

# **WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS PREMIER ROBOTICS ACADEMY**

## **The Concept**

The Mechatronics Robotics Academy is a choice program offered to students, Grades 9-12, who are registered full time at any of the district's public secondary schools: Rockridge, Sentinel Secondary or West Vancouver Secondary.

The program offers students the opportunity to explore their potential in Competitive Robotics as a way of using STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) skills in a practical and hands-on environment.

Students work in design teams, in a variety of roles to research, build, program and test robots, ultimately competing in robotics competitions locally, provincially, and internationally.

There are local tournaments, usually 5 per year, occurring all day on Saturdays.

There are provincial championships for teams who qualify.

Teams who compete successfully also have the opportunity to qualify for the world championships.

## **The Schedule**

The Mechatronics Robotics Academy classroom sessions occur during X Block periods all year long (linearly) within the West Vancouver Schools Semester System.

- X Block period: Tuesday from 1:20 – 4:00 p.m. all year long **OR**
- X Block period: Thursday from 1:20 – 4:00 p.m. all year long **OR**

\*For senior students who may have conflicts with their schedules: Friday, 3:30 – 6:10 p.m.

Please note that the Academy staff determine the day for students as the decisions are based on several factors such as student teams and academic timetable conflicts.

## **Courses**

By participating in the Mechatronics Robotics Academy, students (9-12) receive the following Ministry course depending upon the student grade level:

Grade 9:	ADST Electronics & Robotics 9
Grade 10:	ADST Electronics & Robotics 10
Grade 11:	Robotics 11
Grade 12:	Robotics 12

For students, Grades 10-12, there is also the opportunity to earn additional course credits based on the students' skill level, ability to complete extra work for an additional course and the consistent ability to participate in many additional hours.

\*Students who request the additional courses must be approved by the Robotics Academy teachers. More information is provided within the month of September to confirm this additional opportunity based on many factors.

Grade 10:     Electronics 11  
Grade 11:     Electronics 12  
Grade 12:     Mechatronics 12

### **Personnel**

This Mechatronics Robotics Academy is staffed by outstanding West Vancouver Schools teachers, with knowledge, experience, and a passion in all things STEM. Students have this incredible opportunity to work and learn in a positive, team-focused environment designed to inspire our youth to become aware of the many opportunities available post-secondary.

- Mr. Todd Ablett
- Dr. Mahesh Chugani
- Ms. Cari Wilson
- Mr. Braydan Pastucha

### **Clothing/Equipment**

We want our students to feel welcomed and a member of a team. To create this positive environment among students, we would like students to uniformly dressed. This means that we would like the students to wear a t-shirt or hoodie during their weekly classroom session and for the various tournaments that they will be participating.

Once registration is complete, parents will be informed & provided an online link (May/June) that outlines the process to order the mandatory & optional clothing items in order to receive the orders for school start-up. Parents will also be provided with a deadline date when all online orders must be completed.

### **Transportation**

The Mechatronics Robotics Academy classroom sessions take place in a wing of West Vancouver Secondary School. Transportation is provided one-way for students from both Rockridge Secondary and Sentinel Secondary. Students board the buses out front of their respective schools. Parents are responsible for picking up the students at the end of the sessions.

### **Fees**

\$275 per month x 10 months (September – June)  
Total: \$2750 per year

## **Process for Registration Completion**

Complete & submit a Student Information Form to the Premier Mechatronics Robotics Academy at: <https://westvancouver.schools.ca/academies/robotics>

Scan a copy of the student's most recent report card to Academy Assistant, Ms. Tara Ledingham at [tledingham@wvschools.ca](mailto:tledingham@wvschools.ca)

The student application is reviewed by the robotics academy staff and then parents are informed by the Academy Office.

Once parents receive student confirmation of acceptance into the academy, parents will receive the applicable forms to be completed.

Parents complete the registration process by providing a non-refundable deposit of \$275 on the student's School Cash Online account or by submitting a cheque made payable to West Vancouver Schools with the current date. This non-refundable deposit covers September's fees and confirms the student's registration.

Please note that Academy fees for October to June will be processed through School Cash Online enabling parents to initiate automated monthly payments via credit card or direct debit.

For further information regarding registration please contact:  
WVS Premier Academies Assistant  
Mrs. Tara Ledingham  
[tledingham@wvschools.ca](mailto:tledingham@wvschools.ca)  
604-981-1710