



# MACCORKINDALE 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), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).*

## Principal's Message



Happy New Year MacCorkindale Families!

I hope you enjoyed a restful and joyful winter break. As we begin 2026, I'm excited to welcome our staff and students back to school and continue building a positive, engaging learning environment together. We are thrilled to have Ms. Yan return from her maternity leave! I am also happy to announce that we finally have a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) joining our team temporarily. Welcome Ms. Payne to MacCorkindale! Over the next couple of months, classes will enjoy skating sessions at Killarney rink, a wonderful way to stay active and have fun during the winter season.

January is a time for fresh starts and new goals. It's also a great opportunity to establish helpful routines, such as ensuring students arrive on time and prepared with everything they need for the day- including their lunch. With close to 300 students in our building, dropping off forgotten items during the day is very disruptive and interrupts learning. By making sure your child comes ready for the day, you help create a calm, focused environment for everyone.

Our team is committed to supporting every child's academic, social, and emotional growth in the months ahead. Thank you for your continued partnership- we're looking forward to a fantastic year together!

## Arriving for School On Time- It Matters!



A consistent morning routine helps children feel prepared and ready to learn, setting a positive tone for the entire day. When students arrive **on time with all their belongings**, they can participate in essential morning activities such as reviewing the "shape of the day" with their class. This daily overview helps children understand what to expect, reduces anxiety, and supports the development of executive functioning skills—such as planning, organization, and time management—that are critical for lifelong success. Late arrivals can disrupt these routines and make it harder for students to settle in. By ensuring your child is at school before the bell, you are helping them start the day calmly and confidently.

## Winter Weather



**Be in the know, winter is coming!**

Follow VSB on social media to stay updated about school closures due to severe weather.

During extreme weather conditions (heavy snowfall, extreme cold, freezing rain, extreme heat, etc.) VSB schools will remain open if possible.

If a District-wide closure is necessary, it will be announced by 6:30 a.m.

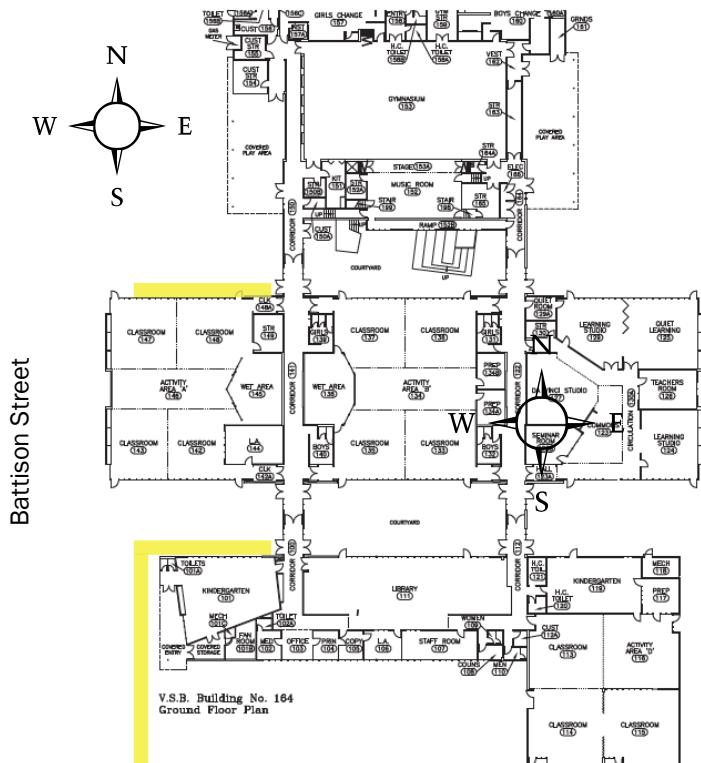
Stay updated:  
Facebook: Vancouver School Board  
Instagram: @vsb39  
X: @vsb39  
VSB website: [vsb.bc.ca](http://vsb.bc.ca)

VSB Vancouver School Board

## Snow Safety and Access During Winter Weather

# SNOW PRIORITY ACCESS

## MACCORKINDALE



## Key

  Priority Access Routes  
Cleared & Salted by Operations

As winter weather arrives, please note that only the highlighted areas on the attached map will be cleared of snow as a priority. These include the **two main entrances to the school** and the **path leading toward the parking lot on the south side**. Other areas, such as playgrounds, blacktop surfaces, and rear classroom doors, will not be cleared by Operations.

If snow conditions make it unsafe to use classroom doors for entry or dismissal, students will **enter the school through the main entrance when the bell rings** and walk to their classrooms. At the end of the day, students will be **dismissed from the front of the school**.

The Grounds Department will clear perimeter sidewalks and the parking lot as staffing allows, but please be aware that snow clearing beyond these priority areas may be limited.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in keeping everyone safe during winter conditions!

