Phone: 604-713-8950

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August 25, 2023

Dear Students and Families,

School is starting soon and in this letter you will find all of the important information for the beginning of the first year including the first day of school.

I am very excited and pleased to be returning to Killarney where I was a vice-principal approximately a decade ago.

In life, we always have the opportunity to begin again and see things fresh, but the beginning of a school year is always a special time to consider new ways – clubs, teams, choirs, councils. I hope you get involved, and find a way to belong, be yourself, and experience something new that allows for your growth.

Welcome and Welcome back!

Chris Parker, Principal

2023-2024

COUNSELLORS & ADMINISTRATORS

Principal: Mr. C. Parker Vice Principal: Mr. M. Nakada (gr. 8) Vice Principal: Mr. B. Soong (gr. 10/12) Vice Principal: Ms. S. Underwood (gr. 9/11)

Counsellors

Grade 8: Mr. L. Nerling Grade 9: Ms. T. Romano Grade 10: Ms. S. Glynianyi Grade 11: Ms. A. Sum/Mr. R. Ferguson Grade 12: Mr. H. Clark



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Student Attendance Week of Sept. 4th

September 4	Labour Day, No School			
September 5	Orientation Day, students to report to the Auditorium at the following times:			
	9am	Grade 9s		
	10am	Grade 10s		
	11am	Grade 11s		
	12pm	Grade 12s		
	12:45pm	Grade 8s (and link crew)		
	grade 9 to 12 students will be at school for approximately 45 minutes, grade 8 students will be at school for approximately 2 hours.			

September 6-8 Regular schedule begins (there will be no homeroom). Bell schedule

MyEdBC & Student Schedules

Student MyEdBC accounts will be available to students/parents on **Friday, August 25th @ 3pm**. You will not be able to log on before this time. Please use your username and password from last year or click <u>here</u> for information on how to reset your password. Please note the primary email address for your MyEdBC account is your student email. If you continue to have problems resetting your password please email: <u>killarney@vsb.bc.ca</u>.

Grade 8 students will be able to log in using their student ID (found on the course verification form sent to you in the spring) as your username and **Dist\$2024** as your password. You will be asked to reset your password upon logging in. Click <u>here</u> for more detailed instructions.

Students new to the district should use the default password **Dist\$2024**. You will be asked to change your password once you have logged on.

Link for MyEdBC: <u>https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do</u> Need help with MyEdBC? Click <u>here</u>.

How do I find my schedule? Click <u>here</u> for instructions on how to check your schedule.

Microsoft Office 365

You will have access to <u>Office 365</u> to use in everyday learning, school assignments, presentations and to access VSB email. If you are having difficulty accessing your Microsoft 365 account please click <u>here</u> to reset your password. You will need to have your PEN (Personal Education Number) which can be found on your MyEdBC account.

Click for our <u>Technology Guide</u> if you require further assistance.

Notice of Late Return

Please complete the following <u>Notice of Late Return Form</u> if your student will not be returning to school before Friday, September 9th. The form can be emailed to <u>klrnabsences@vsb.bc.ca</u>.



2023/24 Killarney Calendars & Bell Schedules

Our calendar and bell schedule can be found on our website. <u>Bell schedule</u> <u>Calendar at a Glance</u> Important dates

Message from Counsellors

We are so excited to be back at school and cannot wait to see you all! The Counselling Suite will be open daily and available to all students anytime to see us. Please pop in and say 'hi' when you have a minute, as we'd all love to reconnect with you and meet our new students. The first few weeks will be a busy time for everyone as we adjust to being back and getting used to our school routines. During this busy time, Counsellors will be continuing to organize students into their classes, so your patience will be greatly appreciated as we will be making sure that all students are scheduled into classes.

We would also like to welcome Mr. Nerling to the counselling team! Mr. Nerling will be the new grade 8 counsellor at Killarney, and he is looking forward to meeting you all!

Student schedules - Adding/Dropping/Changing Courses - last week of August

Student schedules can be viewed by the end of the day on Friday, August 25.

All returning students will have timetables that were based on their course selection in the spring.

Counselors will be in on August 29-September 1 in order to meet new families and build timetables for (priority 1) new students.

Students who do not have a full schedule (priority 2), may come in to add a course on August 29th and 30, but new families will be given priority.

Students seeking to change their courses (priority 3) may try to do so on August 30 all day, August 31 in the AM only and September 1 in the PM only. Please know that priority on these days will be given to new families and students who are missing courses. Students will also have the opportunity to change courses in the first week of school outside of class time.

