



# Killarney Secondary School

6454 Killarney Street, Vancouver BC V5S 2X7

Phone: 604-713-8950

August 27, 2021

Dear Students and Families,

It is my pleasure, as the Principal of Killarney Secondary, to welcome all students, parents, and staff at the start of another school year. Like last year, we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 global pandemic and the health and safety of our school community continues to be a priority. To this end we will follow public health orders from the province and the District. Some of the key lessons learned from last year include the preference by students for dealing with a smaller number of courses at any given time and the importance of face-to-face classes for social connection and mental well-being. As a result, this year the school District has moved to a semester system with full-time face-to-face instruction which will see most students completing 4 courses at a time in half-year chunks. In addition, we will see a return to more athletics and extra-curricular offerings.

The coming year will still be filled with promise and anticipation for a new cohort of grade eight students beginning their high school career, for junior students challenging themselves to greater achievement and excellence in the higher grades, for new arrivals to Canada getting ready to study and learn in a new environment, and for the graduating students of 2022 beginning the final chapter of their secondary school experience.

Included in this newsletter you will find important information relating to school opening procedures. Please note the contents carefully and do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or inquiries.

I thank Killarney parents in advance for their support of school programs and activities. The Killarney Parent Advisory Committee (KPAC) serves the dual role of connecting parents to the school and of providing education around a variety of issues connected to parenting high-school age children. Families who are new to our school community are encouraged to participate in meetings organized by KPAC. It is an excellent way to learn about the school and to network with other parents. The first meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

As the school year unfolds, please visit the school [website](#) on a regular basis to check for updated information and/or announcements. The calendar tab can be used to access a monthly [Google calendar](#) which provides the most up-to-date calendar information. In addition, the school will continue to email important information and notifications to parents. For students, communication will continue to happen through the classroom, grade, and all school TEAMS online platform.

For the 2021-22 school year staff will continue to refine the adoption of redesigned provincial curricula. A new approach to curriculum delivery also necessitates a re-examination of assessment. To this end, Killarney's school growth plan for this year will continue with the inquiry into the relationship between relevant, authentic assessment and the fostering of student growth and investment. This is connected to the school's broader mission of providing an environment within which all learners can be successful. We look forward to further advancing this approach to learning as another school year begins.

Welcome back!

Kal Gill  
Principal

## 2021-2022 COUNSELLORS & ADMINISTRATORS

Principal: Mr. K. Gill  
Vice Principal: Mr. T. Myring (gr. 12)  
Vice Principal: Mr. B. Soong (gr. 8/10)  
Vice Principal: Ms. S. Underwood (gr. 9/11)

### Counsellors

Grade 8: Ms. S. Glyniani  
Grade 9: Mr. O. Goncalves  
Grade 10: Mr. H. Clark  
Grade 11: Ms. A. Sum/Mr. R. Ferguson  
Grade 12: Ms. T. Romano

## Student Attendance Week of Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>

September 7<sup>th</sup> –No school for students

September 8<sup>th</sup> –Orientation Day (details to be emailed next week)

September 9<sup>th</sup> –First full day of student attendance

## Message from Counsellors

We know a lot of you are eager to see your class schedule for the upcoming school year. You will be able to access your schedule on MyED BC on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please email your grade counsellor with any course request changes.

If you would like to come in and see a counsellor during the week of August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup>, please send us an email for an appointment time. We would also like to remind students that while we try our very best to fulfill all course requests sometimes this is not possible. Please connect with us if you don't see one of your requested courses and we will do our best to find an alternative or place you on a waitlist.

Grade 12 – Ms. Romano [tromano@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:tromano@vsb.bc.ca)

Grade 11 – Ms. Sum [asum@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:asum@vsb.bc.ca) & Mr. Ferguson [rferguson@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:rferguson@vsb.bc.ca)

Grade 10 – Mr. Clark [hjclark@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:hjclark@vsb.bc.ca)

Grade 9 - Mr. Goncalves [ogoncalves@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:ogoncalves@vsb.bc.ca)

Grade 8 - Ms. Glynianyi [sglynianyi@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:sglynianyi@vsb.bc.ca)

## MyEdBC

Student MyEdBC accounts will be available to students/parents on **Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>**. You will not be able to log on before this time. Please use your username and password from last year or click [here](#) for information on how to reset your password. If you continue to have problems resetting your password please email: [killarney@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:killarney@vsb.bc.ca).

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\$2022** as your password. Click [here](#) for more detailed instructions.

Detailed instructions on how to find student schedules will be emailed next week.

## Microsoft TEAMS

If you are having difficulty accessing your Microsoft 365 account please click [here](#) to reset your password. You will need to have your PEN (Personal Education number) which can be found on your MyEdBC account.

## Notice of Late Return

Please complete the following [Notice of Late Return Form](#) if your student will not be returning to school before noon on Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The form can be emailed to [killarney@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:killarney@vsb.bc.ca).

## 2021/22 Killarney Calendars & Bell Schedules

Please note that the 2021/22 has been updated to reflect the National Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The school will be closed to observe the National Holiday.

[Bell schedule](#)

[Important dates](#)

## Grade 8 Students

Hello Grade 8 Students and Parents,

My name is Mr. Soong 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 2026. The jump from elementary school to secondary school is a big one, but a necessary one for you to continue your growth. 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.....

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 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. This schedule will be available in the MYED Student Family Portal from Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

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. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The day will start at 8:40am and end at 3:06pm.

My email address is [bsoong@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:bsoong@vsb.bc.ca). Your Grade 8 Counsellor for this year is Ms. Glynianyi. Her email address is [sglynianyi@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:sglynianyi@vsb.bc.ca) and she will be available by email from August 30<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to see your counsellor, please send an email to set up an appointment. Due to COVID-19 protocols, we will not be accepting drop in appointments.

Again, more information will be coming out next week so continue to enjoy your summer. I will close off with Frequently Asked Questions. Until we meet, be calm, considerate and self regulated.

#### FAQ's

- How do we get our daily classes and schedules? They will be available after Sept.1<sup>st</sup> on the MYED BC Student Family Portal. Log in information will be coming to you next week.
- Will we get a locker? Yes, you will be assigned a locker this 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? Come and ask any adult. We are always happy to help. When you get an agenda book it will also have a map. Our school is 3 floors and we have 4 wings. It is pretty big but within one week you will have the hang of it!
- What should I bring to school? A water bottle (we have filling stations throughout the school), snacks/lunch, a binder and stationary (pens, pencils, paper). Your individual teachers will outline other more specific things for you.
- Where can I go if I feel stressed or overwhelmed? We are here! Any adult in the building is here to help. Consider speaking to your grade counsellor, grade administrator or visit our Community Schools Team (Melissa [mwerfl@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:mwerfl@vsb.bc.ca) , Tricia [pkay@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:pkay@vsb.bc.ca) – located in room A212)
- Where can I get more information about the school? Visit our website at: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/killarney/Pages/default.aspx>