

Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary School

1430 Lillooet Street, Vancouver B.C. V5K 4H6

tel. 604.713.4686

[Begbie School Website](#)

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Principal Update January 2021

SAFE ARRIVAL LINE; 604-713-5159 ext 12

Principal: Mr. John Cortens 604-713-4686
OAA: Ms. Cheryl Betteridge 604-713-4686
Director of Instruction: Ms. Julie Pearce (Acting) 604-713-5000

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE

Chair: Mr. Rigel Wong
Co-Chair: Mr. Bryan Yu
Treasurer: Ms. Elise Wong
Secretary: Mr. Mike Zobac
Members-at-Large: Ms. Elisa Gutiérrez, Ms. Ina Huang, Ms. Helen Sinclair, Ms. Queenie Wong, Ms. Jocelan Thiessen
Email: begbieschoolpac@gmail.com
Website: www.begbiepac.weebly.com
Facebook: “Sir Matthew Begbie PAC”

MOST CURRENT SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please continue to check the [VSB Website](#) and [SMB School Website](#) for the most current and update information.

Process to Rename Our School

The information report regarding the renaming of our school has passed the VSB Facilities Planning Committee. This committee has recommended to the Vancouver Board of Trustees that the school be renamed. Once this recommendation is received by the board at the next board

meeting 25-January-2021, the Board accepts (or rejects) that recommendation. If the recommendation is passed at this level, we can expect the process to rename the school will begin. Please stay tuned for further information.

Option Four Update

As you are aware, Option 4 (Learn from Home Transition) is provided as a temporary transition for families who can support their child's learning at home until they are ready to return to in-person instruction. This option was originally intended to end on Friday, December 18, 2020. However, the District has made the decision to extend until Monday, March 1, 2021.

Option 4 continues to be a transition program for families who intend to have their child return to in-person instruction this school year, and who can support their child's learning at home. Check-ins with school staff and opportunities to maintain connections to the school will continue as part of this option.

We will also be looking to increase opportunities for students to take part in some in-person activities to prepare them for their eventual return to school. Space will continue to be held in our school and class to ensure a smooth transition to in-person instruction when you and your child are ready to return.

There is one more intake date for your child's return to in-person instruction following winter break: Monday, March 1, 2021 (Notice in writing by February 22, 2021)

PAC Meeting Second Tuesday of Each Month

PAC meetings are open to all parents/guardians of students registered at SMB Elementary School. Meetings take place the second Tuesday evening of each month from 7-8:30 pm on-line. If you wish to receive the log-in information please contact PAC at the email address above.

These meetings focus on fundraising and community building while working together to improve the educational experiences of our students. Please make sure to use PAC email, website and Facebook page to be up to date on all PAC events and communications.

Next PAC Meeting

9-February-2021

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

On-line

ALL PARENTS WELCOME!

Snow Closure Days

On very rare occasions, the VSB will decide to close schools in the event of a significant snowfall. This is typically done in the event snowfall prevents staff and families who must drive from getting to school safely. A lack of staff also creates supervision issues at school.

Parents are asked to keep their children home in the event of a closure day due to significant snow fall. A skeleton staff on site will call home and ask you to collect your children in case you were unaware of the closure.

Please listen to local radio or check the VSB website after 7:00 am in order to find out if school has been closed. Other sources of information and updates include SMB website and your email. Please do not call the school as the office is very busy and we may not be able to answer the phones in the event of a closure.

Positive COVID Protocols

In the event of a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 at school, the following protocols take place:

1. Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) is automatically notified
2. VCH contacts the individual who has tested positive, notifies them of their test result, and investigates to determine who they were in contact with while they were contagious.
3. If close contacts are identified at school
 - a. VCH directly contacts anyone who was a close contact of the case to ask them to self-isolate. Lower risk contacts may be asked to self-monitor. This may apply to an individual or an entire class
 - b. The school notifies the remainder of the school who has not been exposed to the case
 - c. VCH posts the name of the school on the VCH School Exposures website
 - d. VCH continues to monitor the class or the division
 - e. VSB Facilities arranges for an immediate, thorough deep cleaning of the learning spaces where the case may have been before staff and students return to the learning area

