



L'ÉCOLE

Kwayhquitlum

MIDDLE

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, September 6th

Welcome Back!

Wednesday, September 7th

First full day of classes!

Thursday, September 8th

Picture Day!

Friday, September 9th

Explorations begin

Music Enrichment meeting at 8:00 a.m. for band and choir

Monday, September 10th

Thanksgiving Holiday

Wednesday, September 15th

Open House at Kway –7:00 p.m. in our gym (tentative)

Wednesday, September 21st

Eagles to Camp Howdy

Thursday, September 22nd

Music Enrichment Parent Evening
6:30 pm in the MPX

Friday, September 23rd

Pro-D Day

Monday, September 26st

Fine Arts Performance – P.M.

Friday, September 30th

Terry Fox Run in the afternoon

Thursday Oct 7th

Grade six hep B shots

Wed/Thurs, October 19th / 20th

-parent/teacher conferences
1:35 – Early Dismissal
(Tentative)

Friday, October 21st

Pro-D Day

The school calendar is constantly being updated as adjustments are made and new events are planned. Each newsletter will include the most recent information to assist you in planning.

Information and newsletters are also available on our website.

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Port Coquitlam, BC
V3B 4J2

September 7, 2011

Ph: 604-942-1835
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<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/Kwayhquitlum/Pages/default.aspx>

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Happy September! We hope you all had an enjoyable, relaxing summer and are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for the 2010/11 school year. It promises to be action-packed and full of opportunities for growth in all areas of development - academics, fine arts, athletics, leadership, clubs - middle school is a high energy, vibrant place to work and learn!

A special welcome goes out to all our new families. Please feel free to drop by the office any time for a visit. We truly believe that education is a three-way partnership between the student, the school, and the home and it is by working closely together that we feel we can set the best path for success for your children. Mrs. Potter-Smith and I are also easily available by phone or email. We are looking forward to working with you and your children. To our returning families, welcome back and we hope you continue to make Kway the special place it is!

Our regular newsletter is distributed mostly every month so please be sure to watch for this as it provides you with information about what life is like at Kwayhquitlum Middle. Newsletters are sent out electronically for those who have access to email and copies are available at the office. Only this initial edition is sent home to the entire school as a paper copy. We also have a very handy website that promises to provide you with a wealth of information, including things like supply lists, club and team info, and upcoming dates of note. You can check it out at:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/kwayhquitlum/Pages/default.aspx> As well, please be sure to read through your child's Kway agenda/planner during the first week of school. It contains a significant amount of information that you should find useful and will help you become more familiar with what middle school, and more particularly, Kwayhquitlum Middle School, is all about. This package contains a number of items that we would like to have returned to the school. It would be terrific if these came back to us during the first few days - thank you for your help!

See you soon!

Mr. A. Graham
Principal
agraham@sd43.bc.ca

Mrs. C. Potter-Smith
Vice-Principal
cpottersmith@sd43.bc.ca

Documents included in this package:

Student Verification form (double-sided white sheet)

The student verification form is a document that displays the demographic information we have for your child. This is generated through a program we use throughout the province called BCESIS. Many of the fields available for this form are not necessarily applicable to middle school or useful for our purposes at this time but have to be included and therefore have default values attached. For example, to run this report, a field detailing "Permission to walk home" is included and the default value is "no". While we are not too concerned about changes to fields such as this, we do want to ensure that we have the most accurate data for home addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, names, and contact information, including two (non-parent) emergency contacts. Please be sure to check this document carefully, make changes and additions as needed and have it returned to the school by the end of this week. Please note that even if no changes are needed, this form must be signed and returned to our office.

