

VANCOUVER SECONDARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Retirees

GRADUATING CLASS OF 2022



Congratulations

to the Graduating class of 2022



While we are unable to hold our Annual VSTA Retirees' Dinner, we want nonetheless to thank all of our retiring colleagues for their years of work and commitment to the Vancouver public education system. These colleagues have been on strike, participated in job action and fought hard in other ways for the benefits and rights that the rest of us are now able to enjoy, such as an indexed pension and class size/class composition. They have also spent countless hours prepping courses, marking, coaching, chairing meetings, attending meetings, mentoring, organizing field trips, and meeting with parents.

When September comes and the rest of us are having anxiety induced dreams about not being able to find our lesson plans or our classrooms, the Retiring Class of 2022 will be sleeping in, enjoying coffee and the newspaper and doing whatever they feel like doing. We of course may see some of them returning as Limited TTOCs, as these days no one seems to retire from the VSB, but this time, it will be on their terms.

We wish these members the best in their future endeavours and hope that they will stay in touch with us. Congratulations on a job well done!

Claudette Alain
Andrea Armstrong
Franklin Aubichon
Susan Awrey
Cecil Baird
Kim Beaucock
Jean Beckett
Bonnie Bohl
Shirley Chew
Karen Dionne
Susanne Ebeling
Antionietta Gatti
Robin Holburn
Geoffrey Hudson

Amy Hughes
Dennis Kachmar
Michael Langford
Grace Lee
Lynn Lercher
Katie Leung
Catherine Lew
Scott MacLennan
Suzie Mah
Angela Manetta
Rajinder Manhas
Huan Ming Mao
Andrea May
Carolee McGillivray

Peter McLennan
Jelica Mihaldzic
Christina Mohan
Barbara Monteith
John Murray
Susan Pearson
Wendy Phillips
Xinjian Pu
Susan Richardson
Heather Robbie
Greg Roggeveen
Sharon Sinclair
Germanita Springer
Deborah Stafford

Officially
RETIRED
LET THE FUN BEGIN

Franklin Joe Grant Aubichon

25 yrs teaching experience

Spectrum Learning Centre. Indigenous Education Teacher (several locations).
Britannia Secondary. John Oliver Secondary. Vancouver Technical Secondary.

Nonresistance, nonjudgement, and nonattachment are the three aspects of true freedom and enlightened living.

Cecil Baird

19 yrs teaching experience

7 yrs Teachers Aid

Strathcona, Oliver, Thompson, VanTech, Tupper

Thanks to the VSTA for all your support over the years. Being a Staff, PAC, and Tech Rep was a great and worthy experience. Teaching Cafeteria, Socials, and Library helped make an interesting career after working as a Chef for many years. I got into education to teach cooking but Tupper gave me so much more than I could have hoped for, -thinking about the relationships, laughs, challenges and all. Congratulations to all the 'grads' of 2022.



Bonnie Bohl

32 yrs teaching experience

Point Grey. Templeton, and Killarney

Have enjoyed my teaching experience in Vancouver. I have met many wonderful people over the years. The students in the district are fortunate to have such a caring group of people working with them. I hope that everyone retiring enjoys their endless summer.



Shirley Chew

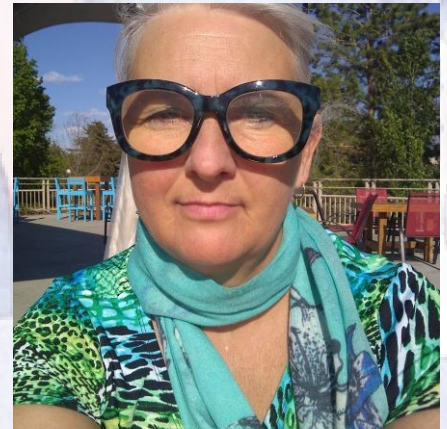
34 yrs of teaching experience
Killarney Secondary

I will miss the forever changing dynamics of the school environment. Learning something new everyday and developing relationships with my students. The advice I give to my students every year is to "Go for the Gold", always do your best and that everyone's GOLD is different and only you know if you are working to your full potential. I will enjoy spending time with family, especially with my five grandchildren.

Karen Dionne

24 yrs teaching experience
Churchill Secondary

My career highlights are hundreds of performances and a few wonderful tours with talented student musicians! I will miss their energy! Big thanks to colleagues for laughs and collaborations - a shout out especially to teacher bands "Bruce & the Bulldogs" and currently "The Sick Notes"....and I now greatly anticipate abundant time outdoor adventuring and performing my own music :) Congratulations to all graduates!



Susanne Ebeling

34 yrs teaching experience
Magee

My association with Magee first began over 40 years ago, when I came to the school as a grade 8 student. I graduated from Magee, did my practicum at Magee and it's the only school I've known, having taught here for 34 years, 35 including my practicum. I still live in the neighbourhood and now find myself "graduating" from Magee for the second time. Getting hired there was a dream come true and it was an honour to work along so many of my own highly respected teachers. My career was largely as a French 8-12 teacher, sprinkled with a few years teaching Spanish as well. I am looking forward to the 3 R's I never had much time for while teaching.....rest, relaxation and reading! Best wishes to my fellow retirees

Officially
RETIRED
LET THE FUN BEGIN



Robin Holburn

38 yrs teaching experience

Kitsilano, TOC, Churchill, Tupper, Prince of Wales, Windermere, Lord Byng, Trafalgar, Hudson, King George, TOC, Tupper, McBrideTOC

WILL NOT miss reports or PT interviews.

Will remember so much laughter working beside my teaching buddy through thick and thin at Byng.

Best "Got that right" moments

To a Grade 6 class in answer to "Should I keep all my notebooks?" - "Your Math and Socials and Science and Spelling will all be different. All those go into you from outside. Keep your Creative Writing and Artwork; they come out of you, they're what show who YOU are."

