

Teaching & Learning at Vancouver College: Equipping our boys for learning in our Next Century

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Context

In this Internet fueled, mobile, connected, and networked age of information, the role of schools and education is under review.

Vancouver College, as a Catholic school, in the tradition of a Blessed Edmund Rice and through the Essential Elements, is ideally positioned to continue to be a leader in the education of young men in British Columbia, Canada and Globally.

Learning for the Whole Person in the 21st Century

As Vancouver College continues to educate the "whole child" - mind, body and soul- into the 21st Century, it will do so within the full context of our times.

An updated education program, inspired and informed by a renewed campus will allow our boys to be fully immersed in the acquisitions of important 21st century skills and competencies such as: creativity, innovation, collaboration, communication, digital media and technology proficiency, literacy and numeracy. Our boys will continue to develop into productive, critical thinking men who are rooted in goodness and service well into the 21st century.

Teaching and Learning for the boys at Vancouver College will continue to be based on the latest pedagogy and research on how students learn. Learning will be rich in content, deep in inquiry, engaging, digitally empowered, project & problem based and fueled by student interests and passions.

Under the professional direction, care and support of our faculty and staff, students will continue to be empowered to take full ownership of their learning.

School & Community

"For by their innermost nature men and women are social beings; and if they do not enter into relationships with others they can neither live nor develop their gifts"

Gaudium et Spes (Second Vatican Council): (para. 12).

With the proliferation of mobile and networked technology some may question the need for the "brick and mortar" school.

Vancouver College, rooted in Church teaching and in the understanding that learning is a social and relational endeavour, will continue to have boys learn in community in order to fully "develop their gifts."

A renewed campus at Vancouver College will enhance the social and collaborative elements of learning.

The new facilities at Vancouver College will inspire learning for students and staff and, in the Catholic tradition, be a visible sign that "where we study is as important as what we study".

Pedagogy of the Soul

Inspired by Blessed Edmund Rice and the Essential Elements, students and staff will be prepared to seek truth and freedom as they prepare to encounter joys and challenges of life.

Teaching and learning at Vancouver College will operate at the intersection of faith and reason.

Students and staff will continue to know and understand that they are loved unconditionally by God. Matters of faith and truth will be engaged through "heart" and to the "mind". Rooted in mutual understanding, students will be invited to healthy and respectful investigation - as they seek truth and understanding for their life's purpose.

Rooted in the Common Good

The specific purpose of a Catholic education is the formation of boys and girls who will be good citizens of this world, enriching society with the leaven of the Gospel, but who will also be citizens of the world to come. Catholic schools have a straightforward goal: to foster the growth of good Catholic human beings who love God and neighbor and thus fulfill their destiny of becoming saints. (The Holy See's Teaching on Catholic Schools, Archbishop Miller)

Vancouver College measures its successes as a school beyond utilitarian ends. It does not merely prepare students for a career or to be "productive citizens". A just and healthy 21st Century society demands that Vancouver College continue to prepare boys to be socially engaged in the world and to stand in solidarity with those marginalized by poverty and injustice.

At Vancouver College, staff and students will continue to be full of joy knowing that they are rooted in Jesus and his teachings.

Renewed campus facilities will further inspire our boys to become men by nourishing their souls: allowing them to find true peace and happiness as they prepare to encounter life's joys and challenges.