



Van Tech Secondary Course Planning 2026-2027

*Moving from Grade 8 to 9:
Ms. Leanne's Guide for Success*





Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

We are honoured to be working and learning together on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)





Welcome to Tonight's Presentation

MICS WILL BE MUTED & CAMERAS DISABLED

QUESTIONS IN THE CHAT WILL BE ANSWERED AT THE END

PRESENTATION WILL BE RECORDED & SLIDE DECK POSTED



Guiding You to Graduation 2030

Meet Your Support Team:

- Leanne Hagglund--Grade 8 Counsellor
- Janet Thompson, Vice Principal--Grade 8 & 10

Our Goal: Helping you plan for success from Grade 8 to graduation!





Shape of Tonight's Presentation

We will explore the following:

1. Grade 8 Highlights

What made this year special?

2. Graduation Requirements

Understanding the big picture.

3. Course Planning for Grade 9

Programs, electives, and options.

4. Special Programs & Opportunities

Flex, Summit, French Immersion, Online Learning.

5. Resources & Next Steps

Course planning guide, family involvement, Q&A.





Highlights from Grade 8: A Year to Remember

- **Grade 8 Dance** – A night of fun!
- **Athletics** – From cross-country to volleyball
- **Clubs** – Exploring your passions
- **New Schedule & FIT** – Learning flexibility
- **Lockers & Halls** – Finding your way around
- **Cafeteria Lunches** – Social time with friends
- **Making Connections** – Building friendships that last





Van Tech Athletics: A Review

Fall (Sept. – Nov.)	Winter (Nov. – Feb.)	Spring (Feb. – May)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aquatics• Cross Country• eSports (Year-round)• Field Hockey 5s (Girls)• Rugby (Boys)• Soccer (Boys)• Volleyball (Girls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basketball• Curling• Ice Hockey (Girls)• Table Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Badminton• Golf• Mountain Biking• Soccer (Girls)• Tennis• Track and Field• Ultimate• Volleyball (Boys)



Upcoming Family Night: Save the Date

- **Date:** Thursday, February 26th
- **Location:** Van Tech Secondary
- **Time:** 7–9 pm
- **Invitation:** To be emailed shortly





Getting Curious About Your Future: Course Planning Starts Here!

What Do I Like?

- Interests, passions, and hobbies.

What Do I Need?

- Graduation requirements and core courses.

Where Am I Going?

- Career goals, post-secondary pathways.





Grad Requirements: The Big Picture

80 credits to graduate

- This is the equivalent of 20 full time courses at the grade 10, 11, and 12 level.

More Choice Ahead

- Grade 10 opens space for electives that reflect your interests





Graduation Requirements Overview

52 credits are REQUIRED COURSES Including:	
Language Arts 10 (2 Courses of 2 credits each)	4 credits
Language Arts 11	4 credits
Language Arts 12	4 credits
Social Studies 10	4 credits
Social Studies 11 or 12	4 credits
Science 10	4 credits
Science 11 or 12	4 credits
Math 10	4 credits
Math 11 or 12	4 credits
Physical & Health Education 10	4 credits
Fine Arts Education or Applied Design, Skills and Technologies 10, 11, or 12	4 credits
Career Life Education 10	4 credits
Career Life Connections 12 and Capstone project (2 credits each)	4 credits total
Elective Courses	28 credits
A minimum of 16 credits must be at the Grade 12 level including Language Arts 12. All ministry-authorized and board/authority approved courses count	



Provincial Assessments: A Graduation Requirement –Next Year!

Starting in **Grade 10**, students complete **3 mandatory assessments** (4 for French Immersion):

- **Grade 10 Numeracy**
- **Grade 10 Literacy**
- **Grade 12 Literacy**
- **Grade 12 French Literacy** (*French Immersion only*)



Where do Grade 8 and 9 classes fit into my Graduation Plan?

Proficiency Scale

EMERGING	DEVELOPING	PROFICIENT	EXTENDING
The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.	The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning.



