



Ecole Kwayhquitlum Middle School

3280 Flint Street
Port Coquitlam, V3B 4J2
Phone: 604-942-1835
Fax: 604-942-6701
www.sd43.bc.ca/kway

Principal: Mr. A. Graham
Vice-P.: Mrs. C Potter-Smith

December 2011

Mission Statement: To provide a safe, caring community that values and pursues learning, respect, and responsibility.

Énoncé de mission: L'école s'engage à créer un environnement sécurisant permettant de favoriser l'apprentissage, le respect et la responsabilité.

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec 9 Les Corbeaux Skating
Field Trip - 10:45 a.m.

Dec 14 Christmas Concert -
7:00 p.m.

Dec 15 Christmas Concert -
11:00 a.m.

Dec. 16 Early Dismissal 1:30 p.m.

Dec 19 - Jan 2
Schools closed for Winter
Vacation

Jan 3 Schools reopen

Please be sure to check our
calendar on the school website
for further updates to the
events and activities taking
place at Kway!

*'In spite of the six
thousand manuals on child
raising in the bookstores,
child raising is still a dark
continent and no one
really knows
anything. You just need a
lot of love and luck - and,
of course, courage'. ~Bill
Cosby, Fatherhood, 1986*

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community members,

The holiday season is upon us. There is a chill in the air and the students and the staff are ready for a well-deserved break. It is a time to reflect and be grateful for our family and friends and the many benefits we have living in our great country and our wonderful community. The past three months have been very busy and the month of December is an especially busy one. Even with the business of school life, we as staff at Kway always are energized by the positive and enthusiastic nature of our students. At this busy time of year, it can be hard to get your son or daughter to focus on such things as homework and the three R's. Nevertheless, development of their Literacy and Math skills does not have to wait until school re-opens in January. You can keep minds and vocabularies growing during the holiday by trying the following "easy to do" activities:

*Holding a family reading night where family members get to hear and/or share their favourite seasonal stories or poems. Your school or community librarian can help find age-appropriate seasonal materials so that all can share and hear their favourites.

*Get creative with seasonal chores; those pesky items with "Some Assembly Required" can be the start of a great problem-solving challenge, with lots of opportunities for reading, listening, and speaking.

*Shopping trips can create great opportunities to alphabetize (lists), strategize (routes), budget for purchases and categorize (foods, gift items).

*Using travel time as an opportunity: books, puzzles, and word games can turn those car trips and airport waits into valuable learning time.

While these incidental learning activities are easy "to build in" and "to build on", the most important thing for your child will be that their learning is worth the investment of your time. And that, of course, in this season of giving, will be the best gift of all!

We would like to thank all those folks who are donating items for our various fundraising activities during this season. Your generosity is very much appreciated. A big thanks to our leadership students who are undertaking various activities to provide service to our school and the community. All of the donated items are given to the SHARE society and to other charities as a means of serving those in need in the Tri-City area. Thanks to all for reaching out to those in need in our community.

Our Christmas concerts to be held next week will feature the amazing talents of our students. We hope that we will see you all there. Thanks to the many parents who have supported their children by getting them to early morning practices and encouraging them to hone their music playing skills at home.

On behalf of the Kwayhquitlum Middle School Staff, we wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy holiday and wonderful New Year.

I know that you are looking forward to spending some much needed extra family time together.

Mr. Graham
Principal
agraham@sd43.bc.ca

Ms. Potter-Smith
Vice-principal
cpottersmith@sd43.bc.ca

Happenings at Kway!

News from the Tech Ed Shop!

Explorations classes are well into term 2 of the school year. Students involved in Tech Ed successfully passed their safety tests and entered into the world of design. Grade 6 and 7 students have finished their helicopter design and have already begun the process of building a balsa wood airplane. We are focused on flight this year! Early in the new year, we will look for a sunny day to get out and test our planes.

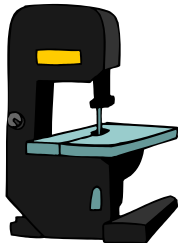


Grade 8 students have embarked on a more complex project merging design and critical thinking skills to create a working vehicle that is powered by the energy stored in an elastic band. The

challenge is to produce the vehicle that can travel the greatest distance using the same power source. They will have to use problem solving to overcome friction, energy release, steering, and other faults to increase the distance that their vehicle can achieve. Still left in the term are major wood projects, electricity (Siren circuit project), and the rocket challenge.

And a repeat Request from our Tech-Ed Department!

Technology Education Needs: Since the Tech Ed program is primarily project based we are always in need of supplies, if you have any of the following and no longer need them, please consider donating them to Kway. The needed items are: **Solid strand, multi-conductor wires, Dark grain hard wood flooring, Old CD's or DVD's, and**



Dimensional lumber. Items can be dropped off at the school office. Any questions can be sent to Greg Skerratt at gskerratt@sd43.bc.ca. THANKS!

