

**Hello, Carson
Graham
Secondary
Class of 2031!**

Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

We value the opportunity to learn, live, play and share educational experiences on the traditional territory.

The Grade 8 Team

Principal: Ms. Kim Jonat

Vice Principal: Ms. Stephanie Strandt

**Vice Principal: Mr. Tuzar Irani

Grade 8 Counsellor: Ms. Tamara McKay

Indigenous Education Support Teacher: Ms. Emma Koloska

IB Coordinators: Ms. Liz Thornhill and Ms. Cora Pross

Athletic Director: Ms. Nicola Klaver



Grade 8 – Year 3 Overview



Typical Grade 8 Schedule

8 Courses In Timetable

- 6 Required classes (run Sept – June)
- 2 Elective Rotations (3 classes in each rotation. Each class is 1 trimester)

1 Course Outside Timetable

- Careers 8 – Online through Teams & My Blueprint

Current Linear Timetable

- All classes Sept – June
- 4 classes each day (Day 1/Day 2)
- Morning classes rotating



WEEK 1	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 1
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
X BLOCK					
8:29-9:10am	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL	TUTORIAL
9:10 - 10:20am	1	5	2	6	3
BREAK					
10:35 - 11:45am	2	6	3	7	1
BREAK					
11:50 - 1:00pm	3	7	1	5	2
LUNCH					
1:50-3:00pm	4	8	4	8	4

Advisory and Late Start Days



Regular Start Time
Advisory after 1st
block

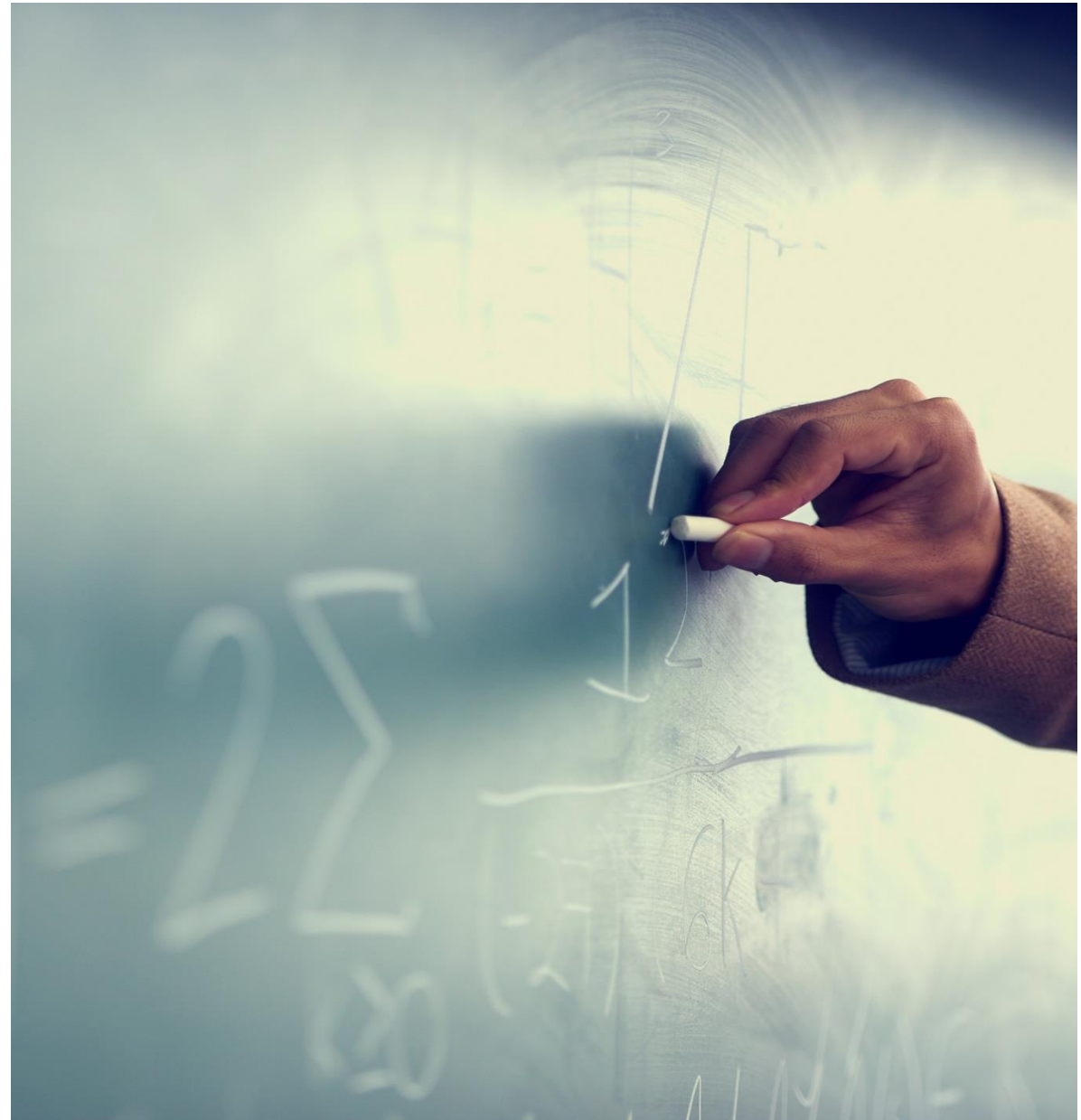
Carson Advisory Sept. 18th Oct. 16th Nov. 13th Dec. 11th Jan. 22nd Feb. 19th April 2nd May 14th June 20th	Tutorial 8:29 - 9:10
	Period 2 9:10-10:05
	Carson Advisory 10:05-11:00
	Transition 11:00-11:15
	Period 3 11:15-12:10
	Transition 12:10-12:15
	Period 1 12:15-1:10
	Lunch 1:10-2:00
	Period 4 2:00-3:00

