



# James McKinney Newsletter

News From the Eagle's Nest!

**Ms. Susan Roy** Principal  
**Mr. Harley Rollins** Vice-Principal  
**Mr. Eric Yung** School Assigned Trustee  
**Mrs. B. Khoo and Mrs. D. Groumoutis** PAC Co-Chairs  
**Ms. Kathryn D'Angelo** Area Assistant Superintendent

**Date: January 13, 2017**

Tel: (604) 668-6133 Fax: (604)668-6517  
Early Warning: (604) 668-6691

website: <http://mckinney.sd38.bc.ca>

*Happy New Year!*

## Important Dates Coming Up at McKinney

Jan. 19	P.A.C. Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 25	P.A.C. Hot Lunch Day
Jan. 26	R.A.M. Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 27	SOAR Activity 9:00 a.m.
Feb. 8	P.A.C. Hot Lunch Day
Feb. 8	Dufflebag Theatre 1:30 p.m.
Feb.13	Family Day ( <b>no school in session</b> )
Feb.15	Grade 7 Parent Info. Meeting at Steveston-London Secondary
Feb. 16	Richmond Arts Festival
Feb. 22	P.AC. Hot Lunch Day
Feb. 23	Early Dismissal for Conferences
Feb. 24	Pro D Day ( <b>no school in session</b> )



## Administrators Message

We are back at school and ready to take on a New Year with all that brings! We hope you had an enjoyable winter break.

We've had a busy start to the month with: exciting field trips, FSA exams for grades 4 and 7, and basketball for grade 6s and 7s.

Thank you to our P.A.C. for continuing to organize hot lunch days for us about twice a month! Please go to our school website <http://McKinney.sd38.bc.ca> and click on the Munchalunch link for further information about how to order lunches.

This year Chinese New Year begins on January 27<sup>th</sup> (The Year of the Rooster) and we'd like to wish a Happy New Year to those families who will be celebrating.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your children and McKinney school.

Respectfully,  
S. Roy and H. Rollins

## Basketball at McKinney!

Basketball season is underway at McKinney for grade 6 and 7 students. A big thank you to staff coaches Mr. Rollins, Mrs. Simpson, Ms. Green, and parent volunteer Brigitte Rebiffe for working with our athletes. Parents of basketball players can check the link to the McKinney basketball blog on the McKinney website for more information and team schedules.

## *A Message from the School Board Chair*

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to express sincere thanks to our students, staff and parent community for continuing to ensure that the Richmond School District is one of the highest performing and most respected school districts in the province. Together we have gone through some difficult times, especially as we have had to consider the closure of schools due to declining enrollment. Our school closure process was designed to inform and engage, and we are truly grateful to all of you who came out to our open houses, accessed information on our Let's Talk SD38 website, and attended other public meetings of the Board. We believe that we now have a community that is well informed about the issues facing our school district, in particular the impact of declining enrollment and the need to seismically upgrade our schools, and that is passionate about supporting public education.

We thank you again for your engagement, and ask that you lend your voice to ensure that students in Richmond continue to receive the highest quality education in facilities that are safe, well maintained and appropriate for their learning.

Debbie Tablotney, Chair

Board of Education (Richmond)

## *Foundation Skills Assessments*

Over the next month or so, grade 4 and 7 students in British Columbia will be taking part in the Foundation Skills Assessments. These assessments take place over several sessions and focus on literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy. Some assessments are taken on computer and some are hand written.

Recently, a letter was sent home to parents of grade 4 and 7 students explaining the FSAs. Please feel free to contact either Ms. Roy or Mr. Rollins if you have any questions.

## *Ready, Set, Learn 2017*

A number of events are planned for pre-school aged children at Richmond schools in the weeks to come!

Parents are invited to bring their young children to a free concert with children's entertainer, Will Stroet. There will also be activity stations!

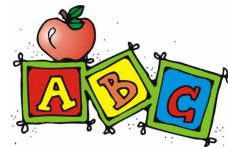
Please see below for dates and locations:

### Morning Events—9:30 -11:00

January 18—Ferris School  
January 25—General Currie School  
February 1—Errington School  
February 8—Tomsett School  
March 1—Thompson School

### Afternoon Events—1:00-2:30

January 18—Kingswood School  
January 25—Cook School  
February 1—Steves School  
February 8—Diefenbaker School  
March 1—Mitchell School



## *P.A.C. and R.A.M. Updates*

There will be a **P.A.C.** Meeting on **Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> in the library at 7:00 p.m.** This meeting is open to all McKinney parents and guardians. We encourage you to attend!

There will be a **R.A.M.** meeting on **Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> in the library at 7:00 p.m.** for all interested parents of Montessori students. This time we will meet at McKinney School in the library. Join us to see where your donations are being used.

## **Open House on Student Reporting**

The curriculum is changing and the way of reporting on student progress is changing too. An Open House is being held to share information about reporting and to gather input and ideas from parents. Please consider attending. Details are below.

Date: February 8, 2017  
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m. –Open House Drop In  
7:00-8:00 p.m.—Brainstorming Session  
Location: Cambie Secondary School  
4151 Jacombs Road

For more information please visit:  
[engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress/](http://engage.gov.bc.ca/yourkidsprogress/)

## **Updating Contact Information**

It is very important that the school have everyone's current email address and phone number. Please remember to inform the school office if you make a change and provide proof of the change (ie. rental agreement, etc.)

## **Notice of Intent to Attend 2017-18 School Year**

At the end of January we will send home a form for parents to complete and return indicating whether their child(ren) will continue to attend McKinney for the next school year. In the early spring we will begin planning for next year and it is important that we try to have an accurate count of students. We ask that the form be completed by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

If your plans for attendance for the next school year change, please let us know in the office.

## **School Transfer Deadlines**

Parents who are interested in applying for a transfer for their child to another Richmond School for the 2017-18 school year may pick up a transfer application form at their catchment school or central registration. This form must be signed by the catchment school or central registration before delivery to the requested school(s).

Transfer applications will be accepted until **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. They are processed on a date and time submitted priority.

For students beginning Kindergarten or who are new to the school district, the deadline for registering students to be guaranteed space in their catchment school is June 16, 2017 provided there is space.

## **Head Lice**

Lice is a common occurrence in school-aged children. Be proactive:

- check your child's head frequently for lice throughout the year, using the wet combing method
- keep long hair tied back
- don't share items that can carry lice from one person to another (e.g. hats, combs, headphones)
- think twice about doing a "selfie" with a friend

*Should your child have lice:*

- notify the teacher or school office
- treat your child by using the wet combing method or choosing a medicated treatment option available from pharmacies

## **Interesting Links:**

[www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca](http://www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca)  
(B.C.'s New Curriculum Website)

[www.sd38.bc.ca](http://www.sd38.bc.ca)  
(Richmond School District #38)

[www.bccpac.bc.ca](http://www.bccpac.bc.ca)  
(B.C. Confederation of PACs)

<http://McKinney.sd38.bc.ca>  
(McKinney's website—please check regularly for updates)