



# BRITANNIA SECONDARY SCHOOL



## September Newsletter 2023-2024



### PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

August 30, 2023

Dear Families of Britannia Secondary School;

Greetings everyone and NU CHEXW MEN WA HA7LH? (Are you well?)

Welcome back everyone and we hope you found time this summer to rest and rejuvenate.

September is always exciting as we head into a new school year full of promise and a fresh start.

Attached to this opening newsletter is essential information for students returning to school. The first day of school is Tuesday, September 5th and please note the staggered times for Grade 8 students and Grade 9 to 12 students on that first day.

Our admin team, office staff, and counsellors are available this week and into next week for any queries you may have so please reach out via phone (604)713-8266 or email.

Parents, Guardians and Caregivers are encouraged to come to the first Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meeting on September 7th at 6 pm. PAC meetings are held the first Thursday of each month in the staff room. If you have any questions, please contact our acting chair Danny Lafleur at the school (604)713-8266 or email [britpac1908@gmail.com](mailto:britpac1908@gmail.com) Please see our website for updates and information.

As we embark on a new school year, I feel fortunate and honored to work with staff, students and families at Britannia and wish our students a successful and safe school year.

I look forward to seeing you in September and throughout the school year.

Huy Chexw and Kind regards,

Rose MacKenzie – Principal



## BRITANNIA SECONDARY SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

Britannia Community Secondary School is part of an 18-acre complex - (Britannia Community Services Centre) which includes educational, health, social, and recreational facilities, and services. The complex was established through the cooperation of the Vancouver City Council, Vancouver School Board, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and Vancouver Public Library Board. It operates, wherever possible, through integration of the staff and participants representing these groups.

Britannia serves a community of diverse cultures, interests, and needs. Most Britannia students, for example, speak English as a second (or third) language, and 38 languages are represented. The school's situation as part of the Community Services Centre allows it to respond to these needs with an educational program as well as with a range of alternate curricula, activities, and special services.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### LATE RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

Any students not returning to school on Sept 5, 2023, must notify the office of the date they expect to return in order to hold their place. If we have not received information about a late return by Fri, Sept 8, 2023, students may be withdrawn from their classes. Please complete a late return form available in the office and on the website.

### ATTENDANCE REPORTING

A reminder to all parents and guardians to call the school at 604-713-8266 or email [britabsences@vsb.bc.ca](mailto: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 November 28, 2023

Clinic 2 May 30, 2024

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

## CELL PHONE POLICY

### Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy

Commencing **September 5, 2023**

Cell phones & electronic devices will be turned off and stored during instructional time unless authorized by a teacher for learning/instructional purposes.

Students will be given more information in the first week of school, with regards to the Cell Phone Policy guidelines.

## FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTION TIME (FIT)

The purpose of the FIT block is to provide students with time and flexibility to address the new Career Education competencies and content; meet with teachers for support, guidance or inspiration regarding specific curriculum, or other passions and interests; collaborate with students, teachers, or community members; and explore, work on, or complete assignments and projects.

- FIT time is a period of Instructional Time built into the daily schedule that allows students to have some measure of choice and control over their own learning.
- During FIT, students are expected to be in a classroom or learning space, completing schoolwork, either individually or in groups, meeting with teachers for support on classwork, working on projects under teacher supervision or getting caught up on missed work.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

STUDENT TIMETABLE:

Monday (AM FIT)	Tuesday (PM FIT)	Wednesday (NO FIT)	Thursday (PM FIT)	Friday (AM FIT)
FIT 8:45-9:25 (40)	Period 1 8:45-10:05 (80)	Period 1 8:45-10:05 (80)	Period 1 8:45-10:05 (80)	FIT 8:45-9:25 (40)
Period 1 9:25-10:25 (60)				Period 1 9:25-10:25 (60)
BREAK 10:25-10:35	BREAK 10:05-10:15	BREAK 10:05-10:15	BREAK 10:05-10:15	BREAK 10:25-10:35
Period 2 10:35-11:35 (60)	Period 2 10:15-11:35 (80)	Period 2 10:15-11:35 (80)	Period 2 10:15-11:35 (80)	Period 2 10:35-11:35 (60)
BREAK 10:25-10:35				BREAK 10:25-10:35
LUNCH				
 11:35-12:20				
Period 3 12:20-1:40 (80)	Period 3 12:20-1:20 (60)	Period 3 12:20-1:40 (80)	Period 3 12:20-1:20 (60)	Period 3 12:20-1:40 (80)
	FIT 1:20-2:00 (40)		FIT 1:20-2:00 (40)	
BREAK 1:40-1:45	BREAK 1:40-1:45	BREAK 1:40-1:45	BREAK 1:40-1:45	BREAK 1:40-1:45
Period 4 1:45-3:05 (80)	BREAK 2:00-2:05	Period 4 1:45-3:05 (80)	BREAK 2:00-2:05	Period 4 1:45-3:05 (80)
	Period 4 2:05-3:05 (60)		Period 4 2:05-3:05 (60)	

## FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL 2023-2024

Tuesday, September 5 – School Opening – Homeroom Only

Report to homerooms as listed in the Skywalk and Outside the Main Office

Grade 8

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

11:15-11:45 Tour/Scavenger Hunt/Barbeque

Grades 9-12

Report to homerooms at 12:30pm

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Wednesday, September 6 – First Day of Classes