A Look at Grade 9: What to Expect

An overview of Grade 9 Program Schedules at Van Tech:

- Mainstream
- French Immersion
- Summit
- Flex Humanities
- ELL
- LAC





Mainstream Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

1) English 9

2) Social Studies 9

3) Mathematics 9

4) Science 9

5) Physical and Health Education 9

6) Elective

7) Elective

8) Elective



Flex Humanities Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

- 1) English 9 FLEX (Classics)
- 2) Social Studies 9 FLEX (History)
- 3) Interactive Arts and Design Technology 9 FLEX
- 4) Visual Arts 9 FLEX
- 5) Mathematics 9
- 6) Science 9
- 7) Physical and Health Education 9
- 8) Elective



Summit Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

- 1) English 9 SUMMIT
- 2) Social Studies 9 SUMMIT
- 3) Foundations/Pre-Calculus 10 SUMMIT
- 4) Science 10 SUMMIT
- 5) Physical and Health Education 9
- 6) Elective
- 7) Elective
- 8) Elective



French Immersion Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

- 1) Français Langue 9 (FRIM)
- 2) Sciences Humaines 9 (FRIM)
- 3) Sciences 9 (FRIM)
- 4) Communications 9 (FRIM)
- 5) English 9
- 6) Mathematics 9
- 7) Physical and Health Education 9
- 8) Elective



ELL Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

1) ELL Reading (Level 1, 2, or 3)

2) ELL Writing (Level 1, 2, or 3)

3) ELL Social Studies (Level 1, 2, or 3)

4) ELL Science (Level 1 or 2)

5) Math 9

6) Physical and Health Education 9

7) Elective

8) Elective



LAC Program: Grade 9 Course Requests

- 1) Junior LAC Modified English
- 2) Junior LAC Modified Social Studies
- 3) Junior LAC Modified Mathematics
- 4) Junior LAC Modified Science
- 5) Physical and Health Education 9
- 6) Elective
- 7) Elective
- 8) Elective

