

G.P. VANIER

JANUARY NEWSLETTER



Important Dates

Jan 8	First Day Back
Jan 10	Parent Band Meeting (5:30 pm)
Jan 17	Flex Day
Jan 23	Parent Advisory Council Meeting 6:30 pm
Jan 24	FLEX DAY/Lit 10 & Num 10 Assessment
Jan 26	Quarter 2 Ends/Semester 1 Ends
Jan 29	Non-Instructional Day – No Classes
Jan 30	Quarter 3 Begins/Semester 2 Begins
Jan 31	Bursary Program Opens to Students

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

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

January

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Change of School Administrator

We would like to congratulate and offer our best wishes to Vice Principal Lee McKillican as he starts his new role in January, as principal of Royston Elementary. Mr. McKillican has been a mainstay in the Vanier office for almost 5 years, working with staff and students, grad events, professional development, and many other admin roles. He will be missed.

Also starting in January, Vanier welcomes Mrs. Erica Black as vice principal, as she looks for a new challenge and some secondary experience. She will take over the O-Z student alphabet, grad, and other portions of the portfolio. If you need to connect with her regarding your student, her email is erica.black@sd71.bc.ca

NEWS RELEASE

Current as of December 22nd

Please be advised of the following alert for all routes in the Comox Valley Transit System:



Service disruption facing customers in Campbell River and the Comox Valley.

BC Transit is notifying its riders that Unifor Local 114 operating under PWTransit Canada has indicated increasing job action and will cease service in the Campbell River and Comox Valley Transit Systems as of the start of the scheduled service on Friday, December 15.

handyDART service has been deemed essential for customers with appointments related to medical needs and will continue to operate 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.

BC Transit is the Provincial Crown Agency responsible for the delivery of transit services outside of Greater Vancouver. We contract the services of private operating companies to deliver these transit services. These companies hire and manage their own workforces.

The labour dispute is between BC Transit’s contractor – PWTransit Canada – and their unionized employees. BC Transit will update customers as more information becomes available. We encourage customers to sign up to receive alerts at bctransit.com. Customers may also follow @BCTransit on Twitter for updates.

This alert became active on Tuesday December 12, 2023 at 3:00 PM Pacific Standard Time – and will expire on Tuesday February 13, 2024 at 9:52 AM Pacific Standard Time.





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 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, January 20th

Saturday, February 24th

Saturday, April 20th

Saturday, May 4th

Saturday, May 25th



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. There is a huge demand for smaller sized suits, pants, shirts, and accessories. Financial donations are also accepted to help offset costs to repair, or purchase required items students may need.

**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 kelley.giorgianni@sd71.bc.ca or Susan Quinton susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca

 **The YDI at a Glance**

- a self-report survey gathering youth voices ages 15 to 18
- developed collaboratively with youth, researchers, educators, and health professionals
- 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
- aligns with BC Mental Health in Schools Strategy

Check out

<https://canvas.sfu.ca/login/canvas> for the YDI administration package: timeline, checklist, and everything else you need to know!



The YDI is Coming to Your School!

Your district has partnered with the Capturing Health and Resilience Trajectories (CHART) Lab at Simon Fraser University to measure and promote youth's health and well-being and assets through the Youth Development Instrument (YDI).

Please Keep in Mind...

1. The YDI is voluntary. Students, teachers, parent/guardians, and schools are free to withdraw from participating.
2. YDI data will be provided to your school in a School Report, followed by a District & Provincial Report.
3. The YDI is a population-level tool - not an individual assessment.
4. Youth's voices matter. The YDI lets youth know that we value their thoughts and feelings, and provides an opportunity for self-reflection.

Important Links

CHART Lab Website
for more information about the YDI
chartlab.ca/about-ydi

Previous YDI Reports
to see previously published reports:
chartlab.ca/about-ydi/reports/

Contact info

YDI Team Contact:
ydi@sfu.ca

Dr. Hasina Samji
(YDI Principal Investigator)
hsamji@sfu.ca



**Comox Valley Children's
& Youth Choirs**
~for the love of singing~



January 2024 Registration Open!

