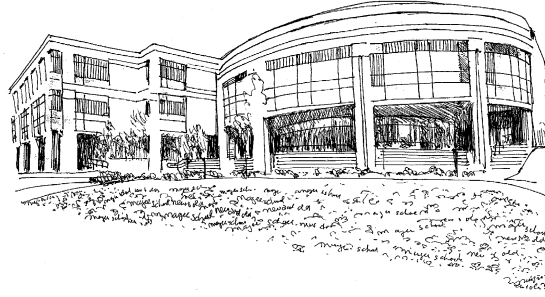


# Magee Secondary School

6360 Maple Street, Vancouver, BC V6M 4M2

Tel: 604-713-8200 Fax: 604-713-8209 [Webpage](#)

September 2021 Newsletter



---

Principal: Andrew Schofield (Grd. 12) Vice Principal: Brenda Dowle (Grd. 10 & 11) Vice Principal: Petr Pospisil (Grd. 8 & 9)  
Vancouver School Board Liaison: Christopher Wong  
Magee PAC Co-Chairs: Maria Hubinette & Skye Richards

---

## Mission Statement

---

Magee Secondary is committed to:

- Developing capable young people,
- Promoting creative minds, healthy bodies, ethical values,
- Providing a rigorous academic program, and
- Leading students to take responsibility for learning.

---

## Principal's Message

---

Welcome Magee students and parents! As we begin the school year here is some information to help set up a successful school year. We hope that summer break provided time for you to relax, and time think about the upcoming school year. All of us at Magee Secondary look forward to sharing with you the numerous learning possibilities and opportunities to be experienced at Magee, be it academic, athletic, artistic, and social!

### Secondary Semester Schedule for 2021-22

As we prepare for a full return, we want to remind students and families that across the district all secondary schools are implementing a new semester schedule. The new schedule is designed to better meet the needs of learners is based on research on adolescent learning, experience in school districts in BC, Canada, and internationally, and feedback received last year from students, families, teachers and school-based and District staff.

**Semester 1**  
**Semester 2**

September 8, 2021 - January 31, 2022  
February 1 - June 29, 2022

Students will take four courses from September to January and another four courses from February to June. The adoption of the semester model will see a standard timetable and bell schedule across all secondary schools. School will begin at 8:40 a.m. and finish at 3:06 p.m. This schedule is consistent across all secondary schools in the District and meets the instructional hours set out in the *BC School Act*.

Another district wide innovation sees the introduction of two 50-minute periods of flexible instructional time (FIT) per week (similar to our Flextime model introduced in 2019). FIT is instructional time designed to support students' personalized learning. The intent is to build-in flexibility and choice within a student's schedule that allows them to determine how, when and where their learning takes place, to access extra help from teachers, collaborate with peers and pursue other learning activities. During this time, all staff will be on site and students will be supported in determining how to use this flexible instructional time. Further information on the FIT program and schedule can be found on page 3 of this newsletter and on our Magee webpage.

*Lastly, **COVID***. The health, safety and well-being of students and staff continues to be a top priority. The Vancouver School District's plan will provide for a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment. A variety of COVID-19 health and safety protocols and procedures, as advised by health officials, are in place again this year to help keep everyone safe; a separate School Messenger focused on Covid accompanies this newsletter.

And as always, please do not hesitate to contact us regarding any aspect of your child's learning!

*Yours truly,  
Andrew Schofield, Principal*

---

## **Making Your Start Successful**

---

There are several things you can do to make your start successful...

1. Please read over this newsletter and refer to our Magee website for information on school opening policies and procedures.
2. Pay attention to the information that will be given to you in **homeroom** during the first week of school. After that week you will be expected to be familiar with the **procedures** and **rules** contained in your agenda.
3. Use your **agenda** to help you plan and organize (the book will be available after school fees have been paid). It is an invaluable tool!
4. Ask, if you need help. People at Magee are caring and will help you if you need it!

