



# Riverdale News

## An Update for Parents and Families

Ecole Riverdale Elementary...*Learning, Caring and Doing Our Best*

**February 22, 2016**

\*\*Posted bi-weekly on the School Website

### A Word from Your Principal

Thank you to all those parents who were able to come out for the Curriculum Conversation last Wednesday evening. We had a fantastic turn out, and lots of great questions. If you weren't able to make it, handouts and the power point are attached. We are excited about the shifts and what this means for your child's learning and growth. The following is a quick summary of main ideas:

- The new curriculum offers more opportunities for depth of learning, including student inquiry;
- It is currently available for teachers to use voluntarily, and becomes the official curriculum the next school year;
- The **"Core Competencies"** support the development of critical and creative thinking, communication in all its forms, and personal and social responsibility;
- Aboriginal content and perspectives are woven in throughout the curriculum;
- **"Big Ideas"** in each curricular area are about building deep understanding over time;
- **"Curricular Competencies"** are about what we want students to be able to do at a particular grade;
- **"Content"** in each curricular area remains rigorous, but it is less prescriptive and detailed than in the past.

The next formal reports go home on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, with early dismissal and parent/teacher conferences on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. We hope to have other formal opportunities to share what research tells us makes a difference for your child's learning, what this looks like in the classroom, and how you can support learning at home. In the meantime, please continue to ask questions, visit the school and speak with your child's teacher if you have any questions. Thank you! Merci!

### Community Parent Forums

There are many fantastic, free opportunities. Please see the list below and the attachments for details.

- **FORCE Society for Kids' Mental Health: "Paying Attention: Relationship or Behaviour"** – Tuesday, Feb. 23rd 6.30-8.30pm, 15455 Vine Ave, White Rock
- **Avenues of Change (for Parents of Children ages 0-6 years old)** – Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4.30 – 6.30pm. Free dinner and childminding, at Ecole Riverdale Elementary with Dr. Vanessa Lapointe
- **"How to Grow Happy Children"** with Dr. Vanessa Lapointe – Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 6.30 – 8.30pm at 6846 King George Blvd
- **Positively Parenting Workshop Series at Cloverdale Recreation Centre, Wednesdays, 6.30-8.30pm**
- **SAIL (Surrey's Academy of Innovative Learning) Open House** – April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, District Education Centre
- **Internet/Social Media Safety: Digital Literacy for Parents** – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm Guildford Park Secondary

Principal: Leah Christensen

Vice Principal: Gary Loosemore

[surreyschools.ca/riverdale](http://surreyschools.ca/riverdale)

Tel. 604.588.5978

## Parking Lot Update

Thank you for your feedback regarding traffic flow and safety in the parking lot. While we want to ensure we are doing everything possible to help with flow during the 10 minute rush, we also want to ensure our children's safety.

So far, we have received extensive positive feedback that the changes improve flow. The **main concern** continues to be about the "**kiss and go**" lane. It works best in the mornings, but in the afternoons, it is being used as a parking area. This drop off area is not for parking. We have a large parking area, and **we ask parents to use the designated parking spots, and to not park in the "kiss and go" lane.** This significantly decreases congestion.

The district transportation manager visited the school to observe, and will be following up with our recommendations. These include:

- Relocate the cement barrier currently blocking pedestrian access to the centre walkway of the parking lot.
- Encourage pedestrians to cross at designated places in the parking lot. We currently have one (where Mr. Loosemore and students assist). The second will be at the main entrance, on the left hand side. The crosswalk will continue to the centre of the lot, turning left, and then will lead pedestrians to the crosswalk currently managed with traffic guards.
- Paint arrows and add cement barriers where the current orange stanchions are set up.
- Add another handicap parking spot in the staff parking area.

We ask that drivers continue to use caution during the 10 minute rush. Please drive slowly and watch for pedestrians. Thank you for your cooperation and feedback.

## Construction on 108A Ave. from Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – March 11<sup>th</sup>

Vehicle access to the school will be affected due to environmental remediation issue at the shopping centre. Access to the parking lots will not be affected, and nothing will be happening on school property. **All work will be stopped during drop off and pick up times.** Please drive slowly and watch for flag personnel.

## Update from our PAC

- **Purdy's Easter Fundraiser** - Parents, friends and families have until **March 1st** to place their orders. Please go to the link [www.purdysgpp.com](http://www.purdysgpp.com) and use Customer #18559. Bon appetite!
- **PAC Popcorn Day!** Enjoy some freshly-popped kernels just before leaving for March Break on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.
- **Clothing Drive** – March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your donations to the exterior PAC doors at the beginning of the day during the six day drive.

## Raven's Run Club

Calling all runners ages 8-12! There's a fun opportunity for students to get involved with the running community in British Columbia and experience running with other students their age from all over the Lower Mainland. The BMO Vancouver Kids Run will take place in Stanley Park on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and is designed to inspire kids to get moving, make healthy choices, and feel confident. This positive, memorable experience will last the students a lifetime. The registration fee is \$21 and includes a race bib, t-shirt, medal, and snacks. If your child is interested in participating in this event, please see the enclosed attachment with more event details. Please complete the registration forms and submit it with the race fee to Ms. Loh or Mme Renaud by February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**School Safety** In order to ensure your child is safe at school, it is district policy that parents first check in at the office before going anywhere else in the school. If you need to contact your child, we will call down to your child's classroom to inform the teacher of your arrival. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

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## Grade 7 Updates

**Zumbathon!** Next Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8.30pm in our gym. Come on out for an evening of fun! All proceeds go to support our grade 7 students' Camp Fund.

**Grade 7 Fundraiser Hot Lunch, Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** – Forms went out last Monday. All proceeds from the Panago Pizza Hot Lunch go to support grade 7 camp fundraising. Order forms are due Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Grade 7 Parent Meeting – Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6-7pm**

## Looking Ahead

- Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Boys' Basketball Playday at Harold Bishop – 1-4pm
- **Pink Shirt Day** – Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – Encourage your child to wear pink and celebrate diversity and Random Acts of Kindness; School Wide Viewing of "Inside Out".
- Wednesday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – Boys' Basketball Playday at Frost Road – 1-4pm
- Thursday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – AM Riverdale Choir performs at the Bell Centre – see notice for details (parents invited!)
- Thursday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – Girls' Basketball Playday at Riverdale – 1-4pm
- Friday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> 9am – K-7 Celebration Assembly – Choir performance – Parents invited
- Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 9am – PAC Meeting
- Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 7 Parent Meeting 6-7pm
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Day: "Dress Like a Royal Day" and Grade 7 Camp Hot Lunch Fundraiser
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> - Zumbathon – Grade 7 Camp Fundraiser – 7 – 8.30pm in the gym
- Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Formal Reports Home
- Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – 1.30pm Early Dismissal and Student, Teacher, Parent Conferences
- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - PALS Session #3 from 1-2.30pm in the library for pre-school aged children and their parents/caregivers.
- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> - Last day of school before Spring Break – PAC Popcorn sales after school!
- SPRING BREAK/SCHOOL CLOSURE – March 14<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Back! School Re-opens
- Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – PAC Clothing Drive
- Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> is an additional Non-Instructional Day. School is closed.