Emergency Preparedness Release Information

This is a golden-rod coloured sheet that is attached to the student verification form (as above). As you read through this handout, I'm sure the question, "Why do I need to supply the same information twice" comes to mind immediately. This is because the emergency preparedness sheet requires information that cannot be provided through BCESIS such as "Out of Province Contacts" and a section for release of students if we were ever to experience a major "event". All of these sheets are stored in a secure location so that they can be readily accessed if we ever had to complete an emergency release of students. Although "Next of Kin" signatures are required, sometimes these are difficult to get in a timely manner. Please note that this requirement is more about ensuring that those listed are aware that they have been included. If it will help to get the form returned sooner, please feel free to notify these contacts by phone and note this accordingly on the form ☺



Policies and Procedures Forms

As per district policy, every parent and student must be aware of the guidelines that ensure our schools are safe and orderly at all times. This includes school specific information such as our code of conduct as well as district safety policies. All of this information can be found in your child's Kway Agenda. On this handout, we also have included requests for permission for publication of photographs (for example if we have a good news item for the local paper) and indication of understanding of the responsibility for lost or damaged textbooks. Please note that the Release of information paragraph applies to the information gathered from the other enclosed data forms and is included as a requirement under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. Information about your child would only be given to another agency in an extreme emergency situation (e.g. emergency contacts or a care card number if your child was being transported to a hospital). This form is on the reverse side of the Emergency Prep (golden-rod colour).



Other Information!

Future Changes

Please be sure to inform the school office if any changes of home or cellular telephone numbers occur during the school year as we use these numbers regularly for emergencies and for attendance purposes.



A 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, empty film canisters.** Items can be dropped off at the school office or call to arrange for us to pick it up. Any questions can be sent to Greg Skerratt at gskerratt@sd43.bc.ca. THANKS!

Drivers and Volunteers

Did you know that three years ago the Coquitlam Board of Education approved two administrative procedures that significantly affected our ability to make use of parent drivers and volunteers at the "last minute"? Any person transporting students is now required to submit a Driver's Abstract obtained through ICBC. This is actually a very simple process and only takes a few minutes to complete. This document needs to be renewed annually.



The second part of this significant change is the requirement for any adult who is working with a student in an unsupervised situation (including driving to and from events) to complete a Criminal Record Check. This process is a bit more involved and will necessitate you visiting our local RCMP detachment or the Community Policing Station. This document needs to be renewed every three to five years.

The final piece of the puzzle is the completion of two required school district forms: School Volunteer Application and School Volunteer Code of Conduct". These need to be renewed at each school your child attends.

While this seems like an onerous task, it actually is rather simple and puts into place more measures to ensure the safety of all of our students.

The good news in all of this is that only the driver's abstract needs to be renewed annually. If there is a possibility that you may be working with or driving Kwayhquitlum Middle students, please be sure to pick up a package (volunteer package) at the office or at our Open House on September 15th. The forms are also soon be available on our website. Any questions or concerns, please be sure to contact Mr. Cass or Mrs. Potter-Smith.

Student Activity Fees

A \$35 Student Activity Fee is payable by each student. Activity fees support school-wide activities that are not necessarily directly related to curriculum and ones that are available for all students. This includes special event celebrations, cultural presentations, and team events. Included in this fee is also the cost of a planner/agenda. Student activity fees are common to all middle schools and are approved by our Board of Education. Please make cheques payable to Kwayhquitlum Middle School and forward payment to your student's core teacher starting Thursday, September 9th. If you are sending cash, please ensure that it is in a sealed envelope marked clearly with your child's name.

Activity fee for 2010-2011: \$35.00

School Yearbooks

Purchase of a school yearbook is an option for Kway students. A yearbook highlights the major events of the year and includes photographs of individuals, clubs and teams. The cost is \$40 and they are **pre-ordered** until the end of September and are offered again during the month of January. Yearbook engraving is also available for a \$5 fee. Please note that the Student Activity Fee should be paid before purchase of a yearbook. Yearbooks will not be distributed to students with outstanding fees for lost/damaged textbooks or library books. Although we always order a few "extras", if yearbooks are not pre-ordered, we cannot guarantee that one can be purchased in June.



