



VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

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<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/vancouver-technical>



Acknowledging that we live, work, and play on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples – skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), sellwítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓m (Musqueam) nations

Family Bulletin FEBRUARY 2023

Important Information – Please Translate
 这是一份重要资讯 — 请找人為您翻譯 这是一份重要信息 — 请找人為您翻譯
 Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika
 Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch
 महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें
 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

Dear Vancouver Technical Community...



Retired CFL BC Lions player JR LaRose kicked off BHM with an inspiring talk to the Van Tech student body!

February is the start of Semester 2 and it is shaping up to be a very busy month at Tech! The school has been buzzing with student groups planning various activities, including Lunar New Year celebrations, Black History Month, Valentine's Day, Honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Random Acts of Kindness, guest speakers, field trips and athletics finals!

Upcoming Important Dates	
Friday February 3	Semester 2 Begins
Friday February 10	Final Semester 1 Reports published to MyEd (by 3pm)
Tuesday February 14	Grade 10 & 11 FIT Assembly (Children of the Street)
Friday February 17	District Wide Pro D
Monday February 20	Family Day (no school)
Tuesday February 21	7:00 pm – PAC Meeting (Library)
Wednesday March 1	Collaborative Day (Students dismissed at 1:45 pm, no block 4 class)

We would like to welcome new staff members for semester 2, Mr. Shayne Arthurs (Career Life Education/Connections) Ms. Emma Dosen (French Immersion/ Modern Languages), Mr. David Johnston (Grade 8 Counsellor), Mr. Hugh Nichols (Science) Mr. Jeffery Hamilton (Mathematics), Ms. Ursula Twiss (English/ EELL) and continuing staff Ms. Veronica McGhee (English).

We have begun the articulation process with our feeder elementary schools to learn about the new grade 8 class, the Grads of 2028! In addition, grade 8-11 students are engaging in course planning for next year. These initial selections are crucial in organizing classes as the number of classes and courses offered are tied to student requests. We remind students to discuss course selection with their families and encourage questions to their grade-based counsellors.

We remind families that semester 1 final reporting will be published to the MyEd student/family portal on Friday February 10th by 3pm. If you are in need of a password reset, please contact the main office.

As announced by the district, we will be continuing with the semester model moving forward. There will be adjustments made to Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) after consultation with the district. More information to follow and we encourage families to provide feedback at either PAC meetings or family surveys that will be sent out in the upcoming weeks.

As we are approaching the centennial, we are interested in establishing an archival room to showcase the history of Vancouver Technical Secondary. If you are interested in participating, please contact Principal Moro.

As all of us "Techies" start Semester 2, we must remember and build upon our past successes and continue to invest our efforts toward positive academic and personal development. #gotechgo

Vancouver Technical Administration



Mr. Roberto Moro,
Principal (Grade 12)



Ms. Sangeeta Kauldher,
Vice Principal (Grades 9,11)



Mr. Adam Tuerlings,
Vice Principal (Grades 8,10)



Students participated in Soar over Taiwan to celebrate Lunar New Year on Tech Day!



Students spent time touring UBC and learning about research on the UBC Farm!

PAC INFORMATION



We invite all parents/caregivers of Van Tech students to join us for PAC meetings!

PAC meetings are an opportunity for folks to hear from, and ask questions of, the school administration and we welcome suggestions for topics for future meetings! Our meetings will follow a hybrid model of in person and on zoom. Agendas, with Zoom links, can be found on the [PAC webpage](#) along with notes from previous meetings.

Any questions, please contact PAC chair Lindsie Tomlinson, chairvt@gmail.com

Join us at the next meeting on February 21, 2023 at 7pm in the Library or Zoom - all are welcome!
The Zoom meeting ID is 851 2453 9749 and the passcode is 290227.

SEMESTER 2 COURSE CHANGES

Course changes will be permitted until February 13th, 2023. Students re encouraged to see their grade counsellor with any questions as they will have the best information on your graduation path, available courses, and waitlists.

SEMESTER 1 FINAL REPORTS

All students will be receiving a Final Semester 1 report on **Friday, February 10, 2023**. These reports will include a final mark, work habit, and comment for each Semester 1 class. Please note that your child's report card is **electronic** and will be published to their MyEducation BC account. Semester 1 final reports will be available until March 7th, 2023. **It is recommended that you download and save a copy for future reference.** Detailed information on how to access this report will be sent to families closer to the reporting date.



We continue to look for Parent/Guardian's opinions on the distribution of report cards- Electronic vs. Paper Copies. Please complete the [FEEDBACK FORM](#) by: February 28 @ 4pm.

COURSE PLANNING INFORMATION

Grade counsellors have been visiting classes that have not yet done course planning for next year to go over the process and provide answers to questions students might have. Parents can also be involved in the course planning process! We encourage you to discuss with students the various course options available to your child. The counselling department will complete course selection with Grade 8-11 students by February 28, 2023.

All of our course planning information is available on our website at: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/vancouver-technical/page/4643/course-planning> This includes our course book, recordings of the January 17th, 2023 Parent Information night as well as the slides from the presentations.

