

## Shaughnessy Newsletter – January 2022

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<http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca>  
Principal: Jim Embree  
Vice Principal: Steve Mulligan  
Director of Instruction: Richard Zerbe  
PAC Chair: Arshnoor Manavi



### Important Dates to Remember:

- Jan 4-7<sup>th</sup> Classes for students of essential workers
- Jan 10<sup>th</sup> **First day of classes for all students**
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup> **ProD day (no classes)**
- Jan 19<sup>th</sup> PAC online meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Jan 28<sup>th</sup> Reports sent home

### Welcome to our New VP

**Steve Mulligan** has been assigned as the new vice-principal at Shaughnessy. Steve has been on staff at our school for over 3 years. We are very excited about his new appointment, and we welcome him to this new role. **Nicole Warkentin** will return to Shaughnessy to cover Steve's prior position until the job has been posted and filled. Welcome back, Nicole.

### COVID Update

As a school community we have implemented health and safety measures as advised by public health, and carefully followed the Communicable Disease Prevention Plan to reduce the risk of COVID transmission in school. Please make sure you have read the two letters that have been sent home.

To help, we ask that parents do not congregate in our outside areas (basketball courts, undercover breezeway, as well as the sidewalks leading to the building), but rather stay behind the fence when dropping off and picking up your child before and after school. Thank you for your understanding.

We ask that all parents continue to complete the **Daily Health Check** and to keep your child home and self-isolate if symptomatic (this list now includes runny nose, scratchy throat, and fatigue).



### Masks and Proper Fitting

We ask that you help your child practice how to properly wear a mask. It should cover the nose and chin and be a 3-ply minimum. Students and staff can double mask to enhance the fit. If your child misplaces their mask, there are extras available in the office.

Other strategies and preventative measures will be put in place for those students who have a medical exemption.

### Understanding Your Child's Mid-Year Written Report

Mid-year Communicating Student Learning (CSL) reports will be sent home on **Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. There are three different sections of written comments where teachers discuss your child's abilities and strengths, identify areas where your child will continue working to develop throughout the remainder of the school year, and suggest some ways that their growth can be supported at school and at home. There is also a **Student Competency Scale** that indicates your child's progress in subject areas in relation to grade level expectations.

#### **Student's Learning Strengths**

In this section, teachers discuss areas where your child is demonstrating learning goals successfully and gives examples of how they are showing their learning. It is a personalized account of the successes your child is demonstrating at this point in the year. This portion of the written report may include comments about your child's strengths in terms of, work habits, effort, participation, and behaviour in addition to some subject based examples.

### **Areas for Growth**

In this section, teachers identify some areas for further growth and development and for which the teacher will be providing support and guidance to your child. It is not expected that your child be meeting all expectations at this point in the school year; the areas for growth discussed in your child's written report will serve as learning goals for your child's journey at their grade level between now and the end of the school year. The areas for growth may reflect goals discussed in conferences in the fall or goals from an IEP.

### **Ways to Support Learning**

In this section, teachers list some specific ways that teachers and families can work together at school and at home to support your child. It is not expected that you teach your child the curriculum at home to be successful with growth and development. This learning will occur within the framework of our classroom, and support is expected at home only when communicated directly to you by your teacher.

### **School Closure Protocol Due to Snow**

There may be times when schools are closed due to weather conditions (such as heavy snowfall). The VSB will post information about snow closures on all school websites ([www.vsb.bc.ca](http://www.vsb.bc.ca) and <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/shaughnessy/Pages/default.aspx>) by 6:00 am.

The following media stations will be informed:

- CKNW (980 AM)
- CBC (690 AM, 105.7 FM)
- CJVB (1470 AM)
- CFHG (96.1 FM)
- CKWX (1130 AM)
- BCTV/ Global
- CITY TV



Parents are asked **not** to call media outlets to ask if the school is closed.

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Priority kindergarten registration at the Vancouver School District will run from November 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022. This year, children born in 2017 are eligible for kindergarten registration and begin going to school starting September 2022. Kindergarten applications received at any point within the priority enrolment time frame will be part of the priority enrolment period.

Registration is a two-step process. First, register your child online at [govsb.ca/kindergarten](http://govsb.ca/kindergarten). The online tool automatically locates the English catchment school based on a family's primary home address. Once information is submitted online, families need to complete the application process with a visit to their neighbourhood catchment school with their child and the required documents before January 31, 2022

Families who are interested in registering their children in a District choice program must still register their child at their catchment school. Registering for a choice program is a separate process and runs from January 10, 2022, to February 3, 2022. More information can be found on the District website, under [kindergarten choice registration](#).

Families who wish to apply to a school outside of their catchment area (known as cross-boundary) will also need to register their child at their neighbourhood catchment school first. Registering for cross-boundary is a separate process and runs from February 1-28, 2022. Cross boundary applications will only be considered after all in-catchment students have been accommodated. More information can be found on the District website, under [cross boundary registration](#).

By mid-February 2022, families that applied for District choice programs and identified full schools will be notified of their child's enrolment status.

By the end of April 2022, all families with children registered for kindergarten will know which school they are attending come September 2022. All students will be offered a placement in a Vancouver school.

To Learn more and make a note of key dates visit [kindergarten registration](#) or checkout the [FAQs on kindergarten registration](#).

### **EDI and MDI**

In January/February students in kindergarten will be completing the EDI (Early Development Instrument) and our Grade 7 students will complete the MDI (Middle Years Development Instrument). The EDI and MDI ask students questions about their social and emotional development, health and well-being, language and cognitive development and their communication skills. These questionnaires were developed by child development experts and researchers in Canada to help understand children's development. The information from the EDI and MDI has proven essential to school districts, health professionals, community members and planning programs to help support children and families. Information was sent home prior to the winter break. If you need more information, please contact the school office.

### **International Travel (repeat reminder)**

Please note the following information found on the Government of Canada website ([Government of Canada website](#)). For 14 days after arrival, children less than 12 years of age must not:

- attend school, camp, or daycare
- attend a setting where they may have contact with vulnerable people (e.g., long-term care facility), including people who are immunocompromised, regardless of that person's vaccination status or public health measures
- travel on crowded public transportation that does not ensure physical distancing and masking
- attend large, crowded settings, indoors or outdoors, such as an amusement park or sporting event

This means that should any unvaccinated Shaughnessy students travel internationally (outside of Canada), they will have to stay out of school for 14 days upon their return to Canada. Thank you for helping to keep our schools safe.

### **PAC News**

Our next PAC meeting will be on **January 19 @ 6:30 pm** via Zoom.

Suzanne from EarthBites will be our special guest speaker. Please sign up on our mailing list to receive the zoom link and all PAC related updates at [shaughnessyelementarypac.com](http://shaughnessyelementarypac.com)



### **Holiday Hampers Thank You**

A total of over \$6000 in gift cards and cash was donated to families in the Cunningham/Carleton community just before the winter break. Thank you to the Shaughnessy parent community for your kindness and generosity.