



Royal Heights Elementary

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www.surreyschools.ca/schools/royalheights



Reaching great heights by honouring deep roots

May 31st, 2021

Principal's Message



As we prepare to enter our final month of the 2020/21 school year, I cannot help but reflect on from where we have come and what still lies ahead.

Last September seems so far past, yet it was less than 9 months ago that we entered this pandemic-based educational landscape with the intention of welcoming all of our students back into a safe school setting. I was not at Royal Heights at the time, but I know the first few months involved learning new routines and adjusting what we were accustomed to seeing/doing in school. And our combined efforts at home and in classes have paid off! By and large, our school has been a safe environment for our 200+ students and 40+ staff - and I think a lot of credit needs to go to you, the parents/guardians, for keeping your children at home when they were exhibiting potential symptoms, for talking to your children about physical distancing and mask wearing, and for modeling the strength and resilience needed to get through this challenging period.

Three months ago, I came to Royal Heights and, honestly, I felt a little nervous about changing schools mid-year. I did not know much about the community or what to expect. At the same time, that unknown element was

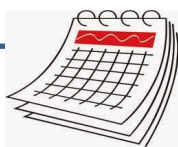
also exciting! As I settled in and had the chance to speak with students and parents, I learned quickly how fortunate I am to have come here - even if it has and will only be for a few months.

Not wanting to dwell on that, I'm also amazed at how fast May came and went. The weather was (mostly) beautiful, and students really enjoyed their time outside. We celebrated Mother's Day in our classrooms and recognized Eid at the school level; we had two Non-Instructional days, a holiday and two early dismissals; we welcomed (via Zoom) the future kindergarten students who will be attending our school next year and planned grade 7 grad activities for those who will be moving on to high school in September. And, of course, other amazing things happened that are too numerous to list.

As we move into June, it is with mixed emotions that I announce I will be remaining at Royal Heights for the rest of the year. Unfortunately for her, Mrs. Mrak has suffered a few complications in her recovery and will not be able to return as expected. I am very pleased to get to finish the year at this school, but I know many of us miss Mrs. Mrak and wish her the best. She has promised to come visit before the year is finished.

And with that, into June we go!

Dates to Remember:



June 3 -	Fire Drill
June 7 -	Early Dismissal at 1:30 p.m.
June 9 -	PAC Meeting at 6 p.m.
June 16 -	Sports Day (12:30 - 2 p.m.)
June 18 -	Grad Carnival Day (Grade 7s)
June 23 -	Grade 7 Grad Ceremony
June 24 -	Early Dismissal at 1:30 p.m. Last day of classes

Welcome to K!



As mentioned above, on Thursday, May 27th, our Kindergarten teachers led a live Zoom call with about 15 of our future Kindergarten students (and their families). They sang songs, told stories and walked parents through school expectations, stopping along the way to share strategies that will help prepare these children for the transition.

Sports Day

Sports Day is coming to Royal Heights (albeit in a modified form). On the afternoon of Wednesday, June 16th, students will be involved in a socially-distanced, Covid-friendly version of Sports Day. Unfortunately, due to current Covid-19 regulations, we still cannot welcome parents onto the property or have any spectators, but our planning committee really wanted to ensure that students didn't miss out on this experience for a second year in a row. Even though it'll be smaller, we think it'll still be a lot of fun! More information will be given to students by their teachers.

A Note from our PAC

Our next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, June 9th at 6 p.m. and will take place via Zoom. As usual, details on attending this meeting

can be obtained by contacting the PAC executives at rhes.pac@gmail.com.

Naming of Schools

The Surrey School District is in the process of naming three school sites and would like to gather feedback as a part of this process. Please see the 2 pages below that provide more detail.

Covid-19 Vaccines for Students

Registration is now open for students between [the ages of 12 and 17 to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine](#).

The province recently announced that children born in 2009 or earlier (12 and older) can register on the [B.C. COVID-19 Immunization website](#). The goal is to have students vaccinated by June 30, with second doses by Aug. 30.

To register, fill out your child's information at getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca, available 24/7 or call 1-833-838-2323 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. any day of the week. You can also register in-person at any Service BC centre. After registering, you will receive a text, email or phone call when it is your turn to book a vaccine appointment. Don't expect to book an appointment the same day you register.

Once you have registered and have received your booking invitation, please do not delay booking an appointment. Bring your child's Care Card to their appointment. If your child does not have a personal health number, you can register by phone at 1-833-838-2323.

Booking invites will be sent to those who are older first, and most appointments will take place at the same immunization clinics used to vaccinate people in other age groups.

NAMING OF SCHOOL FACILITIES



Schools play a critical role in our neighbourhoods and are the hub of our communities. The names given to our schools are significant and require considerable thought and consultation and should reflect the surrounding community's history and/or geographic area.

With a number of projects currently underway, and new schools opening every school year, the district is focused on engaging each school community to gather potential names for the sites and engage the community to gather feedback on the names currently being considered.