Wednesdays | Comox

PREP	CHILDREN'S	YOUTH
3:15pm - 4pm	4pm - 5:15pm	5:15pm - 6:45pm
Ages 6 - 7 Years	Ages 8 - 10 Years	Ages 11 - 17 Years



Thursdays | Cumberland

PREP	CHILDREN'S
4pm - 4:45pm	4:45pm - 6pm
Ages 6 - 7 Years	Ages 8 - 10 Years



www.comoxvalleychildrenschoir.com
comoxvalleychildrenschoir@gmail.com
facebook.com/cvchildrenschoir
instagram.com/cvchildrenschoir



**Comox Valley Children's
& Youth Choirs**
~for the love of singing~



 **Now offered in Cumberland** 

Thursdays in Cumberland

PREP CHOIR

4pm - 4:45pm
Ages 6 - 7 Years

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

4:45pm - 6pm
Ages 8 - 10 Years



www.comoxvalleychildrenschoir.com
comoxvalleychildrenschoir@gmail.com
facebook.com/cvchildrenschoir
instagram.com/cvchildrenschoir

no auditions - sibling discounts - bursaries available

Comox Valley Wrestlers Dominate At QMS Christmas Classic Tourney



The Comox Valley wrestlers made a triumphant return to the mat at the QMS Christmas Classic Tournament in Duncan. It was a spectacular show of skill and sportsmanship.



Leading the victory march, Kane Acton and Max Korthuis of Cumberland once again demonstrated their prowess by securing titles in their divisions. They were joined by Kylie Cameron-Patterson from Vanier, along with first-time tournament participants Unya Hollmayer and Jacob Price from Vanier, who also claimed gold medals.

Adding to her accolades, Unya Hollmayer showcased her remarkable talent by winning her weight class at the SFU War on the Floor, qualifying her for multiple BC and National events later in the season.



This year, we took on 24 families and were able to fill 62 totes (5 of which were “overflow” additional donations). Royal LaPage expresses their sincere gratitude for all your generosity, especially those staff members who donated out-of-pocket to ensure hampers were complete.

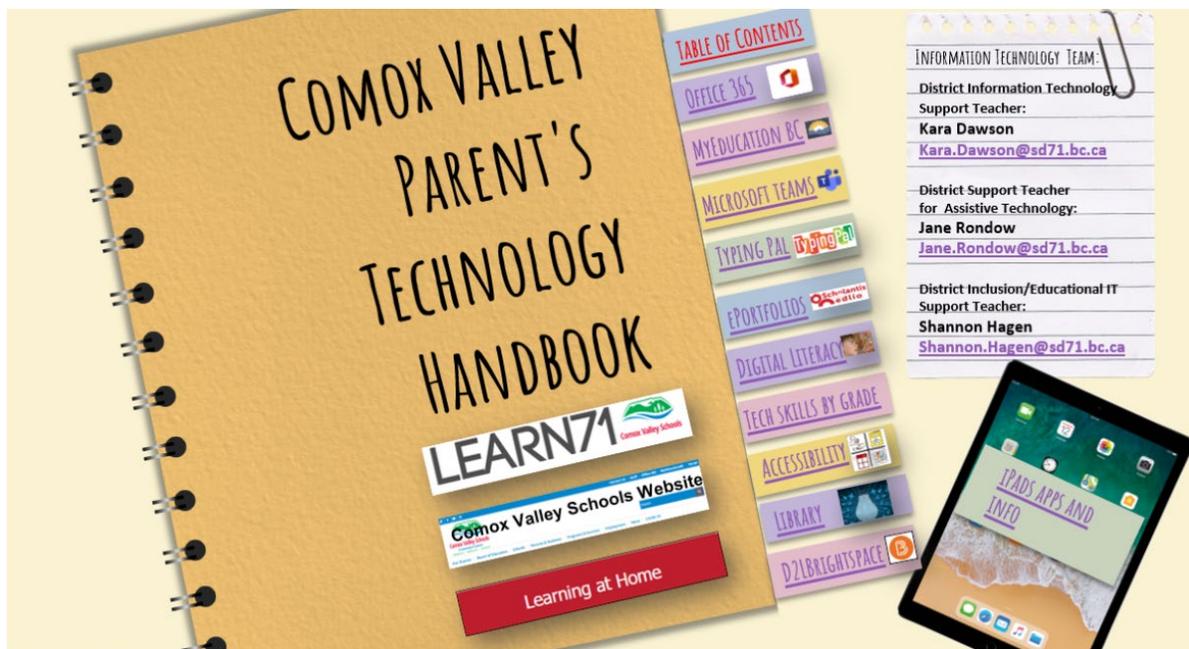
We also collected \$1,300 which is well over the \$45 per family donation and will be allocated according to need. AMAZING!





