

# VALLEYVIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL

## Welcomes You to Grade Eight



<http://vss.sd73.bc.ca>

Welcome to grade 8!

We are really looking forward to having you join us at Valleyview Secondary School in the fall! September, 2020 will be the start of your five year journey with us which I know will be both exciting and challenging for you. You will meet new friends, experience interesting electives and it is my hope that you will take some risks with your learning and embrace this adventure through the vast and open waters of secondary school!

To ensure you are prepared for grade 9 and beyond, all of you will be enrolled in 8 courses:

- English 8, Math 8, Science 8, PE 8, Social Studies 8 & French 8 **AND**
- Two blocks of rotation (Mosaic) electives **OR**
- One block of rotation (Mosaic) and one block of Music 8 (Band 8) **OR**
- One block of rotation (Mosaic) and one block of Hockey Academy

Rotation blocks are pretty exciting because they contain a number of different electives within them. You will have at least one block of rotation depending on whether you choose Hockey Academy or Music 8. The intent of this rotation, which we call Mosaic, is to give you a sampling of some of the electives offered at VSS. These electives may include woodwork, metalwork, art, drama, computer skills, textiles, career, or even leadership. Which electives rotate in the Mosaic will vary and you will be placed in a selection of these randomly. Don't worry, though. None of the courses in the Mosaic are prerequisites for courses you may want to select in grade 9.

For the Mosaic, there is an overall fee of \$10 which covers materials you will be using to enhance your experience in these electives.

Choosing your secondary program each year is an interesting and important task that you and your parents share! If you need more information, you can find a complete version of the course selection booklet on our website: <http://vss.sd73.bc.ca> or contact the counselling office at the school at 250-372-5231.

Welcome Aboard!

Mrs. Barb Hamblett - Principal



# ALL GRADE 8 STUDENTS WILL BE REGISTERED IN THE FOLLOWING COURSES:



## ENGLISH 8

In this course students will explore stories and texts as a way to understand ourselves, connect to others and the world. They will explore how language and text can be a source of joy and creativity. They will also explore how texts are socially, culturally and historically constructed, and how different world perspectives shape our understanding of text. Most importantly, students will develop skills to question what they hear, read and view

so that they can become educated and engaged citizens.

## MATHEMATICS 8

Students will use the following skills: reasoning, analyzing, understanding, solving, communicating, representing, connecting and reflecting to understand the following big ideas:

- Number represents, describes, and compares the quantities of ratios, rates, and percents.
- Computational fluency and flexibility extend to operations with fractions.
- Discrete linear relationships can be represented in many connected ways and used to identify and make generalizations.
- The relationship between surface area and volume of 3D objects can be used to describe, measure, and compare spatial relationships.
- Analyzing data by determining averages is one way to make sense of large data sets and enables us to compare and interpret.

## SOCIAL STUDIES 8

This course covers from the 7th century to 1750 and covers the following big ideas:

- Contact and conflict between peoples stimulated significant cultural, social and political change.
- Human and environmental factors shape changes in population and living standards
- Exploration, expansion, and colonization had varying consequences for different groups.





# HOCKEY ACADEMY

## Valleyview Secondary School - HOCKEY CANADA SKILLS ACADEMY

Valleyview Secondary School is very proud to be the home of our local Hockey Canada Skills Academy. Our academy provides both male/female hockey players of all levels an opportunity for elite level coaching/training for our student-athletes while continuing with their regular academic course studies at VSS. The schedule for our student-athletes has each of them enrolled in 2 blocks of hockey academy (1 per semester) throughout the school year and receive on-ice instruction an average of 2.5 times per week (60 minutes each). Students are also scheduled into dry-land training/programs and classroom instruction following the Hockey Canada curriculum. Our academy is very fortunate to have the following individuals as part of our support coaching/teaching staff: Don Hay, Chris Murray, Dan De Palma, Aaron Keller and Colin Robinson from the Kamloops Blazers, Lucas Gore, Tyler Love, Murray Baron, Scott Ferguson, Nina Hrycewich, Greg Kozoris (Acceleration Fitness) and Peter Soberlak (Sports Psychologist-TRU). The academy is based out of Valleyview arena as our practice facility and the new Acceleration Fitness training center as our dry-land training facility. We currently have 2 sections of classes: comprised of male and female players. All participating students are enrolled at VSS and pay an annual academy fee of \$950 to pay for all associated costs. If you are interested in our HCSA and require more information about the program or the application process, please feel free to contact Mr. Greg Gartrell, Vice-Principal at : [ggartrell@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:ggartrell@sd73.bc.ca)



## A SECOND LANGUAGE IS A MANDATORY COURSE FOR ALL GRADE 8 STUDENTS:

### FRENCH 8



Bienvenue à Français 8! This course will cover a number of big ideas! We will explore listening and viewing with intent as it strengthens our understanding and acquisition of French. We will also have meaningful conversations about things that are important to us in French. We will use stories as a way to give us unique methods to interpret and share knowledge, thoughts, and feelings. We will explore Francophone creative works and culture as well as acquiring French to explore

our own cultural identity from a new perspective. French 8 is a requirement to continue in French 9.

