

MOODY NEWSLETTER

On the web at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/moodymiddle>

MOODY MIDDLE SCHOOL
3115 St. Johns Street
Port Moody, B.C. V3H 2C6
Phone: 604-461-7384
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September 15, 2011
Volume #1 - Newsletter

Principal: Nancy Bennett
Vice-Principal: Ceri Watkins

Principally Speaking

WELCOME TO MIDDLE SCHOOL – 2011/2012 at Moody Middle School! Welcome to another year of learning and growing at Moody Middle School. We are counting on this year being a memorable one in your son/daughter's life, full of positive connections, deep learning, and opportunities to be involved in the many, many activities that are part of the busy middle school years. Whether your child is a new grade six student, a student recently arrived to Canada or a seasoned grade eight, they are a vital part of our school community with important contributions to make to this 2011/2012 school year.

As the incoming principal of Moody Middle, I have been busy getting to know everyone at Moody. Moody Middle enrolls a student population of approximately 770 students, supported by a teaching and support staff of 70. That represents a lot of youthful energy in one location, and a great group of dedicated, caring hardworking staff. Certainly my early impressions of Moody students and staff couldn't be more positive! Moody Middle enjoys a fine reputation as a middle school responsive to the nature and needs of young adolescents, and I couldn't be more pleased to be contributing to the leadership of this school.

Effective home/school communication is always important, but especially so at middle school when students are so busy making sense of their world, while growing so fast. Moody Middle is an energized place of activities, clubs, sports, and teams, so there often is a lot to remember for active, growing brains. We encourage all families to bookmark our website <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/moodymiddle> and to check it regularly. Newsletters are emailed home once a month. Please take the time to read these and discuss relevant information with your son/daughter, and please make sure we have your correct email at all times. As well, we will sometimes use our autodialer system to call all our families with reminders. From your end, please call us or email teachers, Mr. Watkins or myself at any time with questions or concerns. Parent participation at middle school, as your children mature and look for independence, does look different, but staying informed and involved in your child's school and education is a wonderful gift that you give to them.

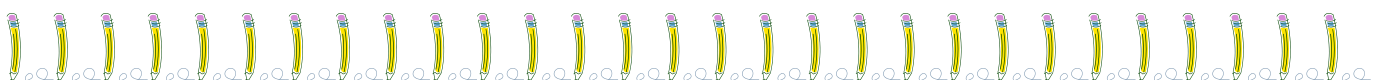
As we begin this school year, teachers have returned under Phase 1 job action. During this phase, teachers will continue to carry out their normal classroom duties, including delivery of the BC curriculum. Teachers will not be required (under the Labour Relations Essential Services Act) to participate on any administration or school district organized meetings; to supervise students before and after school and Nutrition Break; prepare or distribute report cards; or conduct administratively organized parent/teacher interviews. During this time of job action, administrative (Ms. Bennett and Mr. Watkins) and management personnel (from the District office) will provide student supervision outside of class time and, especially, at bus loading time. The safety of our students always remains a top priority. CUPE support staff will be performing their duties as usual. Please see our calendar on our website for any changes to scheduled events during job action.

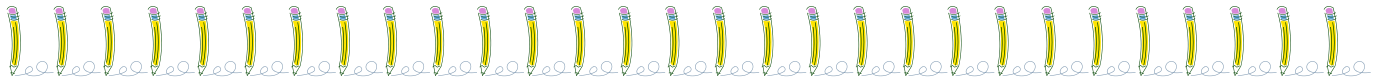
We are looking forward to a productive year of learning, adventure and fun with your children. The staff of Moody Middle is to be commended for the full range of athletics and activities that they volunteer to organize and coach, and the countless hours they spend guiding your children through the transformative middle years. We invite parents to join us as partners in creating conditions for young adolescents to learn and thrive.

Kind regards,

Ms. Nancy Bennett
Principal
nlbennett@sd43.bc.ca

Mr. Ceri Watkins
Vice Principal
cwatkins@sd43.bc.ca





WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

It is our pleasure to welcome the following staff members to Moody Middle this year, for a complete staff list please see the staff directory on the school website.