***Please **do not** email your counsellor for course changes as we will be serving students in person only for these changes!!!

We would also like to remind students that while we try our very best to fulfill all course request changes sometimes this is not possible. Flexibility will be appreciated as we attempt to get everyone scheduled.

Mr. Clark - Grade 12 - <u>hjclark@vsb.bc.ca</u> Ms. Sum & Mr. Ferguson - Grade 11 - <u>asum@vsb.bc.ca</u> & <u>rferguson@vsb.bc.ca</u> Ms. Glynianyi - Grade 10 - <u>sglynianyi@vsb.bc.ca</u> Mrs. Romano - Grade 9 - <u>tromano@vsb.bc.ca</u> Mr. Nerling - Grade 8 - <u>Inerling@vsb.bc.ca</u>



Grade 8 Students

Hello Grade 8 Students and Parents,

My name is Mr. Nakada and I will be your Grade 8 Administrator this year. On behalf of the Killarney Secondary community, I would like to extend an enormous welcome to you all. We look forward to working with you from this September and for the next five years. You are the class of 2028. The jump from elementary school to secondary school is a big one, and we hope to fill these coming years with opportunities for personal growth, challenges, and knowledge that you can use well beyond your high school years. I want to assure you that we will do what we can to assist you so your transition to secondary school can go as smooth as possible. My goals for you are to feel safe and comfortable at Killarney, and for you to feel challenged, inspired and supported. Take a few minutes in the next two weeks to think about what goals you have for yourself and what you hope you will be able to accomplish and experience in your grade 8 year. I'm looking forward to meeting you in the coming weeks and will always be available to help in any way I can.

At this time, you still have some time to rest and relax before coming back to school. With that said, I wanted to pass along some items you will be receiving more information on next week:

Our secondary school system has two online platforms for you to use. The first is My Education BC (MYED), which is our student information system. On this platform, you and your parents will be able to see the student daily schedule, report cards, and attendance. As for courses, all Grade 8 students will be given a standard schedule and we have done our best to accommodate your chosen elective. This schedule will be available in the MYED Student Family Portal from August 30th.

The other platform is Microsoft Office 365 (O365) which is a whole suite of tools to support your learning. On this platform, students will be able to do everything from communicate electronically with school staff and peers, store files, create documents and presentations, and it is all online so it can be accessed while at school or at home. Information on how to log in to MYED and O365 will be coming next week for you to try at home and we will assist you more in your classes.

The first full day of classes will be Sept. 6th, 2023. The day will start at 8:40am and end at 3:05pm.

My email address is <u>mnakada@vsb.bc.ca</u>. Your Grade 8 Counsellor for this year is Mr. Nerling. His email address is <u>lnerling@vsb.bc.ca</u> and he will be available by email from August 28th. If you would like to see your counsellor, please send an email to set up an appointment.

Again, more information will be coming out next week so continue to enjoy your summer. I will close off with Frequently Asked Questions.

FAQ's

- How do we get our daily classes and schedules? They will be available after August 25th on the MYED BC Student Family Portal. See above for log in instructions. Printed schedules will also be available for pick up in the auditorium on Orientation Day.
- Will we get a locker? Yes, you will be assigned a locker this year that you will have for the school year. Two locks will be provided as part of your school fees. One is for your hallway locker and the other is for your PE change room locker.



- Food? Our cafeteria will be open for service, as well as vending machines. Of course, you are welcome to bring your own food and snacks.
- How will I find out where my classes are? What do I do if I am stressed or worried? Come and ask any adult or LINK CREW member (they will have T-shirts on identifying themselves). We are always happy to help. Grade 8's will also get an agenda book and it will have a map. Our school is 3 floors, and we have 4 wings. It is pretty big, but you will have the hang of it in no time!
- What should I bring to school? A water bottle (we have filling stations throughout the school), snacks/lunch, a binder and stationery (pens, pencils, paper). Your individual teachers will outline other more specific things for you.
- Who do I tell if I am sick and need to miss school? Parents, please email: <u>klrnabsences@vsb.bc.ca</u> with the students First and Last Name, Student Number and Reason for absence. Follow up with an email to their teacher: <u>https://www.vsb.bc.ca/killarney/page/2521/our-staff</u>
- Where can I get more information about the school? Visit our website at: <u>https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/killarney/Pages/default.aspx</u>