PAC Meeting!

Our next PAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 5th starting at 7:00 in our library. Topics up for discussion include budgets, another movie night as well as presentations for our students. See you there!

From Our Green Team!

The Green Leadership Team has been working hard to get the message out this holiday season! It doesn't take much to make a difference, and if everyone does their part, it adds up to a big impact! Here are some holiday tips that our team has put together for Kway and our greater community:

The 12 Days of Green Christmas!

(1) If you don't have a tree already, it's better to buy a real tree than an artificial one. Real trees give off oxygen, and fake ones end up in the trash.

(2) Hang fewer lights and decorate with LED lights that use up to 90% less energy than traditional lights.

(3) Use recycled materials to make original & creative ornaments or cards!

(4) Dress up your home with holiday décor from your backyard. Make a centerpiece out of pinecones, or hang evergreen tree boughs over entranceways.



You can also decorate your tree with edible decorations like popcorn strings or cranberry wreaths.

(5) Create your own Christmas wrapping paper by using big posters, old maps or even decorating a big sheet! Use pieces of paper from out of Comic books, a piece of Artwork, a Scarf or fabric, or even some vintage cookie tins.

(6) Buy recycled or organic clothing items as gifts. Swap clothes with another family instead of buying new. Consign clothes that are still in good condition. And look for fabrics made with organic cotton!

(7) For your holiday dinners, try using non-disposable utensils and dishes to reduce waste. Look for an organic turkey or ham for Christmas dinner.

(8) Bring your own reusable bags when you're doing your holiday shopping. Just 1 reusable bag can save over 700 paper or plastic bags over the span of their lifetime!



(9) Rather than buying products, you can give a thoughtful service, like housecleaning or grocery delivery. You can also give a gift of an experience, like tickets to a movie, a play, or a Giants game.

(10) If you, or someone in your family, receives the gift of electronics, you can take your old ones to be recycled. Things like cell phones, computers, laptops, and computer monitors can all be taken to a recycling depot right in our community. Or, you could also have these items reused by donating them to a charity.

(11) Keep your Christmas cards from last year and cut them down to make your own gift tags!

(12) If each of us does what we can to be more eco-



conscious in our everyday lives, together we will have a positive impact on the earth. So, our last tip is actually a challenge. Hopefully you will take at least one of our tips and use it over the holidays.

Keep posted for more green ideas in the New Year, such as Walk to School Wednesdays!

Christmas in the Pods

Kway will be alive again this year with the sights and sounds of Christmas for our annual pod decorating. While it is a great opportunity to get in that Christmas spirit, the cooperation, teamwork, planning and leadership skills will be evident throughout the building. It is great fun as well!



Newsletters by Email

If you are on our school distribution list, you receive our newsletters and periodic updates by email. If you would like to be included in this, please let us know. The response to having this type of communication has been overwhelmingly positive. One suggestion forwarded to me was that some of us have our email in-boxes configured so that any mass distribution correspondence gets automatically directed to a specific folder (or to the desktop recycle bin). I'm not sure how to correct this "problem" but it might help to know that our subject heading will always contain the name "FROM Kwayhquiltum Middle". Technology is a wonderful thing - just very confusing at times!



Christmas Concert

Our fantastic Kway Christmas concerts will take place on Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 15th at 10:45 a.m. What a great way to liven the Christmas spirit. From our Beginner and Advanced bands through to our Guys and Girls choirs to our Solo singers, the performances will be great. We encourage families to bring a non-perishable food item for our annual Christmas Food donations.

Mr. Kwong, Mr. De Vita

Sensory Room/Skill Development Room

A really big Thank You to the parents who donated items to our sensory/skill development room. We have appreciated all the items that have been donated. Please keep us in mind if you have any of the following items to donate. If possible can you make sure all are in working order and are not missing pieces.

- board games (educational)
- puzzles (age 5-8)
- interactive toys/learning toys (leapfrog)
- early literacy toys/discovery toys
- counting/money toys
- blocks
- marbles/dice
- cards
- lego/k'nex/building toys
- musical toys
- old books (4-8yrs old)
- scrapbooking supplies
- old scrapbook supplies (art supplies)
- electric kettle

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Edwards

Leadership

We are having Crazy Sock Day on December 9th. We are looking for new or gently used sock donations for those families in need. Please send in your donations.

Extreme Weather!!

We keep hearing how this winter is going to be tremendously white and perhaps this may yet prove to be correct! Please be advised as a general expectation that when it snows, schools will remain open. In the case of extreme weather conditions, the Superintendent has the authority to close schools temporarily, when conditions may endanger the health and safety of students. Should such a closure be made before morning classes begin, announcements will be made on most local radio stations, but notably on CKNW (980), CKWX (1130) and CBC (690). If parents believe the local conditions are unsafe, you have the option of keeping your child(ren) at home, or arranging for early dismissal. If you choose to keep your children at home, please remember to contact the school at 604-942-1835.