### **SECWEPEMCTSIN (SHUSWAP LANGUAGE) 8**

This course will be of special interest to those students who have taken Secwepemctsin in Grades 4 – 7 and want to complete their second language credit with Secwepemctsin. Students will not only learn and practise their oral language skills, but they will also learn about Shuswap culture and about Secwepemc communities and their histories and traditions. Students will enhance their Secwepemctsin vocabulary and sentence development, participate in conversations and begin to learn how to write Secwepemctsin.



**Note:** Second languages become an elective after grade 8. Some universities require that students have a second language to meet general admission requirements. Refer to university and other post secondary institution calendars for specifics.

# MUSIC

## CHOIR

This class meets in the early morning twice a week for the entire school year. Select this course if you would like to sing in choir outside of the regular timetable. No previous experience is needed to join the choir. Remember: If you can speak, you can sing! Students in this course will develop the basic



elements of choral performance. Attendance at rehearsals and performances is required. Performances occur in the evenings and may take place away from the school. There is also the possibility of retreats and cultural and performing trips. This is an active group of students who have a lot of fun - Come on out and join the choir!

Techniques & Content Covered:

- Vocal production, tone, articulation

- Elements of stage presence

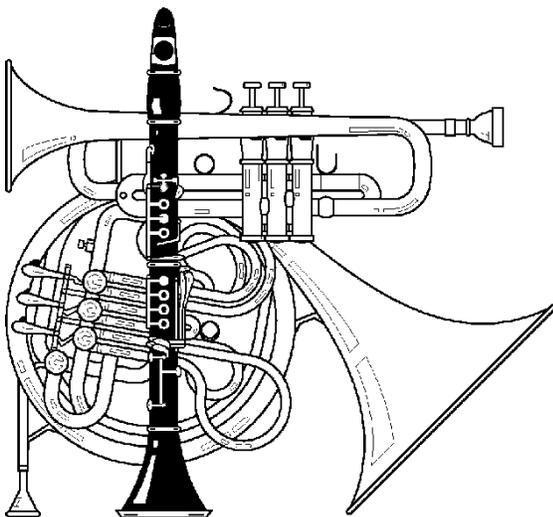
- Various styles of music from classical to contemporary and modern music

- Music from many different cultures Introduction to music reading skills

- Basic musicianship in an ensemble

\*There is also an opportunity for a piano player to gain credit in this course if they act as an accompanist to the VSS Choir. Please see Miss Daniels for more information.

## BAND 8



During this course students will learn how to read music, how to play a band instrument and will develop their self confidence and self-discipline. Throughout the semester there will be opportunities to both attend and perform in public concerts. Students must be prepared to practise regularly at home. Students who choose music as an option will then participate in one block of rotation electives.



There is no fee for this class, however extra projects may come with an extra cost. Typically these costs will be between \$2 and \$10 depending on the materials used

### **ADST: TEXTILES 8**

In Textiles 8 students will learn basic sewing techniques and skills, and care and use of the sewing machine. They will learn to use patterns to create something to wear and enjoy.



### **ADST: METALWORK 8**

Students will be introduced to the basic hand and machining processes of metalwork. Projects will include a Bottle Opener, a Metal Rose, and a Ring.

### **AE: ART 8**



This is a beginner's course designed to introduce each student to the fundamental skills in visual arts. Students will explore drawing, painting, sculpture and Art History. Different mediums will be used including, but not limited to, sketching, ink, 3 dimensional, collage and colour theory. Sketchbook assignments will be used to develop skills and are an integral part of the course.

### **AE: DRAMA 8**

At the introductory level, this course utilizes games and group activities to experience all of the basic skills needed for effective communication including trust, cooperation and imagination. Drama is an approach to learning that helps us discover the meanings of human interactions at a deeper level. We use movement, voice, mime, role play, improvisation and scripts as tools of personal expression and response.

Counsellors and Administrators try their best to customize student timetables according to student requests. Although a student may have received a timetable, it should be considered as temporary. There are times when the school's master timetable needs to be updated resulting in the reconfiguration of student timetables.