

# **G.P. VANIER FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**



## **Important Dates**

**Feb 5 – 7**

**Grad Photo Retakes**

**Feb 16**

**Non-Instructional Day/Pro-D Day**

**Feb 19**

**Family Day – No School**

**Feb 20**

**Parent Advisory Council Meeting 6:30 pm**

**Feb 20 – 23**

**Vanier Class Visits for Course Selection**

**Feb 21**

**Parent Night for Course Selection 6:30 pm**

**Feb 21**

**Gr 9 Immunizations**

**Feb 26 – 29**

**Vanier Online Course Selection**

**Mar 1**

**Online Course Selection Closes**

**Mar 4 – 8**

**Parent Teacher Contact**

**Mar 6**

**FLEX Day**

**Mar 7**

**Bursary Application Pkg Due 1:00 pm**

**Mar 16<sup>th</sup> – April 1**

**Spring Break**

# **NEWSLETTER CONTENT**



**Music.....Vanier Band**

**Grad 2024 & Introduction..... Important Dates**

**Bursaries & Scholarships.....Info and Newsletter**

**Grad Class Attire Program.....Dates and Booking Info**

**YDI Info for Gr 11's .....Information/Links**

**News Release.....Comox Valley Transit**

**Counselling Office .....Post Secondary Info**

**Field Trips.....Info and Forms**

**News From SD71.....Parent Resources/Upcoming Events**

**MYED Parent Portal.....Login Info**





## **VANIER BAND**

- **The Vanier Jr. Band has qualified for MusicFest Canada – The Nationals! Students from the band who chose to participate will be travelling to Toronto in May to perform at the University of Toronto School of Music. The students are raising funds to support this trip through various fundraisers.**

**February 10<sup>th</sup> – Bottle Drive from 9:00 – 3:00 pm. If you cannot make that date, you can still drop off at the Courtenay Return-It Depot (Account #530) and support the music student's travel**

- **Details of all Vanier Music Department Fundraising are located [Here](#)**  
**Fundraisers are in support of music student travel options for grades 8-12.**
- **Get ready for spring planting by ordering from West Coast Seeds and supporting the Vanier Music Department at the same time! Order deadline is January 31. Click [Here](#)**



- **Raffle Tickets on sale now! \$2.00 each! Sales end on February 26, draw on February 29<sup>th</sup>. Music Students have tickets for sale or contact information [HERE](#)**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Prizes: One cord of firewood per winner, split and delivered within the Comox Valley (\$400 value)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Handmade Artisan Quilt (\$300 value)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Sayward Valley Fireweed Honey – 6 x 375ml and 1 x 750ml (\$150 value)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Gift Card Bundle (\$200 value)**

- **The Vanier Music Parents are planning a Spring Vendor Market in the Vanier Gym. More details coming soon to the Vanier Music Fundraising Page.**
- **Trivia Night (Friday, February 9) – hosted by the Vanier Music Parents Association. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the game starts at 7:00. \$15 a ticket or \$100 for a team of 8. General Knowledge Trivia buffs, come out for a fun evening in the Vanier Multi-Purpose Room!**





### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- \* Feb 5, 6, 7 – Grad Photo Retakes
- \* May 8 – Grad BBQ 8:00 pm
- \* June 21 – Grad Rehearsal 10:30 am
- \* **June 26 - Grad 2024**



## **GRAD 2024**



### **Hello families of students anticipated to graduate in June 2024: Items to know:**

**Happy New Year to you all. I have joined Vanier and am the VP in charge of graduation, and I am enjoying getting to know many students and I look forward to meeting you, too.**

- **At risk letters were sent home in Dec if your student was appearing to be deficient in grad requirements/credits, to minimize surprises in June.**
- **Flex days should be fully used if your child is needing more time or extra help with a course.**
- **Grad photo re-takes are bookable now – we are exploring a later time for the students who are now enrolled at NIC in Campbell River for trades programs – be sure to communicate what you are seeking. For more info click [HERE](#)**
- **Next meeting for Grad students will be on Fri, Feb 2 in the MPR at 10:30 am. We will talk about bursary/scholarship applications and what to be aware about with required credits and essential parts of the Grad Diploma.**
- **Next meeting for parents will happen sometime in February to start collecting and sharing ideas and answering questions.**
- **Grad is on Wed, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. Ensure you make arrangements early. Important dates around grad will continue to be updated as items are announced on the Grad Tab on the Vanier Webpage [Here](#)**

