

Chief Maquinna Elementary Newsletter

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/chief-maquinna/Pages/default.aspx>

January 2022

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

A big thank you to everyone in the Maquinna Community for the warm welcome to the school. I am learning names and faces and hope to meet all of you soon. Bruce Sallee was correct in saying that this is an "amazing community". I hope to learn from everyone here and I am here to support where I can. Please reach out to me with questions and concerns and I will do my best to support student learning.

This newsletter has some updates as well as important information on Functional Closures and Covid-19 protocol updates. Please check your email (and spam folder) daily for updates and notices from the school or district.

Ms. Joyce Chong

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND INFORMATION:

Thank you to all students and families for:

- **Completing the Daily Health Check every morning at [VSB Daily Health Check](#)**
Please help us by having your child stay home at the first hint of illness/symptoms.
We will be sending any students who are ill home, without exception.
- **Wearing masks indoors (K-7)**
- **Washing hands throughout the day**
- **Spreading out in the space available**
- **Following the school procedures and guidelines set by the BCCDC**

With the Omicron variant, the district has temporarily put on hold some activities such as extra-curricular, hot lunch programs and visitors (non-VSB staff). Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together to keep everyone safe.

If you need ANY information on Covid-19 (testing, self-monitor, self-isolation, vaccination, etc), please visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

As always, we will not share your personal health information with others. If there is a positive case in your family, we encourage you to report it to: <https://reportcovidresults.bccdc.ca>.

VSB

VISITORS

With the current situation, please respect that the **school building is temporarily closed** except for students and staff. Please call for an appointment if needed (604)713-4705. Thank-you.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2017 is open. Students who are registered before January 28, 2022 have priority for space in their catchment schools; if you are planning to apply for a choice program, your child **MUST** be enrolled by January 28, 2022. A reminder this is an online process now. Further information can be found on the VSB website:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/School/School-Registration/Pages/Default.aspx>

WINTER WEATHER

With the colder weather upon us, students need to be dressed appropriately: coats, hats, gloves, waterproof foot wear. You may also wish to provide your child with a change of clothing, to be used if he / she gets wet.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 17 – Professional Day – Students do not attend school

February 1 – Lunar New Year

February 14 – Valentine’s Day

February 18 – Professional Day – Students do not attend school

OFFICE PROCEDURES REMINDERS:

SAFE ARRIVALS (FOR ABSENT, LATE OR EARLY PICK UP OF STUDENTS):

If your child will be absent or late, please call the main line at the school (604) 713-4705 and press #1 to leave a message or email maqsafearrival@vsb.bc.ca. Please include in the message:

Students first name, Last name, Division, and reason for absence.

It is important to inform the office as well as the teacher as communication may not always be shared. Mrs. Mah will call the family to confirm absences if there is no message or information sent to the office. Thank you in advance for helping us keep our students safe.

Late students must sign in at the office before going to class.

CHANGES IN YOUR CHILD'S STUDENT INFORMATION:

PICK UP OF STUDENT AUTHORIZATIONS:

If another person will be picking up your child, please email your child's teacher or provide an authorization for release of your child.

UPDATING INFORMATION:

If any student information has changed (eg. emergency contacts, change of address, changed phone numbers), please provide the office with the new information so we can update our records by:

- email at maquinna@vsb.bc.ca
- or provide a signed letter with the changes

Please include the students' full name, division and birthdate. Please include the old phone number if you have a new phone number (so we can delete).

A message from PAC



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.

Link to register is here:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/chief-maquinna/Families/Parent-Advisory-Council/Pages/default.aspx>

or

http://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZakf-iuqDljHtwLa_ADjASO8hLlkqxuf3af

In the event of a Functional Closure at Maquinna:

The school may need to temporarily close in the coming weeks because of staff shortages. A letter was sent home on January 10th with information on Functional Closures. Here are some additional details:

- Email/Website information will be sent to families at any time if a Functional Closure will be happening at Maquinna – please check emails/website daily, and your spam/junk folder in case.
- During a Functional Closure, students will be going online for their learning temporarily.
- Please help your child to connect to their online TEAMS classroom by January 17th, 2022. Teachers have prepared their TEAMS classrooms and have sent connection information to families or please see the attached instruction sheet.

You may need to reset your child's password (teachers can no longer do this because of privacy).

Please go to: <https://studentpass.vsb.bc.ca/>

You may need your child's PEN number and you can find it here: [PEN numbers site.](#)

- Packages of work may have been sent home as well. Please save this work for a functional closure only.
- Special Needs students, Essential Service Workers children and others identified may continue to attend face-to-face or choose to go online. Staff will do their best to continue with instruction and communication.
- Please contact the school if you need a device during a functional closure.

Thank you for your action and understanding. If you have questions, please connect to the classroom teacher or Ms. Chong.