Mr. Chambers		Div 14
Mr. Kiteley		Div 20
Ms. A. Armstrong	T/Th	Div 24
Mr. Kennedy		Div 25
Ms. Reichert		Music
Mr. McConville		Computers
Mr. Darnell	T/Th	Tech Ed
Ms. Hurtubise		SEA
Ms. Donnelly		SEA
Mrs. Edgecombe	9-1	Attendance Secretary
Mr. Lal		Afternoon caretaker
Ms. Lundquister		Noon Hour

IMPORTANT DATE CHANGES

Please note the following three date changes:

- 1) As a staff we have decided to move the proposed School Based Non-Instructional Day from Sept. 22nd to April (date TBA). **Sept. 22nd will be a regular school day. Friday, Sept. 23rd will continue as a scheduled District Non-Instructional Day.**
- 2) The Parent Orientation scheduled for **Sept. 28th** at 7:00 pm. has been cancelled. Parents are welcome to contact their child's teacher directly to set up their own teacher meeting.
- 3) The February District Non-Instructional Day is Feb. 17th. The date was printed incorrectly. **There will be no classes on February 17th.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Students arriving to school late are required to come to the office to check in. Parents are asked to either e-mail the office moodymiddlesecretary@sd43.bc.ca or call the school, 604-461-7384, to report their child's absence or to excuse them if they are going to be late. The school does have an answering machine so phone calls can be made any time of the day or night.

It is imperative that a parent accompany their child to the office for lunch time/early dismissals. If the parent is unable to we ask that a note be provided to excuse your child to leave with an alternate adult. Please remember that Moody Middle is a closed campus.

REGISTRATION PACKAGES

To guarantee that our records are up-to-date, data verification forms and emergency release forms were sent home with students last week. Please ensure that these forms are reviewed/completed and returned to Moody Middle immediately. If you have changed your address, or are moving during the year, please supply our office with

two pieces of proof of address eg. Driver's License, Home Purchase Agreement, Rental Agreement, Utility Bill. If you are interested in driving for fieldtrips and/or volunteering in any capacity this year please complete the on-line eForm on our school website <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/moodymiddle>. Drivers Certification for Insurance forms and Drivers Abstracts are to be completed on a yearly basis, Volunteer Application forms need to be completed only one time per duration at Moody Middle. Criminal Record Checks are required to be completed every 5 years, a letter from the Moody Middle needs to accompany each request to the RCMP/Port Moody Attachment. These letters are available at the office. If you are unsure of the forms that you need to complete, please contact Mrs. Edgecombe in the office.

Reminder – Activity fees of \$35.00 are now due, please return the envelope sent home with the registration package, along with cheque made out to Moody Middle, or exact cash, to the school at your earliest convenience.

eForms

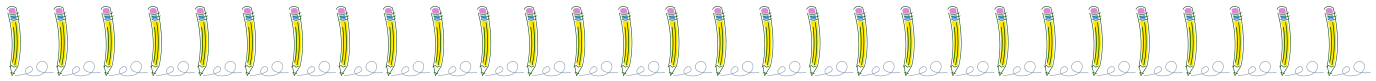
Parents, please complete the eForms on our school website. To find the forms go to: Moody Middle website <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/moodymiddle> and click on the button "Parent eForms". We require the policy form, other forms are optional. If you child has a medical concern that the school should be aware of, please complete the on-line Medical Alert form.



GO-CARDS

This year Go-Cards are colour coded to easily identify what grade each student is in. Grade 8s have a red background, Grade 7s have a white/blue background and Grade 6s have an orange sunburst background. If you ride a bus route that has an early and a late bus, #408 Upper Heritage, #427 Lower Heritage or #405/426 Seaview/College Park the Grade 8s must ride the early bus in the morning around 7:30 and they get to ride the early bus home at 3:10. The Grade 6s must ride the late morning bus around 8:10 and catch the late 3:35 bus home. On these routes after school Grade 6s and 7s need to line up in two orderly standby lines for the 3:10 bus. Once the Grade 8s have filled the seats on the early bus the Grade 7s from the standby line up will load the bus, if there is room the Grade 6's are loaded last. Unless you have special permission from Mr. Watkins there should not be any Grade 8s riding the late bus. Bus drivers will be checking Go-Cards once the Go-Cards have arrived and are distributed. Any questions, contact Mr. Watkins.





GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY



The Moody Middle Girls Field Hockey team will be coached by Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Hinds and a former Moody student, Rylee Blaxland. The season is mid September to the first week of November. All practices are held at Moody on the grass field after school on Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:15-4:15pm. The Coquitlam Middle School Field Hockey league coordinator has not announced a schedule yet – games are played on turf at Town Centre and Heritage Woods High School. Moody has a long tradition of field hockey and has won several District Championship titles. Last season, we lost in the final and finished 2nd overall. The team is open to all grade 6, 7 and 8 girls. This is a time to try out a new sport if you've never played! Most grade 6's are new as well as several grade 7's and 8's so please sign-up and come out to the first practice to check it out! Please listen to announcements for the next sign-up and first practice or see Mrs. Murray, kemurray@sd43.bc.ca.

#401 BELCARRA/IOCO BUS ROUTE CHANGE

Due to the current construction in the area the school bus will not be able to safely access the following two stops: **Bedwell Bay Rd/Whiskey Cove Lane** and **Bedwell Bay Rd/Salish Rd.**



The AM Activity Bus will begin its run at 7:05 at the transit hut next to Belcarra Park. The regular morning bus pick-up will start at 8:00 at the transit hut next to Belcarra Park. The afternoon drop off will be around 3:37 at the transit hut next to Belcarra Park. These changes will take place immediately and continue until further notice.

ELECTRONIC POLICY / EXPENSIVE ITEMS

The use of electronic devices at school is becoming more common as the use of technology and its infrastructure become more affordable. However, while it may be educationally sound to use these tools to enhance the learning environment, these items sometimes get broken, lost or stolen. Students who wish to bring these items to school need to recognize that no staff member will spend time looking for or dealing with issues arising from the loss of one of these devices. It is the sole responsibility of the student to ensure that these devices are stored, secured and utilized properly. These devices are only to be brought to class with the permission of teachers, they are otherwise to remain in lockers during class time.

MOODY MIDDLE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The aim of Physical Education (P.E.) is to provide opportunities for all students to develop knowledge, movement skills, and positive attitudes and behaviours that will contribute to a healthy, active lifestyle.

All students at Moody Middle get P.E. three times a week. P.E. strip is required for all classes. Depending on their unit, students will be outside, so they should come prepared for all weather conditions. In addition, fitness runs take place every second Friday throughout the year so on wet, cold days students are encouraged to dress in layers and bring an extra pair of socks.



The students have brought home a PE safety form. Please ensure you have read the program package, completed the safety form, and returned it to their homeroom teachers stressing any medical concerns that would affect their ability to participate fully in PE. If the concern is serious, please ensure a medical alert form has been completed. The program package can be found on Mr. Abdulla's PE Website: <http://teachers.sd43.bc.ca/fabdulla>.

We are looking forward to a great year!

TERRY FOX RUN

Moody Middle is gearing up once again for its annual Terry Fox Run. For the past number of years we have been the top public school in the province in fundraising for this cause. Last year we raised close to \$36,000.00! Our goal this year is to continue our strong tradition of supporting Terry Fox Fundraising!! With your help we can achieve that goal. We will be holding an assembly on Monday, September, 26 at 9:00 a.m. featuring Terry's brother, Daryl Fox. Our run will be held on Friday, September 30th at 9:00 a.m. Pledge sheets will be sent home on Friday, Sept. 16th and need to be returned by Friday, September 30th.

Let's keep up our fantastic tradition of caring and giving - Go Mavericks!