**Questions are welcome – either phone or email me. Stay warm!!**

**Erica Black (VP) [ericablack@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:ericablack@sd71.bc.ca)**

# Bursaries & Scholarships



## VANIER BURSARY/SCHOLARSHIPS

**The G.P. Vanier Bursary/Scholarship program opened to Gr 12 students on January 31, 2024.**

**Information can be found on the G.P. Vanier Website under the “Grad” tab. All G.P. Vanier students are strongly encouraged to apply. Students have until Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm to hand in their completed applications.**

**The Vanier Scholarship, Bursary & Student Loan Newsletter is available on our school website for grade 12 students who are starting to research ways to pay for their post-secondary education.**

**Click [HERE](#)**

**Post-Secondary Information for Vanier Parents and Guardians can be found [HERE](#)**

## **Grad Attire Program**

**The Grad Attire Program welcomes all grade 12 students in Comox Valley Schools to have the opportunity to wear a gown or suit on graduation day without the financial burden of purchasing a brand-new outfit for their milestone event.**

**\* All clothing and accessories are free of charge**

**The Grad Class Attire project will operate out of Comox Valley Dodge at 278 North Island Highway (Old Canadian Tire building) on the following dates from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm:**

**Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**



**You can book a fitting appointment [HERE](#)**

**For more information on the Grad Attire Program, click [HERE](#)**

**Donations can be dropped off at G.P. Vanier on school days between 8 am – 4 pm. Items can also be dropped off at Comox Valley Dodge during operating hours.**

***\*After a period of time, clothing that was generously donated but not selected, will be distributed to a local second-hand clothing store.***

**If you have any questions or would like to donate to the program, please contact Kelley Giorgianni [kelly.giorgianni@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:kelly.giorgianni@sd71.bc.ca) or Susan Quinton [susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca)**





## **The YDI at a Glance**

**The YDI is a self-report survey gathering youth voices ages 15 to 18. It was developed collaboratively with youth, researchers, educators, and health professionals. It offers valid and reliable data on youth's development, health, and well-being to support action aimed at creating conditions in which youth can flourish. YDI aligns with BC Mental Health in Schools Strategy. **Vanier's grade 11 students will be filling in the survey February 12-15<sup>th</sup>.****

## **Contact Information**

**YDI Team Contact: [ydi@sfu.ca](mailto:ydi@sfu.ca)**

**Dr. Hasina Samji (YDI Principal Investigator): [hsamji@sfu.ca](mailto:hsamji@sfu.ca)**



# Feb 6 is New Date for the SD#71 Careers Session on District Programs and Opportunities

## Dual Credit (Academics & Trades)

### Parent/Student Information Evening

G.P. Vanier Secondary School — Multipurpose Room

**NEW DATE** Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 **NEW DATE**

**Academic only Session: 6:30pm—7:30pm**

**Trades only Session 7:30pm—8:30pm**

Gain knowledge on how your child can take advantage of dual credit opportunities within the academics or trades during their senior year to help transition them into post secondary or a career.

Learn about:

- Sponsored tuition in a college program.
- Planning your Grade 11/12 years to include dual credit.
- Semester Trades Samplers
- Entrance requirements to programs
- Opportunities for students currently working
- Transitioning into a career



For more information visit  
[comoxvalleyschools.ca/career-programs](http://comoxvalleyschools.ca/career-programs)



Comox Valley Schools  
Career Programs



SKILLED TRADES BC  
**YOUTH**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

# **Service suspended in Campbell River and Comox Valley**



**BC Transit is notifying its riders that Unifor Local 114 operating under PWTransit Canada is continuing job action and service in the Campbell River and Comox Valley Transit Systems remains suspended until further notice.**