Thank you.



Athletics

The Fall season is now complete for the Cougar sports teams. We had successful seasons in Cross-Country, Swimming, Field Hockey and Volleyball. Of specific note are the accomplishments of our Field Hockey team which won the District Pool 'B' championship, and our Gr. 8 Girls Volleyball team who were District 'A' champions! Kwayhquitlum consistently has one of the highest numbers of athletes in the district, and all students who participate in a Fall sport should be proud of representing their school.

The Winter season is about to get underway with Wrestling and Basketball. Students should listen to the announcements, and read the E-News to find out when meetings and practices are for these sports. Games for Basketball, and tournaments for Wrestling will begin in the third week of January. New participants are *always* welcome to these sports. Students are encouraged to come out and try something new!

Pep Rally

Kway students showed fantastic school spirit during our first pep rally for this school year! The legendary "Masked Marauder" amazed us all with his volleyball expertise, and all the students had a great time! Kway has more fun events planned for the students to enjoy as we approach Christmas.

Skiing/Snowboarding is here!

Well, another winter is upon us, and the staff and students of the Kwayhquitlum Middle School Ski and Snowboard Club are patiently awaiting the upcoming events. Thursday nights our Cypress Mountain Club will be heading to the slopes where the students get a taste of our local mountains and the skiing and boarding they have to offer. As well we still have a few spots left for our weekend getaway to Sun Peaks if you are interested. Get involved at Kway and have some fun!
Mr. Adrain



Snowboard Club are patiently awaiting the upcoming events. Thursday nights our Cypress Mountain Club will be heading to the slopes where the students get a taste of our local mountains and the skiing and boarding

Hey Christmas Kway!

Santa has dropped off his request list for our little elves. Christmas can be a very difficult time for disadvantaged families. Each team is asked to support a family in a hamper and or toy/gift/donation. Hampers ideally should non perishable food items, fresh vegetables and a turkey perhaps a donation or a gift card?); perishable items are asked to be dropped off on the last day of the hamper collection to ensure freshness. Included below is limited

personal information about the families. Share matches families and schools from different communities to ensure anonymity.

Hampers must be completed and ready to go by December 13th. Thanks in advance for your support!

Team Eagles

A Mother and Father with Children 3 & 8 years old

Please note that this family has allergies to cow milk and peanuts.

Team Orcas

A Mother and Father with Children 2 & 12 years old

Team TWolves

1 - A Mother with Children 7, 9 and 15 years old

2 - A Mother and Father with Children 8 months and 16 years .Family has requested diapers size 3 and formula nestle goodstart 6month-2yrs and baby food items.

Team Bears

A Mother and Father with a 19 year old

Les Corbeaux

A Mother and Father with Children 3, 7, 8 years old

Team Thunderbirds

A Mother and Father with Children 3 & 5 years old

Sporting Equipment

If you have any sporting equipment that you no longer use or need, please consider donating it to our school. The Aboriginal Me 2 We Team is hoping to supply some equipment to the Nitinaht Reserve school on Van Isl., outside of Port Alberni/ Lake Cowichan as they are in need. Any donations are greatly accepted.
Ms. Barnes, Counsellor

A big thanks to our PAC and Specifically, Stacey Plesco, for organizing our **Scholastic Book Fair**. Over \$3000 of books and product was sold giving our library \$1800 to spend on new books to add to our already great collection.

Community Events



SouthSide Family of Schools
Parent Education

Proudly Presents

"New Ministry of Education Directions:
What Can We Expect for Our Children?"

An Evening with

Maureen Dockendorf,

Assistant Superintendent and Ministry
Advisor

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

6:45 - 8:30pm

at Central Elementary School

Cost: \$3/adult or \$5/couple

Free Childminding available with

Advance registration at ssfspe@gmail.com

Evergreen Cultural Centre

Creative Kids!

Ages 7- 11 years

Studio B
Evergreen Cultural Centre

Mon, Jan. 16th – March 5th, 2012 3:30- 5 pm

Come and create, paint, explore the art of Painting, Drawing, Storyboards, Animation Characters and Collage in this fun program lead by Artist and Teacher Judith M. Atkinson. Students will learn from the Masters and will create masterpieces and discover their own artistic genius!

8 Sessions - Materials supplied

Cost: \$98.00

Creative Teens!

Ages 12- 17 years

Studio B
Evergreen Cultural Centre

Mon, Jan. 16th – March 5th, 2012 5:30- 7 pm

Come and create, paint, explore in depth the art of Painting, Drawing, Storyboards, Animation Characters and Collage in this program lead by Artist and Instructor, Judith M. Atkinson. Students will learn from the Masters, create masterpieces & discover their own artistic genius plus build their portfolio of work for future studies.