ATHLETICS

Moody Middle is gearing up once again for its 'Fall' Sports. Signups have been held for volleyball, field hockey, swimming and cross country, practices have begun for most of the teams, with league play beginning soon. A practice schedule will be posted on the school website. A special thank you for those teachers who have stepped forward to coach our teams:

Cross Country - Mrs. Zubick, Mrs. Ono, Mr. Fong
Field Hockey - Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Hinds
Swimming – Mrs. Lammie

Gr. 6 Volleyball – Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Coupe

Gr. 7 Girls Volleyball – Mr. Sousa, Mr. Chambers

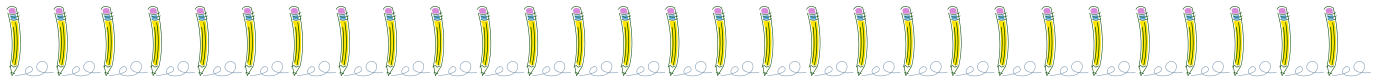
Gr. 7 Boys Volleyball - Mr. Cupit, Mr. Manners

Gr. 8 Girls Volleyball – Mrs. Best, Ms. Bourbonnais

Gr. 8 Boys Volleyball - Mr. Abello

Good luck to our Moody Maverick athletes!





COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Welcome back students, parents and guardians to another year at Moody Middle! The start of the year can bring with it excitement and anxiety as students experience changes at school. Usually, this anxiety subsides after a couple of weeks once routines are established and students start to feel more comfortable with new teachers and classmates. If students are still feeling anxious by the end of the month, it is good to perhaps talk with a counsellor at school. This year, we have two counsellors at Moody. Ms. Jones, who has been the counsellor here for the past couple of years, will be working four days a week. She is off on Wednesdays. We also have a new counsellor with us, but she is not new to the school! Ms. Armstrong, will be at Moody Wednesdays and Thursdays and will be the primary counsellor for Tangerine POD. We also have our full time youth worker, Christine McLellan, who has been a Moody for over six years.

We have begun classroom visits this week informing students about who we are and what we do. We explain to students that they can come see us for a variety of reasons: family or friend difficulties, stress at school, bullying, or peer pressure. We can be an advocate for them if they are having difficulty with an adult in the building. Please feel free to call us if you have any concerns about your child. We can discreetly meet with them and try to help them navigate through their adolescent years.

Ms. Jones, Ms. Armstrong and Christine McLellan

PAC NEWS

The PAC executive for 2011-12 would like to welcome all returning and new students and parents to Moody Middle School. Our executive this year is composed of Sherri Giovinazzo-Mossop (co-chair and volunteer co-ordinator), Tammy McCurry (co-chair and DPAC representative), Kathy Roberts (treasurer), and Nicola Iten (secretary). We are always looking for parent volunteers and we have some vacancies yet to fill. If you are interested in supporting PAC this year as a volunteer please contact either Tammy at tammymccurry@yahoo.com or Sherri at giovinaz@telus.net for more information.

Our first fundraiser this year will be QSP magazine subscriptions. Last year, our QSP fundraiser was very well supported and enabled the PAC to subsidize enhanced programming at Moody Middle School. We hope to have an equally successful year this year. At this time we have, three other fundraisers planned: a poinsettia sale prior to winter break, a frozen foods sale (Dessertco and Neufeld Meats) also prior to winter break and again in advance of summer break, and a spring plant sale. We look forward to the support of our parent community throughout the year.

We have two ongoing fundraising opportunities as well: a school account (#25) with the Return-it Depot located at

2554 Barnet Highway in Coquitlam; and reloadable gift cards for purchases at any IGA Canada location. The Return-it Depot will accept miscellaneous recyclable items for a cash credit to our school (for more information visit www.return-it.ca). The gift cards can be obtained free of charge by contacting Sherri Giovinazzo at the email address given above. The cards can be loaded and used by you and/or out of town family members and friends who patronize IGA. Our school receives 4% of all purchases back in cash for the enhancement of our school programs.

Last, but not least, our first PAC meeting was held last week and was very well attended. Thank you to all of those parents who made the time to come out and meet our new principal and returning vice-principal. Your support is very much appreciated. Our next PAC meeting will be held on November 7th at Moody Middle in the library at 7pm. Please join us!