Athletic Fees

In keeping with the other middle schools in our district, this year there is also an **Athletic Fee of \$15.00**. This is a one-time fee for students participating in our extracurricular athletic activities. Students may join as many activities as they like and are only billed one fee of \$15 for the school year. The athletic fee is to help offset the costs associated with referees, tournaments, team jerseys, maintaining equipment, Middle School Association fees, engraving and some special events. During the season, participants are provided with team jerseys, use of equipment, coaching, entry in district tournaments, gym or playing field time, etc. In comparison to the fees for joining community sports, this is an excellent opportunity for students at a very low cost. Our Extracurricular Athletic Program is run solely on a voluntary basis by our staff. Activities offered to students include: volleyball, swimming, badminton, basketball, track and field, wrestling, rugby, x-country running, swimming, etc.

Please Return As Soon As Possible:

- Student Information Verification Form
- Emergency Release Form
- Policy and Procedures sign-off
- Cheque for Student Fees, Athletic Fees and Yearbook if ordering

Triathlon for Middle Schools!

Once again this year, Kwayquitlum has been invited to participate in Scott Creek's annual triathlon on Friday, September 30th. Students have the option of being a member of a relay team or completing all three events on their own. More information will be sent home to interested students this week.

Kway PAC

Our first PAC meeting of the year will be held this Thursday, September 8th starting at 7:00 in our library. It would be terrific to have everyone come out and see what Kway is about and how parents make such a positive difference to our school! As well, please see our accompanying letter regarding fund raising. Your support is much appreciated!

Late? Absent?

If your child is going to be late or absent from school for any reason (e.g. arriving late from a doctor/dentist appointment) or will need an early dismissal on a particular day, please inform the school office in advance either by telephone, email or through a written note. This information is entered into our computer system and dispersed to all staff. If no phone call or note is received, we will be calling you at home or work for information regarding the absence. Unless you advise us that your son or daughter will be gone for more than one day due to illness, vacation, etc., the school will call each morning your child is missing from class.



Smile for the Camera!

MJM Studios will be at Kway to photograph our students on Thursday, September 8th

- Each child will have two photographs taken on picture day. Approximately 7-10 days later, proofs of each pose will be sent home for viewing with an order form
- Parents may select a pose or poses of our items, special products, and combos offered on the order form. Enclose payment, and return photo order to the school before the due date, which is indicated on the order form.
- Orders handed in after the due date are subject to a \$10.00 individual order fee and are not guaranteed for Christmas
- No Worries! The photos are 100% satisfaction guaranteed. We will remake, retake or refund your photographs if you are unsatisfied.



If you have any questions regarding your child's photos, please contact their office at 604-299-8900 or 1-877-MJM-8989.

A Free Research Tool

Kwayhquitlum students and staff have access to over 30 e-resources that the district subscribes to on their behalf. These resources are accessible via the [district Student Resources page](#)
<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/RESOURCES/STUDENTRESOURCES/Pages/default.aspx>
(all of the resources from K through 12).

When students and staff are not at school, a user name and password may be needed:

- Encyclopedia of B.C., EBSCO (Kids Search, Professional Development Collection, Academic Search Premier etc.), World Book: kway / database
- Passport to the Internet: bcstudent / besafeonline

Three of the resources on the [district Student Resources page](#) require different login information from off-site locations:

- Global Issues in Context, Canadian Periodical Index, Gale Virtual Reference Center: [no user name] / student

MEDICAL CONCERNS

- If your child has any medical concerns that require precautionary treatment or medication at school, you must fill out a **Medical Alert Form**. Please ask for one of these from the office or download from our website and have it completed, signed and returned to the school immediately.
- If your child needs to have medication administered during school hours, please bring the medication to the office and we will have you fill out a "**Request for Administration of Medication**" form. We keep all medication in a locked cupboard. Medication will be administered by school personnel to a student at school only upon completion and receipt of this form signed by parent or legal guardian.
- All other medical issues will be recorded through the completed Emergency Release Form attached.

Documentation

Please note the new regulations that are required for student funding eligibility on our website <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/Kwayhquitlum/Pages/default.aspx>. We thank you for your cooperation in getting copies of these documents to the school.

Community News:

CPVPA Hog Wild for Reading! (A Motorcycle and Car Ride for Literacy)

What: Literacy Motorcycle Ride or Car Rally" to promote reading and to support the purchase of new books for school libraries. Donations of \$25 or more gets a tax receipt and a chance to win a \$1000 vacation package at Harrison Hot Springs. Cheques are made out to SD43/HogWild and dropped off at the school to the attention of Andrew Graham or on the day of the event.

