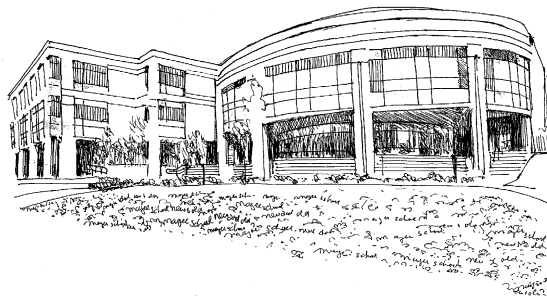


Magee Secondary School

6360 Maple Street, Vancouver, BC V6M 4M2

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

August 2017 Newsletter



Principal: Alec MacInnes

Vice Principal: Kelly Egilsson
Vancouver School Board Liaison:
To Be Determined

Vice Principal: Lorna Duncan
Ellen Roberts

Magee PAC Chair:

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 refresh and reflect on the previous school year, as well as time to chart a course for achieving your personal best 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,
Alec MacInnes, 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 2017 - 2018

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 provide opportunities for each student to experience growth and success
2. To foster global citizenship and environmental stewardship
3. To increase knowledge, acceptance, empathy, awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal histories, traditions, cultures and contributions among all students.

School Opening Schedule

The 2017 - 2018 school year starts on Tuesday, September 5th with mandatory homeroom periods at the following times (homeroom room locations will be posted in the atrium - **NOTE - many homeroom assignments have changed - please check** homeroom room locations will be posted in the atrium):

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

- Tuesday, September 5th from 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Homeroom Period just for Grade 8's

- Tuesday, September 5th from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- All grade 8's will assemble at 11:00 am in the Rotunda where they will meet their homeroom teachers who will lead the students to their homeroom.
- Grade 8's will learn how to successfully 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 6th from 8:40 am - 8:55 am

All Students then begin classes on Wednesday, September 6th starting at 9:00 am.

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

The Magee School Calendar may be found on our website at:

<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/Documents/Secondary%20Calendar%20Template%202017-18.doc> .

Magee Secondary School teachers will once again have ten **collaborative planning sessions** spaced throughout the year. This year collaborative planning sessions will occur either in the morning or in the afternoon. On days of the morning sessions, students have a later start to their school day with classes beginning at 9:45 am. On days of afternoon sessions, students will be dismissed at 2:03 pm. This collaborative time allows important planning for student programs to take place on a regular basis for teams of teachers.

School Fees

A list of school and supplemental fees may be found on the school website at <http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/magee/Publications/Magee%20School%20Fee%20Schedule%202017%20-%202018.pdf> Students will receive 'Student Account Summaries' during the first homeroom on September 5, 2017. This year we will continue to be use **School-Day**, an online portal, that lets us allow for online 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. To register or learn more about School-Day, you are welcome to visit the School-Day website at www.school-day.com or contact School-Day by email at info@school-day.com. For any support or technical help, please visit the School-Day support site at www.school-day.com/support. We look forward to continuing to use this system,

Further information on school and supplemental fees and the online payment of those fees is available on the school website. School-Day will be available for parent registration as of the first day of class – September 6th or soon after. School and supplemental fees will be collected through School-Day 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 will be done primarily through email with our 'Magee News' ebulletin. A **'Student Information Verification Form'** will be distributed during the Tuesday September 5th homeroom period. You are asked to carefully look over 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 6th homeroom or to the office in the first week of classes.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on Tuesday, September 26th. Photo information forms will be distributed in homerooms on September 5th. Identification cards are included in the 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 mid-year and final exams.

Grad Photos are taken by Artona Studios from September 17 – 19, 2017. 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) in order 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 as follows:

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 **Potluck Dinner Welcome Night, Magee Atrium on Tuesday, October 3rd, 2017 at 6:30 pm.**

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 Secondary website as well as via Magee Synervice.

FUNDRAISING

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

- Shredding Fundraising on Saturday, October 7th, 2017 from 10am-2pm
- Magee Market Fair on February 9th, 2018 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, entertainment cards, magazine sales, gift cards 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 back to the Music Department by September 29th, 2017.

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 2017 – 2018

Grade 8	Ms. Liu	Grade 11	Mr. Kanavos
Grade 9	Mrs. Tanabe	Grade 12	Mrs. Lercher
Grade 10	Mrs. Miladinovic		

Grade 8 Students: A big welcome to Magee! We hope that your first year in high school goes smoothly. Your Counsellor Ms. Liu, 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 2017 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 will be available in homeroom classes.

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 Graduation Transitions 12 and please check out the Artona website to book your grad photo sessions.

*L. Lercher,
Department Head, Counselling*