



GRADE 8 INFORMATION NIGHT

Prince of Wales Secondary School
February 5, 2025



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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x^wməθk^wəy'əm (Musqueam), Sk_wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).



x^wməθk^wəy'əm
(Musqueam)



Sk_wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw
(Squamish Nation)



səlilwətał
(Tsleil-Waututh Nation)



welcome



Joel Nelson (he/him)
Vice-Principal



Sangeeta Kauldher (she/her)
Principal

Around the corner is a new and exciting time in your life where endless opportunities and pathways are yours for the taking.

We look forward to embarking on this important partnership with you!

Agenda



Transitioning to High School

Role of the School Counsellor

Grade 8 Supports

Grade 8 Program Registration Process

Important Dates

Grade 8 Program

Extracurriculars

How Can I be Successful?

Grade 8 Experiences

Contacts & Questions?

What Grade 7s look forward to:

- More than one teacher
- Trying new courses like Fine Arts, Home Ec, Band or Woodworking
- Meeting new friends
- Grade 8 Camp
- Playing new sports, joining new clubs
- Having more freedom
- Cafeteria



What Grade 7s worry about:

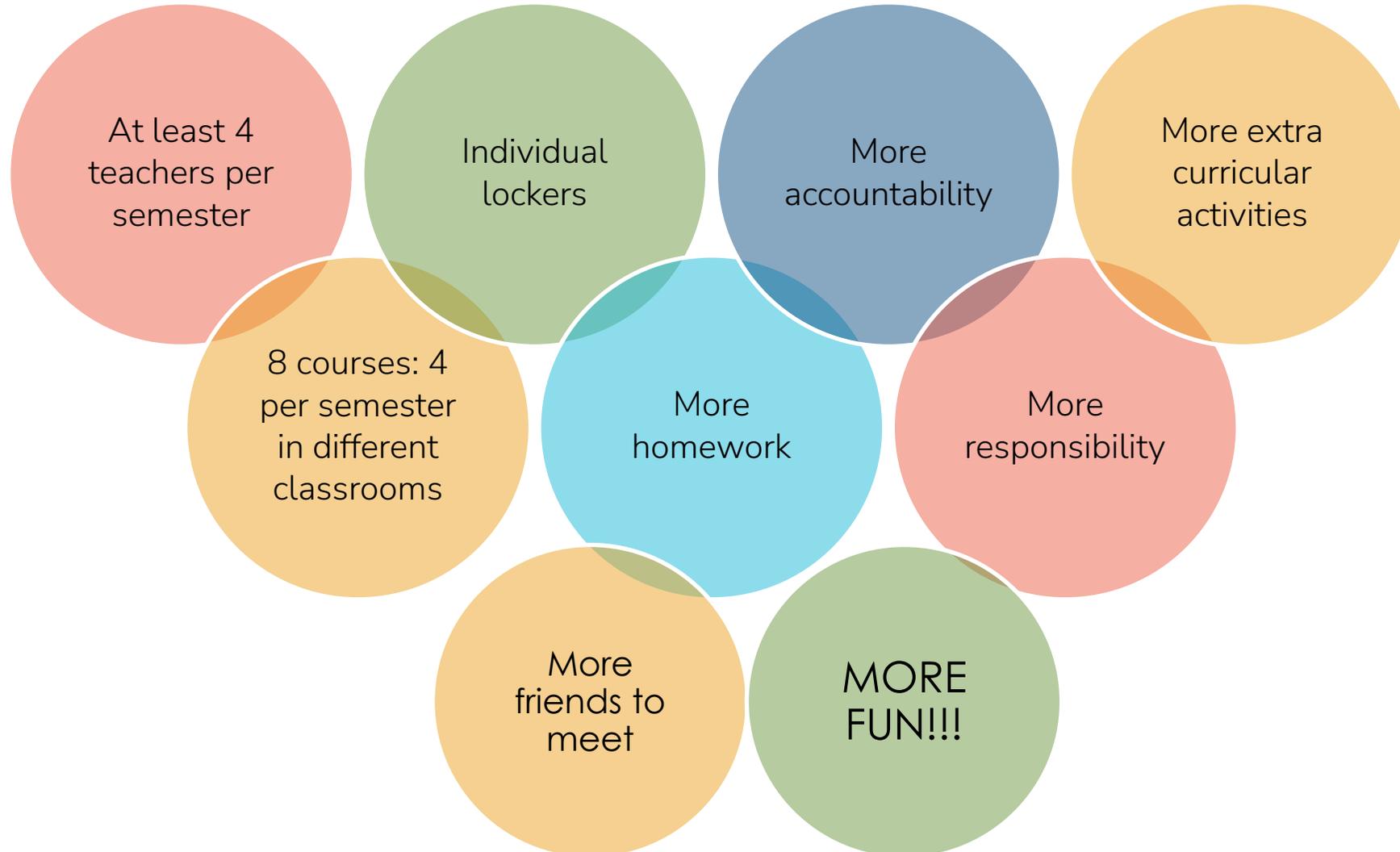
- Figuring out their timetable
- Remembering their lock combination
- Finding their classes in crowded hallways
- Being late for class
- Too much homework and tests
- Different teachers with different rules and expectations
- Peer pressure
- Friendship changes
- Social Media



