



# Sir Richard McBride Elementary

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Lindsay Thompson—Principal  
Charlotte Tudose-Geerlings—Administrative Assistant

Aaron Davis—Director of Instruction  
Carmen Cho— Liaison Trustee

Issue No. 1  
September 16, 2019



Dear Parents and Guardians of McBride Students...

As the dust starts to settle after the second week, and the first full week in classes, I'd like to acknowledge the McBride staff for working so diligently to make sure students get into the correct class and that all students are accounted for. I'd also like to thank parents for being so understanding, flexible and accommodating while we sort out the little hiccups that happen in life and September start up. However, all that being said, it's been a smooth and relatively uneventful start up as we rolled into classes on the second day of school and things have been going along swimmingly.

Please know, or be reminded, that our school website <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-richard-mcbride/Pages/default.aspx> is the place to go for information, goings-on, and events. Our Kindergarten students are now in-school full time and we've had our first school-wide assembly. I want to acknowledge our fantastic PAC for all their work in welcoming parents and in creating an atmosphere of inclusion and support for families. We work very closely with our PAC and we have a wonderful collaborative relationship with them. Please refer to the PAC website [mcbrideschool.ca](http://mcbrideschool.ca) for information and details regarding PAC events and programs.

Regards,  
Lindsay Thompson, Principal



**Outside Everyday .....**At recess and lunch our students always go outside to socialize, exercise, and get fresh air. Someone once said, "There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing." Please ensure that your child(ren) are dressed for the elements with rain gear and foot wear to stay dry and warm.

## Welcome to New Staff

Caitlin Shannon- Division 6 teacher T-Fr  
Anu Sharma- SSA in Division 16  
Tara West- Resource Teacher- T, W  
Nate Hyde- Temp in Division 1 until January  
Meggan Jacobson- Temp in Division 10 until November



## **McBride Library Update:**

### **Days of operation (once the library is deemed ready, post-construction):**

The library is open Tuesday to Friday. No librarian is on duty on Monday.

**Off timetable book exchange** is 8:45-9:00 and 3:00-3:15 Tuesday to Friday, in addition to classroom scheduled book exchange times.

The library is closed at recess and lunch.

### **Borrowing limits:**

Kindergarten – grade 2:	2 books at a time
grade 3:	3 books
grade 4-7:	4 or more books depending on project related needs

### **Loan Periods:**

In most cases, books can be borrowed for 2 weeks. If students need more time, they can renew the book(s). For the younger students (Grades K-2), I strongly encourage them to return/exchange their books on a weekly basis to maintain a consistent routine.

### **Book returns:**

Students can return books to the library Monday-Friday, anytime during school hours, they don't need to wait until their scheduled book exchange time. They can come in & quickly drop off their books on the front counter or in the book tub on the front counter, but cannot hangout in the library unsupervised.

### **Book care:**

The kindergarten or grade 1's of div 13, 14, 15 are encouraged to use the blue book bags they were/will be provided by their classroom teacher.

Other students are encouraged to keep a large, sturdy, clean, dry plastic bag in their backpack so they can transport their books to & from school while keeping the books away from snacks, rain, and spilled liquids.

During orientation, students are taught to be responsible for the books they borrow under their name, and for keeping the books in good condition. To avoid lost book mix-ups, students shouldn't be trading checked-out books with each other. They should come to the library together with their friend and I can assign the book to the new borrower.

**Book Fair:** Will be in March this year, more information to come closer to the event.

### **Student Library Monitors:**

These are grade 6 & 7 student volunteers who help out in the library after school. We start with the 7's for the first half of the year, and then the 6's for the second half. More information to come later.

### **Parent volunteers are always needed!**

If any parents are interested in helping shelve books/repair books/reinforce new books a couple times a month, please contact or pop by and see Mr.Kit. No need to commit to any sort of fixed schedule. Any help, even sporadic, is much appreciated!

