

Happenings – Hillcrest Middle Newsletter

Monday September 2nd, 2019

THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST: (see repeating events below)

Monday, Sept. 2 nd	· Labour Day – school closed
Tuesday, Sept 3 rd	· First Day of Attendance 9:00 – 9:45am
Wednesday, Sept. 4 th	· First Full Day of School – 8:35 Warning Bell - 8:40 in class – 3:00pm · First Day of Explorations Term 1 · Completed and Signed Forms due back at school
Thursday, Sept. 5 th	·
Friday, Sept 6 th	· Instrument Petting Zoo for Beg. Band and all interested students · School Assembly 1:30pm in Gym
Please see our school calendar on our website: www.sd43.bc.ca/hillcrest	

Upcoming Events:

- September 9 Beginner and Advanced Band Begins 7:45am
- September 10 Boys Choir Begins 7:45am
- September 12 Girl Choir Begins 7:45am
- September 16 Muffin Mingle 8:00am – for Gr. 6 and new Hillcrest Students
- September 17 September PAC Mtg. 7:00pm in Library
- September 18 Beginner Band Rental Night 6:00pm in MPR
- September 19 Meet the Teacher Night 6:30pm
- September 20 District Non-Instructional Day**
- September 25 Gr. 6 Immunization Day #1
- September 26 Gr. 6 Immunization Day #2
- September 27 Individual Photo Day

Repeating Events:

Athletics (see games in calendar above):

- Intramurals/Open Gym - lunch: Monday/Wednesday
- Teams and Activities are all TBA

Music (starts week of September 9):

- Boys' Choir: Tuesday - Dramus Room 7:45am
- Girls' Choir: Thursday - Dramus Room 7:45am
- Advanced Band: Monday/Wednesday - MPR 7:45am
- Beginning Band: Monday/Wednesday– Gym 7:45am

Inside this Issue:

McFaul's Chat & Chew:

- Building Healthy Relationships

School Happenings:

- New Staff Members
- Staff Roster
- Hillcrest Tour Success
- Early Morning Responsibilities
- Beginner Band Petting Zoo
- Hillcrest Meet the Teachers

- Exploration Info
- Community Road Upgrades
- School Cash Online Payment Info

PAC News:

- PAC Notes & Requests

Community News:

- Student Accident Insurance
- Links to Coquitlam Wide City Events
- District Vandal Watch

McFaul's Chat and Chew: Building Healthy Relationships

We start this year with the theme of 'Building Healthy Relationships' by the opening of new doors and encouraging all our students and community members to try new experiences to reach out and meet new people. Middle school is a time of social, academic, artistic and physical exploration in which the child will reach out to discover new opportunities and diverse experiences in all these domains. The first step is in developing a mindset that provides one with guidance and self-confidence to encourage the student to make the initial step of greeting another and developing a conversation. Sounds easy, but this is a critical moment of engagement as we all have had our moments of challenge and difficulty opening the door to talk to a new person.

Today, as your child meets their new teacher and meets new classmates, we will push their comfort zone to enter into an ice breaker activity that allows them to proclaim who they are and maybe share a like they have or maybe their favourite ice cream or maybe a word that they associate with themselves. Within these simple actions one begins to develop a sense of who they are and a pride and purpose for what they like, what they believe and for what they stand for. A question will spark a thought in your child's mind, which then will connect to an emotion, which then develops into a word phrase or an action which of course gets stated or displayed and thus begins to define who that person is and how they view themselves. From these small steps the child looks to see others that intrigue them, or they feel are like their beliefs and perspectives on the world.

The beginning of connective relationships that will either blossom with more investment or peter out due to conflicting ideologies and belief systems. Either way your child is defining themselves and making choices that help shape who they are by the words they speak, the actions they perform and the people they choose to associate with. All of which are some of the greatest learning activities that a human can participate in as they seek to shape their character.

Most of this human relationship learning curve gets tested quite heavily in middle school life as their world is 50% social and 50% academic. The students have to learn the balancing act while the staff provide the students with ample opportunities to stretch their skills to combine both social and academics into a package that allows the child to showcase their best in all domains. Our staff will help to guide them through this journey and yes we will have bumps in the road and yes we will make errors in judgement and yes we will work to ensure that the path to building healthy relationships is one that involves the triangular support of child – school – and home life. We look forward to our travels together.