**handyDART service has been deemed essential for customers with appointments related to medical need and will continue to operate Monday through Friday during this service disruption. All other customers with pre-booked trips will be notified of cancellation.**

**BC Transit is closely monitoring the situation and sincerely apologizes to customers for the inconvenience caused by this matter. We understand the frustration felt by customers, and that the job action is difficult for everyone involved in these communities.**

**We know that many of our students rely on the transit bus to get to and from school. If transportation is an issue for your family getting to and from Vanier, please contact your child's counsellor.**

## News from the Counselling Office



### District Authority Awards

**These awards worth \$1,250 recognize excellence in non-academic fields, including Fine Arts, Applied Skills, Physical Activity, Second Languages, Community Service, and Technical and Trades Training. More information can be found in the Vanier Bursary and Scholarship Booklet available January 31, 2024.**



**Our goal is to empower students toward positive change and to help them to have the most successful high school experience possible!**

**School Counsellor:**

**Katherine Brach (A-G) [katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca)**

**Stephanie Morris (H-N) [stephanie.morris@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:stephanie.morris@sd71.bc.ca)**

**Jocelyn Schultz (O-Z) [jocelyn.schultz@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:jocelyn.schultz@sd71.bc.ca)**

**Youth and Family Support Worker:**

**Sherry Patterson – [sherry.patterson@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:sherry.patterson@sd71.bc.ca)**

**To Book an Appointment Click [Here](#)**



**If you are planning on volunteering for field trips or sporting events, drivers MUST complete the following:**

- Volunteer Driver Form**      Click [Here](#)
- Criminal Record Check**      Click [Here](#)
- Code of Conduct Form**      Click [Here](#)
- Driver's Abstract**
- Copy of Driver's License**
- Proof of Insurance (1 million 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability)**

**If you are planning on volunteering as a coach or chaperone, you MUST complete a Criminal Records Check – Click [HERE](#)**

**\*Code of Conduct forms must be signed before participating in any sport.**

**\*Criminal Record Checks are held for 3 years in our database and may be accessed by other schools in the district.**

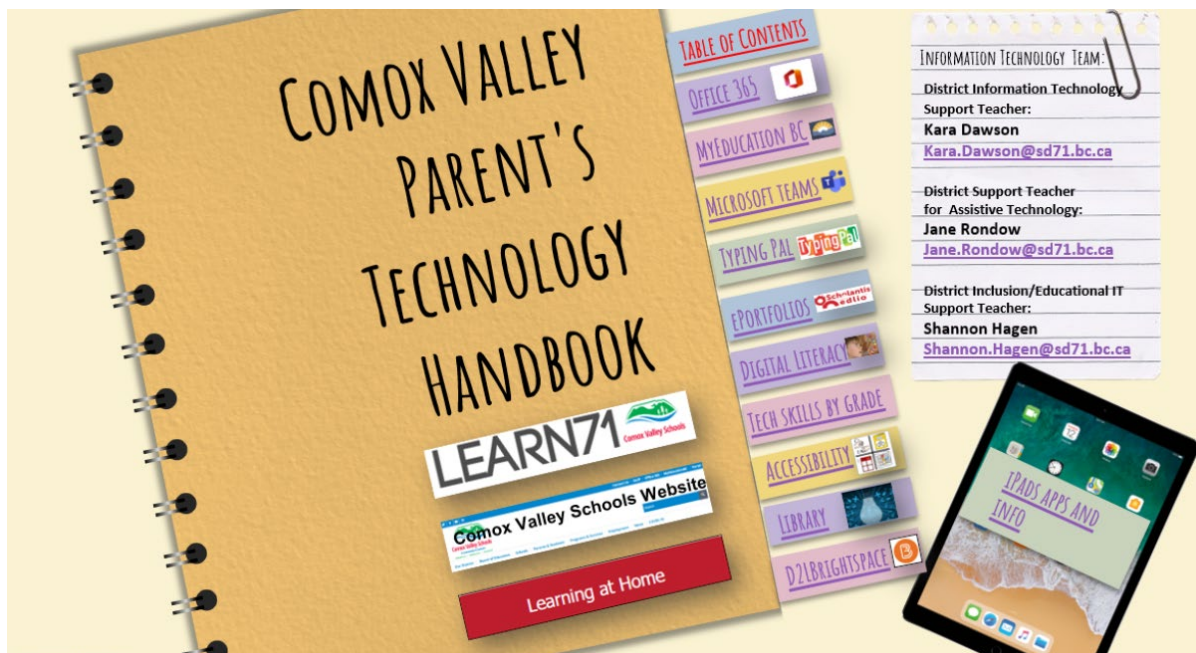
**For more information, please contact Susan Quinton**  
[susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca)