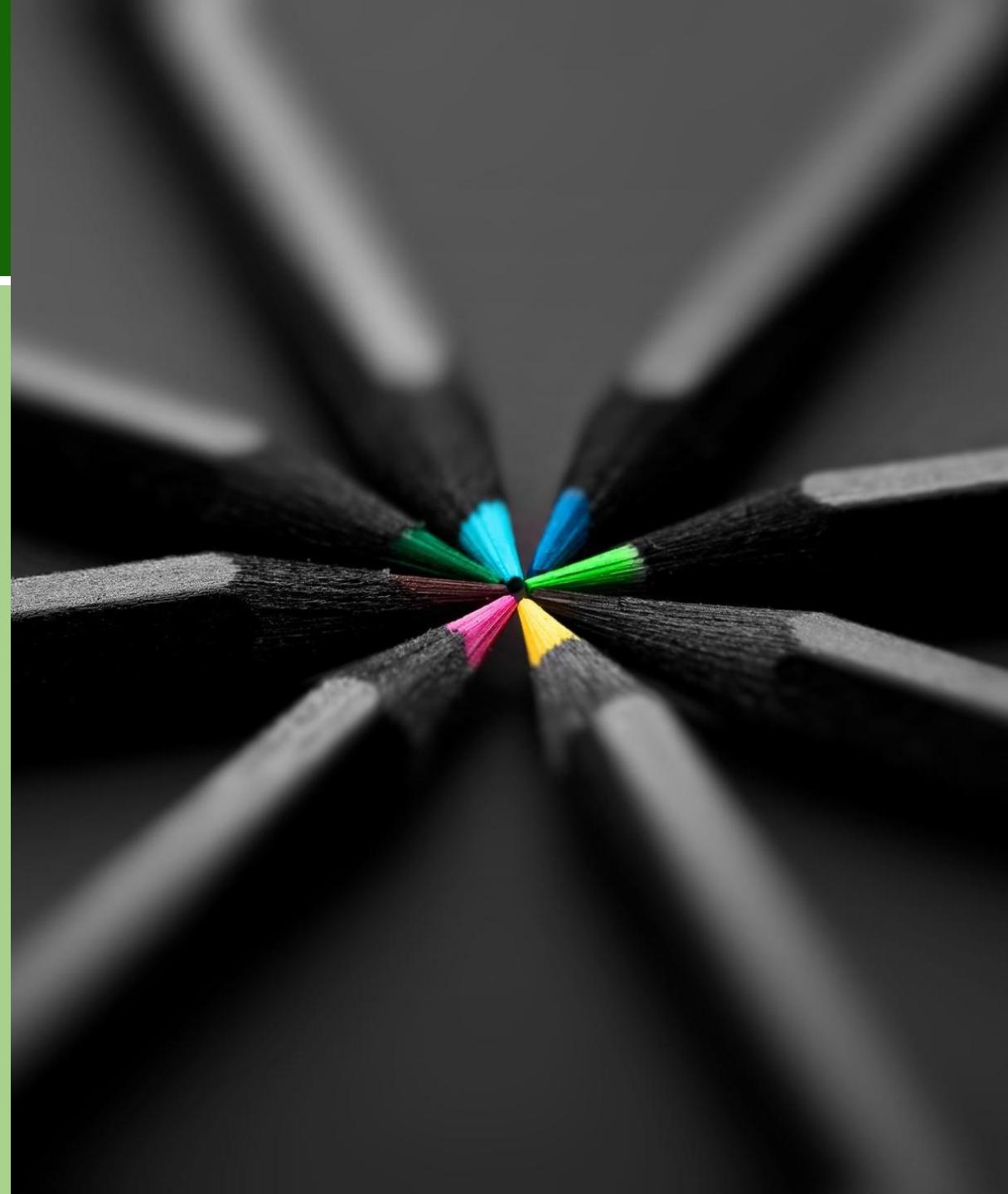


Electives: Explore Your Interests!

Choose from exciting areas to personalize your learning:

- **Applied Design, Skills & Technology**
- **Arts Education**
- **Music**
- **Languages**

Electives let you discover passions and build new skills. Check the course planning guide for full details!





Applied Skills: Home Economics

- Food Studies 9
- Textiles 9





Applied Skills: Business Education and IT

- Entrepreneurship & Marketing 9
- Computer Studies 9





Applied Skills: Technical Studies

- Drafting 9
- Robotics, Electronics & Engineering 9
- Graphics and Media Design 9
- Metalwork 9
- Power Technology 9
- Woodwork 9





Arts Education: Visual Arts and Drama

- General Art
- Video Production 9
- Ceramics & Sculpture 9

- Drama 9
- Theatre Company 9





Music Education

MUSIC ON TIMETABLE

- Music 9: Beginner Band
- Music 9: Intermediate Band (minimum 1 year of experience needed)

MUSIC OFF TIMETABLE – a 9th full year course

- Music 9: Choir
- Music 9: Beginner Strings
- Music 9: Intermediate Strings (minimum 1 year of experience needed)





Languages: A Few Things to Remember

- **French 9** – Second-year course; requires passing **French 8**
- **Spanish 9** – First-year course; no prerequisite
- **Mandarin 9** – First-year course; no prerequisite

Choose a language that interests you. Great for future opportunities.





Electives: Key Considerations

- **Applied Skills, Art, and Drama** courses are **half-semester** classes.
→ You'll need to choose **two** of these to make up one elective on your timetable.

Example: Drafting 9 + Drama 9 = 1 Elective Spot on Timetable

- **Music and Language** courses are **full-semester** classes.
→ These count as one complete elective on their own.
- Remember: Plan your electives carefully to balance your interests and schedule. Check the **Course Planning Guide** for full details!



Typical School Day for Grade 9 Student

- 4 courses for half the year
- Each class occurs everyday
- Attend 4 different classrooms
- Work with 4 different teachers

For Example....

Semester 1 (September- January)	Semester 2 (February- June)
Math 9	Science 9
English 8	PHE 9
Elective	Social Studies 9
French 9	Elective