Late Start Time
No Tutorial
Students begin
at 9:50am

Late Start Sept. 11th Sept. 25th Oct. 9th Oct. 30th Nov. 6th Dec. 4th Jan. 8th Feb. 5th Feb. 26th March 5th April 9th April 30th May 7th June 4th	Staff Collaboration 8:29-9:50
	Period 2/5 9:50-10:50
	Transition 10:50-11:05
	Period 3/6 11:05-12:05
	Transition 12:05-12:10
	Period 1/7 12:10-1:10
	Lunch 1:10-2:00
	Period 4/8 2:00-3:00

MYP Required Courses: Grade 8 = Year 3

1. Language & Literature
2. Individuals & Societies
3. Sciences
4. Mathematics
5. Physical & Health Ed.
6. Language Acquisition:
 - French
 - Spanish
 - Squamish





Elective Rotation #1 Design

- Woodwork
- Computational Thinking
- Textiles

FINE ARTS ROTATION: Drama, Music, Art



DRAMA



MUSIC



ART



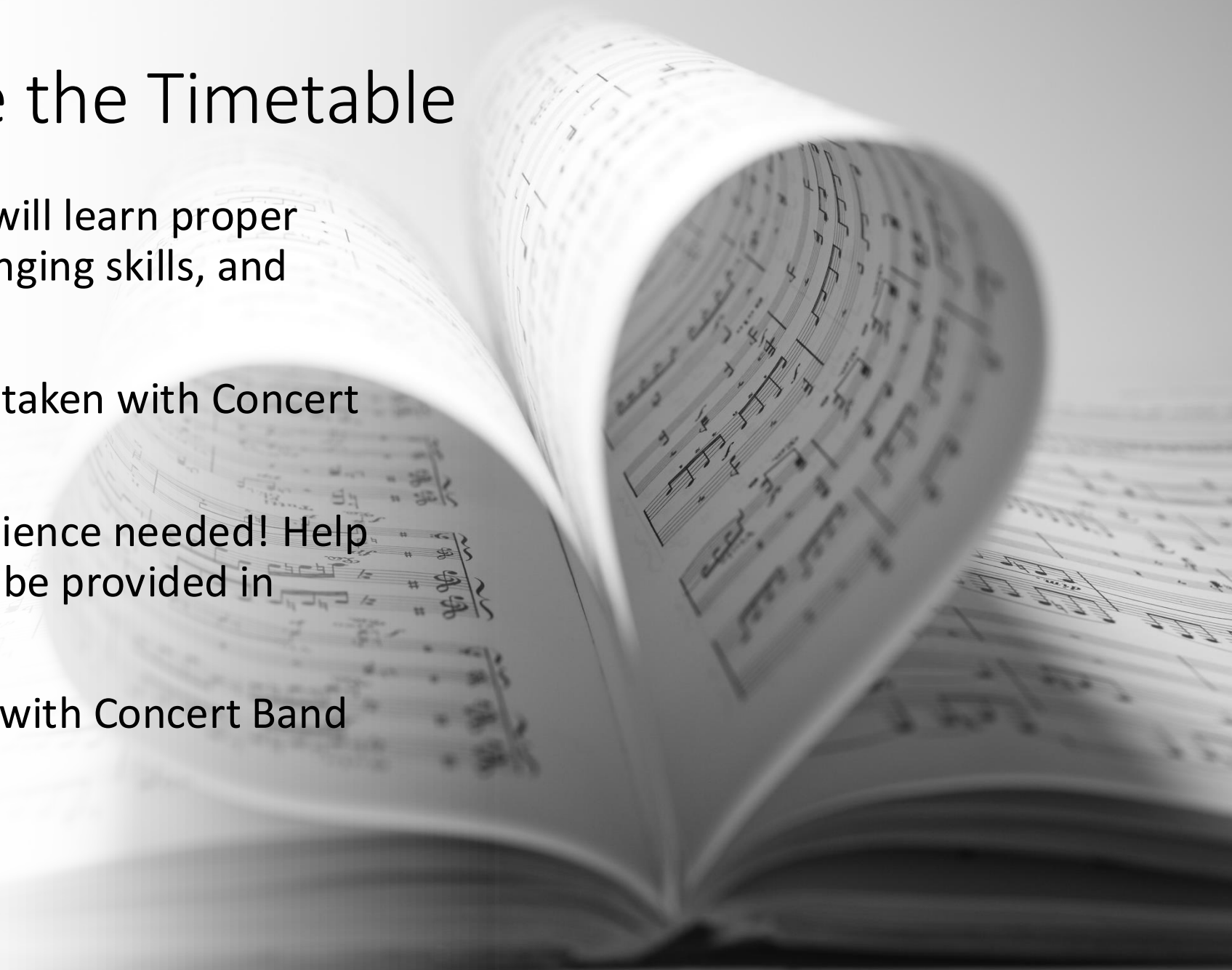
Concert Band

This is an elective option that would replace one of the elective rotations (typically the Arts rotation).

Students who choose this class will have to indicate on their programming sheet which elective rotation it will replace, and the instrument they play (min. 2 years/not piano or strings: only wind or percussion).

Electives Outside the Timetable

- **Concert Choir** - Students will learn proper singing technique, sight singing skills, and music theory.
- **Vocal Jazz Choir:** must be taken with Concert Choir or Concert Band.
- **Beginner Band** - No experience needed! Help picking an instrument will be provided in September.
- **Jazz Band:** must be taken with Concert Band or Concert Choir.





Carson Graham Secondary School
Telephone (604) 903-3555 www.carsongraham.ca
2026/2027 Grade 8 Course Requests



LastName: _____ First Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email _____ Parent/Guardian Phone # _____

Grade 7 Teacher: _____ Elementary School: _____

Indicate if you are currently enrolled in the following: LAC ☐ ELL ☐ French Immersion ☐

