

# Vernon Secondary School

<http://vernon.sd22.bc.ca>

Vernon, British Columbia, Canada



**AKA:** "VSS"

**First opened:** 1968 **New School:** 2013

**Address:** 2100-15 Street, Vernon, BC

**Website:** <http://vss.sd22.bc.ca>

**Grades:** 8 - 12

**Average class size:** 30 students

**Average ESL class size:** 16 students

**Total student population:** 1100

**Staff:** 70

**School hours:** 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM/ 4 – 80 minute class

**School mission:** We seek to provide a secure environment in which learners strive to achieve their personal best. We seek to enhance the attitudes, knowledge, and skills of all students so that they may become lifelong learners and adaptable, contributing, and responsible citizens.

## About VSS:

Vernon Secondary School is one of Vernon's most comprehensive schools offering courses and opportunities across all disciplines and areas. VSS has a proud tradition of achievements in athletics, fine arts, and academics. VSS athletes are routinely recognized as provincial contenders in golf, curling, football, cross-country running, and other sports. The drama department has earned a strong reputation for their musical theatre productions. Academically, VSS hosts a district-wide Economics program recognized as one of the best in the province.

Recently, VSS has become the host school for the district Hockey Canada Skills Academy and has developed a High Performers Program allowing elite performers in athletics or fine arts to combine their passions for academics with their extracurricular efforts.

VSS is very excited to be breaking ground on a new school building which will be ready for students in September 2011.



**School District #22 (Vernon)**  
International Student Program



## Academics:

- VSS offers a range of second language courses including Spanish, Japanese, German, and French. Additionally, they support a range of English as a Second Language learners with a strong English Language Development program.
- A full range of academic courses is available at VSS allowing students to construct a timetable to meet their academic goals.
- The High Performers Program is designed to allow students involved in competitive sports or high level fine arts to combine and balance their academics with their training.

## Elective (trades/arts/technical/computer)s:

- VSS offers a media class in television production which has the students produce a twice weekly television update about events in the school. Also offered are courses in Media Literacy and Animation (computer-based).
- Students interested in textiles and fashion design will want to explore VSS's textiles program which offers students the chance to design and build their own clothing.
- Strong fine arts courses are available including drawing, painting, photography, and silk-screening.
- Broad range of career and trade programs such as carpentry, woodcraft, and auto mechanics.
- Outdoor Pursuits course offers students the chance to take advantage of Vernon's mountain location to try hiking, snowshoeing, camping, and other outdoor activities.
- Trade facilities in automotive, woodworking, and metal working.

## Athletics:

- Home of the Vancouver Whitecaps Soccer Academy – a program combining academics and soccer training
- Boys' volleyball team are reigning provincial champions; highly competitive boys' soccer team; Tennis team
- Extensive list of other varsity teams



## Extra-Curricular/Specialized Programs

- VSS is home to the district-wide AP Economics course which is offered one evening per week over the course of the school year. This program is known for expanding the classroom aspects into the real world. Students routinely compete in international student business competitions to expand their experience and knowledge in the subject area.
- VSS hosts CHIMO Days which is an intra-school competition week to build school spirit through friendly rivalry among the students and staff.
- The Effective Behaviour Committee has been recognized for their excellent work on educating fellow students on the issue of bullying. Their work has been acknowledged district-wide.



## Courses Offered:

English  
Literature  
Creative Writing  
French  
German  
Japanese  
Spanish  
Math  
Calculus  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Earth Sciences  
Geology  
Science and Technology  
Peer Tutoring  
Outdoor Pursuits/Adventures  
Physical Education  
Recreation Leadership  
Strength and Conditioning  
Geography  
History  
Law  
Psychology  
Sociology  
Media Literacy  
Accounting  
Business Computer Applications  
Business Information Management  
Information Technology  
Financial Accounting  
Cafeteria  
Cook Training  
Drafting  
Animation  
Food Studies  
Family Studies  
Textile Studies  
Fashion Merchandising and Design  
Automotive Tech  
Carpentry  
Woodcraft  
Carpentry and Joinery  
Art Foundations  
Dance  
Film Study  
Concert Band  
Studio Arts  
Theatre Performance  
Direction and Scriptwriting  
Visual Arts  
Photography  
Economics  
Yearbook  
Leadership  
Outdoor Education

## Student Groups:

Student Voice  
Counterattack  
Grad Committee  
Debating Club  
Effective Behaviour Committee  
Drama  
Economics Team  
School Planning Council  
Yearbook  
Peer Tutoring  
Leadership  
Intramural Sports

Note: All schools in School District #22 (Vernon) offer a broad range of courses, sports, activities, and clubs. If you don't see what you want, contact us for more information. Not every course is offered every academic year nor at all grade levels.