Where: Meet at Boulevard Casino in Coquitlam and ride to Harrison then through Langley finishing at Barnes Harley Davidson!

When: Sunday, September 18, 2011 starting at 8:30 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts donated by Tim Horton's and leave at approximately 9:30 a.m.



Upcoming Events at Place des Arts
1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam | 604.664.1636

Place des Arts Family Open House
Saturday September 10, 2 to 4PM
Admission: Free!

Discover the world of art at Place des Arts annual Family Open House. Enjoy fun arts & crafts activities, take a tour of the centre, participate in hands-on teacher demos, win fabulous door prizes and get a \$10 discount on class registration during the event. Programmers will be available to answer questions.

Family Day at PdA: A Canada Culture Days Event
Sunday, October 2, 1:30 - 3:30PM
Admission: FREE!

Gather up the family and celebrate Canada Culture Days at Place des Arts. View exhibitions and hear exhibiting artists discuss their inspiration and process; discover the talents of Place des Arts' teachers and staff in the annual *Art Feats* exhibition; then participate in drop-in style visual and performing arts workshops designed for all ages! Yummy treats will be available in the Van Gogh Café. Don't be intimidated by art, get engaged in it!

Place des Arts Fall Session Classes

Place des Arts has many great fall session classes geared towards middle school youth in **music** (guitar, fiddle, taiko drumming, drum set, singing fundamentals), **theatre arts** (Drama Club, Mask & Physical Theatre, Instant Theatre, Circus Arts, Speech Arts, Next Stage), **visual art** (drawing & painting, cartooning, animation, mixed-media, fibre fun, pottery wheel throwing) and **creative writing**. Registration is now open and may be done by phone at 604.664.1636, in person at Place des Arts, 1120 Brunette Ave., Coquitlam or online at www.placedesarts.ca where you may also view the full 2011/12 program guide.

Class highlights for youth

Mask & Physical Theatre Class 10-13 & 14-17 years
Saturdays, Sept 24 - Dec 10

Curious about Commedia Dell'Arte or dazzled by Cirque du Soleil? Training in masks and physical theatre is fundamental to any acting program and provides actors with powerful tools for imagination and creative thinking. Create magical environments, explore movement and connect with the present moment through mask work. Each session builds upon the last, but new students are welcome to begin in the fall, winter or spring session. Teacher: Emilie LeClerc.

Drama Club 11-13 years
Wednesdays, Sept 21 - Dec 7

Join the Drama Club! This class takes a multidisciplinary approach to acting - without losing the fun! Read scenes, write scenes, create characters and even get ready for your close up with on-camera audition training. Don't dream it - be it! Teacher: James O'Shea. **This class takes place at the Evergreen Cultural Centre; register at Place des Arts.**

Next Stage* 13-17 years
Wednesdays & Saturdays, Sept 21 - Jun 23

Were you born to perform? *Next Stage* is a new theatre program with an emphasis on live performance. Train using elements of movement, improvisation and voice. Be an integral part of a team of young actors committed

to the production of an exciting published script. A performance of the play in our black-box theatre rounds out the season. Teachers: James O'Shea and Emilie LeClerc.

***This class runs twice a week: Wed at Evergreen Cultural Centre & Saturday at Place des Arts.**

Fantasy Writing for Teens 13-19 years

Mondays, Sept 19 - Dec 5

Magic, shape shifters, wizards or vampires - the fantasy genre is as popular as ever. Learn how to write believable characters with plots that are fresh and interesting. Explore mythologies and learn how to seek out who publishes what you write. Teacher: James McCann

Fiber Arts Sampler Workshop 12-17 years

Mondays, Sept. 19 - Oct 24 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Learn about fibres and their uses while creating beautiful handmade crafts. You will explore a variety of techniques such as spinning and dyeing, weaving on a table loom, felting, and more. Returning students will be offered new challenges. Teacher: Catherine Dumaine.