



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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*With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

## Principal's Message

Dear Students and Families,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer! We are looking forward to reconnecting with you in September. A special warm welcome to all students and families who are new to our stəywəte:ń Point Grey community.

We are also pleased to welcome the following new staff members to our school:

- Yvan Duguay, French & Career Life Education Teacher
- Liz Elliott, Drama Teacher
- Charlene Myers, School Support Assistant (SSA)
- Matthew Saplamaeff, Resource and Skills Teacher
- Dor Tabi, Learning Assistance/Life Skills (LA/LS) Teacher
- Kerri Timothy, Indigenous Education Worker

In this newsletter, you will find important information for the beginning of the school year, including the first day of school, MyEd BC login information, course change request process, PAC information, important dates for September, and key dates for the 2025-2026 school year. We also invite you to look on our [school website](#) for the weekly schedule, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other information. We are deeply grateful to our engineering, custodial and office teams for their outstanding work in preparing our school for opening day.

Our school's Indigenous name, stəywəte:ń (pronounced *sty-wa-tan*), was gifted to our school by the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) community in a naming ceremony on May 20th, 1998. stəywəte:ń means "the strength of the west wind," which brings storms, cleansings, and new beginnings. As we get ready to start a new school year, we invite you to embrace the strength of the west wind.

With Appreciation,

Michelle Wood  
Principal

## Mission Statement

We are committed to supporting and teaching a diverse group of students to learn, to critically reflect, and to care for themselves and others as they prepare to find their places in the world.

## School Start Up Information

Please check our [school website](#) for class schedules, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other information as the school year progresses.

### FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>

The first day of school is **Tuesday, September 2nd** (except for students in the Lifeskills and LALS programs).

- **Grades 9 – 12** students will attend at 9:30 – 10:00 am. Homeroom lists will be posted in the hallway outside the auditorium entrance. After checking the homeroom lists, students go directly to homeroom class. Please note that homeroom teachers and locations may change each year.
- **Grade 8** students will attend at 12:30 – 2:15 pm in the Auditorium for an assembly followed by a school tour lead by our Grade 12 Hounds Leaders as well as homeroom class.

#### The following will be handed out in homeroom class to students:

- Personalized Student Verification form printed from MyEdBC. Please review the information and make any changes neatly on the form (ex. emergency contacts, medical info, address). Address changes must be returned with one proof of address (ex. Hydro, Fortis, home insurance, BC Property Assessment, rental agreement). **If the information is correct do not return the form to the school office.**
- Emergency Student(s) Reunification Authorization form
- Camp Elphinstone package for Grade 8's. Completed forms must be returned by Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. Your cooperation is appreciated in submitting dietary restrictions and medical information to the camp.
- Class schedules will only be handed out on paper to our **new** students in grades 8 to 12. **All returning students will need to get their schedules online from MyEdBC, read the information below.**

### MYED BC CLASS SCHEDULE - OPENS BEFORE NOON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup>

**New students** will receive their schedule in homeroom class (on paper).

**Returning students** will need to sign onto MyEd BC Student Family Portal to see their schedule for the year.

- If the MyEd password has been forgotten try to reset this on your own by clicking: "I forgot my password" on the MyEd sign on screen - [My Ed Help & Login Page](#).
- If you are unsuccessful in getting a temporary password to sign-in you will have to get the account reset after homeroom class on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the school office. Please be prepared that there may be a line up.

**Please note that on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, office staff will be busy preparing for school opening and so will not be able to reset passwords over the phone, via email or in person. Thank you in advance for waiting until Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

### REQUEST FOR COURSE CHANGE(S)

Requests for course changes will only be permitted until Thursday, September 19, 2024 @ 3:00 pm. Please read the information on making online course changes here: [Online Course Change Requests 2025](#)

Students should only make requests for changes when necessary. Requests for specific teachers, for courses at specific times, or for specific semesters cannot be considered. After the on-line request is submitted, please continue to attend your classes (even if this course may be impacted by a change).

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**

The first full day of classes for all students will be **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at 8:40 am.**

Our school will be operating on a semester schedule that includes Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) and staff Collaborative Planning Time. Most students are enrolled in eight courses for the school year and take four courses during Semester 1 and another four courses during Semester 2. Classes will rotate halfway through each semester (November & April) – morning classes will only rotate with each other and only afternoon classes will rotate with each other. Please see the [weekly schedule](#) and [alternate schedule](#) here.

## **LATE RETURN TO SCHOOL PROCEDURE**

If your child(ren) will be returning late to school, complete this [Notice of Late Return 2025](#) form and email it to [pointgrey@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:pointgrey@vsb.bc.ca)

If we cannot verify your child's attendance at school by noon on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, your child's space will be given to another student on the school's waitlist.

## **SCHOOL FEES**

Standardized General school fees can be paid online through our website by clicking **Pay Fees** at the top of the website [Point Grey Pay Fees](#) or using the direct link [SchoolCash Online](#).

Standardized General school fees and Supplemental Course fees can be found [here](#). If paying by cash or cheque (payable to Point Grey Secondary) come to the school office.

Please note that Supplemental Course fees are not paid until the subject teacher asks for them.

