

# Chief Maquinna Elementary

December 2021

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*Gratitude. More aware of what you have than what you don't.*

*We live, work and learn on the traditional lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples. 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'm going to start by pointing you all to the quote of the month at the left. This will be my final newsletter as principal of Chief Maquinna. Earlier this morning I informed Maquinna staff that effective January 4 I will be principal of École Tennyson. Joyce Chong will be moving further up the street from Queen Victoria Annex where she is currently Vice-Principal. She's excited about her new position and Maquinna is super lucky to have her as Principal. My heart is filled with gratitude. So much more than I could ever express in words. You entrust your children to us every day and I take that trust seriously. The Maquinna community is amazing and I will take what I have learned and experienced here with me wherever I go. And as I always say to grade 7s at their leaving ceremony-once a Maquinna kid always a Maquinna kid. I'll be a Maquinna kid for the rest of my days!

## WEATHER

A friendly reminder to dress your students for the weather. It's getting colder and wetter again, and we're trying to avoid groups of students gathering inside as much as possible still. Having students properly dressed makes it easier for us to get them outside. Thanks for your help!

## MASKS

**Reminder that the province has now mandated mask wearing for all grades.** We will be following handwashing protocols throughout the day. Once again, you are responsible for doing a daily health check on your child.

**That daily health check is your crucial part in making thing work smoothly.** It includes things like coughs that in the past we may have normally let slide. We will be sending any students who are ill home without exception. Just a note so you understand...when a child comes to school ill, we have a whole procedure we need to follow including masking up, isolation, cleaning classrooms, cleaning the medical room. Please help us by having your child stay home at the first hint of illness. For your reference here's a link to district information including the Daily Health Check. [VSB Daily Health Check](#)

## VISITORS

Unfortunately, we are still in the grips of the pandemic. In order to keep the schools safer, the VSB is continuing to request that anyone wishing to visit the building do so by appointment only. We will be happy to meet with you at any time, however, **please respect that the building is closed** except for students and staff.



# Chief Maquinna Elementary

## SAFE ARRIVALS

With our new phone system, the safe arrivals procedure has changed. If your child will be absent, please call the main line at the school (604) 713-4705 and press #1. You may do this 24/7. Please make sure you contact the office in the event of an absence or late instead of just notifying the teacher. Thanks in advance for helping us keep our students safe.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 1 2:45pm Purdy's pickup (undercover area on East 3<sup>rd</sup>)

December 13 PAC meeting @6:00pm. Zoom signup to follow. (Note Monday meeting)

**November 26 Non-Instructional Day-No School for Students**

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*A message from PAC*

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Hello Maquinna Community,

Please join us at our PAC meetings at 6:00pm on the third Wednesday of every month (note exception for December). Any guardian can attend the meetings, and it is okay to just listen in without your video camera on. We always have an update from the principal about how things are going at school, we decide on how to spend fundraised dollars to support the student's educational needs, and we sometimes talk about policies to bring forward to other parent advisory councils to improve the student experience.



**Huge thanks to Amy and Deena who have spearheaded the hot lunch fundraiser; to Tina for arranging our second order of spirit wear, and to Adrijana for organizing the Purdy's orders. The Purdy's order alone raised just under \$1000 for the important work of PAC. Thank you for your enthusiasm!**

## Kindergarten registration for children born in 2017 begins on November 1

All kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (Early French Immersion, Montessori, Indigenous Focus School, Early Mandarin Bilingual, Nootka Fine Arts) and/or a cross boundary placement. The priority registration period for Kindergarten opens on **November 1 and closes at 4 pm on January 31**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for kindergarten is a **2-step process**:

Step 1: Completion of an online application form

Step 2: Verifying documentation

- Contact your English catchment school office to set appointment to bring your supporting
- Bring supporting documentation to your English school office during your scheduled appointment

Supporting documents needed:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court orders/documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a District program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for District programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2022.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space\* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

### Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1 and January 31

1. **In-catchment** kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31 and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

### Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31<sup>st</sup>

In-catchment kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31 will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

**Note:** There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31.

**For more information on kindergarten registration visit:** <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

\* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the District (Administrative Procedure 300).



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