2026–2027
MIDDLE SCHOOL PLANNING GUIDE

Vancouver Public Schools
Each Student, Every Day.

FUTURE ME

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FUTURE ME

Which Middle School Should I Attend?

"Do I want to take advantage of a specialized program?"

"Should I attend my home Middle school or consider a choice program?"

Vancouver Public Schools has options for every style of learner!

Comprehensive Middle Schools

ALKI
360-313-3200
1800 NW Bliss Rd. 98685

DISCOVERY
360-313-3300
800 E. 40th St. 98663

GAISER
360-313-3400
3000 NE 99th St. 98665

JASON LEE
360-313-3500
8500 NW 9th Ave. 98665

MCLOUGHLIN
360-313-3600
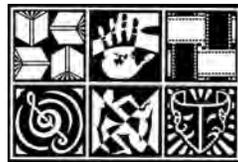5802 MacArthur Blvd. 98661

THOMAS JEFFERSON
360-313-3700
3000 NW 119th St. 98685

Schools of Choice

Vancouver School of
Arts and Academics (VSAA)
(360) 313-4600 ● arts.vansd.org

iTech Preparatory
(360) 313-5200
itech.vansd.org

Specialized Schools

Heights Campus
(360) 313-4990
heightscampus.vansd.org

James Tangeman Center
(360) 313-1800
tangeman.vansd.org
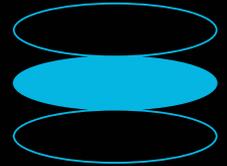
Success Academy
(360) 313-4350

◁◁◁

WHAT IS MIDDLE SCHOOL ABOUT?

An introduction for students and families

Welcome to Middle School!

Middle school is a **big step**! It's a time of change, growth, and new experiences. You'll have new teachers, new subjects, and new friends. This guide is designed to help you and your family understand what middle school is all about and how to make the most of it.

The Academic Experience

In middle school, you'll be taking a variety of subjects, including:

- **Language Arts:** Reading, writing, grammar, and literature.
- **Mathematics:** Ratios & expressions, proportional reasoning & rational numbers, and linear equations and functions
- **Science:** Earth and space systems, physical science and energy, and life sciences and genetics
- **Social Studies:** World geography and ancient civilizations, Washington state history, and United States history
- **Electives:** Art, music, drama, physical education, and more!

Grading: Your grades will be based on tests, quizzes, homework, projects, and class participation.

Key Terms to Know

Here are some important terms you'll hear in middle school:

- **GPA (Grade Point Average):** A numerical representation of your academic performance.
- **Report Card:** A summary of your grades for each subject.
- **Advisory:** A designated class period for life readiness skills and community building
- **Elective:** A course you choose to take.
- **Curriculum:** The subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college.
- **Counselor:** A school staff member who can provide academic, personal, and social support.

Strategies for Success

Stay Organized:

- Use a planner or calendar to keep track of assignments and deadlines.
- Organize your binders and notebooks.
- Keep your backpack clean and tidy.

Manage Your Time:

- Create a study schedule.
- Break down large assignments into smaller, manageable tasks.
- Avoid procrastination.

Get Involved:

- Join clubs, sports teams, or other extracurricular activities.
- Attend school events.
- Volunteer in your community.

Ask for Help:

- Don't be afraid to ask your teachers, counselors, or parents for help.
- Form study groups with your classmates.
- Utilize online resources.

Summary

Middle school is an exciting time filled with opportunities for learning and growth. By understanding the academic expectations, key terms, and strategies for success, you can navigate this transition with confidence and make the most of your middle school experience. Remember to stay organized, get involved, manage your time, and ask for help when you need it. Good luck!

Partnering for Success:
A Guide for Vancouver Middle School Families

OUR FOUNDATION: THE HOME & SCHOOL CONNECTION

Our Mission is Partnership
We work with families to help students become competent and compassionate citizens.

You Are an Active Partner
Families can support learning at home and contact teachers with any questions.

HOW WE TRACK & SHARE STUDENT PROGRESS

Step 1: Teachers Assess Learning
This is done through direct observation, reviewing written work, and formal assessments.

Step 2: We Report to Families
Progress is shared through conferences, progress reports, and official report cards.