School Happenings: Events and Activities.

Staff Roster and New Staff Members – We would like to welcome the following staff to our school and wish them a great year at Hillcrest Middle. Joining us:

- Ms. Amrita Kauldher - Team Blue Adv. 11 Gr. 6/7
- Ms. Rina Mattson - Student Services Team
- Mrs. Reyanne Roberts - Team Explorations - Digital Literacy/ Library
- Mrs. Sheila Hutchinson - Team Green Adv. 2 Gr. 6/7
- Mrs. Sarah Larocque - Student Services Team - Fri.
- Mrs. Ashley Weatherhead - Team Red - Adv. 7 Gr. 6/7 - Friday
- Mrs. Natalie Hyde - Student Services Team - Wed.
- Mrs. Devon Newman - Student Services Team - EA
- Mrs. Jacquie Fraser - Student Services Team - EA
- Mrs. Wendy Catherwood - Student Services Team - EA
- Mrs. Navneet Cheema - Student Services Team - EA

Plus, our regular staff of returning people who have given their heart and soul over the past years.

ADMIN TEAM

Rob McFaul, Principal **Tony Romano, Vice-Principal** **Indira Dhaliwal, Counsellor**
Head Secretary: Leanne Carswell **MyEd Secretary: Lisa Nichols**

GREEN TEAM

Div. 1 **Justin Van Hove**
Div. 2 Sheila Hutchinson
Div. 2 Sue Davies/TBA
Div. 4 Alison Plesko/Taimi McMillan

BLUE TEAM

Div. 9 **Ryan Wiskar** (MACC)
Div. 10 Cori Hampton/Laine Klimko
Div. 11 Amrita Kauldher
Div. 12 Mike Rosse

ORANGE TEAM

Div. 17 **Patrik Ingelman** (MACC)
Div. 18 Michelle Stewardson (MACC)
Div. 19 Rob Crema
Div. 20 Kelly Carston/Kelli Slater

RED TEAM

Div. 5 **Kathie Campbell**
Div. 6 Susan Caldwell/Tony Romano
Div. 7 Rose Ngo/Ashley Weatherhead
Div. 8 Kim Byrne

YELLOW TEAM

Div. 13 **Lawrence Holbrook**
Div. 14 Jeff Nay
Div. 15 Vinay Sharma
Div. 16 Carlan Gallelo

EXPLORATIONS TEAM

Art: Taimi McMillan
DraMus: Alia Yeates
Tech Ed: Adam Rigetti
Home Ec: **Shanti Toolsie-Worsnup**
Digital Lit./ Lib. Reyanne Roberts

STUDENT SERVICES TEAM

Teachers: Myra Chan, Ewa Janus, Rina Mattson, Natalie Hyde, Sarah Larocque, Alia Yeates, Indira Dhaliwal

Educ. Assistants: Dawne Buchanan, Dawna Deisinger, Shawn Garret, Devon Newman, Wendy Catherwood, Jacquie Fraser, Navneet Cheema

Youth Worker: Grace Gallaccio

CUSTODIAN TEAM

AM Caretaker – Lerry Cruz, PM Caretakers – TBA. Simon Ng.

NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS

Pina Costante, Margherita Bianchi, Laura Galdian

Hillcrest Tour Day Success – Thanks to the leadership of Mrs. Dhaliwal and our Gr. 7 and 8 Leadership students we were able to hold a very successful Hillcrest Tour last Wednesday for over 30 new students to our community. They came to checkout the school one more time, they came to see new and familiar faces and most importantly they took the first opportunity to start to build new connections. Our student leaders were strong ambassadors who talked, played some icebreaker games and were fabulous hosts for our school community.

