



Vancouver School of Arts and Academics

8/8/23

VSAA Students and Families:

Welcome back for the 2023-24 school year! School will begin on August 30th. We are looking forward to a joyful, challenging year of artistic and academic learning. This year's theme, led by our dance teachers and their colleagues, is "A Body in Motion." Theme activities will include all-school events, classroom activities in all content areas incorporating the theme, and much more.

VSAA is welcoming some new staff members:

- Cole Peterson, a VSAA graduate, will be teaching theatre and social studies. Cole served in our building as a long-term substitute last year.
- Morgan Deklyen, a VSAA graduate, will be teaching AP Literature, middle school language arts and graphic design. She is coming to us from Discovery Middle School and will also be our costume club advisor.
- Millie Burgess is our new building operator.
- Zachary Tautfest, is our new half-time associate principal. Zach has been associate principal at iTech for the past 7 years.
- Carly Gusto will be our mental health professional. Carly will be providing individual and group mental health support for our students.

Our schedule pickup dates and times are listed below. On the pickup day, students will get their class schedule, get their id photo taken, pay appropriate fees, find their bus information, and more. New students will also check out their school laptop.

August 21st High School Schedule Pickup

Seniors.....12:30-1:30 PM

Juniors.....1:00-2:00 PM

Sophomores.....2:00-3:00 PM

Freshmen.....3:00-4:00 PM

August 22nd: Middle School Schedule Pickup

8th graders.....9:30-10:30 AM

7th graders.....10:30-11:30 AM

6th graders.....1:00-3:00 PM

To pay fees for this year, please use the following link. You can also access this by visiting the VSAA webpage and clicking the link labeled "pay fines and fees" at the bottom of the page. Fees may be paid at schedule pickup, but online payments are preferred. <https://wa-vancouver.intouchrecepting.com/>

Fees that may be paid at this time include:

- **\$70 Arts fee** (This provides visual art supplies, sheet music and other “consumable” items. We charge one fee rather than having students pay fees for each art class) This fee is waived for students on Free and Reduced lunch.
- **ASB card fees are \$35 for high school students and \$15 for middle school students.** Students who want to participate in any ASB activity must purchase an ASB card. ASB card fees help support clubs and activities, including dances, socials, buddy events, etc.
- **\$50 Yearbook.** This is not required, but many families find it convenient to purchase at the beginning of the year.

Other important dates are below:

August 29th: New Student Kickstart 9:20 AM to 3:50 PM

All new students are invited. Breakfast, lunch and bus transportation are provided. Students should dress comfortably and bring a water bottle, writing utensil, and their school laptop.

August 28th 6 PM Community Dessert Social

All families are encouraged to come. This is an informal opportunity to see the school, meet other students and families. To provide an opportunity to connect with this year’s theme, orchestra students will play some fiddle tunes, and attendees may participate in a square dance activity.

August 30th First Day of School

Please see the electronic newsletter for more information about these as well as transportation, free breakfast and lunch, off-campus pass forms, parking passes for students, and important links.

“He who would learn to fly one day must first learn to stand and walk and run and climb and dance; one cannot fly into flying.”

friedrich-nietzsche

Sincerely,

Lori Rotherham
Principal
Vancouver School of Arts and Academics