NotebookLM

Each middle school has different requirements and expectations, but this is a sample of what you might expect for your 3 year sequence:

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
English*	English*	English*
World Studies	Washington State History	U.S. History
Math I*	Math II*	Math III*
Science 6 (Earth Science)	Life Science	Physical Science or Environmental Science**
PE/Health or Dance/Health	PE/Health or Dance/Health	PE/Health or Dance/Health
6th Grade Rotation (Intro to Tech/AVID/Health/Art)	Arts Elective	Arts Elective
Academic or Arts Elective	Academic or 2nd Arts Elective	Academic or 2nd Arts Elective

VSAA MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE PATHWAYS

grade 6

REQUIRED CLASSES:
- ELA (English Language Arts 6/7)
- Social Studies (6-8)
- Science (6-8)
- Blue Team Core (6-8)
- Math 1, Math 2/3
- Visual Art Explore/Theatre Explore
- Dance/Health

CHOICE CLASSES:
- Full year Arts Elective (Music - Band, Strings, OR Vocal)

grade 7

REQUIRED CLASSES:
- ELA (English Language Arts 6/7)
- Social Studies (6-8)
- Science (6-8)
- Blue Team Core (6-8)
- Math 2, Math 2/3, Algebra 1
- Literary Arts Explore/MIA Explore

CHOICE CLASSES:
- Full year Dance/Health or PE/Health
- Full year Arts Electives (Music, Photography, Theatre Foundations, OR Visual Art Foundations)

grade 8

REQUIRED CLASSES:
- ELA (English Language Arts 8)
- Social Studies (6-8)
- Science (6-8) or HS Environmental Science
- Blue Team Core (6-8)
- Math 3, Algebra 1, Geometry

CHOICE CLASSES:
- Full year Dance/Health or PE/Health
- Full year Arts Elective (Literary Arts Style & Technique, MIA Cinema, Music, Photography, Theatre Foundations, Visual Art)
- Semester Arts Electives (Graphic Design/Pottery)
- Full year Academic Elective (HS Spanish 1)

AVID
Proven Achievement.
Lifelong Advantage.

The mission of the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) elective is to ensure all enrolled students complete a sequence of courses that prepares them for post-secondary education. Through high expectations and strong relationships, this community of learners plan and prepare for success after high school.

AVID Elective for Grades 7 and 8

Organization for middle school classes

High school, college and career exploration

Inquiry driven study groups

College visits

Four year planning for high school

AVID Elective for Grades 9 and 10

Goal setting

Career exploration

Inquiry-driven study groups

College visits

PSAT preparation and reflection

AVID Elective for Grades 11 and 12

Goal setting

Career and Post-secondary planning

College visits

Inquiry-driven study groups

Testing preparation

Post-secondary applications and essays

Scholarships

Requirements
- Enroll in advanced courses (Honors, AP, IB, and College in the High School)
- Maintain excellent citizenship and attendance in all classes
- Maintain adequate organization
- Complete all assignments and maintain appropriate study habits

Benefits
- Community of learners
- Additional support from peers and teachers for current classes
- Additional support for post-secondary planning
- Like-minded learners that believe in their individual and communal success
- College campus visits
- Students may earn CTE credit for some AVID courses

Multilingual Learner Program

The Core Multilingual/English Learner Program, per State guidelines, must include <u>both</u> of the following components:

1.   <u>English Language Development:</u> Direct language development in the language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing to all identified multilingual English Learners delivered or designed by a staff member who is ESL/ELL/Bilingual endorsed or who has been adequately trained.

AND

2.   <u>Access to academic content:</u> Ongoing professional development of sufficient intensity for content teachers to master instructional strategies and practices to ensure that multilingual English Learners are able to access grade level content through comprehensible input.

Content-Based Instruction

- Discovery MS
- Thomas Jefferson MS
- McLoughlin MS
- Gaiser MS
- Jason Lee MS

Goals
- English proficiency and academic achievement

Students
- Classes predominantly multilingual/English learners

Instruction
- Explicit English language development AND
- Rigorous grade-level content
- Teachers specifically trained in instructional strategies for multilingual/English learners

Supportive Mainstream
*At all middle schools

Goals
- English proficiency and academic achievement

Students
- Mixed classrooms of multilingual/English learners and English speakers

Instruction
- Explicit English language development AND
- Rigorous grade-level content

Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

High School and Beyond Plan

Our platform will be changing. . .

xello → SchooLinks

Why the switch?

- Washington recently passed a law requiring one single platform for all students, and has chosen SchooLinks as the state platform.

- The goal is the same. Supporting students with tools to answer these questions: Who am I?, What can I Become? and How do I Become That?