Required Courses: Year 3 refers to Grade 8 courses.

1. Language and Literature Year 3

2. Individuals and Societies Year 3

3. Science Year 3

4. Mathematics Year 3

5. Physical & Health Education Year 3

6. Fine Arts Year 3 Rotation: Rotation includes all three courses below:

*Arts Education - Music

*Arts Education - Drama

*Arts Education - Visual Arts

Replace with Concert Band? Yes ☐ No ☐

7. Design Year 3 Rotation: Rotation includes all three courses below:

*Computational Thinking

*Textiles

*Woodwork

Replace with Concert Band? Yes ☐ No ☐

8. Select One of:

☐ Language Acquisition Year 3 - French

☐ Language Acquisition Year 3 - Spanish

☐ Language Acquisition Year 3 - Squamish

Music Elective Options. These Courses MAY occur outside the timetable before or after school and at lunch.

☐ **Arts Education Year 3 - Concert Band** (Concert Band will replace the Design **OR** the Arts Elective Rotation - Please indicate in the appropriate section 6 or 7. Minimum of 2 years experience is needed. Please circle which instrument you will play: flute, oboe, clarinet, bass, trumpet, tuba, French horn, sax, trombone, percussion, tenor sax, or alto sax.

☐ **Arts Education Year 3 - Beginner Band**

☐ **Arts Education Year 3 Jazz Band** (Must be taken with either Concert Band or Concert Choir)

☐ **Arts Education Year 3 - Concert Choir**

☐ **Arts Education Year 3 - Vocal Jazz** (Must be taken with either Concert Band or Concert Choir)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

1. Students requiring ELL Support will be recommended by their Gr. 7 teacher.

2. Students will be assigned an LAC block only if they are currently getting LST support in their elementary school. Other considerations might be made during Articulation Meetings but are not guaranteed.

