



Greetings From the Staff of Georges P. Vanier Secondary School

TOPICS IN THIS EMAIL

Welcome to the new school year

Bus registration & bus routes

Homerooms and where to find them

Vanier's school day and lunch times

Counsellor & Admin teams to support students

Student Fees for 2025-2026, locks and lockers

Supplies Lists for Vanier students

MyEducationBC accounts for parents and students

Timetables and course changes

Flex Days

Cell phone use

SOME IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER

September 2 – Non-Instructional Day

September 3 – Opening Day for new students, start 9:05/dismissal at 12:15 pm

September 4 – First full day of school for all grades

September 16 – September PAC Meeting

September 17 – Presentation for Parents – Thriving at High School, 6:30 pm MPR

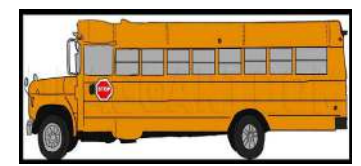
September 23 – Photo Day



We would like to take this time to welcome all our students to the new school year.

Wednesday, September 3rd will be a shortened day specifically for new students to Vanier, regardless of grade. As we have more than 480 students new to Vanier, this will allow them to tour the building with their homeroom teachers, find their classes, and meet our staff and their teachers on a day that is a little quieter than normal. Our information package can be found [HERE](#) for grade 8 students and parents and [HERE](#) for grade 9-12 student and parents.

Info under “About Us/New Student Information”



Buses will pick up students at their regular morning times and start leaving Vanier at 12:25 on Wednesday. Students should have registered for a bus pass and received their route information already. Registration for a bus pass can be found [HERE](#). After Friday, Sept 26, students will require their bus pass or have a temporary pass from the school office to ride the bus. **Please take a picture of your bus pass, as this will be sufficient to show your bus driver.** Students will receive bus passes during the first week of school in their homeroom class. Our transportation partner, First Student, offers a real-time vehicle GPS tracking app. More information can be found [HERE](#)

HOMEROOM

For the first week, students will have homeroom for the first 30 minutes of the day. They will receive their schedules, a map of the school and a verification form to go home to parents to check the information the school has in our system. Please sign and ask your student to return the form to the office.

*** Please note, homeroom lists will be posted at the front of the school.**

SOME INFORMATION YOU MAY FIND USEFUL

Vanier's school day will be 9:05 – 3:10, every day. Lunch will be from 11:50 – 12:35. Students will have four classes a day. Vanier will be incorporating Flex Days into our calendar, which will occur on some Wednesdays. More information will follow on the calendar.





Counsellors and administrators work as a team to support students. If you have any questions regarding your child that we can help you with, please refer your questions to the appropriate

team members. Students are assigned to teams based on last names – last names A-G Vice-Principal David Mayert, counsellor Katherine Brach, last names H-O Vice-Principal Sherrie Martens, counsellor Stephanie Morris, last names P-Z Vice Principal Erica Black, counsellor Jocelyn Schultz. Email addresses can be found on our website

[HERE](#)



School fees for the 2025-2026 school year are \$25. We prefer that parents pay online on their MYED Portal, or students may pay at the main office (not during class time). Hardship funds have been put aside for families experiencing financial difficulties. (Please contact your child's counsellor).

*Students do not need to pay student fees to get a locker.

An optional 2025–2026 yearbook is available for purchase which is \$60 this year – with a special discount for September set at \$55. Click [HERE](#) for online payment process through MYED if you are interested.

A lock and locker will be issued to all students through homeroom. (Students **will not need** to purchase a lock unless they wish to have one to use in the PE changerooms, which is recommended.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES



The school has purchased some supplies (pens, pencils, paper, subject dividers) to support families. These supplies will be available in homeroom and subject teacher's classrooms.

Any extra supplies beyond the basics will be communicated by each subject teacher. Pens, pencils, paper and a binder will get students through the first few days of school. Many classes are moving to blended learning, utilizing technology inside the classroom.



Pizza sales will be available until the cafeteria opens. Please remember to bring cash!

\$2.50 per slice

(prices are subject to change)



MyEducationBC



The Parent Portal and Student Portal of MyEducationBC are reactivated, so that this year's schedules can be viewed. The student portal and parent portals are identical, except a parent account can be linked to several student accounts, allowing you to log in once

for all your children. MyEd is a great tool for knowing the progress of your child in their classes. Report cards are sent home electronically through MyEd. Students can check their transcripts, and parents can check which class a student was marked absent. We can send you some resources that will help navigate the program if you wish to receive them. Susan Quinton, our clerical team member, can help reset your password if you are having any trouble with your account. Her email is

Susan.Quinton@sd71.bc.ca.

PAC INFORMATION

Please check our website [HERE](#) for events and updates, as well as PAC meetings and minutes. PAC meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. All parents of a Vanier student are welcome to attend. PAC is always looking for interested parents to fill executive roles and is a wonderful way to stay connected and know what is going on at the school. September's PAC meeting will be held on September 16th. Agendas (and invitations if meetings are held electronically) will be communicated through our website, email and Week-At-A-Glance that we send home to parents.