When?

Fall 2026-27 school year, all 6-12th grade students will be building their High School and Beyond Plan in SchooLinks

Informational video below on the transition:

Navigating 6th Grade: A Guide to Middle School Electives

TJMS	Alki	Gaiser	Jason Lee	Discovery	McLoughlin
Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band
Int Band	Int Band		Int Band	Int Band	Int Band
Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra
Int Orchestra	Int Orchestra		Int Orchestra	Int Orchestra	Int Orchestra
Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir
Intro to Art	Ac Prep 6 (required for all 6th grade students)	Art (Rotation and full year)	Exploratory Rotation (content varies each year) Rotates at Semester	Intro to Tech (sem) with PE (sem)*	Intro to Art (rotation with Tech)*
Woodshop/Tech Ed	Intro to Art	Tech (Rotation and full year)	AcPrep 6*	Spanish Language & Culture	Intro to Tech (rotation with Art)*
Exploratory Rotation (AVID, Intro to Tech, Health, Art) Rotates at Quarter*	Global Language				
		Music Exploration	Mandarin Immersion (6-8)	Leadership	Dual Language SLL (6)
				Art/Theater Rotation	
* Required for all students			* Required for all students	* Required for all students	

***These are subject to change at each middle school. Check with your counselors for what is available at your school.

Middle School Elective Offerings: A Comparative Look

Foundational Programs

TJMS · Alki · Gaiser · Jason Lee · Discovery · McLoughlin

Music is a Universal Offering
All six middle schools provide Choir, Band, and Orchestra programs

Spanish Offered District-Wide
Every school offers both 7th and 8th-grade Spanish language classes

Strong Focus on CTE & STEM
All six middle schools feature a CTE STEM elective in their curriculum.

Specialized & Tech Electives

	TJMS	Alki	Gaiser	Jason Lee	Discovery	McLoughlin
Video Tech	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗ Considering
Dual Language	✗	SSL	Mandarin	✗		SSL
Leadership	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓

Unique Programs Define School Choice
Specialized courses like Mandarin Immersion and Mythology are only available at select schools.

NotebookLM

TJMS (780)	Alki (597)	Gaiser (751)	Jason Lee (574)	Discovery (528)	McLoughlin (853)
Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir	Choir (6)
Concert Choir	Concert Choir		Concert Choir	Concert Choir	Concert Choir (7,8)
Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg Band	Beg. Band (6,7,8)
Int Band	Int Band			Int Band	
Concert Band	Concert Band	Concert Band	Concert Band	Concert Band	Concert Band (7,8)
Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg Orchestra	Beg. Orchestra (6,7,8)
Int Orchestra	Int Orchestra		Int Orchestra	Int Orchestra	Int Orchstra (7,8)
Adv Orchestra	Adv Orchestra	Adv Orchestra		Adv Orchestra	
Spanish (7)	Spanish (7)	Spanish (7)	Spanish (7)	Spanish (7)	Spanish (7)
Spanish (8)	Spanish (8)	Spanish (8)	Spanish (8)	Spanish (8)	Spanish (8)
		Dual Language	Mandarin Immersion (6-8)		Dual Language SSL (6-8)
Video Tech	Video Tech	Video Tech	Video Tech	Video Tech (considering)	Video Tech (considering)
CTE STEM	CTE STEM	CTE STEM	CTE STEM	CTE STEM*	CTE STEM (7,8)
Mythology	Digital Media Foundations	Digital Media Foundations	Coding	Digital Media Foundations	Intro to Tech (6)
Tech Ed/Woodshop	Visual Art				
					Digital Media Fnd (7,8)
Journalism (newspaper)		Visual Art	Visual Art	Visual Art	Robotics (7,8)
Journalism (yearbook)		Leadership (interview)	Leadership	Leadership	Visual Art (7,8)
Visual Art		AVID	AVID	Theatre	Leadership (application) (8)
Leadership (application)		Music Exploration			Dance (7,8)
AVID (Application)					AVID/AVID XL (6-8)
Theater					

***These are subject to change at each middle school. Check with your counselors for what is available at your school.

MS English/Literacy

6th Grade
- English 6
- Honors English 6

7th Grade
- English 7
- Honors English 7

8th Grade
- English 8
- Honors English 8

Literacy Support
- Lit Focus, Intensive Lit, Academic Prep

Elective Options
- Mythology, Journalism, Creative Writing

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QUICK TIP!