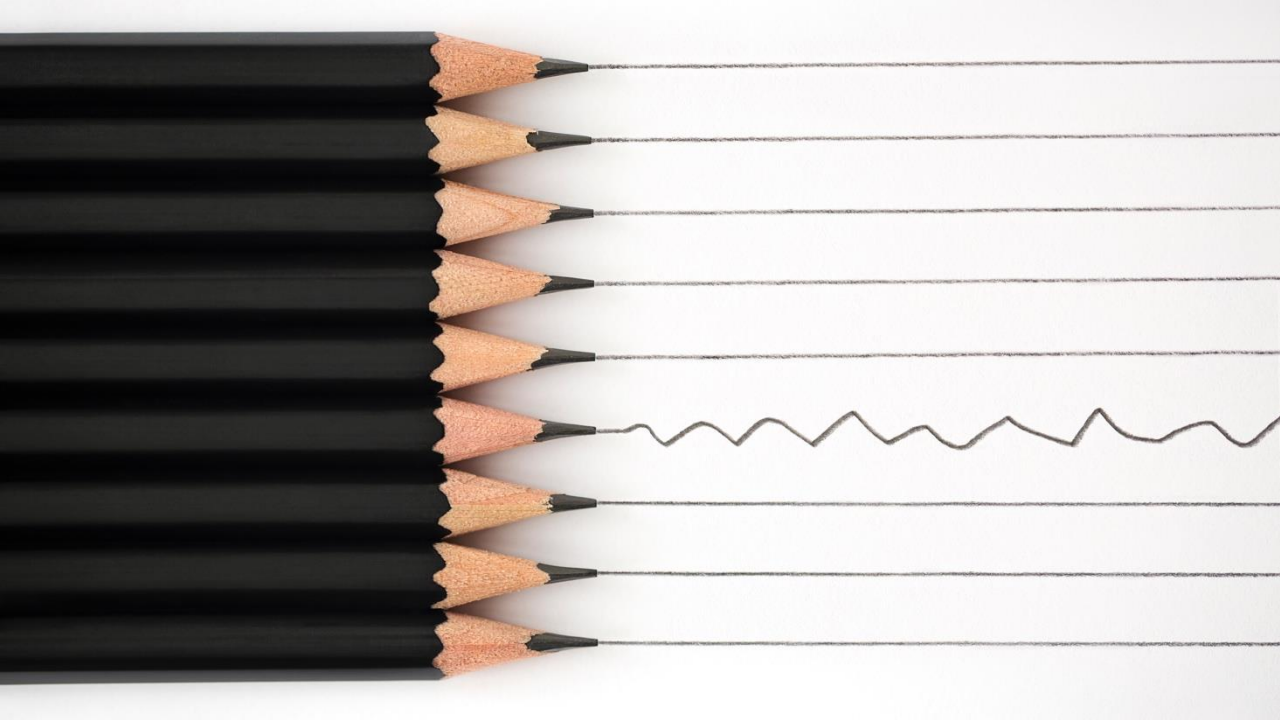
3. As part of the transition from elementary to secondary, meetings occur where educators discuss your child's progress, abilities and possible support needs in Gr 8. The information discussed will be shared between elementary and secondary staff. If you have any questions about the process, please contact your child's Gr 7 teacher.

Please direct any questions to the Grade 8 counsellor: [Tamara McKay - tmckay@sd44.ca](mailto:tmckay@sd44.ca) or 604 903-3555

STUDENT _____ PARENT/GUARDIAN _____
(Signature) (Signature)

Students must return the completed form to their Grade 7 teachers before **Thursday, February 5, 2026**

Supplementary Instructions for the flip side of this form



Some students may benefit from additional academic support.

- English Language Learner (ELL) class(es)
- Learning Assistance Class (LAC)



Fall Sports (September –November-ish)

- Boys Rugby – Gr 8
- Swimming
- Girls Volleyball
- Cross-country
- Girls Field hockey
- Soccer – Boys Grades 9-12
- Football Gr 9-12



Winter Sports (November - March)

- Basketball
- Boys and Girls Wrestling
- Ski & Snowboarding Club



Spring Sports (March -June)

- Badminton
- Golf
- Football – Grade 8 boys
- Mountain Biking
- Girls Rugby
- Track and Field
- Ultimate
- Soccer – Girls
- Tennis



Join a club...