COMMUNITY CORNER

Coquitlam Farmers Market – Kids Day

Welcome kids of all ages who would like to set up a table selling homemade craft items, Sunday, Sept. 18, 9 – 1. Cost per table - \$5.00

For more information contact admin@makebakegrow.com

Red Cross Babysitters Program

Who: for students ages 11 – 17

When: Session 1 – Thursdays Oct. 6- 27, 7 – 9 pm

Session 2 – Thursdays Nov 10 – Dec 1 7 – 9 pm

Where: Miller Park

Cost: \$60.00

For information and to register contact Colin at: 604-757-3634;

<http://members.shaw.ca/comckay>; comckay@shaw.ca

The Courage to Parent!

Tri-City Transitions, 200 – 2540 Shaughnessy St., PoCo, is offering a free 4 week course starting Nov 8, 12:30 – 2:30 for parents of children between the ages of 7 – 12 and 13 – 18 years. Contact 604-941-7111 for more information.

Steps to Effective Parenting

Where: Gleneagle Secondary School

When: 7 – 9 pm, Thurs. Oct 13 – 24, 2011

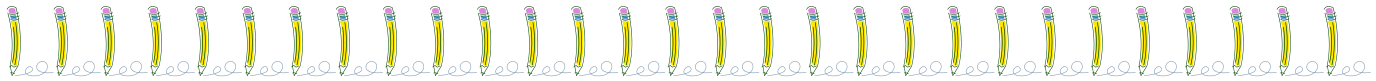
Facilitator: Marilyn Abram, Itinerant Yth Worker

To register phone 604-230-1563 or email mabram@sd43.bc.ca.

Place des Arts

Place des Arts, 1120 Brunette Avenue, Coquitlam, offers many fall programs for Middle and High School age students, check out their website, www.placedesarts.ca or call 604-664-1636 for more information.





IMPORTANT DATES – 2011/12

September	15	Newsletter #1
	22	School Based Non-Instructional Day—no classes cancelled, new date in April TBA
	23	District Non-Instructional Day—no classes
	26	Terry Fox Assembly, 9:00 am
	28	Parent Orientation 7:00 pm, gym
	30	Terry Fox Run & Spirit Assembly
October	10	Thanksgiving Day
	13	Interim report card
	13	Newsletter #2
	13	Picture retakes, 1:00
	19	2 pm early dismissal – 2:30 – 8 gr 6/7 P/T interviews
	20	3:15 – 6:00 P/T interviews – gr 6/7 only
	21	Provincial Non-Instructional Day—no classes
November	7	PAC meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	10	Newsletter #3
	11	Remembrance Day
	14	School not in session
	17	“I” day – (not all students required to attend)
December	2	First Formal Report Card
	7	Winter Concert – 7:00 pm
	8	Newsletter #4
	16	Last day of classes before Winter Vacation
	19 -2	Winter Vacation
January	3	School opens
	9	PAC meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	19	Newsletter #5
	27	School Based Non-Instructional Day—no classes
February	1	Winter Activity Day
	9	2 pm early dismissal – 2:30–8 gr 8 P/T interviews
	15	“I” day – (not all students required to attend)
	16	Newsletter #6
	17	District Non-Instructional Day – no classes
March	2	Second Formal Report Card
	5	PAC meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	8	Newsletter #7
	9	Last day of classes before Spring Vacation
	12 - 23	Spring Vacation
	26	School opens
April	6	Good Friday
	9	Easter Monday
	19	Newsletter #8
	20	District Non-Instructional Day—no classes
May	7	PAC meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	17	Newsletter #9
	17	Grade 5 parent & student information night
	21	Victoria Day
June	6	Year End Concert, 7:00 pm
	11	PAC meeting, 7:00 pm, library
	15	Athletic Awards, 9:00-10:30 am
	25	Awards Ceremony, 9:00-10:30 am
	26	POD Activity Day
	27	“I” day (not all students required to attend)
	28	Report Card pick-up 8:45 – 9:30 am
	28	Newsletter #10
	29	Administration Day—School closes