---

## **School Growth Plan 2021 - 2022**

---

Our school's **growth plan** continues to place an emphasis on student engagement, initiative and leadership within a culture of care and support. Our school goals are:

1. To encourage and enhance positive mental health in our learners, and
2. To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

---

## **School Opening Schedule: Wednesday, September 8th**

---

The 2021 – 2022 school year starts on **Wednesday, September 8th** with homeroom periods at the following times (homeroom room locations are posted in the atrium - **NOTE – homeroom assignments can change – please check** homeroom room locations posted in the atrium):

**Homeroom Period for Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12**

- Grade 9: 9:00
- Grade 10: 10:00
- Grade 11: 11:00
- Grade 12: 12:00

**Homeroom Period for Grade 8's**

- Wednesday, September 8th from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- All grade 8's gather at 1:00 pm in the Rotunda where they meet their homeroom teachers who will lead the students to their homeroom.
- Grade 8's will learn how to navigate their new school environment from their homeroom teachers and through the leadership of our Peer Counselling 12 Students

**Homeroom Period for ALL STUDENTS in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12**

- Thursday, September 9th from 8:40 am – 8:55 am; Semester one schedule, period one starts at 9:00. Day ends at 3:06pm.
- Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:40 am – 8:55 am; Semester one schedule; period one starts

at 9:00. Day ends at 3:06pm.

During our mandatory homeroom periods, teachers take students through important school procedures, routines, and policies. The framework that guides decision-making for all Magee students, staff, and greater community is our school's **Student Code of Conduct** which will be addressed during these homeroom periods.

During the first week of school, students will meet their teachers and new classmates for the year, classroom-learning goals are established along with homework expectations.

Should you have any questions for your child's teacher, or grade counsellor, please contact them directly.

Further information about the start of the school year may be found on our **school's website**, <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee>. Information about important dates on this year's school calendar are also posted on the school website. Your child's Magee **Student Agenda book**, which is distributed during the homeroom periods, also contains useful information including the Magee Student Code of Conduct and school routines, policies and procedures.

---

## Attendance

---

As you know, prompt, regular **attendance** to class is an essential ingredient for your child's success at school. We therefore encourage families to continue scheduling any important medical appointments, etc., outside of class time.

Attendance is taken in each class and recorded in the school's computer system. Parents/guardians of students who are absent due to illness are asked to call the office on the first day of absence and send a signed note from home to subject teachers indicating the reason for the absence upon the student's return to school. The note must be initialled by all the subject teachers and then **handed in to the office for entry into the school's computer system**.

---

## School Calendar

---

Magee School Calendars may be found on our website.

The VSB is introducing a Flexible Instructional Time (FIT) time this school year- very similar to Magee's Flextime model. Like our Flex time, FIT is a period of instructional time built into a school's schedule that gives students the opportunity to have choice in their learning time. Examples of some ways to use flex time include:

- meeting with teachers for support in subject learning or completing assignments
- attending tutorial sessions
- connecting with counsellors
- collaborating with other students on projects
- individual time to study
- completing Career Life Connections 12 and Capstone requirements
- Work Experience 11 and 12
- enrichment passion projects.

Ultimately, FIT time encourages our students to take ownership of their own learning and gives them the opportunity to develop core competencies such as personal responsibility, self-regulation, goal setting, wellbeing and communication.

The FIT period lasts 50 minutes and occurs twice a week- on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our daily schedule, adjusted for FIT time and standardized across the district, is:

<b>MONDAYS, FRIDAYS</b>		<b>TUESDAYS (AM FIT)</b>		<b>THURSDAYS (PM FIT)</b>	
Early Morning	07:35-08:35	Early Morning	07:35-08:35	Early Morning	07:35-08:35
Period 1	08:40-10:01	Period 1	08:40-09:36	Period 1	08:40-10:01
Period 2	10:11-11:32	<b>FIT AM</b>	<b>09:41-10:31</b>	Period 2	10:11-11:32
		Period 2	10:36-11:32		
Lunch	11:32-12:17	Lunch	11:32-12:17	Lunch	11:32-12:17
Period 3	12:17-01:38	Period 3	12:17-01:38	Period 3	12:17-01:13
Period 4	01:45-03:06	Period 4	01:45-03:06	<b>FIT PM</b>	<b>01:16-02:06</b>
				Period 4	02:10-03:06

School start (8:40am) and end times (3:06pm) are unaffected by the Tuesday and Thursday FIT periods.