Course offerings vary by grade and/or by school. Check with your school counselor about course availability.

MS Health and Fitness

GRADE LEVEL

All Schools
PE/Health 6, PE/Health 7, PE/Health 8

Some schools combine 7th/8th grade students for both

Mac TJ
Dance/Health 6, 7, 8 as a PE option

The WSCC model focuses on an ecological approach directed at the whole school, with the school in turndrawing its resources and influences from the whole community and serving to address the needs of the whole child.
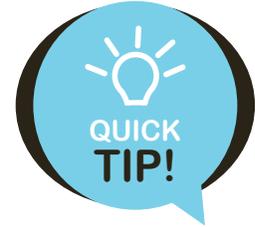
MS Mathematics

MATH CREDIT

6th Grade — Math I

7th Grade — Math II or
Math II/III

8th Grade — Math III or
Algebra (HS Credit) ◊

Courses are selected in alignment with the student's High School and Beyond Plan. Offerings vary by grade and/or school. Students may earn high school math credit in middle school.

◊ CADR approved

About CADR courses: on every course listing page, you will see notations regarding CADR approved courses. If you have further questions about these requirements, please contact your school counselor. College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR is a Washington State initiative that set minimum admission standards for college freshmen entering Washington's public universities beginning summer 2012. Each course description indicates whether a course meets CADR.

MS Science

SCIENCE CREDIT

6th Grade — Earth/Space Science

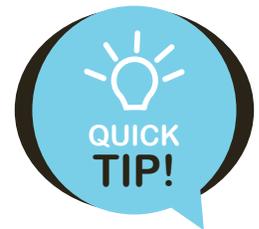**7th Grade** — Life Science

8th Grade — Physical Science or Environmental Science (HS Credit) ◊

Courses are selected in alignment with the student's High School and Beyond Plan. Offerings vary by grade and/or school. Students may earn high school science credit in middle school.

◊ CADR approved

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Three credits are required for graduation, two must be lab based.

QUICK TIP!

About CADR courses: on every course listing page, you will see notations regarding CADR approved courses. If you have further questions about these requirements, please contact your school counselor. College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR is a Washington State initiative that set minimum admission standards for college freshmen entering Washington's public universities beginning summer 2012. Each course description indicates whether a course meets CADR.

MS Social Studies

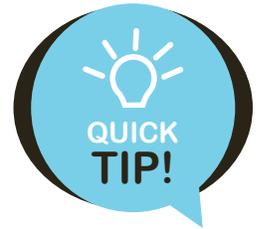**6th Grade**

World History

Honors World History

7th Grade

Washington State History*

Honors Washington State History*

*This class meets a WA graduation requirement if student passes

8th Grade

United States History

Honors United States History

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QUICK TIP!

Course offerings vary by grade and/or by school. Check with your school counselor about course availability.

THE SEAL OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 1889

Music

Band	Choir	Orchestra
*Beginning Band → Intermediate Band→ Concert Band	Choir → Concert Choir	Beginning Orchestra → Intermediate Orchestra → Advanced Orchestra

Theater

Visual Art

A Guide to Middle School Arts Programs

Semester-Long Intro Course

Exploratory Arts Rotation

Universal Art Access

Visual Art Available Every Year

All middle schools offer visual art that can be taken during any school year.

Mac and TJ schools offer a semester-long "Intro to Visual Art" class.

Gaiser has both music and art in an exploratory rotation.

tip Course offerings can vary by grade and by school. Talk to your school counselor about options.
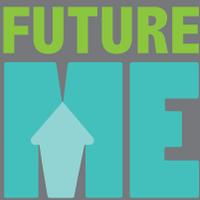
MS World Language

Course Listings

Language Offered
Spanish

Options

6th: Spanish Language
Spanish Language & Culture*
(*not at all schools)

7th: Introductory Spanish

8th: Spanish 1

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2.0 credits

World Language	2.0
2 years of same language	
— OR —	
Personalized Pathway	2.0

World Language Classes Taken in Middle School

World Language

The world language program offered at the middle school level is a two-year sequence. Both years combined equal one year of high school world language. For students who successfully complete world language in both grades 7 and 8, one credit will be added to their high school transcript. No partial credit is given.