8:45-9:05 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:05- 10:15 Block 1 1-1

10:15-10:25 Break

10:25-11:35 Block 2 1-2

11:35–12:20 Lunch

12:20 -1:40 Block 3 1-3

1:40–1:45 Break

1:45–3:05 Block 4 1-4

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Thursday, September 7 – Classes in Session

8:45-9:05 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:05- 10:15 Block 1 1-1

10:15-10:25 Break

10:25-11:35 Block 2 1-2

11:35–12:20 Lunch

12:20 -1:40 Block 3 1-3

1:40–1:45 Break

1:45–3:05 Block 4 1-4

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Friday, September 8 – Classes in Session

8:45-9:05 Grades 8-12 Student Homeroom

9:05- 10:15 Block 1 1-1

10:15-10:25 Break

10:25-11:35 Block 2 1-2

11:35–12:20 Lunch

12:20 -1:40 Block 3 1-3

1:40–1:45 Break

1:45–3:05 Block 4 1-4



## SCHOOL FEES

The [Britannia School Fees 2023-24](#) contains the details of standardized school fees for the 2023-2024 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 Registration Guide.pdf](#)

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

\*Please note that supplemental course fees for workbooks and class materials will not appear on accounts until September 18 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 13 Nov 8 Feb 14 May 8	Oct 11 Jan 10 Apr 10 Jun 12	CPT TIME	8:45-10:05	PERIOD 1	8:45-10:05
		BREAK	10:05-10:15	BREAK	10:05-10:15
		PERIOD 2	10:15-11:35	PERIOD 2	10:15-11:35
		LUNCH	11:35-12:20	LUNCH	11:35-12:20
		PERIOD 3	12:20-1:40	PERIOD 3	12:20-1:40
		BREAK	1:40-1:45	BREAK	1:40-1:45
		PERIOD 4	1:45-3:05	CPT TIME	1:45-3:05

## MYEDUCATIONBC ACCOUNTS

MyEducationBC (MyEd) accounts will be available September 2, 2023. 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. For returning students, carry on with your existing Student Number, Login ID, and password. For new students to Britannia, your first password is **Dist\$2024**. 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).

Website link: [MyEducationBC](#).

## BRITANNIA CODE OF CONDUCT

[Britannia School Code of Conduct 2023-24](#)

## STUDENT AGENDA

[Brit Agenda 2023-2024](#)

## IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

September 5	First Day for Students – Homeroom Only
September 13	School Photo Day
September 22	Professional Development Day
October 2	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – School Closed
October 5/6	Grade 8 Camp
October 9	Thanksgiving – School Closed
October 18/19	Artona Grad Sessions
October 20	Professional Development Day
October 26	School Picture Retakes
November 11	Remembrance Day – School Closed
November 23	Report Cards published – 3pm
November 24	Professional Development Day
November 30	Family Teacher Conference – Early Dismissal 2:05pm
December 5-6	Artona Grad Sessions
December 22	Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation
Dec 25-Jan 5	Winter Break
January 8	School Re-opens after Winter Break
February 1/2	Semester Turn-Around Days
February 5	Semester 2 Begins
February 9	Semester 1 Final Marks Published – 3pm
February 16	Professional Development Day
February 19	Family Day Holiday
February 28	Pink Shirt Day
March 15	Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Break
March 18-22	Spring Break
March 25-28	District Closure Week
March 29	Good Friday - School Closed
April 1	Easter Monday - School Closed
April 2	School Re-opens after Spring Break/District Closure/Easter
April 22	Professional Development Day
April 26	Semester 2 Mid-Term Reports Published – 3pm
May 9	Family Teacher Conference – Early Dismissal 2:05pm
May 17	Professional Development Day
May 20	Victoria Day Holiday
June 11	Graduation Ceremony – Early Dismissal 2:05pm
June 27	Semester 2 Final Marks Published – 3pm
June 28	Administration Day

BRIT SECONDARY

## OUR MISSION/OUR BELIEFS

The mission of Britannia Community 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:

Rose MacKenzie – Principal

Dale Ambrose – Vice Principal

Kelly Egilsson – Vice Principal

### Office Staff:

Janet Griffiths – Secretary

Jenefer Cousineau - Records Clerk

Paula Ferraz – Accounting

Sladja Jankovic – Reception

### Counselling Team:

Joann Liu – Grade 10 & 8 (A-H)

Kaitlee Simonson – Grade 11 & 8 (I-O)

Kaera Ross – Grade 12 & 8 (P-Z)

Mike Wiskar – Grade 9 & International, OUTR, STFT

### Indigenous Education:

Eric Dann - Teaching

Tori Johnson Ayi-Bonte – Youth & Family Worker

### School Trustee:

Janet Fraser

## SCHOOL ADDRESS

### BRITANNIA COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

1001 Cotton Drive

Vancouver, B.C V5L 3T4

Tel: (604)713-8266 Fax: (604)713-8265

Vancouver School Board: (604)713-5000

Website:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/britannia-secondary/Pages/default.aspx>

Acknowledging that we live, work, and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples – s̓k̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh (Squamish), seɬl̓w̓it̓ulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and x̓w̓məθk̓w̓əy̓əm (Musqueam) nations

# BRITANNIA BRUINS