



# THE WILDCAT WAAG

## FAMILY WAAG September 16 – 20, 2024

Monday Sept. 16	Tuesday Sept. 17	Wednesday Sept. 18	Thursday Sept. 19	Friday Sept. 20
ABCD	PLT -ABCD  7pm PAC Meeting	ABCD	PLT-ABCD  3:15pm Grad Kick-Off 5:30pm Gr. 12 Parent Info Night 6:30pm Meet the Teacher Night	ABCD  <b>Pro-D Day</b> (school closed)

We acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the hən'q'əmin'əm' language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live, and upon where the Musqueam people continue their traditions and cultural education. We acknowledge the ancestors, those who have walked before us, and thank them for their stewardship of this beautiful place. We acknowledge the Elders, the knowledge keepers, and counsellors of traditional teachings. We acknowledge children from all parts of the world, all nations. We are inspired by the vibrancy of your youth and we commit to continually striving to make the world we borrow from you a more peaceful, loving and safe place in which to learn, live and love.



### FAMILY AND STUDENT AFFORDABILITY FUND

The provincial government announced a renewal for the Student and Family Affordability Fund. The Fund is to assist families who require financial assistance with school-related costs in the following areas: school and course fees, school supplies and course materials, field trips, school-related extracurricular opportunities and/or clothing and footwear required for sports and school activities.

If you need any assistance, please reach out to Mr. Johnstone ([jjohnstone@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:jjohnstone@sd38.bc.ca)) As always, all requests will be treated with dignity and your privacy will be respected.

### MCMATH ATHLETICS!

Please check the @mcmathathletics on Instagram for up-to-date info regarding tryouts for school sports.

### GR. 12 PARENT INFO NIGHT – September 19

Grade 12 Parents are advised of a special presentation from our Counsellors and Career Information Advisor scheduled at 5:30pm Thursday, September 19 in the Gym. Counsellors will be reviewing a PowerPoint presentation about Graduation Requirements, special Graduation events happening this year, Scholarship applications processes, and University admission deadlines. This will be a very informative session, and we encourage all Grade 12 parents to attend.

### MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT – September 19

Please be reminded of the Meet the Teacher Evening, scheduled for **Thursday, September 19th at 6:30pm**. The event will start at 6:30pm with parents following their teen's Timetable to meet with teachers. *This is not a time to get an assessment update (we are still getting to know your children), this is a time to meet the teacher and put a face to the name.* We hope to see many parents at this event on Thursday. You will be sent a schedule that you can fill in with your teen on Wednesday, September 18th. Please download and complete this form so you know where to find your teen's classes.

### TERRY FOX RUN UPDATE

McMath staff and students participated in Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 13. Donations were collected that will be donated towards cancer research. To date, we have raised \$1452! Donations will be accepted through School Cash Online until September 20. Our goal is to raise \$2000! For more information, go to: <https://terryfox.org/>

### NATIONAL TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

#### ORANGE SHIRT DAY: September 27

Reconciliation and the lasting impacts of residential schools have sparked conversations between parents and children, educators and students around Indigenous issues, histories, and perspective. We encourage staff and students to wear orange on Sept. 27 and to focus on Reconciliation in the days ahead of Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. For more information, go to: <https://orangeshirtday.org/>

### SCHOOL BASED CLUBS

Beginning Monday September 16<sup>th</sup>, application forms for school-based clubs will be available to pick up in the school's main office. Application forms must be completed, and there must be a confirmed volunteer staff sponsor for a club to be considered for approval. Please read all of the information on the application form before completing it. **Application forms must be completed, signed and handed in to the office by 3pm on September 23<sup>rd</sup> to be considered for approval this year.** Applications will be reviewed, and students will be notified of the status of their application. The presidents and staff sponsor(s) of approved clubs will be required to attend an organizational meeting before club activity can begin. The date of that meeting will be announced in the coming days.

### SCHOOL CONSENT FORMS – Please return ASAP

Students received a Medical Form, Reunification Form, Media Consent

### NEW DISTRICT POLICY: STUDENT PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICE

Please find detailed information about the Student Personal Digital Device Guidelines on our school website: <https://mcmath.sd38.bc.ca/news/2024/08/personal-digital-device-guidelines> The Ministry of Education requires ALL districts and schools to have a policy for digital devices. The purpose for this is to make youth safe, improve student mental health, and eliminate constant interruptions from their learning. The policy states that students can use their digital device IF, the teacher asks the students to use their device for a learning activity. Students who do not have device, will be offered a school device for the class. Otherwise, ALL students must keep their device powered off and be in their backpack or their locker. If students do not follow the policy, staff will remind the student, and if they continue to use their device, staff will connect with parents, and possibly the student will not be allowed to have device at school. Furthermore, devices should not be used in changerooms and bathrooms. Students will be able to use their devices at break and at lunch.

*If a caregiver needs to get in touch with their teen during instructional time, feel free to give us a call at the office (604) 718-4050. Students also have access to call home if needed using the office phone.*

### SCHOOL START TIME

As we start this school year, as a school community, we would like to continue to focus on supporting our students' learning and emphasize the importance of punctuality to ensure a successful and productive day for everyone. ***Classes begin promptly at 8:30am Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and at 9:30am Tuesdays and Thursdays.***

*If you are driving your teen to school for pick up or drop off, we recommend avoiding the peak rush times (8:15am to 8:30am and 2:45pm to 3:00pm) as much as possible.*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please make sure that the parent/guardian and student information on file is accurate. If you need to make changes or additions, please complete the form at: <https://shorturl.at/jKqMh>

### HEALTH & SAFETY REMINDER

All members of our school community are reminded to stay home when you are sick and to regularly wash hands.

### STUDENT MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS

If your child has medical considerations that the school needs to be aware of or if there have been any changes/updates to those considerations since last year, please contact the school and provide us with that information as soon as possible. Where appropriate, we also ask that parents provide the school with a copy of any medical documentation to support that information. Thank you for your assistance with this. If you have any questions, please contact the main office.

### EXTERIOR DOORS

Similar to last school year, for safety reasons the exterior doors of the school are all on automatic locking schedules. When the doors are locked, individuals are not able to enter the school through those doors. They do not prevent individuals from leaving the school through those doors at any time. In the mornings and at the end of lunch, the exterior doors at the back of the school and at the ends of B & C wing, will lock shortly after classes are scheduled to begin. Students must arrive on time. If for some reason, they have to be late they are instructed to enter the school through the main door at the front of the school. Students are asked not to knock or bang on locked exterior doors during instructional time to get access to the school. It is very disruptive to classes and the learning taking place within them. Thank you for your assistance with this.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 16: Photo Day  
Sept. 17: PAC Meeting 7pm  
Sept. 18: Langara College Presentation (lunch)  
Sept. 19: Grad Kick Off 3:35pm  
Gr 12 Parent Info Night @ 5:30pm  
Meet the Teacher @ 6:30pm  
Sept. 20: Pro D Day – School Closed  
Sept. 25: Collaboration Day (school starts at 9:30am)

### École Secondaire R.A. McMath Secondary School

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