Transitioning to High School



HOW IS HIGH SCHOOL DIFFERENT?



Role of School Counsellor



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- A supportive adult who helps students navigate through the entirety of high school.
- **To work on academic goals, social emotional goals, friend challenges, post-secondary planning (much later), and timetables.**
- **In Grade 8/9, students are grouped by alpha and shared amongst each counsellor as a team.**



Julie Baerg



Scott Morgan



Chris Tse

Grade 8 Supports (Academic)



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Learning Strategies Course

Student will learn study strategies and will receive support with their learning. There is option for 1 LS course, or 2 LS courses (1 per semester).

Does your child need this course?

Based on grade 7 teachers' recommendations, and your child's achievement in one or more core academic courses.

Note: French 8 or Elective may will be dropped from child's timetable

Note: Parents will have to agree to this course by completing a form.

Grade 8 Supports (Additional)



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Perveen Engineer

Safe & Caring Worker

- Offers a safe space for students dealing with various challenges, from bullying to mental health issues.
- Assists students academically and in life challenges, collaborating with school staff for comprehensive support.
- Responds promptly to crises, supporting victims, addressing concerning situations, and can facilitate restorative circles for resolution.



Jessica Lyons

SACY Youth Engagement/Prevention

- Supports students by preventing and/or delaying substance use and reduce substance use related problems through education.
- Support and be there for students by making myself readily available and offering them a safe space in school if they are struggling.



Constable Eric Burrell

School Liaison Officer

- Support students by prevention of crime through education and relationship building.



MURPHY

Support/ Therapy Dog

- Supports students in counselling suite in a variety of ways, including: anxiety, stress reduction, social connections, improving mood, reducing feelings of isolation, and enhancing overall well-being for students.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Schools will receive a **PERSONALIZED** enrollment form for each catchment student



VSB PRINCE OF WALES
Grade 8 Verification and Course Selection Form
(for students from VSB schools only)

Section 1: Student Information

Student Legal Name		Student Usual Name <i>(if different from legal name)</i>	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy):	MyEd Pupil #:	Min Designation <i>(if applicable):</i>	
Current School:			
Home Address:			
Home Phone No.:		Parent/Guardian Cell No.:	
Parent/Guardian Name:		Relationship:	

Registration Package

Grade 8 Verification and Course Selection Form
(You will need to provide copies of proof of address)

Contact PW if they are misplaced/ did not receive a form.

Due to PW by Feb 24,2025

Cross Boundary Application Timeline:

The Online Cross Boundary Application (<https://xb.vsb.bc.ca>) will open Thursday, February 3, 2025 and will close on Thursday, February 28, 2025.

Cross Boundary Process (English Program):

- Please refer to the following link for District XB information and XB priority groups: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/page/5198>
- XB applications are **not** first-come-first-served
- English Program XB applications are only received via the District online XB app: <https://xb.vsb.bc.ca> **_(NO PAPER FORMS)**

IMPORTANT DATES

Mini School interviews	February 3, 2025
Online Cross Boundary Applications open	February 3, 2025
Applications collected from feeder schools	February 24, 2025
Mini School FIRST OFFERS	February 26, 2025
Cross Boundary Applications close	February 28, 2025
Mini School SECOND OFFERS	March 5th, 2025
Articulation meetings with feeder schools	April 2025
Parent Information Meeting #2 (Tentative)	May 2025 (TBC)
Gr. 7s visit to PW	May 23 2025
Welcome to PW Family Bulletin	August 2025
First Day of School & Orientation	September 2, 2025

Grade 8 Program



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Required Courses

- English 8
- Math 8
- Social Studies 8
- Science 8
- Physical and Health Education 8 (Hockey option – Beginner or Competitive)
- Applied Skills 8 Rotation (Subjects usually include Metalwork, Woodwork, Foods and/or Textiles, and some years Business)
- French 8 [*French 10 (French Immersion) or Learning Strategies*]
- Career Education 8