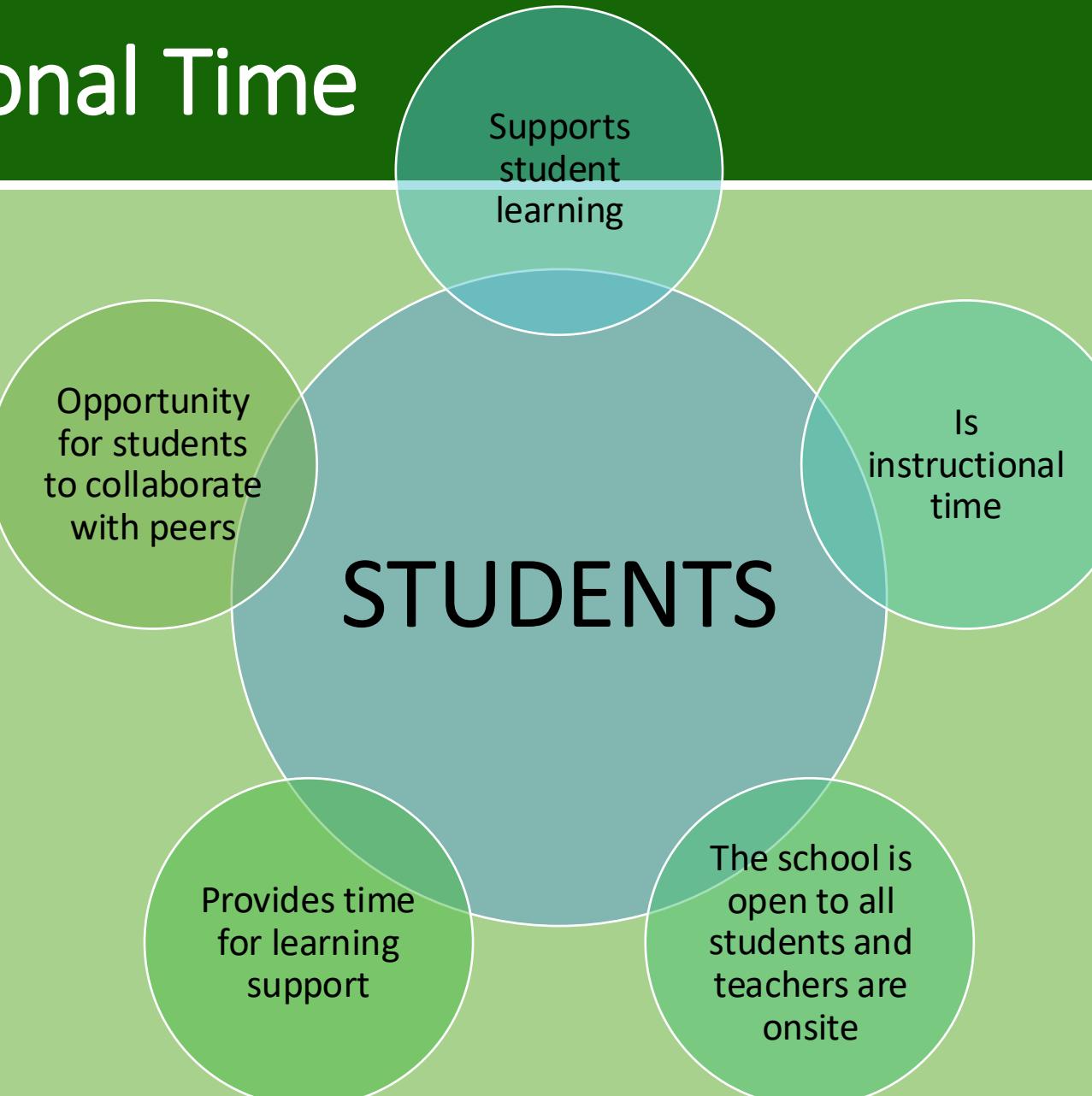


FIT--Flexible Instructional Time

FIT: A REVIEW

- Currently, there is 160 minutes of FIT per week
- 4 days x 40 minute periods
- Monday & Friday morning
- Tuesday & Thursday afternoon

STUDENTS





Challenge Exams



- Delta School District hosts language challenge exams
- French, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Punjabi, and Spanish – Grade 11 and 12 final exams offered.
- Applications will be made available in the fall 2026.
- Keep an eye on Student Hub (TEAMS)



Learning Hub: Support Class



✓ What is it?

- Formerly known as **Learning Strategies (Skills)**
- **New Name:** Learning Hub Support Block
- ✓ **Who Can Take It?**
- Students with a learning designation.
- These students must apply through a conversation with **Ms. Leanne** and the Learning Hub Team.

✓ Why Take It?

- Build organization, study habits, and learning strategies.
- Get extra support for success in core subjects.



Summer School: What You Need to Know

Why Attend?

- Make up courses you haven't passed.
- Get ahead in certain subjects.

Applications Open: Early May

Options: Up to **2 classes** in summer school

Details: Info will be shared with students and families closer to May.





How Do I Sign Up For Grade 9 Courses?

- **Step 1:** Ms. Leanne will visit your **Social Studies 8** class for course planning.
- **Step 2:** Complete your course request during these sessions.
- **Step 3:** Ask questions and confirm choices before submission.



Reminder:

This presentation is just the first step; we'll have plenty of time to work together!



Family Plays a Key Role

- **Talk with your family** about your course requests.
- Their input can help you make informed choices.
- **Share your interests and goals**—planning works best when everyone is involved.



Family conversations = better decisions for your future!



How to Find Course Planning Information

- **Step 1: Go to the Van Tech website:**

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

- **Step 2: Click Guidance & Support.**

- **Step 3: Select Course Planning for detailed resources.**

The screenshot shows the Vancouver Technical Secondary School website. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with the school's crest and name. Below the bar, there are several menu items: 'ABOUT US', 'FAMILIES', 'GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT', 'EXTRACURRICULAR', and 'TEACHING AND LEARNING'. The 'GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT' menu is expanded, showing a list of links: 'Career and Post Secondary', 'CLC and Capstone 12', 'Code of Conduct', 'Community School Teams', 'Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol', and 'Course Planning'. The 'Course Planning' link is highlighted with a yellow circle. Below the menu, there is a banner for 'Course Planning Night - Thurs Jan 28th, 2021'.