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.

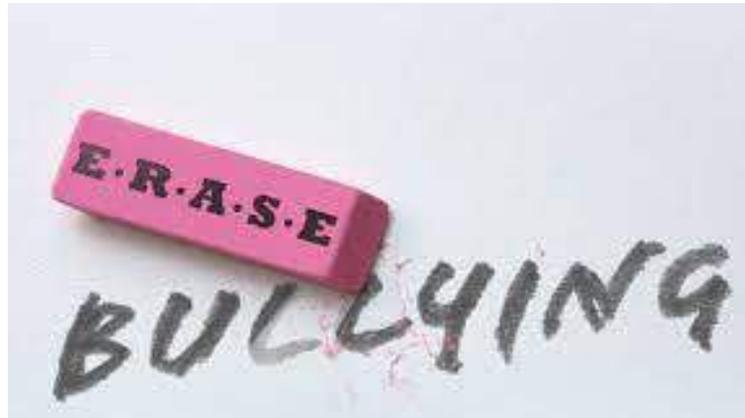
ERASE (Expect, Respect and a Safe Education)



[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.



erase | EXPECT RESPECT &
A SAFE EDUCATION

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)



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



News from the Counselling Office



GRASP Training will be at Vanier on January 10, 17, 24 & 31st in the afternoons. GRASP training is ideal for students who are looking at going into a health care, psychology, social work or other helping professions. Please contact katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca by email or in the counselling office if you would like more information.

GRASP is a fun and interactive gatekeeper training program presented in Vancouver Island schools for students Grades 8 to 12 interested in learning skills to be effective peer helpers. We cover self-awareness, communication, healthy relationships, boundary setting, community resources, suicide awareness, and how to access help for others.

The program is presented in four, two-hour sessions. Through a series of games, interactive discussion, group activity, written work, and role play, youth learn:

- Active listening skills
- The impact of social and cultural biases on listening and helping
- Why difficult situations can be turning points for the better
- The power of our choices
- How to respectfully communicate in an open and direct manner
- The differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships
- How to recognize manipulation
- When to set boundaries
- How to set boundaries
- Coping with crisis
- Suicide awareness, the importance of reaching out, and never keeping suicide a secret
- Community resource information

GRASP Training will be at Vanier on January 10, 17, 24 & 31st in the afternoons. Please contact katherine.brach@sd71.bc.ca if you would like more information.

Bursaries & Scholarships



VANIER BURSARY/SCHOLARSHIPS

The G.P. Vanier Bursary/Scholarship program opens to grade 12 students on **January 31, 2024. There will be an assembly outlining the application process and counsellors offer sessions to support students on successful applications. 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 7th at 1 pm** to hand in their completed applications.**

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.**



ELIGIBILITY

Schulich Leader Scholarships is open to all Canadian high school students planning to pursue an undergraduate degree in an eligible STEM program at one of our 20 partner universities. Every high school in Canada may nominate one student per academic year.

DEADLINE

The deadline to submit your Schulich Leader Nominee is January 12, 2024. The application includes a cover letter why you should be the school's nominee and a resume outlining your experience making you the best nominee.

For more information about the program:

Visit our website at schulichleaders.com

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



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](#)





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

Stephanie Morris (H-N) stephanie.morris@sd71.bc.ca

Jocelyn Schultz (O-Z) jocelyn.schultz@sd71.bc.ca

Youth and Family Support Worker:

Sherry Patterson – 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 3rd 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



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 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

H-N **Jennifer Fritzsche** jennifer.fritzsche@sd71.bc.ca

O-Z **Erica Black** erica.black@sd71.bc.ca