---

## School Fees

---

A list of school and supplemental fees may be found on the school website. Students will receive 'Student Account Summaries' during the first homeroom. This year we will continue to use **School Cash Online**, an online portal that facilitates payment of school fees. We look forward to continuing to use this system and we appreciate your help in significantly reducing the amount of paper our school consumes. Please register by visiting the [VSB's School Cash Online website](#). Your child's first name, last name and birth date are required for registration. Once registered, an email notification is sent when items become available for purchase online. For support, technical help or additional information, please contact the School Cash Online parent/guardian help desk by visiting [helpdesk.supportschoolcashionline.com](http://helpdesk.supportschoolcashionline.com) or on 1-866-961-1803.

Further information on school and supplemental fees and the online payment of those fees is also available on the school website. School Cash Online will be available for parent registration. School and supplemental fees will be collected through School Cash Online starting the second week of classes and not during the homeroom periods as in the past. Parents wishing to pay fees by cheque or cash will be permitted to do so starting October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Parents, please make a note of the district's **Financial Hardship Policy** which recognizes that some families may not be able to fully afford school fees. Board policy is that no student of school age will be denied an opportunity to participate in a required course, class or program because of financial hardship. Parents and guardians unable to pay some or all of a school fee are invited to speak to their child's teacher, school counsellor, and/or administrator. (Financial hardship application forms are available through the school office to assist with this process.) All financial hardship applications and discussions shall be confidential. Ways in which difficulties in meeting requests for payment of school fees may be addressed include: partial payment, waiver of the fee, payment by instalment, and/or fundraising activities to reduce overall costs.

---

## Communication

---

**Communication** of school news and events is done primarily through email with our 'Magee News' ebulletin.

---

## School Photos

---

School Photos will be taken on Tuesday, September 28th. Photo information forms will be distributed in homerooms. Identification cards are included in your School Fees. The photographs for cards will be supplied by the photographers to B.C. Transit. All students **must** be photographed for a Go Card. Go Cards must be shown as I.D. at provincial exams.

**Grad Photos** are taken by Artona Studios from September 17 – 20th. Please go to [www.artona.com](http://www.artona.com) to book appointments for Magee Secondary School Grad photos.

---

## Physical Education

---

Magee Lions PE clothing is available for ***purchase*** from the P.E. Department. While this purchase is optional, ***the P.E. department strongly recommends this purchase.***

Most high schools in the district have adopted a P.E. strip policy (similar to Magee’s) to promote school pride, enhance personal hygiene, and to ensure students are appropriately clothed for physical activity. (Common strip amongst the students also helps promote student safety and quick identification of Magee students when moving about the greater community during P.E. activities.)

If students choose not to purchase this optional Magee Lions P.E. clothing, the department asks that students wear ***red and/or black athletic strip*** (following our school colours). **P.E. clothing purchase and distribution takes place during the first week of classes directly from P.E. teachers.**

The purchase of Magee Lions P.E. clothing is an especially helpful organizational tool for Grade 8 students, as they may continue to wear their Magee Lions strip in Grade 9 and 10 PE classes (or purchase replacements as required). The department asks all students to please **label their clothing** on the tags inside the shirt, shorts, or sweat pants.

Please note that family members are also more than welcome to purchase any of the clothing for themselves to share their school spirit! Strip is available through the P.E. office during school hours.

Prices are:

<b>Grey Gildan T-shirt</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	<b>Black Adidas Dazzle Shorts</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
----------------------------	----------------	-----------------------------------	----------------

---

## PAC

---

We look forward to connecting with parents at the **first PAC meeting** of the year. The date of the first meeting will be communicated to all parents in early September.