COVID-19 Protocols Continue

As the pandemic continues, we also remain vigilante, ensuring we do not become fatigued with respect to the safety protocols in place to ensure school is a safe place for adults and children to work and learn. Here are the protocols we continue to focus on:

- Daily health assessments for both staff and students
- Unwell staff or students remain at home
- Access to site limited to staff and students
- Consistent hand-washing and/or sanitizing
- Distancing for all those 12 years and older
- Minimizing contact for those 11 years and younger
- Masking for all those 12 years and older
- Students have limited contact with general population during learning and play time
- Adults continue to have very limited contact with other adults as per PHO guidelines for general population

Please refer to hyperlinks below for specific details regarding the district and school safety plan. If you have any questions regarding the specifics for your child, please feel free to ask your child's teacher.

If you ever have any health and safety concerns do not hesitate to contact the office immediately and directly to inform us of your concern so we may act on it promptly.

[UPDATED Jan 2021 VSB District Safety Plan, Safe Work Instructions and Protocols](#)

[FACT SHEET Elementary](#)

[VSB Health and Safety Plan video](#)

Student Health Assessment Checklist

Please click on the link [Student Health Assessment Checklist REVISED](#) to review the updated checklist. Please be familiar with the checklist and the procedures.

We request that students who are sick remain home until they are feeling better. Caregivers are requested to review the health assessment checklist each morning before sending students to school. Similarly, we expect all VSB employees to complete a personal health assessment each day and remain home if they are unwell.

Updated District Safety Plan

[UPDATED Jan 2021 VSB District Safety Plan, Safework Instructions & Protocols](#)

As anticipated, the district and school safety plans have been updated. Several changes have been implemented over the last couple of months. The link above provides parents with the details regarding the district plan. This is a dense document which captures in detail the plans in place.

SMB staff continually adjust school plan based on district directives. If you have any specific questions or concerns about the protocols please contact your child's teacher first as there may be slight differences from class to class depending on the context. If you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Summary of Changes to District & School Safety Plan

This is a summary of the updates. This list is not meant to be exhaustive but rather to give parents a sense of the protocols that most directly impact elementary schools:

1. Updated Daily Student Health Assessment Guidelines
 - Will be published in February 2021
2. If asked to **Self-Monitor** the individual must
 - actively assess for symptoms
 - self-monitoring letter (from school or VCH) advises of a potential **low-risk situation**
3. If ask to **Self-Isolate** the individual must
 - stay home and away from others
 - 14 days from the last day of close contact
 - only Medical Health Officer determines close contact
 - Self-isolation letter advises of potential **elevated risk**
4. Staff Meetings
 - must happen virtually

- if a meeting **MUST** happen in person
 - only essential staff
 - distancing required
 - masks required
 - follow all other safety measures
5. Staff Highly Committed to Daily Health Assessments
- regularly reinforced by administrator through posters, bulletin reminders and H&S Meetings
 - staff remain home even if the symptoms are mild
 - staff sign in includes written confirmation that Daily Health Assessment have happened
 - district staff must sign in and confirm Daily Health Assessment
6. Mask Requirements
- Staff and students are strongly encouraged to wear masks in school
7. Ventilation Improvements since September
- ventilation systems running 2 hours longer before and after school
 - windows and doors opened depending on weather at discretion of staff
 - retrofit and replace current HVAC filters to higher standard



**From the
YMCA of Greater Vancouver
Before-and-After School Care**

Are you looking for childcare during before and after school hours? The Begbie YMCA Kids Club has available spaces. YMCA Kids Clubs follows our Place to Connect curriculum, which focuses on three key areas: health, play, and relationships. Our programs offer a variety of activities, in small groupings, including outdoor active play, arts and crafts, sports, games, and more!

To inquire about space or add your child to our waitlist, visit our website at gv.ymca.ca/child-care or email us at ymcakidsclub@gv.ymca.ca

Important Dates to Remember

29-January-Friday	Last day for Kindergarten online registration
29-January-Friday	Mid-Year Reports sent home
29-January-Friday	Last day for online registration for Kindergarten 2021
12-February-Friday	Pro D Day. NO SCHOOL for students
15-February-Monday	Family Day Stat Holiday. NO SCHOOL
22-February-Monday	Written notice of intention to return 1-March from Option 4