

David Thompson S.S. Open House & Information Night

Wednesday, January 14, 2026





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).



xʷməθkʷəy̓əm
(Musqueam)



Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
(Squamish Nation)



səlilwətaɬ
(Tsleil-Waututh Nation)

Welcome to DT!

Mr. Nick Akrap, *Principal*

Ms. Catherine McLean, *Vice Principal*

Ms. Jolene Mergens, *Vice Principal*

Mr. Raymond Moy, *Counsellor & Department Head*

Ms. Winnie Monk, *New Faces Leader & PHE Teacher*

Ryken Singh, *Student Council President*



What Makes DT Unique?

- ✓ Our diversity of students & programs
- ✓ Our culture of leadership & citizenship
- ✓ Our welcoming & inclusive community



DT CARES

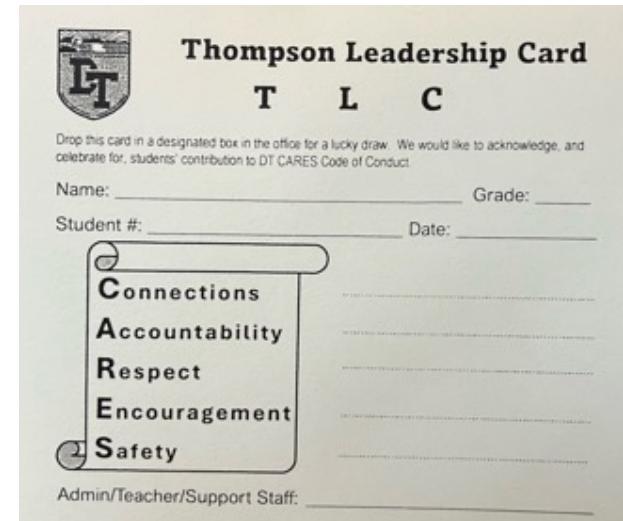
C - Connections

A - Accountability

R - Respect

E - Encouragement

S - Safety



Multicultural Liaison Workers

- **Role:** to assist families and students to understand and participate effectively in the school. They provide a **liaison between the home and the school**, and provide support during the Grade 7-8 transition.
 - Crystal Pan (Cantonese & Mandarin)
 - Bob Rattan (Punjabi)
 - Lucia Sabado (Tagalog)
 - Claudia Sandoval (Spanish)
 - Chung Tran (Vietnamese)

你好 HALLO 안녕
HOLA नमस्ते
CIAO
γεια HELLO
こんにちは привет
BONJOUR OLÁ
مرحبا



Additional Supports

- ✓ Multicultural Liaison Workers
- ✓ School Nurse
- ✓ Community Connections
- ✓ SACY Worker
- ✓ Indigenous Education Enhancement Worker
- ✓ SWIS Workers
- ✓ School Liaison Officer (SLO)
- ✓ Counselling Team



DT Counselling Team

- 4 Counsellors at David Thompson, Grade 8's are divided among 4 via last names
- Counsellors are on-site every school day; they are not shared with other schools
- Secondary school Counsellors can support students with:
 - Academic Achievement – Study tips/Time management/Resilience building
 - Course Planning – Selection/Timetabling/Graduation Planning
 - Social/Emotional Support – Interpersonal issues/Mental Health
 - Career Planning – Post Secondary Info/Finding good career fits
 - Communication – Facilitating communication with teachers, parents and other professionals
 - Referrals – external agencies for additional support



Grade 8 Program & Course Selection

- ✓ English
- ✓ Social Studies
- ✓ Math
- ✓ Science
- ✓ Physical & Health Education
- ✓ French
- ✓ Applied Skills
- ✓ Fine Arts or Band

and possibly:

- ~~✓ Skills Development Centre (SDC)~~
- ✓ English Language Learner (ELL)



Applied Skills Rotation

- Applied Skills 8 is a ***rotation*** with one term each in the areas of:
 - Business Education
 - Home Economics (Foods & Nutrition and Textiles)
 - Technical/Media Studies



Fine Arts 8 Rotation or Band

- Fine Arts 8 is a ***rotation*** with one term each in the areas of:

- Drama
- Art
- Career Education

OR

- Full semester Band with Career Education – no experience necessary!



Advice for Grade 8 Families & Students

- When home expectations/structure/boundaries mirror those of school, we see student success



Programs at DT

Grade 8 Programs	District Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Regular➤ English Language Learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Learning Support Program (LSP)➤ ARC➤ GOLD➤ Social Development➤ Odyssey



Sample Daily Timetable

SEMESTER 1 <i>September – January</i>	SEMESTER 2 <i>February – June</i>
<p>Block 1: Math 8</p> <p>Block 2: Science 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch</p> <p>Block 3: Fine Arts 8</p> <p>Block 4: French 8</p>	<p>Block 1: Applied Skills 8</p> <p>Block 2: English 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lunch</p> <p>Block 3: Socials 8</p> <p>Block 4: PHE</p>