8 Sessions - Materials supplied

Cost: \$98.00

Continuing to Paint

Adults

Studio B
Evergreen Cultural Centre

Mon. Jan. 16th – March 5th, 2012 7:30– 9.30 pm

This inspiring 3 hour program lead by Artist and Instructor Judith M. Atkinson is designed for painters of all levels a study course on contemporary painting practices and principles using a variety of media of your choice, oil or acrylic or watercolour. The course will cover colour theory, composition, skill building and technique along with masterwork painting references. Dive and enrich your creative talents.

8 Sessions

Cost: \$155.00

Register via email: judithm_atkinson@shaw.ca

In person: Evergreen Cultural Centre,

1205 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam,

Dec.9th 2:30 pm- 5pm, & Jan. 4th 2-5pm

Instructor Biography:

Judith M. Atkinson is a professional Artist with an extensive exhibition record and studio practice. She has over 30 years experience working in the community and as a Fine Art Instructor with

various School Districts, Learning Through the Arts, The Shadbolt Centre for the Arts and Langara College. She is an Honours graduate of Emily Carr University of Art & Design, and studied at the Banff School of Fine Arts, Capilano College, Commercial Animation and with ECUAD in Florence, Italy.

Website : judithmatkinson.com

Student Comments:

“ Judith is an excellent teacher ! ” ~ Gerry

“ She renewed my love of painting ! ” Dina

“ My child loved this class ! ” ~ Lani

Register via email: judithm_atkinson@shaw.ca

In person:

Evergreen Cultural Centre,

1205 Pinetree Way

Coquitlam, BC V3B 7Y3

Dec. 9th 2:30 pm - 5pm, & Jan. 4th

2-5pm

Register early to assure your space in these creative programs!

Upcoming Workshops with Kenten Bowick!

GRAPHIC NOVEL WORKSHOP

11-17 years

Dive into the world of comic book making. Whether your interest is Japanese manga, humour comics or superheroes, you'll learn to design your own cast of characters, plot and lay out scenes across eye-catching pages, and share your story in an inventive and engaging way.

Teacher: Kenten Bowick

9140 • W • Nov 30 - Dec 7 • 6:15 - 8:45 PM • \$43.50

Fleur Sweetman

Program Coordinator, Music and Visual Arts

Place des Arts | www.placedesarts.ca

604.664.1636 ext. 38 | fsweetman@placedesarts.ca

Amateur Softball Port Moody

Do you want to be involved in a fun activity where you will make life-long friends and have a great time?

Well, you should consider registering for girls' softball for the months of April – June!

Free skills clinics are happening now at Glenayre Elementary School gym – Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Registration dates: January 14 & 21, 2012 from

2:30 – 5:00 p.m. at the Port Moody Social Rec Centre

Multipurpose Room 2



SouthSide Family of Schools
Parent Education

Is proud to present...

Nurturing the Roots of Natural

Self-Esteem in Children

Featuring: Dr. Deborah

MacNamara, Ph.D., *a Counselor and Educator in private practice with over 15 years experience working with children, adolescents, and adults.*

- Learn about three distinct kinds of self-esteem and how self-worth is based on social approval;
- How self-esteem rooted in healthy development can withstand the ravages of adversity;
- How this type of intrinsic self-worth can be nurtured in children based on the Neufeld paradigm.

**Wednesday, January 18, 2012 from
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

Doors will open at 6:45 p.m.

Citadel Middle School (in the Cafeteria)

1265 Citadel Dr., Port Coquitlam

\$5 per couple/\$3 per single

• **FREE Childminding available**

- Advance registration required
- Light refreshments provided

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**Nurturing Self-Esteem in Children, Jan. 18,
2012 Citadel Middle School 7:00-
8:30pm**

PARENTS' NAME(S):

STUDENT'S NAME:

TEACHER: _____

DIVISION: _____

Number attending: _____ Number and age of
children requiring minding: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-
MAIL (if any): _____

**Please return this registration to your school
office by Wed., Jan. 11, 2012**

**Cheques can be made payable to 'SFSPE' or
'Southside Family of Schools Parent
Education'.**

Alternatively, e-mail us at ssfspe@gmail.com to
register and bring payment to presentation.

2893 Seaforth Army Cadets

2893 Seaforth Army Cadets meet at the legion in Port Coquitlam Monday and Thursday nights from 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

We also have band practice for bagpipes and drums on Tuesday nights at 6:30. Instruments and lessons are free of charge.

We are open to all youth ages 12-19. There is no membership fee. Uniforms are provided free of charge.

We offer a chance for youth to have free activities, learn about the Cadet Program, and earn up to 12 high school credits.

We also offer summer camp options.

For more information, come and check us out any Monday or Thursday night at 6:30. See you there.