Spanish Dual Language and Mandarin Immersion

Secondary Language Learning Pathway programs: Spanish Dual Language includes at least two periods of instruction in Spanish at the middle school level, one Spanish Language Arts class and at least one other content area class; Mandarin Immersion includes one period of language and cultural learning in Mandarin. Students enrolled in these programs may, upon (1) recommendation for placement into Year 3 instruction at 9th grade and (2) successful completion of Year 3 in 9th grade will receive two credits of the target language added to their high school transcript.

MS World Language

World Language Competency Credit

What is it?

Washington law permits Vancouver Public Schools to offer competency credit for World Languages when a student demonstrates language proficiency through AVANT language test.

Why should students consider AVANT world language testing?

Depending on how they perform on AVANT tests, students may be eligible for between 1 and 4 high school credits. This means increased flexibility and choice with student's schedules. Students may choose to continue in more advanced World Language courses, take another World Language, or be satisfied to have their world language requirement for high school and college/university complete.

Does AVANT world language testing affect high school course placement?

Not necessarily. AVANT world language tests and resulting competency courses/credits are not always available prior to registration. Students may need to communicate with their assigned counselor to make sure they are in the correct World Language course based on competency courses/credits earned.

Can I earn credit for taking World Language courses and AVANT competency-based courses/credits?

Yes and No. You cannot earn credit for World Language courses and AVANT competency-based courses/credits. In other words, you cannot earn two high school credits for Spanish Language through AVANT (Novice High or 3) AND credit for Spanish 1 and Spanish 2. You could, however, proceed into Spanish 3 and earn credit for it. You could also take and earn credit for an entirely new World Language like Sign Language or French.

Washington State Seal of Biliteracy

The Washington State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes public high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more world languages in addition to English. Schools shall place a notation on a student's high school diploma and high school transcript indicating that the student has earned the Seal.

CTE IN VPS MIDDLE SCHOOLS

The mission of VPS Career and Technical Education (CTE) is to engage students in high-quality, hands-on learning that prepares them for their chosen post-secondary education and careers.

CTE & STEM Explorations

ALKI, DISCOVERY, GAISER, JASON LEE, MCLOUGHLIN, THOMAS JEFFERSON

CTE and STEM explorations is a class that explores every graduation pathway that Career and Technical Education offers. Students will complete modules that encompass agriculture science, health sciences, business, marketing, computer science, family consumer science, digital arts, manufacturing, construction, and STEM.

Video Tech

ALKI, GAISER, JASON LEE, THOMAS JEFFERSON

Students involved in Video Technology will learn basic skills using video cameras and related equipment. In addition, students will cover the more artistic side of film production including the different ways to frame shots using horizontal and vertical angles, as well as how subject size is used as a tool. Students will learn what it takes to be successful in the production of a video, from pre-production to post-production. All will learn professionalism and how to work as a group, as well as gain trouble-shooting skills that often accompany the making of a video.

Intro to Coding

JASON LEE

Introduction to Coding covers a basic introduction to the principles of programming, including algorithms and logic. Students engage in beginning hands-on programming tasks in Block Code, Java and Python programming languages as they write and test their own code using the approaches real programmers use in the field.

Digital Media Foundations

ALKI, DISCOVERY, GAISER, MCLOUGHLIN

Explore art through different media that includes: digital photography, video and sound production, animation, graphic design, graphics, and desktop publishing. Learn new art forms and new ways to bring the digital art world to life by creating a web page, designing graphics, or creating an animated short film.

Robotics

MCLOUGHLIN

In this course, students will explore the fascinating history and evolution of robots, examining real-world applications across various industries. They will develop foundational skills in robotic coding languages and gain hands-on experience by designing, building, and programming their own Lego robots. Emphasis is placed on cultivating critical thinking and creative problem-solving abilities as students tackle engineering challenges. Through collaborative teamwork, students will engage in the engineering design process, learning to brainstorm, prototype, test, and refine their robotic creations. This course fosters both technical skills and essential 21st-century competencies to prepare students for future STEM opportunities.

VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS VPS **CTE**

www.vansd.org/cte

CTE AT ITECH - MIDDLE SCHOOL

The mission of VPS Career and Technical Education (CTE) is to engage students in high-quality, hands-on learning that prepares them for their chosen post-secondary education and careers.

DESIGN & MODELING

This course provide project-based learning—a hands-on approach for middle school students that relates technology to students' daily lives. They also promote communication and collaboration by emphasizing a teaming approach in the instructional units while offering students learning challenges at all ability levels. (Aligns with Project Lead The Way course "Gateway to Technology").