The goal is to have a list of names that have been vetted by our communities at the ready, so they can be used as projects are announced.

NAMES CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED

The School Naming Committee, which includes two elected trustees and the Superintendent, has begun the consultation process by bringing forth five potential names for three sites—all of which will begin construction in the coming year. This list of names may be used for other future sites that are pending construction.

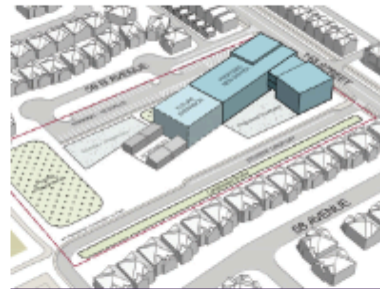
The three sites that require names are:



Site 208
17950 25th Avenue*



Site 214
17390 20th Avenue*



Site 115
5855 148th Street*

Household and group vaccination options are also available. For more information, visit fraserhealth.ca/vaccine.

The following school names have been brought forward:

NICOMEKL ELEMENTARY

The Nicomekl River was an early route for settlers that **linked Semiahmoo and Boundary Bays**, running just north of the southern uplands. The Nicomekl was considered **easier to navigate compared to other nearby rivers**, making it an important part of Surrey's history. Site 115 has a clear view of the river.

REDWOOD PARK ELEMENTARY

Situated on a wooded hill south of 20th Avenue, **Redwood Park features a variety of exotic trees, particularly evergreens, planted by deaf twin brothers David and Peter Brown**, son of early pioneer David Brown. The park includes a three-storey treehouse, reminiscent of the home in which the brothers lived on the park. Site 208 is adjacent to this park.

ARCHIBALD ELEMENTARY

144th Street was **once known as Archibald Road** in Surrey, when a section of it became the homestead of a Mr. Archibald near 80th Avenue. A trail linked the homestead to Yale Road and was later upgraded to a road. As 144th Street extends south into White Rock, the connecting road is still known as Archibald Road there. Although it is not on this street, site 115 is in this neighbourhood.

LITTLE CAMPBELL ELEMENTARY

The Little Campbell River **served as an entrance for pioneers and early settlers** in the mid-to-late 1800s, allowing them to navigate South Surrey in a time before trails and roads. The river is **home to diverse wildlife and plant species**, including five species of Pacific salmon and trout. This river runs near site 214.

KENSINGTON PRAIRIE

Originally named by H.T. Thrift to promote settlement in the area, Kensington Prairie is a rich agricultural area south of the Nicomekl River that stretches to the southern upland and extends east to the New Westminster Southern Railway line. Previously, **Surrey Schools had a Kensington Prairie Elementary** at 168th Street and 32nd Avenue, a one-room schoolhouse that opened in 1887 and closed its doors in 2006. Site 208 is in this neighbourhood.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Tell us what you think about the names being considered or share your ideas for school names! We will be engaging staff and the surrounding school communities throughout the month of May 2021 to gather feedback.

To share your thoughts and ideas, send us an email at comm-office@surreyschools.ca

SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME

CORE COMPETENCIES TO TALK ABOUT



COMMUNICATION

- Speaking & Listening
- Reading & Writing
- Presenting
- Collaborating



THINKING

- Creative and Critical
- Generating and developing ideas
- Pursuing ideas over time
- Designing, analyzing, evaluating



PERSONAL & SOCIAL

- Personal identity, values, and choices
- Perseverance & ownership
- Sustaining balance
- Caring of self, others, & environment

NOTICE → NAME → NURTURE

WHEN YOUR CHILD ASKS FOR ASSISTANCE, ASK:

What were you supposed to learn? What is the criteria for this assignment?

SUGGESTED CONVERSATION STARTERS

- *I notice how you ... (be specific, focusing more on perseverance and less on "ability", avoiding phrases such as "you are so smart" or "you are such a talented artist")*
- *What were you supposed to learn by doing this work?*
- *How does your work compare to the criteria?*
- *What are you most proud of? Why?*
- *I can see you tried really hard to...*
- *I can see evidence of growth. You used to... but now you...*
- *When I compare what you used to do with what you do now, I notice...*
- *What do you notice when you compare these two pieces of work?*
- *Can you explain your thinking about this...?*
- *What I like about this work is...*
- *What do you like most about this work?*
- *Do you think you need some help with...?*
- *What do you think you could do differently next time?*
- *How could you have done that differently?*
- *What would you like to get better at? Why?*
- *What do you think you will try next time?*
- *Tell me (more) about ...*

DIGITAL RESOURCES YOU CAN ACCESS AT HOME

ALL RESOURCES: www.surreyschools.ca/digitalresources

USER ID & PASSWORD: sd36bc

DISCOVERY EDUCATION: surreyschools.discoveryeducation.ca

USER ID & PASSWORD: sd36bc (or ask your child or your child's teacher for a personalized USER ID & PASSWORD)