Weekly Schedule

**FIT =
Flexible
Instructional
Time**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Period 1 8:40 - 10:00 Break 10:00-10:15	Period 1 8:40 - 9:40 Break 9:40-9:45 FIT 9:45-10:25 Break 10:25-10:35	Period 1 8:40 - 10:00 Break 10:00-10:15	Period 1 8:40 - 10:00 Break 10:00-10:15	Period 1 8:40 - 9:40 Break 9:40-9:45 FIT 9:45-10:25 Break 10:25-10:35
Period 2 10:15-11:35	Period 2 10:35-11:35	Period 2 10:15-11:35	Period 2 10:15-11:35	Period 2 10:35-11:35
Lunch 11:35-12:20	Lunch 11:35-12:20	Lunch 11:35-12:20	Lunch 11:35-12:20	Lunch 11:35-12:20
Period 3 12:20-1:20 Break 1:20-1:25 FIT 1:25 - 2:05 Break 2:05 - 2:10	Period 3 12:20-1:40 Break 1:40-1:50	Period 3 12:20-1:40 Break 1:40-1:50	Period 3 12:20-1:20 Break 1:20-1:25 FIT 1:25 - 2:05 Break 2:05 - 2:10	Period 3 12:20-1:40 Break 1:40-1:50 Period 4 1:50-3:10
Period 4 2:10-3:10	Period 4 1:50-3:10	Period 4 1:50-3:10	Period 4 2:10-3:10	Period 4 1:50-3:10



Flexible Instruction Time (FIT)

- **Purpose:** to support the learning and well-being of students by enabling them to have choice in how, when, and where their learning takes place.
- **Expectations:** Students are in a learning space.
- **Examples:** meeting with teachers for extra help, attending tutorial session, connecting with a counsellor, collaborating with others on projects, core competency reflection and goal setting.



Registering for David Thompson

- Grade 7 Teacher will distribute **Verification and Course Selection Form (blue)**
- Please follow elementary school's deadlines – complete and return the form to elementary school.
- ALL forms must be sent by the elementary schools to DT by the week of February 2, 2026.
- All registrations **must include proof of address**. Please attach copies to your registration form.

Section 2: Documentation Required – *please attach current copies of the following documents.*

Proof of Address by Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian is required to verify secondary school catchment.

One of:

- Long-term Tenancy agreement - showing legal name and address.
- Property purchase agreement - showing legal name and address.
- Property tax statement - showing legal name and address.
- BC Property Assessment - showing legal name and address

And Two of:

- Utility bill
- BC Driver's License **or** Enhanced BC Driver's License
- BC ID
- BC vehicle registration
- Canadian bank account statement - showing legal name and address.
- Canadian credit card statement - showing legal name and address.
- Income Tax statement - showing legal name and province of residency



Cross Boundary Applications

- Students in the Vancouver School District are allowed to register at a school outside of their catchment area as a cross-boundary applicant.
- Cross boundary applications will **only be considered after all in-catchment students have been accommodated.**



Cross Boundary Application Process

How to Apply Cross Boundary:

Step 1: You MUST register at your [English Catchment School](#) BEFORE submitting a cross boundary application.

Step 2: [Complete an online Cross Boundary Application form](#)

IMPORTANT DATES	OPENS	CLOSES
CROSS BOUNDARY APPLICATION PERIOD No late or early applications will be accepted	First school day of February	Last school day of February

Applications open on Monday, February 2, 2026, and close on Friday, February 27, 2026.

Student Council



Activities & Events

Participate in events!

- Throughout the year, Student Council will put on events for everyone
- **Events:** Spirit days, photo booths, carnival, Thompson's Got Talent, Back to School BBQ, and many more



Clubs

Join a club!

- DT has numerous clubs that meet at lunch as well as after school
- Clubs: Chess & Board Games, Time and Effort , Hunger Bites, Debate Club, Bakers Club, Recycling Club, Service Club, CHAT, Here4Peers, and *many, many more!*



Athletics

Join a team!

- DT has numerous sports teams that compete within all the schools in Vancouver over 3 seasons (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- **Teams:** soccer, volleyball, basketball, badminton, wrestling, golf, swim, track & field, and many more!



New Faces Leaders (NFL)

- Ms. Monk (NFL Program Leader)
- New Faces Leaders are senior students (Grades 10, 11, 12) who act and serve as mentors to incoming Grade 8 students
- NFL puts on events throughout the year to welcome Grade 8s to DT



New Faces Leaders Events

- ✓ Grade 8 Welcome & Pizza Lunch (first day)
- ✓ Grade 8 Homeroom Orientation (first day)
- ✓ Grade 8 Conference (September)
- ✓ Pumpkin Carving Contest (October)
- ✓ Hot Dog & Movie Days (both semesters)
- ✓ Grade 7 Visits (spring)
- ✓ Grade 8 Spring Trek (May)
- ✓ Weekly Grade 8 FIT Games Days (year long)



Thank You!