ROBOTICS

This is an introductory course to the study of robotics using the VEX Robotics platform, VEX STEM Labs, and VEXcode VR. Through hands-on engineering challenges and virtual programming activities, students learn to design, build, and program robots to complete real-world missions. No prior experience is required. Programming begins with block-based coding to build foundational concepts and gradually transitions into Python, helping students develop confidence in text-based programming. Students explore sensors, movement, problem solving, and computational thinking while learning a systematic approach to designing algorithms and debugging code. Using both physical robots and virtual environments, learners collaborate, think creatively, and create increasingly complex autonomous robotics projects.

INTRO TO CODING

Introduction to Coding provides students with a hands-on foundation in computer science through creative programming and physical computing projects. Students will learn beginning programming concepts using Computer Science Discoveries (Code.org), build and program interactive robotics and engineering projects with Hummingbird Duo (BirdBrain Technologies), and design creative electronics projects using Adafruit Circuit Playground with MakeCode. Through block-based and beginner text-based coding, students develop problem-solving skills, computational thinking, and real-world engineering design experience while creating games, animations, and physical computing projects.

www.vansd.org/cte

Vancouver School of Arts & Academics

Vancouver School of Arts and Academics (VSAA) is a comprehensive middle school and high school program where the arts are not just part of the curriculum, they are at the heart of the educational experience.

Explore the Arts

At VSAA, every student in grades six through twelve will experience a wide array of artistic opportunities.

In addition to studying science, math, social studies and English our students have the chance to explore each area of the arts.

As students progress into high school, they have the opportunity to dive deeper into their chosen art forms, to develop their skills. VSAA teachers are practicing artists who can advise on the creative process.

VSAA Environment

Our school environment encourages creativity, fosters self-discipline, and builds collaboration. These values are instilled in our students, preparing them for success in college, career, and life beyond. A strong foundation in the arts, coupled with a well-rounded education, equips our students to thrive in any path they choose.

CURRICULUM
- **Dance**
- **Literary Arts**
  creative writing
- **Moving Image Arts**
  film and video production
- **Music**
  band, orchestra, vocal
- **Theatre**
- **Visual Arts**
  drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic design, photography, pottery

DUAL CREDIT OPTIONS
Students have the option to enroll in dual credit for the following classes: ASL, Graphic Design, School Store, Marketing, Moving Image Arts Focus-level (Adv Video Production), Algebra 2B, Pre-Calculus

AP CLASSES
English Language, English Literature, US History, US Government & Politics, Comparative Government & Politics, Human Geography, Psychology, Calculus AB, Biology, Music Theory, Studio Art 2D or 3D, Studio Art Drawing, Studio Art Photography

PROGRAM LOCATION:
Vancouver School of Arts & Academics
3101 Main St, Vancouver

For more information or to apply, please visit:
vansd.org/choices

Vancouver iTech Preparatory

Our STEM Focus

Vancouver iTech Preparatory is a STEM-focused program for students in grades 6–12. Our program combines science, technology, engineering and math with liberal arts by integrating art and design principles into research and project-based learning.

Our teachers recognize that creativity is a cornerstone of every scientific breakthrough. We foster curiosity and cultivate critical and creative thinking in an environment where the problem-solving journey is just as important as the final achievement.

In addition to our robust STEM curriculum, all students at iTech will take four years of Spanish, enriching their global perspectives and communication skills.

Early College Model

iTech offers an early college model, empowering students to take college-level classes as early as the ninth grade. Through partnerships with Clark College and WSU-Vancouver, students can get a head start on their college education. This unique opportunity opens doors to higher learning and career pathways well before graduation.

PROGRAM LOCATION:
Vancouver iTech Preparatory
16100 NE 50th Ave. Vancouver

STEM Career Outlook

HIGH DEMAND
36K
AVG. ANNUAL
JOB OPENINGS
IN WASHINGTON*

VERY HIGH WAGE
147K
MEDIAN ANNUAL
WAGE OF STEM JOBS
IN WASHINGTON*

HIGH-DEMAND STEM & TECHNOLOGY JOBS IN WASHINGTON
- Software Developers
- Computer Systems Analysts
- Web Developers
- Network and Computer Systems Administrators
- Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Industrial Engineers

LOCAL COLLEGE PARTNERS
- Clark College
- Washington State University Vancouver (WSU-V)

For more information or to apply, please visit:
vansd.org/choices

*Wage Data and Job Projections of STEM jobs with a Bachelor's degree or higher - Washington STEM

HEIGHTS CAMPUS: TAILORED LEARNING OPTIONS

Virtual Learning Academy (VLA)

Virtual Learning Academy (VLA) provides a flexible online environment for students in grades 3 - 12. This program empowers families to set their own pace and schedule. In this partnership, teachers develop and monitor learning plans while parents guide daily instruction.