- Student Council
- Strings Club
- Environmental Club
- D & D Club
- Chess Club
- Jack.org Mental Health
- Science Club
- Spanish Club
- Math Club
- The Ambassadors Club
- Jack.Org
- Model UN
- Coffee House
- Tech Crew
- Theatre Club
- Art Club
- GSA (Gender and Sexuality Alliance)
- **Or start your own club!!**

North Vancouver School District Academies (link on district website)

[https://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/Academies/Pages/default.aspx#/=
#/=](https://www.sd44.ca/ProgramsServices/Academies/Pages/default.aspx#/=)

Grade 8 offerings

Basketball
Volleyball
Rowing
Field Hockey
Soccer
Hockey Skills (no league play)
Dance

Academies and Enhanced Program

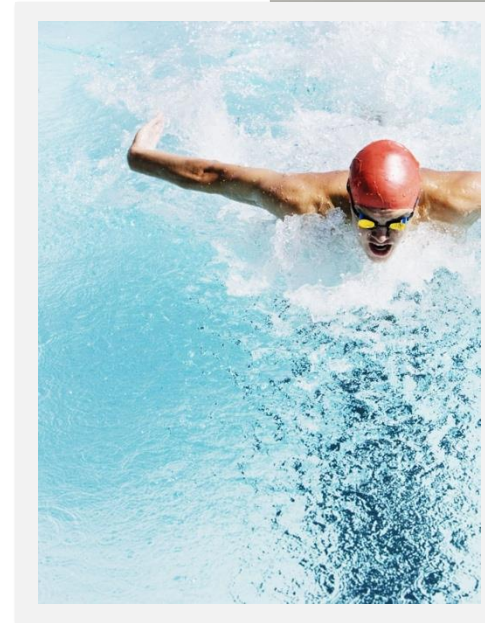


- Information for each program is available on the School District website – *Programs & Services* top tab, *Academies* side tab [Academies - North Vancouver School District \(sd44.ca\)](https://sd44.ca/academies)
- Online application window for 2026-27 opens Thursday, January 15
- Initial (first round) offer placement ends on Saturday, February 28
- Online registration & waitlisting: Applications received after February 28 may be offered placement in subsequent rounds if space or placed on a waitlist if academy is full
- Schools will receive their first round of student placement lists the week of April 20.
- **RETURNING STUDENTS MUST RE-APPLY** each year. Adding the academy on home school course selections sheets will not register them – they must complete the district online application form as well
- Online application via District Website
- Bursary available for every academy
- Email any questions to academies@sd44.ca (anyone) or bgerandol@sd44.ca (schools/staff only)

Peak Performance

Non-credit timetabling option for elite-level student athletes and performers:

- **Enables students to pursue their athletic and performing arts goals**
- **Min. of 15 hours per week of specific training in their one discipline year-round**
- **Be a student in good academic standing (reviewed by school administration).**
- **Recommendation of coach/teacher confirming a min. of 15 hrs./wk. training under their supervision, detailing specific training**
- **Competition and/or performance at the regional, provincial, or national level in a sport or program which is recognized within the BC Ministry of Education's External Credential process.**
- **A completed Peak Performance Application Form and all necessary documents (NVSD website)**
- **Approval of application by the Principal at the student's school.**





Registration

May 1 - June 22, 2026

Register through School
Cash Online or Summer
Learning Website

www.sd44.ca/school/summer

Summer Learning Details



Programs	Foundations Courses (Gr 7-9)	Full Credit (Gr. 10-12) Academic Courses
	ELL Language Building Literacy Numeracy 7/8 Transition	Gr. 10 - 12 Full Courses Required for Graduation
Location	Argyle Secondary	Argyle Secondary
Dates	July 6 – July 22, 2026	July 2 – July 31, 2026
Times	8:30am – 12:00pm	8:30am - 12:30pm

Visit the website for more info: <https://www.sd44.ca/school/summer>

The Fabulous, Furry, Yellow Labrador Brother Team:

Diego and Aslan!!!!



Aslan and Diego

- **PADS:** Pacific Assistance Dog Society
- Diego & Aslan are service/working dogs
- PADS Service **Facility Dogs**.
- Their job: to provide comfort and welcoming to our school, to inspire community spirit , as well as provide social, emotional, and therapeutic support to ALL students and staff.
- Mr. Blay is Aslan's handler and McKay is Diego's





Grade 7s look forward to:

- ❖ Having their own locker
- ❖ More than one teacher
- ❖ Trying new courses – Fine Arts / Design
- ❖ Meeting new friends
- ❖ Playing new sports, joining new clubs
- ❖ Increased independence
- ❖ The cafeteria & Eagle's Nest
- ❖ Diego & Aslan

Grade 7s might worry about:

- ❖ Figuring out their timetable
- ❖ Remembering their lock combination
- ❖ Finding their classes
- ❖ Being late for class
- ❖ Too much homework
- ❖ Different teachers, different rules
- ❖ Peer pressure
- ❖ Changing friendships
- ❖ The Grade 12s (why are they soooo tall and hairy!?!)