CHOICE: Fine Arts 8 Rotation

- Fine Arts 8 (Art, Drama, Media Design rotation)
- Band 8 Beginner
- Choir 8
- Band 8 Intermediate

OFF TIMETABLE: Jazz Band 8-12 or Strings Orchestra 8-12

Grade 8 Program

Typical School Day for Grade 8 Student (Semester Model)

- 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 8	Science 8
English 8	PHE 8
Fine Arts Rotation	Social Studies 8
French 8	Applied Skills Rotation

District Programs at PW

These placements are identified through articulation visits with elementary schools and referrals from:

- District Reception Centre (DRPC)
- District Learning Services (DLS)
- Mini school is through district applications.



English Language Learner 8
(ELL)



GOLD Program and Learning
Support Program (LSP) for
designated and referred
students



PW Mini School

Grade 8 Program

BELL SCHEDULE

BUT.. We don't have bells!

- Students are expected to know the schedule and be at their classes on time.
- Only a warning bell at 12:10 pm

	M / W	T / TH	F
FIT	8:40 to 9:20	n/a	n/a
Break	9:20 to 9:25	n/a	n/a
Block 1	9:25 to 10:25	8:40 to 10:00	8:40 to 10:00
Break	10:25 to 10:35	10:00 to 10:15	10:00 to 10:15
Block 2	10:35 to 11:35	10:15 to 11:35	10:15 to 11:35
Lunch	11:35 to 12:20	11:35 to 12:20	11:35 to 12:20
Block 3	12:20 to 1:40	12:20 to 1:20	12:20 to 1:40
Break	1:40 to 1:45	1:20 to 1:22	1:40 to 1:45
FIT	n/a	1:22 to 2:02	n/a
Break	n/a	2:02 to 2:05	n/a
Block 4	1:45 to 3:05	2:05 to 3:05	1:45 to 3:05

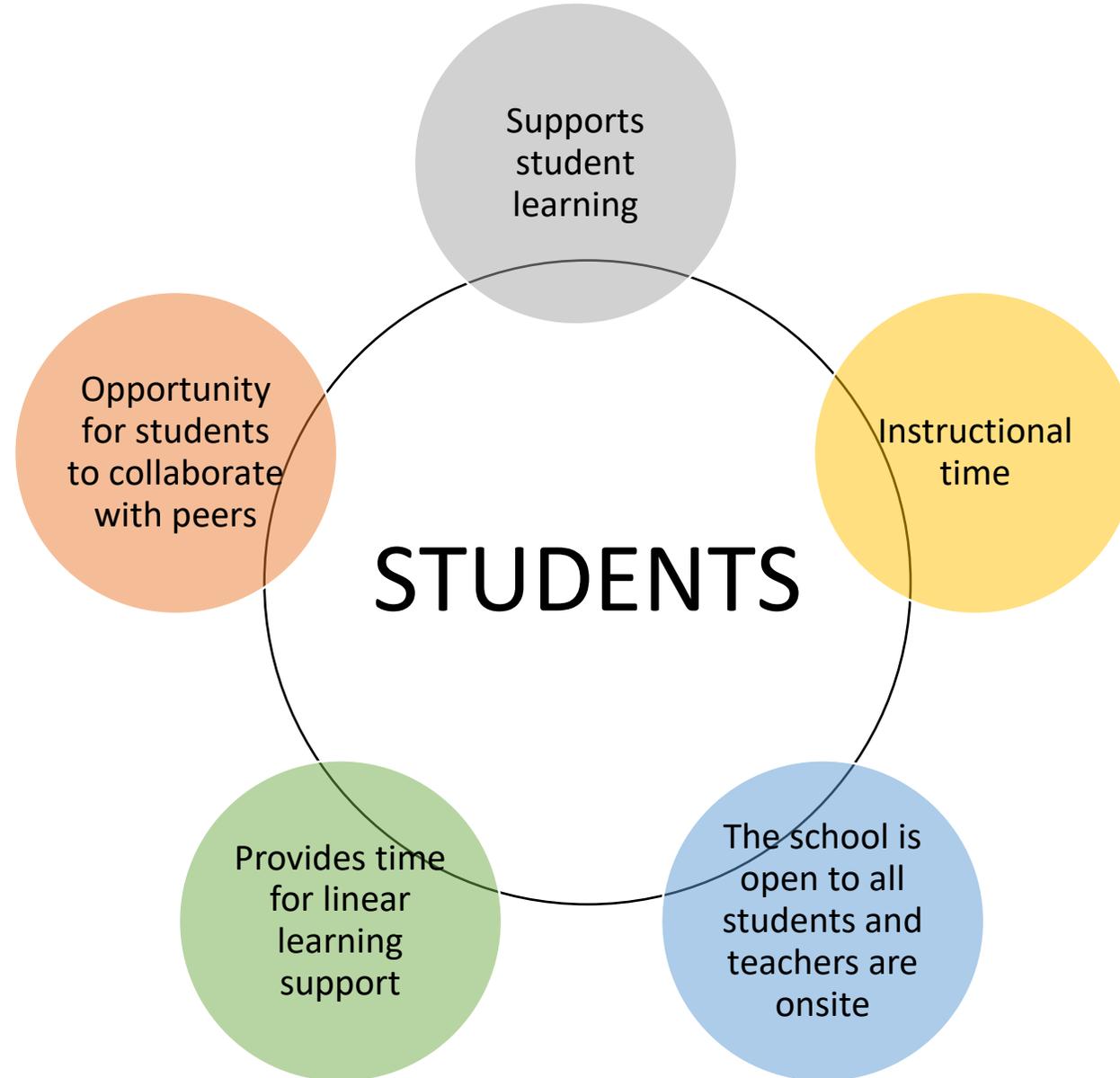
What does Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) look like?

