Calgary Board of Education

Vincent Massey School

Grade 8 Complementary Course Selection 2025-2026 School Year

Students in Grade 8 will take 4 complementary courses – two in semester 1 and two in semester 2. Band counts as 2 courses, since it runs for a full year. Course selections are not guaranteed, since courses will be run based on student interest. For that reason, it is important to follow these instructions carefully.

- Step 1: Rank your top 6 choices on this sheet of paper with "1" being your top pick
- Step 2: In class on Monday, log on to MyCBE and enter your top 4 course requests under "Class Registration." (Note: If selecting Band, this will take up two request spots)
- Step 3: Return this sheet to the teacher at school. In the event that we cannot fill your top 4 choices, we will use this sheet to schedule your alternate (5th and 6th) choices.

Please note that some option courses (starred *) have a fee to cover materials and enhanced learning opportunities. Fee waivers are available for families with financial needs or other considerations.

Grade 8 Course List	Pick 6 – Number from 1 to 6, with #1 being your top pick
Band (Brass)* – Students will learn to play the following musical instruments: TRUMPET, HORN, TROMBONE, EUPHONIUM, TUBA, PERCUSSION. Students will build on skills and concepts learned in previous years and previous experience in band is encouraged. First year players are welcome, but should consult Mr. Morawski before the end of the school year so that they may try out their instrument in June. Attendance at weekly morning rehearsal and all concerts is required. Band camps and tours are optional but STRONGLY encouraged. Additional Fees: Course Fee, Instrument Rental, Band Camp, Band Tour (sometimes).	
Band (Woodwind)* – Students will learn to play the following musical instruments: FLUTE, OBOE, BASSOON, CLARINET, BASS CLARINET, SAXOPHONE. Students will build on skills and concepts learned in previous years and previous experience in band is encouraged. First year players are welcome, but should consult Mr. Morawski before the end of the school year so that they may try out their instrument in June. Attendance at weekly morning rehearsal and all concerts is required. Band camps and tours are optional but STRONGLY encouraged. Additional Fees: Course Fee, Instrument Rental, Band Camp, Band Tour (sometimes).	
Art* – This program offers students the opportunity to think about and create art in a variety of forms, learning diverse artistic techniques. Students who take Art will learn how to apply the concept of design to their compositions. They will be given the opportunity to experiment with a broad selection of different art materials and create drawings, paintings, and sculptures.	
Computers (CTF CompSci)* - Learn how to use computers creatively. We will focus on projects in the following areas: photo manipulation (Adobe Photoshop), logo and vector design (Adobe Illustrator - which includes making heat pressed t-shirts), & video production/editing (Adobe Premiere Pro & After Effects). 3D modeling and animation (Blender) will also be touched upon.	
Computers (CTF Electro-Tech)* - Students will assemble and control simple circuits using microcontrollers such as the Arduino Uno, and will demonstrate their learning through a variety of hands-on projects, such as the assembly and coding of a robotic car. As well, students are introduced to the basics of coding in a variety of languages (Python, C, HTML5), and will code an HTML website to highlight their work.	

Construction* - Students will develop general knowledge of materials & design. Teaching safe work habits as students cut, shape, drill & join materials are a large part of this course. Students will complete a variety of projects using hand tools and some power tools.	
Drama - This course includes improvisation, movement, speech, and performance. Through active participation, students will develop skills such as concentration, cooperation, script interpretation, movement, voice & characterization.	
Fashion* - This course introduces students to design with fabrics; no previous experience is necessary. This option is hands-on, with the focus on developing sewing construction skills in the process of creating some fun projects. Students will develop knowledge and skills required to safely use and operate the sewing machine and iron, as well as the use of different sewing tools.	
Foods* - Learn about Food Safety and how to prepare delicious, healthy food in one of our five domestic kitchens in the Foods Lab. Examine the role of food, looking beyond consumption to production, visual appreciation, nutrition, meal planning, economics and preparation; learn the various skills in the cook trade. Students will prepare a variety of dishes, such as pizza, cookies, scones, pancakes, and much more.	
French - Through activities, games, videos, communicative tasks and projects, students will explore themes to foster interest and enthusiasm for the French language, as well as build confidence, independence and overall fluency. No previous French experience is required.	
Guitar - This course extends the creative avenues available for students to learn how to express themselves musically and make meaning from listening to music. Students will learn instrumental technique, concepts, and theory applied to both classical and modern musical forms. No prior experience is required.	
Leadership - Develop skills needed to be successful in life and to become leaders in their school. They will help with activities and events around the school. Leadership students will gain experience in leadership-type roles and will obtain an understanding of different leadership styles. They will learn how to speak in public, how to present information effectively, and other leadership skills. Specific projects will be student-selected and student-led.	
Photography (CTF Communication Tech)* — Students will learn fundamental principles of still and video imaging using a variety of technologies. There will be opportunities to contribute to the school community through the yearbook, Vincent Massey TV and other activities. Student will explore photojournalism and other career connections.	
Outdoor Education* - Personal and group development will be fostered through activities and games undertaken in class, as well as during planned field trips. Depending on the season, a variety of outdoor skills will be introduced such as crosscountry skiing, map skills, outdoor cooking, hiking, etc. There will be an emphasis on developing awareness for safe habits and attitudes when participating in activities or using equipment.	
Training for Excellence in Sport - Students focus on personal development and responsible citizenship through sport. This course supports students in making connections between sport and their personal competencies, skills, attitudes, and performance. TES supports students that are interested in developing their athletic abilities in a holistic manner, while applying their learning to a range of life situations.	