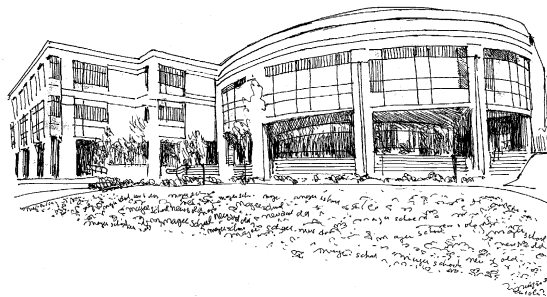


Magee Secondary School

6360 Maple Street, Vancouver, BC V6M 4M2

Tel: 604-713-8200 Fax: 604-713-8209 <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/>

August 2019 Newsletter



Principal: Andrew Schofield
Vancouver School Board Liaison:
Magee PAC Co-Chairs:

Vice Principal: Kelly Egilsson
Richard Zerbe
Maria Hubinette & Skye Richards

Vice Principal: Michelle Wood

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.
- Valuing community and the joy of learning.

Principal's Message

Hello Magee students and parents. As the beginning of the school year arrives you will find a number of important information items enclosed with this letter to help set up a successful school year. We hope that summer break provided time for you to relax, as well as time to chart a course for the upcoming year. All of us at Magee Secondary look forward to sharing with you the numerous and exciting learning possibilities and successes to be experienced over the course of this coming school year, be it academically, athletically, artistically, and socially!

Yours truly,
Andrew Schofield, Principal

Making Your Start Successful

There are a number of things you can do to make your start successful.

1. Read this August newsletter and refer to our Magee website at <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/> for important information on school opening policies and procedures.
2. Pay attention to the information that will be given to you in **homeroom** the first week of school. After that week you will be expected to be familiar with the **procedures** and **rules** contained in the agenda book.
3. Use your **agenda book** to help you plan and organize (the book will be available after school fees have been paid). It is an invaluable tool!
4. Remember you don't have a second chance to make a first impression. Make that first impression a positive one. Ask, if you need help. People at Magee are caring and will help you if you need it.

School Growth Plan 2019 - 2020

Our school's overall **growth plan** continues to place a strong emphasis on increasing 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

The 2019 – 2020 school year starts on Tuesday, September 3rd with mandatory homeroom periods at the following times (homeroom room locations will be posted in the atrium - **NOTE – homeroom assignments can change – please check** homeroom room locations that are posted in the atrium):

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

- Tuesday, September 3rd from 10:00 am – 10:45 am

Homeroom Period for Grade 8's

- Tuesday, September 3rd from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
- All grade 8's gather at 11:00 am 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

- Wednesday, September 4th from 8:40 am – 8:55 am; Day one schedule; period one starts at 9:00. Day ends at 3:03pm.
- Thursday, September 5th from 8:40 am – 8:55 am; Day two schedule; period one starts at 9:00. Day ends at 3:03pm.
- Friday, September 6th from 8:40 am – 8:55 am; Day one schedule; period one starts at 9:00. Day ends at 3:03pm.

During these 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 will be established along with important homework expectations.

Should you have any questions for your child's teacher, or grade counsellor, please contact them directly. We encourage you to take time during this important first week of school to review with your child a program of strong work habits at school and home that will set him or her up to maximize their educational opportunities.

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 will be 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 at: <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/Pages/calendar.aspx> and <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/Publications/Magee%20Secondary%20Calendar%202019-20%20FINAL.pdf>

Magee Secondary School is introducing a school flextime model this year. Flex time is a period of instructional time built into the Magee schedule that gives our 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
- Career Life Connections 12 and Capstone
- Work Experience 11 and 12
- enrichment passion projects.

Ultimately, flex 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.

Our daily schedule, adjusted for flextime, at Magee is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Early Morning Period 7:35 – 8:35	Early Morning Period 7:35 – 8:35	Early Morning Period 7:35 – 8:35	Early Morning Period 7:35 – 8:35	Early Morning Period 7:35 – 8:35
Period 1 8:40 – 10:00	Period 1 8:40 – 10:00	Period 1 8:40 – 10:00	Flex Time 8:40 – 9:15	Flex Time 8:40 – 9:15
Period 2 10:10 – 11:30	Period 2 10:10 – 11:30	Period 2 10:10 – 11:30	Period 1 9:20 – 10:20	Period 1 9:20 – 10:20
			Period 2 10:30 – 11:30	Period 2 10:30 – 11:30
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Period 3 12:20 – 1:40	Period 3 12:20 – 1:20	Period 3 12:20 – 1:20	Period 3 12:20 – 1:40	Period 3 12:20 – 1:40
Period 4 1:45 – 3:03	Period 4 1:25 – 2:25	Period 4 1:25 – 2:25	Period 4 1:45 – 3:03	Period 4 1:45 – 3:03
	Flex Time 2:30 – 3:03	Flex Time 2:30 – 3:03		

For additional information on Magee’s Flextime program please refer to our webpage at: <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/About/Documents/Magee%20Flexexpectations.pdf>

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 on September 3, 2019. 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 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 as of the first day of class – September 4th or soon after. 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 1st.

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. A '**Student Information Verification Form**' will be distributed during the Tuesday September 3rd homeroom period. Please carefully verify this form and make any changes/updates directly onto the form. Please also ensure there is a Parent/Guardian email address listed on the form. The form is to be returned by students at the Wednesday, September 4th homeroom or to the office in the first week of classes.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on Tuesday, September 24th. Photo information forms will be distributed in homerooms on September 3rd. 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 14 – 17, 2019. Please go to 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**.

The majority of 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:

Grey Gildan T-shirt	\$10.00	Black Adidas Dazzle Shorts	\$25.00
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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 24, 2019 from 6:30 pm**. At the Welcome Night, our Magee Music Department teachers are looking forward to mingling with all of the 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.

FUNDRAISING

We look forward to your participation in our fundraisers! We have the following planned:

- Shredding Fundraising on 22 September and 2 May from 10am-2pm
- Magee Market Fair on 7 February 2020 from 5:30pm-9:30pm

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 a number of 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.

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

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 30th.

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

Counselling Department

Grade Counsellors for 2019 – 2020

Grade 8	Shared by counselling team per alpha split- Surnames beginning with A-C: Mrs. Lercher Surnames beginning with D-L: Ms. Liu Surnames beginning with M-Z: Mr. Kanavos		
Grade 9	Ms. Liu	Grade 10	Mrs. Lercher
Grade 11	Mr. Kanavos	Grade 12	Mrs. Miladinovic

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 2019 report card to the records clerk in the main office so that we can confirm your marks from last year.

Course Schedules: Please check your course schedules carefully when you receive them in your homeroom. If you find any errors or omissions then please make an appointment with your grade Counsellor. More information on course change procedures is posted outside 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 in the early fall regarding Career Life Connections and the Capstone project and please check out the Artona website to book your grad photo sessions.

L. Lercher,
Department Head, Counselling

Student Accident Insurance (Formerly Kids Plus)

The Kids plus student accident insurance program has changed and is now 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 by using the URL provided below:

<https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

If you have questions about the program please contact Industrial Alliance directly via:

Phone: 1.800.266.5667 or Email: solutions@ia.ca