Course Planning: Key Considerations

- **Course descriptions** in the planning guide help students and families choose classes.
- **Some courses are mandatory** to meet Ministry of Education requirements; others reflect your interests and goals.
- **First choices aren't guaranteed**—be prepared with **alternative options**.

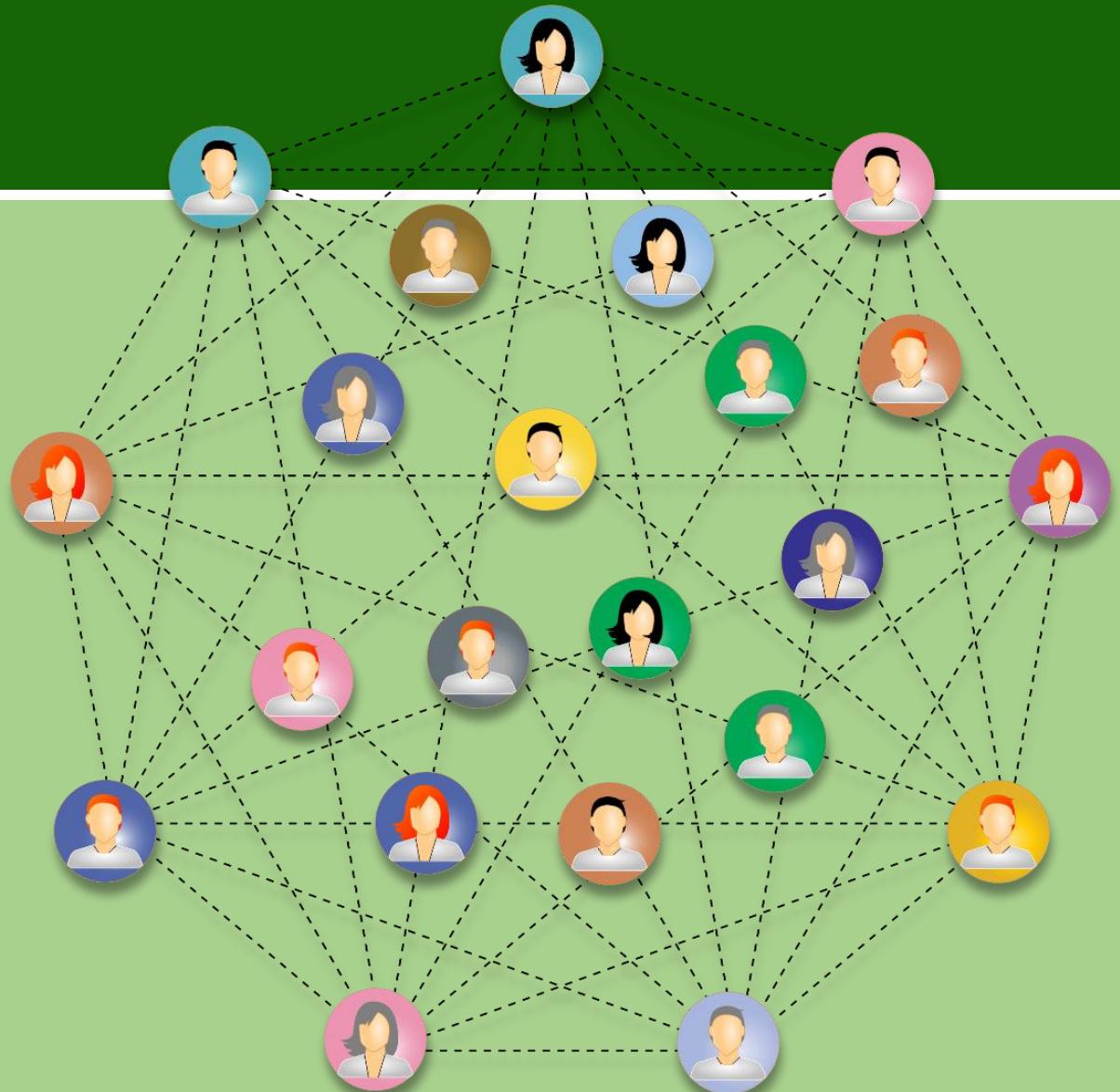


Please Stay
CONNECTED...

Family Bulletins/
Emails

Website

Instagram





Stay Connected

Email: lhagglund@vsb.bc.ca

- **Questions?** Always happy to help—reach out anytime!

Options:

- Email for quick questions
- Schedule a meeting for detailed planning



QUESTIONS?





Thank You!