**Parent volunteers can call the school at 604-713-4971 to leave contact information, or pop by to see Mr. Kit Tues-Fri. Thank-you!**

**If any parents have any concerns about lost or missing books, or any library related questions, please come by or contact me at the above number. I'm genuinely happy to hear from parents, and usually any mix-ups or misunderstandings are sorted out quickly.**

### McBride Parent Advisory Council

McBride has an outstandingly hard working and supportive PAC. As a parent with a child at McBride, you are automatically a PAC member. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Please watch for listings on the PAC volunteer board or at [mcbrideschool.ca](http://mcbrideschool.ca) or email the PAC at [mcbrideelementary@gmail.com](mailto:mcbrideelementary@gmail.com).



## Elevator Update

Our elevator is currently still not available for use. We are waiting on inspections from various people in order to make sure everything is safe and ready to go. The ETA is the end of the month, but I will keep you updated.



### McBride Elementary Cross-Country Team 2019

Cross Country season practices will be held on Tuesday afternoon at 3:10-3:40pm and Thursday mornings at 8:30 am. Students are expected to be on time and ready to practice. Practices will take place rain or shine. Please have your child wear appropriate athletic clothing and running shoes. It is also recommended that students bring a water bottle.

There will be 4 mini-meets on Wednesdays after school at Douglas Park from 3:30 until 4:35 pm (at 20<sup>th</sup> Ave W and Heather). We need parent drivers to get students to and from Douglas Park. **Parents are responsible to get their children to and from Douglas Park.** Without parent drivers we are unable to attend these events. As Cross Country is popular with our students, we need many **parents to volunteer** and we ask you to try and be flexible with your schedule to help with transportation to and from the mini meets at Douglas Park

Mini Meets:	Wednesday, September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Douglas Park
	Wednesday, September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Douglas Park
	Wednesday, October 2 <sup>th</sup>	Douglas Park
	Wednesday, October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Douglas Park
District Meet:	Thursday, October 17 <sup>th</sup>	Trout Lake 12:30-3:00 pm

Please sign the permission slip below and return to the school by Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, outside Ms. Biln's door. (top floor room 203).

Thank you

The McBride Cross Country Coaches

Ms. Biln, Ms. Ali-Shaw, Ms. Mark, Mr. Hyde and Ms. Roberts

## Music at McBride

Winter Concert Date: Mark your calendars! The Winter Concert is set for Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Band Information for families with students in Division 1, 2, 3 & 4**

I am really excited to be restarting the band program at McBride. Below are some reminders or additional information about the band program.

**Band Rental Night – Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7pm in the school gym.** ALL families, including those using a school instrument, may find items to buy.

For the convenience of families wishing to rent/buy an instrument or need accessories such as a music stand, I have arranged for Long & McQuade and their experienced staff to come to our school. Your child does not need to attend. However, if they are available, they may wish to come and share the excitement of their new instrument. If you cannot make this rental, you can of course at your convenience go to the store (or another store) or go online to rent/purchase. Please see my original letter for information.

Please DO NOT OPEN the instrument and put together unless there is someone that has experience. I have had instruments damaged before they even came to class! As it will take some time for me to get the school instruments ready, the first day instruments should be brought to class will be the week of September 24<sup>th</sup>. Please label the instrument with your child's name (and phone # in case it is lost), so there will be no confusion.

Other things to consider purchasing at the rental night:

- A music stand – Proper posture is VERY important for good tone
- Reeds – if your child will play clarinet or saxophone a box of # 2 reeds would be a good start.
- Maintenance kit - cleaning cloths, rods, valve oil & so on needed for the instrument. Each instrument needs different things to keep it in good playing condition. This kit is usually provided for those renting or buying an instrument.

DO NOT buy music. The school will buy the necessary books at a discount. I will send out a form this week requesting the money for the book. The book will be \$11.25 for all instruments except percussion. The percussion book is larger and therefore more expensive. I will confirm the price when I send out the form.

**School Instruments:** There will be a small charge for the yearly use of the instrument as it costs money to maintain. The school instruments will be handed out to students during class time or during lunch. The instruments requiring work are currently in the repair shop, and the school instruments should be ready for distribution next week (Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>). They will be reminded NOT to open cases after we look at them together for previous damage or wear until class time. If you have any questions about their instrument, you are welcome to contact me at [mmacaulay@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:mmacaulay@vsb.bc.ca).

