



CHIEF MAQUINNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Located at Admiral Seymour Elementary
1130 Keefer Street, Vancouver, BC V6A 1Z3
Tel: 604-713-4705 maquinna@vsb.bc.ca

Mr. Bruce Sallee
Principal

Ms Alison Ogden
Director of Instruction

Mr. Fraser Ballentyne
Liason Trustee

Newsletter May 12, 2020

Office hours are 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE. PLEASE HAVE SOMEONE TRANSLATE IT

這是一份重要通告，請找人為你翻譯。중요 공지 - 영어를 읽지 못하는 분은 번역을 부탁드립니다.

*We live, work and learn on the traditional lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh Coast Salish people.
We wish to acknowledge the history of our neighborhood and community as we have all benefited from the richness of their teachings.*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope all of you are keeping well both physically and mentally. We have been pleased to include a few extras like online assemblies that make us feel like one even at a distance. Teachers continue to work diligently at providing suitable learning experiences for students. Please remember that essentially what we are doing is laying out a buffet; you as parents get to decide to partake or not, or to add more on afterwards. We trust your judgement and realize that each family is living through a unique experience and needs to adjust in ways that work for them.

Also please remember that we understand circumstances have changed rapidly for many families during this time. I have access to gift certificates, external food sources, and other help if you or your family need it. Please do NOT hesitate to reach out directly to me. Confidentiality is ensured. I also would like you to put aside thinking "there are people worse off than me"-if you feel like you need help, you need it and we are here for you.

Once again, we are well into the planning stages for next year, so please, again, a request to let the office know if your plans for next year do not include staying at Maquinna. I've received a few parent requests for placement for next year; please see the section below for guidance on submitting those requests.

I will be providing information about a possible partial school reopening in late May or early June as soon as I have anything to share with you.

With respect,
Bruce

PAC MEETING DATES

All PAC meetings are at 6pm via Zoom at the moment.

- May 12, 2020
- June 9, 2020

Organization and Student Placement 2020/2021

We are already beginning to plan for a successful 2020/2021 school year. Staff assignments, and during many years, class placements are not decided until enrolment has been confirmed during the first week of school in September. Placement of students in classes is a very time consuming process and much thought, time and effort goes into these decisions. Ultimately we work on placing students in the best learning environment to suit their specific needs. If you feel your child requires special consideration when we make placements for classes please put your request **in writing**, outlining the program you feel would best meet your child's academic and social needs. Please note that **specific teacher requests will not be considered**. As well, please do not request for your child to be placed with specific friends. Friends can always see each other at recess, lunch or after school. Some students will be in classes that have combined grades and there is no guarantee that if a child was in a combined class this year that he/she will be in a single grade class next year. Please understand that even in a single grade there is still a range of abilities. Teachers are well qualified to teach both grades in a combined class. With the trust and support of home, we are confident that all children will be placed in classes that will allow them to have a productive, rewarding 2020/2021 school year. Your patience and understanding regarding this matter is greatly appreciated.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS TO WATCH OUT FOR

Later this month I will be sending home information about the school calendar and school fees for the 2020/2021 school year as well as a late return form if you are planning to start school later in the fall. Please watch out for these documents.