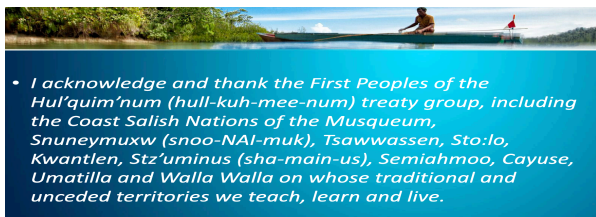




FAMILY WAAG

February 19th - 23rd, 2024

Monday Feb. 19	Tuesday Feb. 20	Wednesday Feb. 21	Thursday Feb. 22	Friday Feb. 23
	PLT – EFGH	EFGH	PLT -EFGH	EFGH
Family Day School Closed	PAC Meeting @ 7pm		Course Planning Due	



• I acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the Hul'quim'num (hull-kuh-mee-num) treaty group, including the Coast Salish Nations of the Musqueam, Snuneymuxw (snoo-NAL-muk), Tsawwassen, Sto:lo, Kwantlen, Stz'uminus (sha-main-us), Semiahmoo, Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

2024-2025 COURSE SELECTION

All Grade 8-11s have received their course selection forms and have had their program planning information session with counsellors on February 14th Conference Day. Parents are encouraged to

visit <https://mcmath.sd38.bc.ca/students/program-planning> to help support their child in choosing the most appropriate courses for the upcoming school year.

Timetabling (the number of sections of each course) is based on the course requests made by students in February. It is essential that students consider the task of choosing courses as a major responsibility because the choices that they make determine the master timetable. Requests for each course are tallied and that information is used to determine how many blocks to build for each course. Courses with too few student requests will be cancelled. Students who have requested a course that gets cancelled will then be programmed into their alternate choice. **Once the master timetable is built, course changes become much more difficult; thus, it is very important that the selection of courses be done carefully.**

All Grades 8 – 11s are expected to take eight courses. Gr 12 students may choose a study block. Any exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by school administration.

YEARBOOK ORDERS! DEADLINE FEB 29TH, 2024

The last day to order is Thursday, **February 29, 2024**. check the lists posted outside the office or contact our business assistant to check that you've paid for your yearbook emcgarry@sd38.bc.ca **Please make sure all school fees are paid.** Students with outstanding fees won't be able to pick up their yearbook until payment has been received.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 19: Family Day – School Closed
- Feb 20: PAC Meeting @ 7pm
- Feb 21: Computing Competition
- Feb 22: Course Planning Due
- Feb 27 & 28: Math 8/9 Placement Exam 3:30pm
- Feb 28: Collab Day – late start @ 9:30am
- Feb 28: Pascal, Cayley & Fermat Math Contests
- Feb 28: Pink Shirt Day

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY

Parents are strongly encouraged to participate in the survey, from the BC Ministry. The purpose of the survey is to gather information about student's and families' experiences in our schools so that we can better identify what is working well, and how we can as a school system improve the learning experiences for students. All current grade 10 & 12 students completed the survey on Conference Day. It is now available online at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm and is available in 18 different languages. The survey will be available for students and parents to complete until Friday, May 3rd, and will take approximately 30 minutes.

ARRIVING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL

The second bell each morning, and at the end of lunch, are the signal that classes and learning are beginning. At that time, students should be in the classes they are registered for and ready to engage with their learning. For the benefit of student learning and the learning environment in classes, students are expected to be on time for classes each day, unless excused by a parent or guardian.

We have noticed increasing numbers of students arriving late to school each morning. This has an impact on student learning. **We ask that students make concerted efforts to arrive on time so that they are in class by the second bell.** If it is essential that students are driven to school, then we ask that families coordinate their schedules in the morning to allow for an on-time arrival, keeping in mind that the parking lot becomes very busy just before the start of the day and it may take longer to get into the school at that time.

PARENT SESSIONS ON YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

The Ministry of Education and Childcare, in partnership with adolescent clinical psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson, will be hosting free virtual sessions *February 20, 22 or 28 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.* on youth substance use for parents/guardians, caregivers and caring adults. Dr. Watson will provide valuable insights, practical tips, and resources to equip participants with the tools needed to guide their children and youth toward making positive choices when it comes to substance use. See attached poster for more information.

CITY OF RICHMOND – FAMILY DAY WEEKEND

ACTIVITIES

The city is offering 60+ low-cost and free family-friendly events and activities over the Family Day weekend (Feb 16-19). Please share a digital card (available here) through usual school communication channels.