### Everyday is an OUTSIDE day!



A friendly reminder that every day is an outside day; so please ensure your child(ren) comes to school dressed for the weather, whether it's rain, snow or shine. Many students are coming to school with hoodies; cotton gets wet easily and does NOT dry quickly!! We also recommend having **an extra change of clothes** in their backpack, in case your child needs to change during the day. Thank you for helping to keep our students comfortable and ready for outdoor activities!

### New Lunch (Again)

Our teachers have shared strong support for adjusting lunch routines so that students eat before they play. We have returned to the "Eat First, Play Later". We are gathering feedback and reviewing data to ensure we choose the lunch routine that best supports student learning. Thank you to those who have already shared their thoughts. If you haven't already, please share your thoughts by completing this form: [Lunch Logistics – Fill out form](#)



### Middle Years Development Instrument- MDI



The MDI is a self-report questionnaire for students in BC. The questionnaire asks about how students think and feel about their experiences both inside and outside of school. The questionnaire is completed online through the e-MDI and takes 45 to 60 minutes to administer. The MDI questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies. You can learn more about the MDI here: <http://www.discovermdi.ca/what-is-the-mdi/>. The MDI will be administered between January 13-March 13, 2026 to all Grade 6 students.

### Student Learning Survey

The Vancouver School Board is participating in the 2026 Ministry of Education Electronic Anonymous Student Learning Survey Project in cooperation with all other school districts throughout the Province.

Parents/Guardians/Caregivers can complete the online Anonymous Student Learning Surveys any time **before May 1, 2026**, providing immediate results to the school and the district.

#### To complete the survey:

1. Use any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access
2. Go to [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)
3. Click on “Parents”
  - District: 39-Vancouver
  - School: *Dr. HN MacCorkindale*
  - Language: *the language of your choice*
4. Click on the blue “Logon” button



### Skating Field Trips

All classes will enjoy at least two skating field trips between January and March. Notices with details and payment information were sent home this week. It is highly encouraged that students bring mitts/gloves and warm clothing for this field trip! They should also have rain gear for the walk.



### Elementary District Choice Programs

VSB is proud to offer a wide range of educational options for different types of learners. Our elementary district choice programs include French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual, Indigenous Focus, Montessori, and Fine Arts. For further details about each program, please visit the [VSB elementary programs webpage](#). If you'd like to learn more about how these district choice programs are delivered and how they differ from the regular stream, tune in to [Episode 13 of the VSB: After the Bell Podcast](#)

### Kindergarten Registration



Priority enrolment to register your child for kindergarten continues until January 31, 2026. See link for more information and details regarding registration: [VSB Priority Kindergarten Registration](#).

### Proposed School Calendars for 2026-29

After working with the District Calendar Advisory Committee, the VSB has proposed school calendars for the next three years (2026–2027, 2027–2028 and 2028–2029) which have been posted on the [district website](#).

As required under the BC School Act, the District is holding an open comment period from December 15, 2025 to January 16, 2026. We are asking families to share their comments about the proposed calendars to [engage@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:engage@vsb.bc.ca). An email about this will be sent to all families in the district. For more information about the calendar development process, visit [govsb.ca/calendar](http://govsb.ca/calendar).



### Important Dates

Monday, January 5	School Re-opens
Monday, January 12	Pro-D- NO School for Students
Tuesday, January 13	Killarney Band Performance
Thursday, January 15	Killarney Anti-Bullying Presentation (Intermediates)
Monday, January 26	BC Lions Energy Champions Presentation
Friday, January 30	BYB Assembly



### Planning Ahead



Friday, February 13	Pro-D- NO School for Students
Monday, February 16	Family Day- NO School
Friday, February 27	BYB Assembly

### One to One Reading Workshop

In November, we hosted a reading workshop for early primary families. We're excited to share with you that ONE TO ONE is collaborating with the Vancouver Public Library to host a Parent Reading Workshop at the Central Library on Saturday, January 31st, during Family Literacy Week. Kids will enjoy a facilitated library program while their parents are in the workshop. If there you would like to attend, please register below. Seats are limited!



[Registration Link: Parent Reading Workshop with ONE TO ONE Literacy](#)

Saturday, January 31, 2026  
10:30 am – 12:00 pm  
Central Library

### PAC News

Our next PAC meeting will be January 20th at 6:30pm in the library, all parents and guardians are welcome, babysitting is provided. The City of Vancouver is planning on doing a presentation about the proposed traffic calming plan that will affect the neighbourhood so we encourage everyone to come.

We will be hosting our next Movie Night on January 23rd, more details to come.

We are requesting volunteers to help assist with the hot lunch program, you can sign up to help here:  
<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C0F4BA5AB2DA3F8C07-60755202-winter>

Please follow us on Instagram:

[https://www.instagram.com/maccorkindale\\_pac?igsh=MWZjMnhpZ2piY3psZQ==](https://www.instagram.com/maccorkindale_pac?igsh=MWZjMnhpZ2piY3psZQ==)

and facebook for more updates

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