**The fee for use of the school instrument will be \$50 for the year to cover wear and maintenance.** This works out to \$5.00 a month, a deal for the use of a band instrument! However, if this amount is more than your family can afford, please contact me or our principal, Ms. Thompson. We can arrange a monthly payment or help cover costs. No student will be denied the opportunity to play a band instrument. In addition to the fee for yearly use, a deposit fee of \$50 will be requested at the start of the year, and will be returned in June, when the instrument is returned in reasonable condition. **So, in total there will be a \$100 fee in September with \$50 returned in June.** Starting on Thursday, payment can be made online or by cheque or cash. A form will be provided for students using a school instrument with more information. If you decide that you would prefer to rent an instrument, that option is of course still available. I will be at the rental night and available to discuss options and can be reached at my email as well.

**Honour Band:** There will be an honour band starting in October for those students keen to learn more music outside of band class. This extracurricular band class will be offered either before or after school for 50 - 60 minutes. I am trying to find a time that will not conflict too much with all the other amazing sport and choir activities at the school! The plan will be for all our beginning division bands (Div. 1 – 4) to perform one solo piece at the District Band festival in early May and the honour band will play a piece too. All students will also participate in the 3 massed band pieces, so it is a really exciting event for the band students. Band students and the honour band will also play at school concerts including the Winter Concert (December 12<sup>th</sup>) and Spring Concert in mid- May.

Musically Yours,

Mrs. MacAulay. [mmacaulay@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:mmacaulay@vsb.bc.ca)



## *Upcoming Events*

- Sept 18, Wednesday    Cross Country mini meet at Douglas Park @ 3:30 pm  
Band instrument rentals in the gym from  
5:00-7:00 pm by Long and McQuade
- Sept 23, Monday        Pro-D, Professional Development for staff  
School not in session
- Sept 25, Wednesday    Cross Country mini meet at Douglas Park @ 3:30 pm
- Sept 26, Thursday      Cops for Cancer @ 10:36 am in front of the school  
Terry Fox Run at 11:05 am
- Oct 2, Wednesday      Cross Country mini meet at Douglas Park @ 3:30 pm
- Oct 9, Wednesday      CrossCountry mini meet at Douglas Park @ 3:30 pm  
PAC General meeting @ 6:00 pm in the library
- Oct 14, Monday         Thanksgiving
- Oct 16, Wednesday     Parent Teacher Conferences starting at 2:00 pm  
Early dismissal all for students at 2:00 pm
- Oct 17, Thursday        Great BC Shake Out - Earthquake Drill at 10:30 am  
District Cross Country Meet at Trout Lake 12:00 -  
3:30 pm  
Parent Teacher Conferences starting at 2:00 pm  
Early dismissal for all students at 2:00 pm
- Oct 25, Friday          Pro-D, Professional Development for staff  
School not in session



## McBride Choir

Your child has shown interest in being in McBride's Choir (grade 3-7).

The choir will participate in Vancouver's Choral Festival held in March 2020.

Your child is expected to exhibit good classroom behavior, be able to follow directions, and be able to work as a team. We will perform throughout the year .

Practices will be held **Tuesdays at 8:00-8:45am** and **Thursdays at 12:25pm** in the Music Room on the top floor.

**Choir duo tangs and pencil are required for every practice unless otherwise stated. Leave coats & backpacks lined up neatly in hall against wall to left of door.**

Attendance is **mandatory** and punctuality is ***very important***. Although I know unexpected events may happen and will of course be excused, please note that ***three unexcused absences or tardiness*** (arriving late) will result in your child being removed from choir.

I look forward to welcoming all of you. Attached is the permission form, contract, which must be returned to me by **Tuesday Sept.24<sup>th</sup> at the latest**. I am looking forward to an exciting year at school and in choir!

Sincerely,

Sarah Chester