A close-up photograph of two dogs lying down on a wooden surface. On the left is a dog with light-colored fur and dark brown speckles, possibly a Weimaraner. On the right is a dog with golden-brown fur, possibly a Golden Retriever. They are facing each other with their noses touching, appearing to sniff or nuzzle. The background is blurred, showing some indoor lighting.

But what do parents and guardians
worry about?

Parenthood: it's not for the weak!

- Will they have a successful transition?
- Will they have academic & social success?
- Will the teachers really know my child's needs?
- How do we communicate with teachers?
- Who do I go to with questions, concerns?
- Do I have opportunities to stay involved?
- Will they resist peer pressure?



For the next 5 years, change is here to stay!

- Bigger academic challenges
- New levels of pressure and stress
 - Independent choices
 - Hormones are raging
- They smell...really bad!



How to support your teen transitioning to high school

- Strongly encourage extracurricular activities
- Help your student to get to school on time
- Get 8-10 hrs. sleep
- Try to schedule daily routine expectations
- Set clear boundaries around cell. phones, social media and gaming
- NO electronics in the bedrooms!
- Ensure there is dedicated space and time for homework and review
- Show an interest in their school day and homework: “High, Low, and Grateful”



AND there's more...!

- Check attendance in MyEd: monitor lateness **regularly**
- Check report cards
- Stay calm & positive: get curious, not furious
- Attend school events, PAC, parent evenings, subscribe to school calendar, read those newsletters...
- Balance your help & support while also encouraging self advocacy
- Connect with other parents & again...read those school newsletters



Student tips for success in Grade 8

Responsibility

Organization

Attendance

Take Risks Making New Friends

Get to Know Your Teachers

Engage: try new things

Be Kind in thought and deed





It will be ok



How Can Ms. McKay Help Me?

- Social & Emotional support
- Timetable questions or concerns
- Help talking with a teacher, friend or parent/guardian
- Just need someone to talk to
- Having a rough day
- Info on school and community supports
- Need confidential advice
- How to reach Ms. McKay: drop by her office when you don't have class, message on Teams or email.

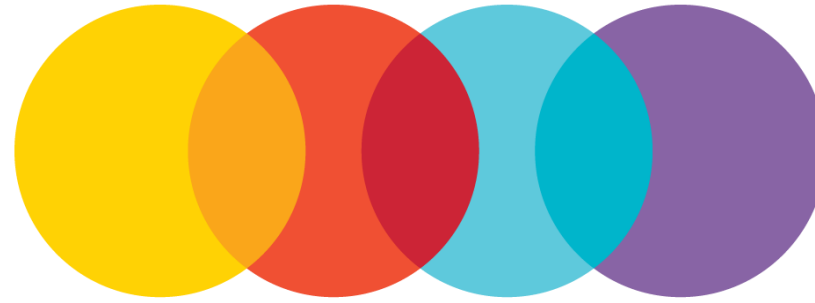


Grade 7 to 8 Transition Activities

- Jan 22-26 Gr 7 Classroom Presentations
- Jan 27
Graham Gr. 7 Parent Programming Presentation at Carson
- Feb 7 Course Programming Request Forms due to Grade 7
Teacher
- March 5th MYP Personal Project Celebration (Parents invited in
the evening!)
- June 22 Proposed school tour for Grade 7 students
- **Note that the cross- boundary transfer Deadline is March 6th, 2026**



North Vancouver is an IB Continuum District



IB CONTINUUM

Primary Years Program

(K-7)

Capilano Elementary

Queen Mary Elementary

Norgate Xwemélch'stn
Community Elementary

Middle Years Program

(Gr. 8-10)

All students

Diploma Program

(Gr. 11-12)

Eligible students

Carson Graham Secondary

IB helps you learn about the world in a creative way.