---

## Magee Music Society

---

We hope you are all enjoying your summer! We would like to invite all new and returning members of the band, choir and strings and their families to our **Welcome Night and AGM, Magee Atrium on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 from 6:30 pm.** At the Welcome Night, our Magee Music Department teachers are looking forward to mingling with our music families and answering any questions you may have about the program. There will be wonderful entertainment provided by the Senior Jazz band and Chamber Choir. Please mark your calendars and watch for more details on the Magee and Music Society websites as well as via Magee School Connects.

### TRAVEL CREDITS

Every two years the senior students embark on a major international tour. Previous tours have taken our students to Cuba, Europe, Japan, Russia Thailand and Hawaii. The junior groups also have opportunities for short tours and retreats. To support these tours as well as our on-going music enrichment programs, the Music Society provides several opportunities to help student earn travel credits: Poinsettia sales, magazine sales and other programs give students a chance to earn credits for their own travel/tour accounts. All donations are also gratefully received. During COVID, international fieldtrips, however, are suspended.

**VOLUNTEERING**

All our programs need the support of our Magee Music Society Members. We would greatly appreciate your help in maintaining the high quality of our music program by volunteering your time and/or supporting the various fundraisers. Join the Music Society, come to the monthly meetings and support your students by attending concerts and festivals. If you are interested in joining the Music Society Executive, please feel free to speak to us at the Welcome Night Potluck or contact us at [mageemusicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:mageemusicsociety@gmail.com)

A package containing information about Membership, Uniform, Gift Cards and Entertainment Cards will be sent home with your child in September. Please fill out the forms and return them to the Music Department by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you all so much! We are looking forward to meeting everyone in September!

*All the best,  
Magee Music Society*

---

**Counselling Department**

---

**Grade Counsellors for 2021 – 2022**

Grade 8 Shared by counselling team per alpha split-  
Surnames beginning with A-Leung: Mrs. Miladinovic  
Surnames beginning with Levitt-Z: Mr. Kanavos  
Grade 8 SPARTS: Ms. Alain

Grade 9	Mr. Kanavos	Grade 11	Ms. Miladinovic
Grade 10	Mrs. Alain	Grade 12	Ms. Lercher

**Grade 8 Students:** A big welcome to Magee! We hope that your first year in high school goes smoothly. Your Counsellor, your Teachers and the Peer Counsellors are here to assist you any way they can, so do not be shy if you need assistance.

**New Grade 9-12 Students:** Welcome to Magee! Please bring your original copy of your June 2021 report card to the records clerk in the main office so that we can confirm your marks from last year.

**Course Schedules:** In the spring, students engaged in our course planning process to facilitate this year’s schedule. With the number of course choices and programs we offer, as well as the VSB’s implementation of the semester system and continuation of COVID health and safety protocols this year, consideration of course changes will be very limited. Priority will be given to incomplete timetables, new students, and course conflicts. To this end ...

**Request for Course Changes:** Thursday September 9 to Thursday, September 16

- Forms and Appointment sign-up sheets will be available outside of the Counselling Suite.

**Summer School Courses:** Course selection changes resulting from summer school are dependent upon the space available in a requested course. We anticipate that there will be limited space for changes.

**Grade 12 News:** Information will be available starting in the early fall regarding:

- Career Life Connections and the Capstone project;
- Graduation requirements;
- Post-secondary information;
- and don’t forget to check out the Artona website to book your grad photo sessions.

*L. Lercher,  
Department Head, Counselling*

---

## **Student Accident Insurance**

---

The student accident insurance program is called The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP). This coverage is provided by Industrial Alliance and is a voluntary plan which offers coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. The Family Accident Reimbursement Plan can supplement costs not covered by provincial health insurance or employer extended health and dental plans.

Families can register online to participate in the Plan through: <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

If you have questions about the program please contact Industrial Alliance via phone: 1.800.266.5667 or Email: [solutions@ia.ca](mailto:solutions@ia.ca)