



ANDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

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Anderson School This Week's News! – May 16th to May 20th

Important Reminders!

**Friday, May 20th is a Professional Development Day
(School is not in session)**

&

**Monday, May 23rd is Victoria Day
(School is not in session)**



PAC NEWS

As parents of a student at Anderson Elementary, parents are automatically a member of the PAC. There are PAC Executive positions that are elected, and we are currently accepting nominations for these positions until May 31, 2022. Elections will take place at the June PAC meeting on Wednesday, June 8th, 2022.

The following are the PAC Executive positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary. These are voluntary positions, and do not receive compensation. We also have Member-at-Large positions that are not elected, but serve as the appointed person heading up specific projects. For detailed descriptions of these positions, please refer to the Parents tab, on the school website.

Looking for Noon Hour Supervisors

The Richmond School District is looking for on-call and permanent Noon Hour Supervisors for Elementary and Secondary schools.

Duties include supervising students in school buildings and grounds during the lunch break, and assist in the office or school library. The shifts for this position is 1.5 hours per day on days that students are in attendance. Incumbents are expected to follow the school calendar.

In addition to excellent communication and interpersonal skills, applicants must have experience supervising groups of Elementary school-aged children and be willing to work with adolescents. First aid and other relating training, such as conflict resolution or non-violent crisis intervention is considered an asset.

If this sounds like you and you are able to work for 90 minutes a day from 11:30 am to 1 pm, please follow this link to apply:

[Noon Hour Supervisor Application](#)



Understanding Combined Classes



It's the time of year when the Anderson staff begins to look at building classes for next year. Staff work very hard to ensure that all students are successful.

Often, the philosophy behind combined classes is misunderstood by parents. Children who are placed in the upper grade of a combined class are not placed there because they struggle in school. In a combined grade 4 and 5 class, we do our very best to ensure that for each grade, we have students who encompass a range of learning styles and abilities. **We do not place all of our strongest grade 5 learners into a grade 5/6 when a grade 4/5 classroom is also available.**

Teachers are trained to provide instruction to diverse classes of students, looking at children as individuals, and providing individual educational plans where warranted for students who are slower or faster to develop.

Combined classes offer enhanced opportunities for all students to demonstrate confidence, positive self-concept, and a strong sense of belonging. Combined classes can help students form broader and more varied friendships as older students provide role models for younger students. Sometimes the teacher/student relationship can be enhanced if the same teacher teaches a student for more than one year, leading to increased feelings of security for returning students and a smoother transition in September because the teacher already knows their learning styles and needs well. Teachers in combined classes, like those in straight grades, follow the curriculum requirements defined by the Ministry of Education.

Parent Input – Class Placements

Each year at this time, we begin to make school organization plans for September based upon the number of students we know are returning and new registrations that we have received. Before school ends in June, your child's current classroom teacher, resource teacher, educational assistants and administrators will work together to place students for the upcoming school year. These plans are tentative until the first week in September when final student numbers are known. In the first few days of September, all staff meets to confirm teaching assignments and review student placements.

In the organizational meetings, many factors are considered when placing students. These considerations include:

- learning styles and strengths
- work habits
- social/personal characteristics
- gender balance
- special needs
- friendship groups
- ELL levels
- contractual obligations
- age and physical maturity





If you would like the opportunity to provide the school with information about your child's placement for next year, you are welcome to complete a Parent Input form by **Friday, May 27th, 2022**. Please email Mr. Harrington at sharrington@sd38.bc.ca to request an input form – electronic copy.

The information you provide should **not include a request for a specific teacher** but rather some important personal or educational information that will assist us in our decision. Students who work well together or recent/ongoing conflict with other children would be helpful in placing students.

With limited placement possibilities, **input can be considered but never guaranteed**. All information provided will be shared with the teacher(s) and taken into consideration. Please be aware the final decision regarding placement will be a school based decision.

Accepting input after the Friday, May 27th is often problematic, as each child placed into a classroom is an important part of the structure that helps create a positive learning environment for all children placed. Like a house of cards, pulling one from the pile often impacts others and we would like to avoid this scenario.

Important Dates

Monday, May 16	Track Attack for grades	
Friday, May 27 th	Social Media 4 Parents (over Zoom @ 6:00 pm)	
Wednesday, May 18	Morning Soccer Club - grade 3 – 5 students (8:10 – 8:40 am)	
Wednesday, May 18	Track Attack for grades	
Friday, May 20	Professional Development Day – School not in session	
Monday, May 23	Victoria Day – School not in session	