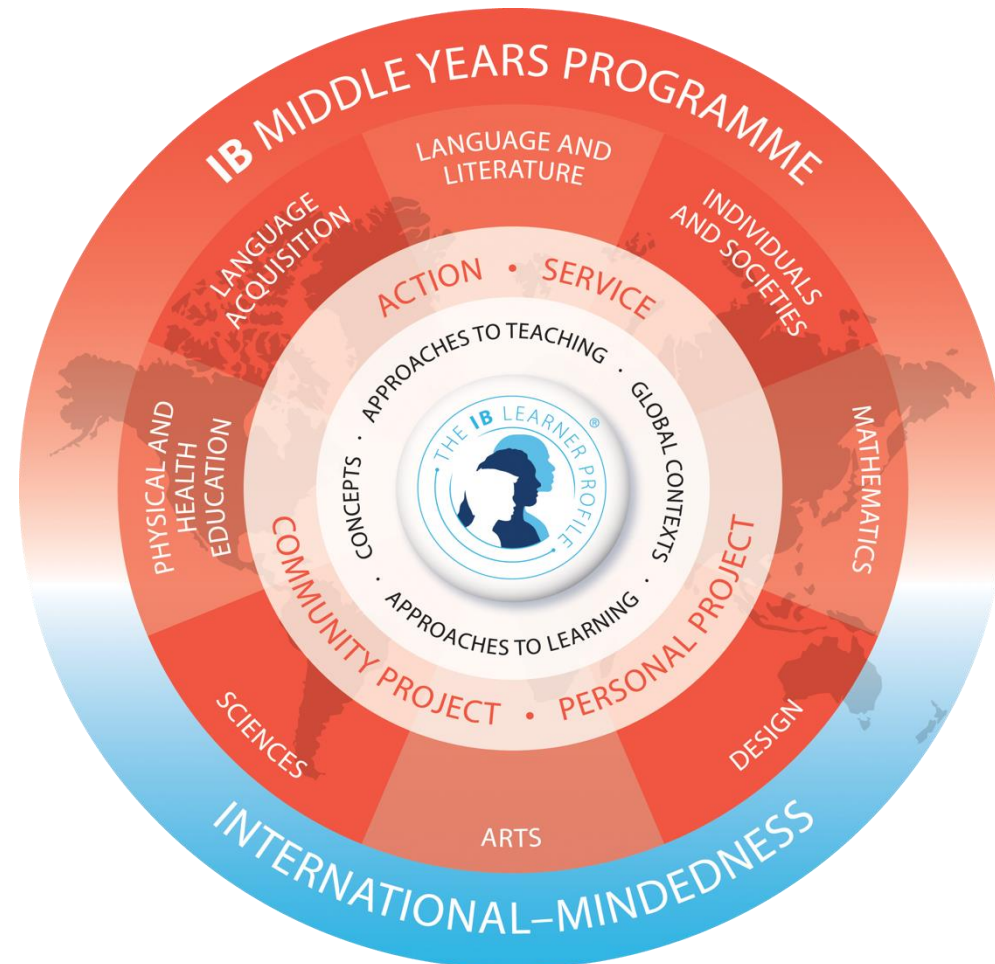
There is extra attention and value on the process of learning and not just the outcome.

What is MYP?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) is an educational program with set standards and practices through which to teach the BC Curriculum.

Key features:

- Concept-driven
- Driven by student inquiry
- Criterion referenced assessment
- Common framework
- Consistency between classes
- Intellectual development
- Character development





**What traits do
we want our
students to
value as
learners?**

MYP Assessment & Reporting

- Common descriptive language for evidence of student learning
- 4 criterion & 4 rubrics per course
- Holistic and ongoing evaluation
- Achievement increases as students show more sophisticated evidence of learning

MYP Assessment with BC Ministry Proficiency Scale

7 – 8 Extending

5 – 6 Proficient

3 – 4 Developing

1 – 2 Emerging

		Current Trend
Criterion		
A: Inquiring and Analysing		4 Developing
The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> outlines the need for a solution to a problem states the research needed to develop a solution to the problem, with some guidance outlines one existing product that inspires a solution to the problem develops a basic design brief, which outlines some of the findings of relevant research. 		
B: Developing Ideas		4 Developing
The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> constructs a list of the success criteria for the design of a solution presents a few feasible design ideas, using an appropriate medium(s) or explains key features, which can be interpreted by others outlines the main reasons for choosing the design with reference to the design specification creates planning drawings/diagrams or lists requirements for the chosen solution. 		
C: Creating the Solution		7 Extending
The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> constructs a logical plan, which outlines the efficient use of time and resources, sufficient for peers to be able to follow to create the solution demonstrates excellent technical skills when making the solution follows the plan to create the solution, which functions as intended and is presented appropriately explains changes made to the chosen design and plan when making the solution. 		
D: Evaluating		4 Developing
The student: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> describes a relevant testing method, which generates data, to measure the success of the solution outlines the success of the solution against the design specification based on relevant product testing lists the ways in which the solution could be improved outlines the impact of the solution on the client/target audience. 		