# Comox Valley Schools

A Community of Learners



## Parent Technology Resources

**Parent's Technology Handbook can be found [HERE](#)  
Support learning at home. Find out more about Microsoft  
Teams, D2L Brightspace, Scholantis/ePortfolios, Office 365  
and Email, Counsellor's Corner and other tools.**

## ERASE (Expect, Respect and a Safe Education)



[ERASE \(Expect, Respect and a Safe Education\)](#)  
[Click HERE](#)

**ERASE is all about building safe and caring school communities. This includes empowering students, parents educators, and the community partners who support them to get help with challenges, report concerns to schools, and learn about complex issues facing students. The ministry website has been updated to include information on [consent and the prevention of gender-based violence \(click HERE\)](#).**

**[Erase Report It \(click here\)](#) – an important tool for ensuring students or caring others can anonymously share something they've seen or heard that concerns them.**



# Information for Parents & Caregivers

## K-12 Student Reporting Policy Support Materials

**K-12 Student Reporting Policy implementation resources have been developed to support educators, school leaders, and district leaders. These resources include Policy Guidelines with a new comprehensive FAQ section, an Educator Summary Guide, presentation slides, information sheets, and a self-paced webinar series. Support materials for parents and caregivers that explain the shifts in how student learning will be communicated are also available.**

[K-12 Student Reporting Information for Parents and Caregivers | Building Student Success - B.C. Curriculum \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://gov.bc.ca)





## **MYED PARENT PORTAL**

### **Parents, are you on MYED?**

**Our student system, MyEducation BC, is a great resource for parents.**

**You can access:**

**Your child's schedule**

**Your child's assignments, completed and outstanding**

**Your child's attendance**

**Teacher email addresses**

**If you have not accessed your account before, please contact [susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca) to help set up your account.**

**If you have an account, but have not used it for more than three months, you will need to request a new password.**

**Please note, as this is a Ministry of Education website containing confidential information, passwords need to be changed every 3 months.**

**If you have any concerns, please contact your child's teacher. Our administrators are also available to speak with and work on the last name alpha system:**

**A-G**      **Dave Mayert** [david.mayert@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:david.mayert@sd71.bc.ca)

**H-N**      **Jennifer Fritzsche** [jennifer.fritzsche@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:jennifer.fritzsche@sd71.bc.ca)

**O-Z**      **Erica Black** [erica.black@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:erica.black@sd71.bc.ca)



# **Indigenous-Focused Graduation** **Requirement**

**The Indigenous-focused graduation requirement has come into effect for the 2023/24 school year. All students working towards the B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) – in English or French – are now required to complete the new graduation requirement, including students at B.C. certified offshore schools.**

**Updated resources including an Implementation Handbook, Parent Brochure (available in 8 languages), Q&A, and Board/Authority Authorized (BA) Guidebook are available for students and parents.**



## QuitNow!

**QuitNow has launched a brand-new site made for youth who vape and are interested in quitting or reducing their use. The site provides information and interactive activities on the health risks of vaping, the benefits of quitting vaping, and coping with addiction and mental health. There is also a step-by-step guide that youth can use to quit or reduce vaping.**

**Click [here](#) for more info**

Cut Down or Quit Vaping: The steps towards a vape-free life | QuitNow

quitnow.ca