## **STUDENT FORMS ARE NOW ONLINE**

The VSB student forms are online for all student forms that need to be completed. Once this is done you will not need to do this again every school year unless you want to change your consent for any of the forms. Please visit: <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca>

To log in you will need the student nine-digit PEN # (Personal Education Number). Please note this is different from the School Student #. The PEN # can be found:

- On any previous report card;
- Logging into MyEd, under top tab My Info; or
- Clicking "Request Student PEN" on the sign-in page at <https://myforms.vsb.bc.ca>

## **ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES**

Daily attendance is sent by email through MyEd to advise parents/guardians of student attendance. Student absences may also be seen by signing into the [MyEd Family Portal](#). **Parents/Guardians must email [pointgreyattendance@vsbb.c.ca](mailto:pointgreyattendance@vsbb.c.ca) if reporting absences.**

The email must contain the following information:

- Student Called First & Last Name
- Student #
- Grade
- Date(s) - specify full day, am/pm, or specific period(s) absent
- Reason for absence(s) / late(s)

Subject teachers may also be included in the email. Staff email addresses can be found on our school website under About Us > Our Staff or use this link [Staff Emails](#)

## MYED BC STUDENT AND FAMILY PORTAL

MyED BC is where students, parents/guardians can check for attendance and where the current Interim, Mid Semester, and Final Semester reports are posted. Make sure to always save or print a copy as the reports do not stay in the portal once the next semester starts.

MyEd is a shared portal so it's best if one person is in charge of the password and share it with everyone or you will get locked out. Please bookmark this site for [My Ed Help & Login Page](#).

Before the end of September, new students will receive an email sent to parents/guardians with the temporary password and instructions on how to set up their MyEd account. Click [here](#) for a tour of MyEd.

## ARTONA PHOTO DAY FOR STUDENT IDS

Photo day is on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria. A PA message will be announced when students should go down to the cafeteria. Artona will hand out a card with a QR code to be able to login and view the photo and purchase a package if you wish.

## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) *For Chinese translation click [here](#)*

Welcome to the new school year! As the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) of stəywəte:ń Point Grey Secondary, we want to offer a warm welcome to our new incoming parents as well as to all parents. Let's make this a year to remember!

### ***What exactly is the PAC?***

A PAC is the Ministry of Education's officially recognized voice of parents at schools, providing an opportunity for parents and guardians to advise on school programs, policies, plans and activities. We are a group of parents who support our teens, teachers, staff and administrators in making stəywəte:ń Point Grey Secondary a great experience for all. As part of our annual activities, we support social events, teacher and staff appreciation, opportunities for parent learning and fundraising for our school amongst other things.

As a parent of a child at stəywəte:ń Point Grey Secondary, you are automatically part of the PAC and we invite you to attend our monthly meetings where you'll have a chance to share your thoughts and get involved!

Our first meeting will be held on **September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:30 pm** in the library. It's a wonderful opportunity to come into the school, meet our principal and get to know other parents too. We look forward to seeing you there!

Melissa Barling & Cecelia Wang, Point Grey PAC Co-Chairs

## Upcoming Dates in September

Remember to check our [school website](#) main page under "Announcements" for daily schedules, monthly calendar, student agenda, and other information as the school year progresses.

- Thursday, September 4 .....Grade 8 Parent Welcome, 7:00 pm, Auditorium  
.....PAC Welcome Tea, 6:30 pm, outside the Auditorium
- Wednesday, September 10.....Collaborative Planning Day, late start for students, 10:10 am
- Friday, September 12 .....Artona Photo Day, Cafeteria
- Tuesday, September 16 .....Mini Parents' Association Meeting (Virtual or In Person TBD), 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, September 17 – 19 .....Grade 8 Camp Elphinstone
- Wednesday, September 18 .....PAC Meeting, 7:30 pm, Library (Room 208)
- Friday, September 26 .....Pro D, School not in Session for Students
- Monday, September 29 .....Wear Orange Shirt Day  
.....Music Supporters' Society Meeting, 7:00 pm, Zoom
- Tuesday, September 30.....National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (schools not in session)

**CALENDAR 2025 – 2026**

DATED MAY 2025

**stəywə:ń Point Grey Secondary School**

**Vancouver  
School Board**
**SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW**

Number of Days in Session	187
Number of Days of Instruction	180
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non-Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 26)

**IMPORTANT DATES**

First Day of School for Students	Tuesday, September 2, 2025
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 13, 2025
Remembrance Day	Tuesday, November 11, 2025
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 19, 2025
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 22, 2025 - Friday, January 2, 2026
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 5, 2026
Family Day	Monday, February 16, 2026
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 13, 2026
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 16 – Friday, March 27, 2026
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday, March 30, 2026
Good Friday	Friday, April 3, 2026
Easter Monday	Monday, April 6, 2026
Victoria Day	Monday, May 18, 2026
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 25, 2026
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 26, 2026

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS  
(SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION)**

Friday, September 26, 2025	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 24, 2025	Professional Development Day (Province wide)
Friday, November 21, 2025	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Friday, February 13, 2026	Professional Development Day (District wide)
Monday, April 20, 2026	Non Instructional Day
Friday, May 15, 2026	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)

**COLLABORATION DATES**
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Wednesday, September 10, 2025	Late Start for Students ..... 10:10 am
Wednesday, October 15, 2025	Early Dismissal for Students..... 1:35 pm
Wednesday, November 12, 2025	Late Start for Students ..... 10:10 am
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students..... 1:35 pm
Wednesday, February 11, 2026	Late Start for Students ..... 10:10 am
Wednesday, April 8, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students..... 1:35 pm
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Early Dismissal for Students..... 1:35 pm
Wednesday, June 10, 2026	Late Start for Students ..... 10:10 am

**PARENT CONFERENCE DATES**
**EARLY DISMISSAL TIMES**

Thursday, November 6, 2025	Early Dismissal ..... 2:05 pm - Semester 1
Tuesday, May 12, 2026	Early Dismissal ..... 2:05 pm - Semester 2