Approaches to Learning (ATL)

THINKING SKILLS



CREATIVE THINKING
GENERATE, DESIGN & TRANSFORM

CRITICAL THINKING
ANALYZE, QUESTION & EVALUATE

TRANSFER SKILLS
CONNECT, COMBINE & APPLY



RESEARCH SKILLS

INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS
FIND & INTERPRET
EVALUATE & ORGANIZE
CREATE & CITE

MEDIA LITERACY SKILLS
MAKE INFORMED CHOICES
UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT
BE AWARE



SOCIAL SKILLS

COLLABORATION SKILLS
DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS
MANAGE & RESOLVE CONFLICT
EMPATHIZE & ENCOURAGE
CONSIDER OTHERS' POINTS OF VIEW



SELF-MANAGEMENT SKILLS

ORGANIZATION SKILLS
PLAN WORK & MEET DEADLINES
SET GOALS & MANAGE SUPPLIES

AFFECTIVE SKILLS
FOCUS & CONCENTRATE
PERSIST & PERSEVERE
REDUCE STRESS
MANAGE EMOTIONS

REFLECTION SKILLS
WHAT AM I STRONG AT?
WHAT DO I FIND MOST CHALLENGING?
WHAT DID I LEARN TODAY?
WHAT DON'T I UNDERSTAND YET?



GIVE & RECEIVE
INTERPRET & NEGOTIATE
UNDERSTAND & INFER



COMMUNICATION SKILLS



Advisory 8

Once per month

Grade 8 Inquiry Groups

Small Groups will focus on the following:

Approaches to Learning Skills Building

School Connectedness

Service as Action



THE PERSONAL PROJECT: A HERO'S JOURNEY



- **Culminating project for MYP**
- **Individual inquiry on a topic of the student's choice over an extended period of time**
- **Demonstrates development of the Approaches to Learning skills**

Grade 10 Personal Project



You are invited!

Carson Graham's
Celebration of IB

Personal Project Presentations
Diploma Programme Art Exhibition
DP Core Presentations

Thursday, March 5th
6:00-8:00pm

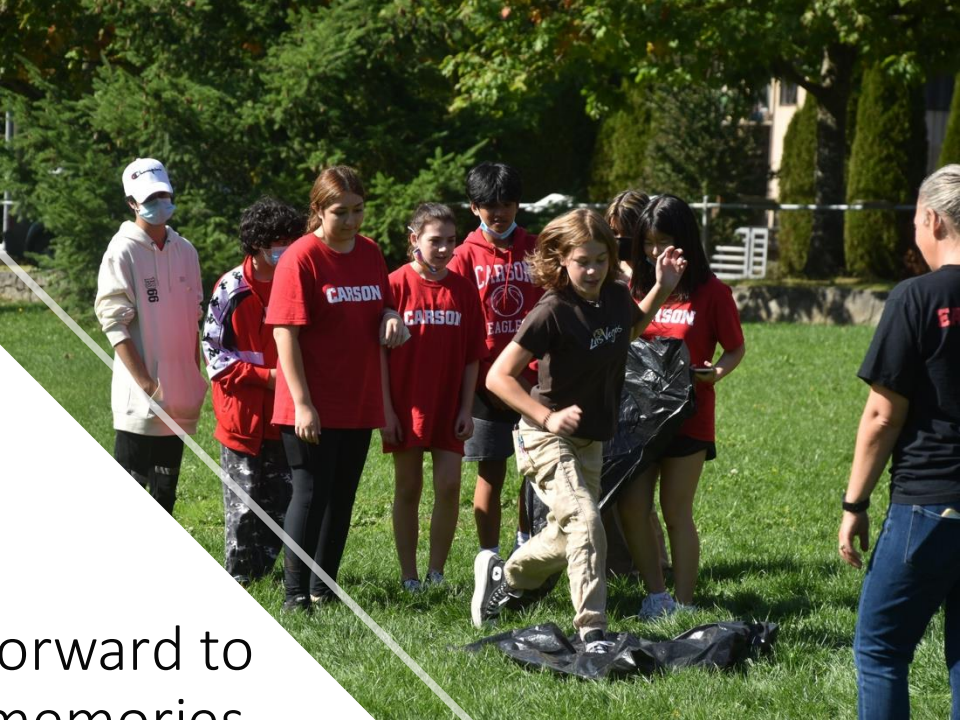


Carson Graham
Secondary

CELEBRATION
of
IB!

Thursday, March 5, 2026
6-8pm

Personal Project Presentations
IB Diploma Programme Art Exhibition
Diploma Programme CORE Presentations



We look forward to
building memories
with you!





Questions?

- ❖ Refer to the Carson website for course descriptions www.carsongraham.ca
- ❖ Ask Gr. 7 teacher for recommendations or advice.
- ❖ Contact Ms. McKay, next year's Grade 8 counsellor tmckay@sd44.ca or 604 903-3555.
- ❖ Contact Mr. Irani, next year's Grade 8 administrator tirani@sd44.ca