As a reminder to Grade 12 families, a "Getting Ready for Graduation" information session was held in November. You can access the slide deck from the session: [HERE](#)



INDIGENOUS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Effective in the 2023/24 school year, all students working toward a B.C. Certificate of Graduation ("Dogwood Diploma") in English or French, must successfully complete at least 4 credits in Indigenous-focused coursework. This requirement applies to students in B.C. public, independent, First Nations, and offshore schools. There is no change to the total number of credits required to graduate, which remains at 80. This change to the BC Graduation program represents an important next step towards lasting and meaningful reconciliation. The new graduation requirement will provide all B.C. students with the necessary time and opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the experiences, cultures, histories, and contemporary contexts of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Course options that satisfy this requirement will be discussed during course planning with Grades 10-12. We encourage families to review the "Information for Students and Parents" on the [Ministry of Education website](#).



Click [HERE](#) to view:
Advancing Reconciliation through Education

GRADUATION ASSESSMENT RESULTS

On **January 25th, 2023** (Tech Day) - Grade 10s completed the Numeracy 10 assessment and the Grade 12 Semester 1 FRAL 12 students completed the Évaluation de littératie de la 12e année. Results of these assessments will be posted in 8-10 weeks.

The results are now available for Grade 12 students who completed the Literacy Assessment (LTE12) in November 2022 assessment session,.

ACCESSING ASSESSMENT RESULTS

To see and download a copy of your child's results for either the Gr10 or Gr12 Assessments -

1. Go to www.studenttranscripts.gov.bc.ca (don't be thrown by the info re transcripts, you are on the right page)
2. Click on Current Student
3. Then either Register for a Basic Account or Login if you already have one. You will need your child's information as noted on the page.
4. You will receive an email via the email you entered (should be child's). Click the link in the email to confirm.
5. You can then login and you will see Assessments and Results among other items in the Dashboard. You can view or download PDF.

FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL TIME (FIT) - SEMESTER 2

? **What is FIT?** On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students are provided with 50 minutes of Flexible Instruction Time (FIT). FIT is intended for learning opportunities and student support. This will continue in Semester 2. This is instructional time and students are encouraged to sign up with one of their teachers for support or take advantage of one of the connection activities being offered. We will be sending home attendance notifications through MyWeeklyPlanner for FIT time sessions for those students who miss a session or are not signed up.

As a reminder to students:

- All students are expected to be in a school learning space with a teacher
- **Students are expected to sign up for a teacher each week** via: <http://vantech.myweeklyplanner.net> (attendance is taken)
- This is school time (instructional time) and students get a choice of how to spend it doing school work or student interest/connection 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.

TECH DAY

As we are a learning community that has a goal of fostering lifelong learning, we are excited to report our second "Tech Day" on January 25th was a success! This day is to experience learning in a different way, beyond the 4 walls of the classroom. We remind families that these are instructional days in which students are expected to be in attendance.

January's theme was **ALLYSHIP and SUSTAINABILITY**- another theme which was voted on by the student body. Topics of workshops include sustainability and fashion, geopolitical issues, fresh water conservation, and more! There are also program and grade-wide activities. Student-led workshops and field studies happening during this day.

At the end of the day, students have an opportunity to complete their core competency self-assessment which we are piloting for this year's report card as well as using their experiences this day to complete assignments for the Career Education classes. We thank the staff and students who have spent their time creating and leading sessions for this "real-world" day of learning.

Next Tech Day will be **Wednesday April 25, 2023** with a theme of Wellness.



MMIWG2S+ "beaded" flags that the students made in the All Nations Room during Tech Day after their discussions.

ATHLETICS

We are excited to start the Spring Athletics season!

The following teams are being offered (if registration numbers are low, or if we cannot provide a coach, a team might be cancelled). Keep checking the athletics channel on the Student Hub for meeting/first tryout/first practice details.

- Badminton - Co-Ed
- Golf - Co-Ed
- Rugby (grade 9-12 only)
- Soccer - Girls
- Tennis - Co-Ed
- Track and Field - Co-Ed
- Ultimate - Co-Ed
- Volleyball - Boys (grade 8 and 9 only)

Tryouts and practices start the last week of February and first week of March for spring sports. For students who are trying out for a spring team, you need to register **AND** complete your Medical/Emergency Contact Info Form to be eligible for a team as soon as possible. (Note: if you already completed the Medical/Emergency Contact Info Form earlier this year, you don't need to complete it again). [#gotechgo](#)

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

[MEDICAL/EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM](#)

GENERAL REMINDERS

Student Absences & Attendance

To report your child's absence, please contact the school at 604-713-8215 (then select option #1) and leave a message or email TECHAttendance@vsb.bc.ca.

Information required are:

- Date of absence
- Student number
- Student name
- Reason for absence (ie, sick, appointment)

Please note: Students cannot report their own absence.

Student Fees

As a friendly reminder, School Cash Online will now be offered as the preferred method of payment for all school fees. Please double check if your child owes any outstanding fees. You can register by following the steps on:

<https://vsb.schoolcashionline.com>

STUDENT AND FAMILY AFFORDABILITY FUND

The provincial government announced that new, one-time funding would be provided to BC school districts to help address some of the rising costs families currently face. **Please let us know if your family would benefit from support by contacting your child's counsellor.** All requests for support will be treated as private information and will only be shared with staff who need to know.

Extended Absences

Any students who will be away for an extended period (trave, medical etc.) should see their grad counsellor to complete an extended absence form.

Daily Health Checks

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.

Student Pick-up/Drop-off

A kind reminder that traffic signs are in place along Penticton Street to allow space for school buses to drop-off and pick-up students. Thank you for being compliant with city bylaws. Please note that several drivers have been ticketed in the past. You can drop-off and pick-up students past the traffic signs further south along Penticton Street.