FIT time is a 40-minute period of Instructional Time built into the schedule on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday that allows students to have some measure of choice and control over their own learning.

Students are expected to be in a classroom or learning space, completing school work (either individually or in groups), meeting with teachers for support on classwork, working on projects under teacher supervision or getting caught up on missed learning.



FIT- Flexible Instructional Time



Athletics

- Ultimate
- Volleyball
- Golf
- Tennis
- Basketball
- Table Tennis
- Badminton
- Soccer
- Hockey
- Rugby
- Cross-Country
- Swimming
- Wrestling
- Field Hockey
- Track & Field



Mr. Ben Lubiniski
Athletic Director
blubiniski@vsb.bc.ca

Extracurriculars

Athletics



CLUBS

YOU CAN START A CLUB IF WE ARE MISSING SOMETHING!

ACG Culture Club
Animal Club
Arts Club Extent
Badminton Club
Blood Drive Club
Board Games Club
Business Club
Chess Club
Creative Writing Club
Dance Club
Debate & Public Speaking Club
Feed the Streets Club

Feminism Club
Film Club
Garden Club
Health Club
Key Club
Library Volunteer
Club
Model United Nations Club
Math Club
Multicultural and Diversity Club
Music Club
Peer Tutoring Club

Programming Club
Psychology Club
Reconciliation & Anti-Racism Club
Robotics Club
Science & Engineering Club
Student Social Club
Sustainability Club
Ultimate Club



How can you be successful at PW?



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get Involved!



and so much more!