GRADES 3 - 5
Students complete all schoolwork online. While they work independently, they must attend at least four live virtual sessions per week for additional support from their advising teacher.

GRADES 6 - 8
Middle schoolers take four core subjects: English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. All coursework is online, and **parents play a key role in supporting their child's daily progress at home.**

Students must meet with their advising teacher weekly, either:
- Remotely, through a live virtual session
  OR
- In-Person at the Heights Campus for 2 hours and 15 minutes (transportation provided).

GRADES 9 - 12
High school students complete all their credits online. Success at this level requires good time management, note-taking skills, and the ability to follow a schedule. **Parental support at home is still very important.**

Students must meet with their advising teacher weekly, either:
- Remotely, through a virtual meeting focused on academic goals and study habits.
  OR
- In-Person at the Heights Campus for a 2 hour and 15 minute session (transportation provided). This is best for students who want more hands-on help or enjoy learning in a group.
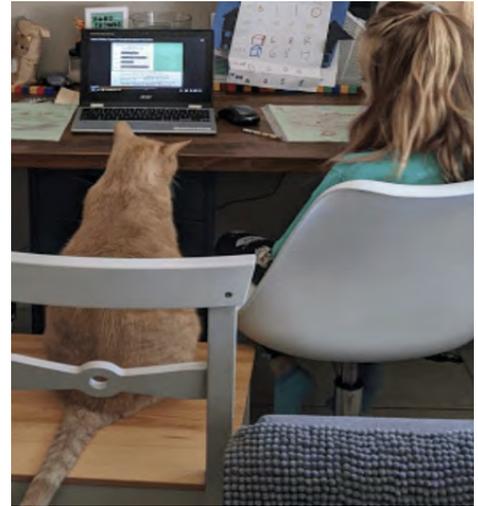
BEST FOR...

Families who prefer a **flexible, independent approach** to education.

Families who can **support their child's learning at home** daily.

Independent learners who thrive in an **online** setting.

EXPLORE ONLINE:
heightscampus.vansd.org/vvla
6450 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98661

VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
VPS

HEIGHTS CAMPUS: TAILORED LEARNING OPTIONS

Vancouver Home Connection (VHC)

Vancouver Home Connection (VHC) is a **hybrid learning model that blends online learning with in-person classes.**

The program is a partnership between parents and teachers: parents implement instructions and oversee learning at home.

- **Grades K-6:** Students are on campus Monday, Wednesdays and optional Fridays.

- **Grades 7-8:** Students are on campus Monday through Thursday with the option to be on campus Friday, as well.

This program gives students the flexibility to learn at home while still connecting with teachers, classmates, and the community.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Hybrid Learning:** A mix of online coursework and some required in-person attendance.

- **Best for:** Families who want a blend of virtual learning and in-person support.

- **Academic Support:** In-person meetings, virtual teacher support, and community involvement.

BEST FOR...

Families looking for a **smaller learning environment.**

Families who can spend time at home supporting their child's learning **in partnership with VHC.**

Students who need a **balance of online coursework and structured in-person support.**

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6450 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98661

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HEIGHTS CAMPUS: TAILORED LEARNING OPTIONS

Home School Support (HSS)

The **Home School Support Program** is designed for **parents and guardians who provide home school instruction** to students in **grades K through 8**.

Parents partner with a certificated teacher to develop a student learning plan and identify district curriculum and resources to support that plan. Parents then provide all instruction at home.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Two-way communication:** Parents and guardians will be able to engage in open, two-way communication with the advising teacher weekly.

- **Curriculum Support:** Advising teacher will collaborate with parents and guardians to develop a plan for each student.

- **Progress:** Academic progress will be reviewed monthly and teachers will work with the parents to develop plans for students who aren't meeting goals.

BEST FOR...

Families who plan to be their child's educator **exclusively**.

Families who would like **guidance** from a certificated teacher.

EXPLORE ONLINE:
heightscampus.vansd.org/home-school-support/
6450 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98661

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