Geoffrey Hudson

31 yrs teaching experience

David Thompson, Eric Hamber, Killarney

Career highlight was making CBC news for ELL Hockey Program. Future plans-heading to Ottawa, will work part-time. Will miss my Friday Hockey team and the fun students! Will not miss FIT Time! Had a great time in Vancouver. Met tons of great people! Will actually miss a few administrators also. Some of them were amazing!

Officially
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LET THE FUN BEGIN



Grace Lee

30 yrs teaching experience

Kitsilano, Tupper, Templeton

I started my 30 year teaching career in Vancouver as a teacher-on-call and night school instructor. After that I had the privilege to work at Tupper, Templeton and Kitsilano. I look forward to retirement with excitement and anticipation. My future plans include rest and relaxation, travel, opportunities to pursue new interests and more time with family, friends and fur babies.

Officially
RETIRED
LET THE FUN BEGIN

Cathy Lew

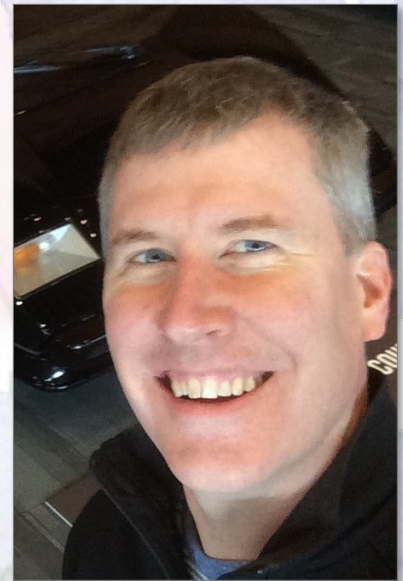
34 yrs teaching experience
Point Grey, Lord Byng, Total Ed

Stayed at each school longer than I thought - Wonderful staff! Grateful for the opportunities to develop with my students, always learning and adjusting along the way. Eager to paddle my canoe more often, bike a bit further and relax with a cup of tea whenever I want.

Scott MacLennan

31 yrs teaching experience
Lord Byng for 25 years, Bayview, Carnarvon, Maple Grove, Oppenheimer,
Douglas, Champlain Heights, Cook, Waverley, Bruce, Carleton, Nelson, King
George

I will miss the students the most! All the concerts and trips, as well as the joy of making music together with so many young dedicated and talented musicians, will always be with me. Thanks to all those who support music in our schools. The importance of music in the lives of students cannot be over emphasized. It should be a core subject, not a frill. Best wishes everyone :)



Suzie Mah

35 yrs teaching experience
VLN, Garibaldi Annex, South Hill Adult Education Center, Van Horne, VESTA
President, VESTA Vice President, Maple Grove, Nightingale, General Gordon,
Strathcona

Who knew that after a week in Ms. Watson's Kindergarten class, I would be inspired to be a teacher? After 35 years of teaching, I will leave the profession knowing that I have fulfilled my life-long dream. I've enjoyed my time working with students and colleagues. In my second year of teaching, I became a teacher activist, and it was union work, which became my second love after teaching. For many years, I have advocated for better working conditions for teachers and a better school system for all students. As part of my next series of "most excellent adventures", I look forward to more time to do photography and travel. I am also seeking a seat as a COPE school board trustee in this fall's election.



Angela Manetta

37 yrs teaching experience
Eric Hamber Secondary

Where have all the years gone? Time goes by so very fast. Of my 37 years of teaching, 34 of those years I taught at Eric Hamber Secondary School teaching French and Math. I truly enjoyed my teaching career helping students achieve their best. I definitely will not miss the marking on Sunday mornings. I will remember the many trips where I took Language students to different countries in Europe and to Quebec. Now what will I do now that I am retiring? My passion? Travel of course. Being able to travel any time of the year will be awesome. I cannot wait to start my next phase in life and wish all the retirees of 2022 all the best.

Susan Pearson

35 yrs teaching experience
Magee Killarney, PW (Summer school 20 years-Gladstone, Van Tech, PW, PG, Tupper)

It has been a great pleasure working with many amazing students, parents, and colleagues over the years. I have enjoyed so many aspects of my career as a teacher, but especially memorable are the years spent coaching field hockey and running the Magee-PG Ice Hockey team, and the many years of bicycle-camping trips with the PW Mini school. I love being a teacher-librarian and getting to select, and connect students to good books, and getting to read all the new, pristine books first! I will miss the students, my colleagues and the routine, but we are looking forward to moving to the Sunshine Coast, building a new home, and becoming farmers!



Susan Richardson

23 yrs teaching experience
east to west to east to west & finally back home to the east

I am grateful to have had the very privileged opportunity to teach art and work with the most wonderfully caring, compassionate, creative and crazily amazing young people ever possible. My students kept me going, ignited my passion and inspired me every single day for twenty plus years. I thank each and every single one of them. With love and gratitude, I'm out!!!





Heather Robbie

38 yrs teaching experience

David Thompson Secondary & various lower mainland districts as a T.O.C.

When I finally got my foot in the door at the VSB in a permanent capacity at David Thompson Secondary School I knew that I was home! Nothing & no one could have persuaded me to leave! Except, of course, retirement . Phenomenal colleagues & students enhanced & enriched my life as a Drama & English Teacher from 1991 onwards! I will not miss marking English papers, doing report cards, wrestling with the photocopier machine , early morning staff meetings or teaching on line ! I will miss laughing with my colleagues & students. My future plans are to recoup my sleep, attend even more live theatre , volunteer wherever the need arises & travel any time of the year that I desire. I'd also love to move somewhere tranquil and get a dog!