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GRADE 8 EXPERIENCES



Fine arts performances





Fine arts Projects 



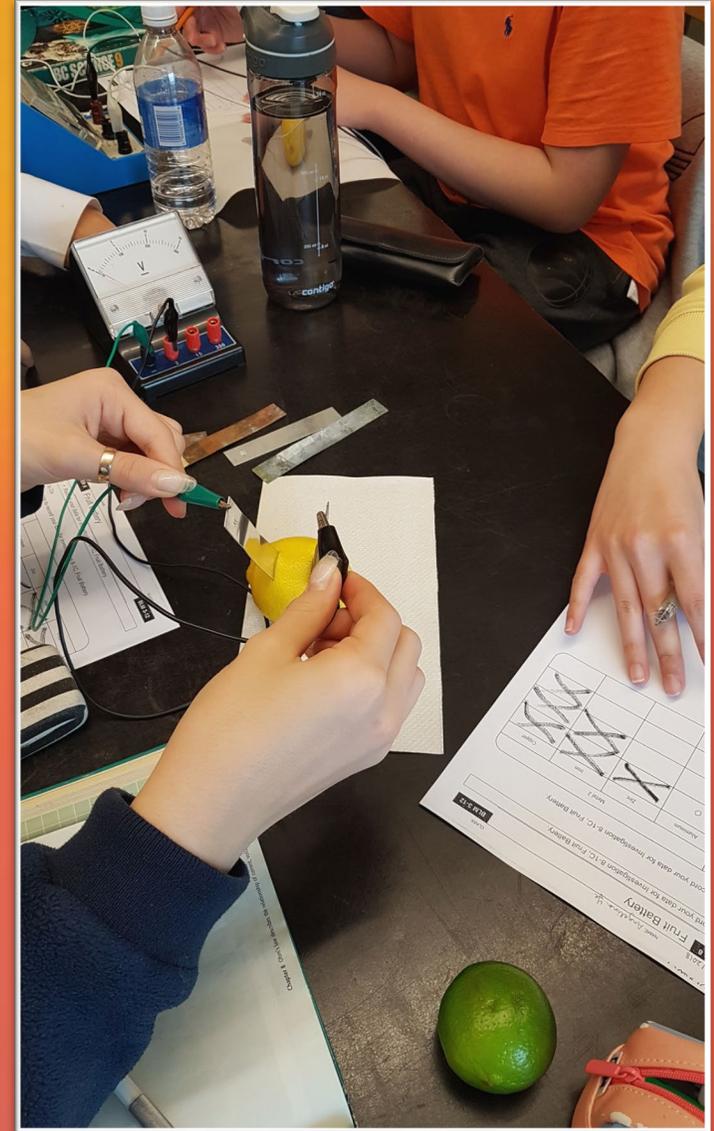
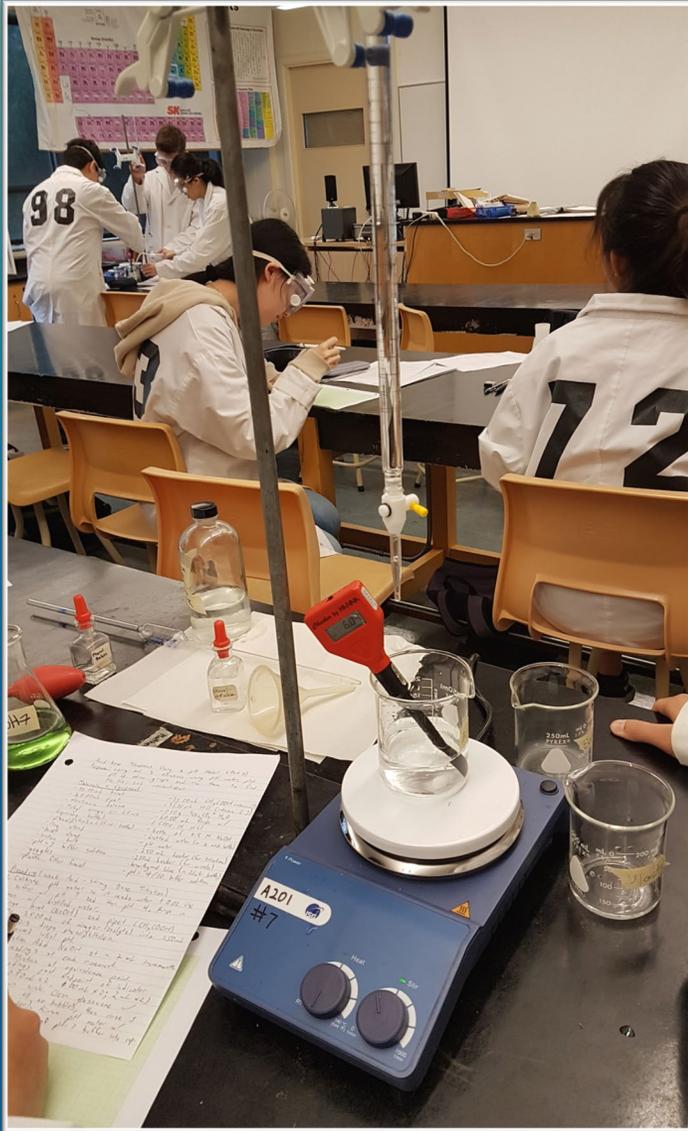
applied skills- wood & metal shops





Applied Skills- Food & Textile Labs





Classroom activities





Library - Learning Commons 



Student Council Events



CONTACT INFORMATION



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Ms. Rosa De Iaco
Department Head of Learning Support Services
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Mr. Joel Nelson
Vice-Principal
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Ms. Sangeeta Kauldher
Principal
skauldher@vsb.bc.ca



Website 

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/prince-wales>

EMAIL



FAQs



You also have a Mini Program – can we still apply?

What about the TREK Program?

What will the first day of school be like for Gr. 8s?

Can Gr. 8s leave campus during lunch hour?

What is your policy about cell phones in the classroom?

How do I help my child organize their time?

If I have questions or concern about how my child is doing, what is the best way to contact teachers?

How do I help my child navigate social media?

How does my child join clubs and teams?



QUESTIONS