COURSE CHANGES

G.P. Vanier Course Change Request Guidelines

Due to the complexity and volume of course change requests, **we will not be able to process change requests via email or over the phone.** Thanks for your understanding.

Course changes will take place over the first few days of school. Students needing course changes should listen to the announcements and come to the counselling office when their grade is called.

Schedule for Course Change Requests (Approximate)

Wednesday, September 3rd – **New Students**

Thursday, September 4th – **Grade 12s**

Friday, September 5th morning – **Grade 11s**

Friday, September 5th afternoon – **Grade 10s**

Monday, September 8th – **Grade 9s**

Tuesday, September 9th – Last day for semester 1 **any remaining (All grades 9-12)**

International Students wanting a course change must see Ms. Oliphant in room 118 during C block.

Students MUST attend all classes, even the classes they hope to change until the change has been made. If students do not have a class in a block, they should report to the library.



Schedule changes are extremely limited. We will try to accommodate course change requests for the following reasons:

- * I am missing a graduation requirement
- * I have a serious unbalanced academic load
- * I need to reschedule a failed course
- * I am missing a course that is needed for post-secondary
- * I have a semester 1 "See Counsellor" block

Course changes will NOT be granted for the following reasons:

- * I want a different teacher
- * I want to be with friends

Study blocks are granted for Grade 12's only. Grade 12's can request ONE Study Block for Semester 1. Although an application can be completed, study blocks for Semester 2 will not be granted at this time. Students can pick up a Study Block request form [here](#).

Teaching Assistant and **Independent Directed Study (IDS)** forms will be available on the table outside the counselling office.

FLEX DAYS

Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 25, Apr 22, May 27, Jun 10

PROVINCIAL ASSESSMENT SESSIONS

Nov 3 – 7 Gr 10 – 12

Jan 12 – 23 Gr 10 – 12

Apr 20 – 24 Gr 10 – 12

Jun 8 – 19 Gr 10 – 12

CELL PHONE POLICY

Electronic devices can be distracting to student learning. There is a significant body of research showing that increased technology use is linked to problems with mental health, focus, and the development of relationships and academic skills. Therefore, we will ensure that electronic devices are turned off and out of sight during class time unless students have been given permission to use them for educational, health or safety purposes. Students may use them during non-class time (before school, recess, lunch, after school, etc.) unless directed otherwise by a staff member.





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	Email Susan Quinton at susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca
Driver's Abstract	
Copy of Driver's License	
Proof of Insurance (1 million 3 rd party liability)	
Code of Conduct Form	Email Susan Quinton at susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca

If you are planning on volunteering as a **coach** or **chaperone**, you must complete a Criminal Record Check – Email Susan Quinton at susan.quinton@sd71.bc.ca

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

*Criminal Record Checks are held for 5 years in our database and may be accessed by other schools in the district.



How do schools prepare for emergencies in SD#71?

What should parents/guardians do during emergencies?

How are emergencies at schools communicated to parents?

Learn about SD71's School Emergency Program [Here](#).





If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the administrators at Vanier – Karma Taiji (Principal), Erica Black, Sherrie Martens, & Dave Mayert (Vice Principals). We very much look forward to working with your child and making this a great school year.

Karma Taiji

Principal, Georges P. Vanier



Georges P. Vanier
School Calendar

September 3rd - First Day of School
September 4th - All Students in Session Q1 Begins
School Nurse - Every Tuesday from 11:30 - 12:30

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1 Labour Day	2 Non-Instructional Day	3 Day 3 - BAOC First Day of School All New Students 9-12:15 Q1 Begins	4 Day 4 - DCBA All Students in Session	5 Day 1 - ABCD	6																																																																																											
7 Grandparents Day	8 Day 1 - ABCD	9 Day 2 - CDAB School Nurse 11:30-12:30 Grad exec meeting at lunch (library)	10 Day 3 - BAOC Fire Drill 10:15 am	11 Day 4 - DCBA Grad Meeting B Block MPR WIPA Music IBEQ is Meeting	12 Day 1 - ABCD Cuba Day at Lunch	13																																																																																											
14	15 Day 1 - ABCD	16 Day 2 - CDAB Dual Credit MPR D Block Gr 11 MPR D Block PAC Meeting 6:30	17 Day 3 - BAOC Thriving at Highschool 6:30 pm MPR	18 Day 4 - DCBA Earthquake Drill 10:15 am	19 Day 2 - CDAB	20																																																																																											
21	22 Day 1 - ABCD	23 Day 2 - CDAB School Nurse 11:30-12:30 Student Photos	24 Day 3 - BAOC Consent Week	25 Day 4 - DCBA Student Gov't Speeches at Lunch MPR	26 Day 3 - BAOC Student Gov't Elections MPR	27																																																																																											
28	29 Day 1 - ABCD LNAC Pigs @ lunch (MPR)	30 National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	Truth & Reconciliation Week																																																																																														
Italy Exchange		August 25		October 26		Italy Exchange																																																																																											
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