



## August 2021-2022 - Secondary Schedule

Welcome back WVSS students and families!

As previously communicated in June, please find below some information specific to this year's Secondary schedule. We are excited that the Ministry's Health Guidelines allow us to operate in-person and without Cohorts. These guidelines permit us to run the preferred Semester schedule. The 2021-2022 school year is a "COVID-19 Transitional Year". During the year we will again collect stakeholder feedback and will re-evaluate the secondary schedule for 2022-2023.

Prior to Spring Break we engaged students, parents and teachers in a Secondary Survey. We had very high levels of participation and have used this feedback to guide our planning. Below are some of the Key takeaways:

- Focusing on fewer courses at a time has been easier for students to manage when compared to the traditional linear schedule.
- The Hybrid experience, as provided this year, was less effective than in-person instruction.
- X Block has been effective, and with refinement, has greater potential.
- A Semester Schedule is viewed by all stakeholder groups to be the most effective schedule for student learning.

### 2021-2022 Schedule

2021-2022 Semester Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 1 8:30 - 9:50	Period 2 8:30 - 10:25	Period 4 8:30 - 9:50	Period 3 8:30 - 10:25	Period 2 8:30 - 9:50
Break 9:50 - 10:05		Break 9:50 - 10:05		Break 9:50 - 10:05
Period 2 10:05 - 11:25	Break 10:25 - 10:40	Period 3 10:05 - 11:25	Break 10:25 - 10:40	Period 1 10:05 - 11:25
Lunch 11:25 - 12:10	Period 1 10:40 - 12:35	Lunch 11:25 - 12:10	Period 4 10:40 - 12:35	Lunch 11:25 - 12:10
Period 3 12:10 - 1:30		Period 1 12:10 - 1:30		Period 3 12:10 - 1:30
Break 1:30 - 1:40	Lunch 12:35 - 1:20	Break 1:30 - 1:40	Lunch 12:35 - 1:20	Break 1:30 - 1:40
Period 4 1:40 - 3:00	X Block 1:20 - 2:50	Period 2 1:40 - 3:00	X Block 1:20 - 2:50	Period 4 1:40 - 3:00

## **Semester Schedule Highlights:**

- Two Semesters
  - **Semester 1** - September 7, 2021 – Jan 31, 2022
  - **Semester 2** – Feb 1, 2022 – June 27, 2022
  - Each Semester has 4 blocks with a linear (all year) X Block
- Blocks are fixed by day and do not rotate or tumble
- Monday, Wednesday and Friday have (4) 80 minute blocks per day
- Tuesday and Thursday have (2) 115 minute blocks and a 90 minute X Block per day

## **Refined X Block:**

This year's X Block has evolved from last year's "pandemic" X Block. Stakeholder feedback strongly endorsed X Block as it provides a space for District Programs, Academies, Careers 8/9, Careers 11/12, Linear Courses, AP/IB programming, and Learning Support, as well as time and flexibility for students to meet with teachers for support, guidance or inspiration regarding specific curriculum. Students may also choose to use this time to explore other passions and interests. It provides them the opportunity to collaborate with other students, teachers, or community members; and time to work on, or complete assignments and projects. Coming out of the pandemic, schools will be providing increased structure and opportunities for students in next year's shortened and redefined X Block schedule.

## **Benefits of X Block**

- Provides a space for year-long (Linear) programming in a Semester schedule
- Provides time for Grade 8/9 and Grade 11/12 students to complete the Career Life Connections curriculum.
- Provides students with choice, voice, and flexibility with their learning in order to independently complete assignments, study, collaborate with peers, complete homework, or engage in a personal area of interest.
- Provides the opportunity for students to receive support and guidance from teachers.
- Promotes well-being for the entire school population (e.g. time to address needs, opportunity to reduce homework and assignment pressures, frees up the lunch break for students and teachers to eat and prepare, or to participate in school-based activities like clubs, etc.).
- Provides flexible learning environments for all, acknowledging that learning can take place in a variety of places and in a variety of ways.
- Supports student time management and organization, by providing an opportunity for students to practice these skills with the guidance of teachers.
- During X Block - Teachers/Departments will be available to mentor, facilitate, and guide student learning.
- Teachers may require students to attend a specific X block time to make up missed work, assessments, complete assignments and receive extra help.
- Provides time and space for teacher-enriched learning opportunities.

As we launch into a new school year we are looking forward to in-person instruction, the gradual resumption of sports, clubs, cafeteria service and the essential ingredients that help build school culture

and community. The pandemic has provided us with the opportunity to reflect, refine and adjust our school schedules.

Information regarding the first few days of school this year will be emailed to families and students shortly. We look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Many thanks for your continued support,

Steve Rauh  
Principal - West Vancouver Secondary School

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