may be experiencing

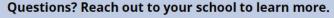
What kind of information can I find on

erase.gov.bc.ca?

- Practical guidance to help you support your child's safety and well-being
- · Resources and information about:
 - Diversity and inclusion
 - · Mental health and substance use
 - School and online safety
- Free training sessions to help you keep your child safe online
- Videos explaining erase, the Report It Tool, and safe, caring and inclusive schools
- Tips for bringing concerns to your child's school

What is the Report It Tool?

Report It is an anonymous online tool for students to report anything concerning to their school safety team—whether it happens at school, online, or somewhere else. Find it at erase.gov.bc.ca.









CALENDAR 2025 – 2026 DATED MAY 2025 Vancouver School School Board

SCHOOL O	PERATION OVERVIEW
Number of Days in Session	187
Number of Days of Instruction	180
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non-Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 26)
IMPO	ORTANT DATES
First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 2, 2025
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 13, 2025
Remembrance Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 19, 2025
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 22, 2025 - Friday, January 2, 2026
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 5, 2026
Family Day	Monday, February 16, 2026
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 13, 2026
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 16 – Friday, March 27, 2026
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday, March 30, 2026
Good Friday	Friday, April 3, 2026
Easter Monday	Monday, April 6, 2026
Victoria Day	Monday, May 18, 2026
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 25, 2026
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 26, 2026
	ENT AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS
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Friday, September 26, 2025	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 24, 2025	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 21, 2025	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, February 13, 2026	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 20, 2026	Non Instructional Day
Friday, May 15, 2026	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
COLLABORATION DATES	COLLABORATION TIMES
Wednesday, September 10, 2025	Late Start for Students 10:10 am
Wednesday, October 15, 2025	Early Dismissal for Students1:35 pm
Wednesday, November 12, 2025	Late Start for Students 10:10 am
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students1:35 pm
Wednesday, February11, 2026	Late Start for Students 10:10 am
Wednesday, April 8, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students 1:35 pm
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students1:35 pm
Wednesday, June 10, 2026	Late Start for Students 10:10 am
PARENT CONFERENCE DATES	EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES
Thursday, November 6, 2025	Early Dismissal2:05 pm - Semester
Tuesday, May 12, 2026	Early Dismissal2:05 pm – Semester