Early Morning Responsibilities – This is an important notice about the parental and school responsibility for families that have early morning challenges with dropping off their child early before school starts. The following are our key expectations that parent/guardians must ensure they follow for the safety of our children:

- Students who are attending early morning Band/Choir or Athletic Team practices will arrive just before their scheduled start time
- Students not participating in the above activities should not be dropped off at school before 8:00AM
- Staff are not present before this time and thus there is no SUPERVISION to be offered in case of an emergency.
- Parent/Guardians needing to drop off their child before this time **MUST have a conversation with Mr. McFaul** to ensure safety procedures are in place for all.
- Most students arrive at school usually between the time of 8:15 – 8:35 at the Welcoming Bell
- Please respect the protocols in place for the safety of your child and that of our staff

Beginning Band Day & Instrument Petting Zoo – For students interested in playing a new instrument and starting to learn a wonderful lifelong skill and talent we will host an Instrument Petting Zoo this Friday in our MPR. Here the students will get a chance to see, try and challenge themselves as to what instrument they may like to pursue in consultation with Ms. Yeates. Parents please make note of our Beginning Band Evening on Wed Sept 18th @ 6:00. This meeting will help to answer any inquiry questions, set up rentals and have your pre-registered Beginning Band child get started.

Hillcrest Parent Open House – An early reminder to set aside the evening of Thursday Sept. 19th @ 6:30 for our annual Meet the Teacher Open House Night.

Exploration Information: Our Explorations Terms this year are:

Term 1- Sept 4th - Oct 23rd

Term 2- October 24th - December 12th

Term 3- December 16th - February 18th

Term 4- February 19th - April 22nd

Term 5- April 23rd – June 15th

Some supplies students can bring to Art include a sketchbook and pencil, Home Economics a duotang, 3 dividers and pen, Digital Literacy, a duotang, earphones and writing utensils. All other supplies will be discussed with their current Explorations teacher each term. The cycle rotation is:


Art (Mrs. McMillan) goes to Music (Ms. Yeates) goes to Technology Education (Mr. Rigetti) goes to Digital Literacy (Mrs. Roberts) goes to Home Economics (Mrs. T.W.) goes to Art (Mrs. McMillan).

Community Upgrades – Please make note and show special care and attention to the construction sites working on the new sidewalks on Regan Ave. that are still under construction and do impact our southside parking lot drop-off area. The sidewalks along Como Lake Ave. are near completion. **DRIVE CAREFULLY!**

- Thermal Drive is now complete and open to all traffic
- Work is due to start next week on Como Lake Avenue from the east side of Thermal Drive to Montrose Street, this means lane closures will be in place with no left turn onto Montrose Street if heading West, the work is due to complete at the end of September.
- Como Lake Avenue between Thermal Drive and Charles Best Secondary School is almost complete and due to reopen by Labour Day.
- Work continues between Custer Court and Montrose Street, we anticipate this section being completed by end of September.
- Updated project information can be found at our dedicated website [here](#).

Important Notice for School Payments:

Please sign up for School Cash Online (if you haven't already). The school Permissions and Policies are ONLY available online, and all fieldtrips etc. will be posted online for payment. The account will serve families through high school years. Please see the registration information below.



Make online payments with
SchoolCashOnline


Become a SchoolCashOnline member today and see why so many parents have joined!

- ✓ Pay for your child's school fees online. Anytime, anywhere.
- ✓ Stop sending money with your child to school.
- ✓ Get automatic email notifications about BACK TO SCHOOL fees.
- ✓ Help us reduce the amount of cash coming through school doors.

Register today at:
<https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com>

School Cash Online is our school's PREFERRED method of payment.

» Fast ✓ Safe 👍 Convenient



Policies & Permissions and Student Fees – Start off right and ensure that you have completed the Policies and Permission Forms online as it is critical that we have every student complete a Policies and Permissions form and make payment of Student Activity Fees. These forms will be available online soon.

When forms are not completed, or payments not made then students miss out on:

- Walking field trips in the forest for social emotional management
- Activity Days and Field Trips

Both the School Policies and Permissions form and your Student Activity Fee can be completed through [School Cash Online](#). This account will serve your student through high school.

We look forward to your full cooperation and ensuring that you have done all your homework for your child's best and safest start at Hillcrest.

PAC News and Events:

The FIRST PAC meeting of the year is Tuesday, Sept. 17th in the library at 7 pm. All parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The PAC is on Facebook – join us at Hillcrest Middle School Parents (Coquitlam)
PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FIRST PAC MEETING SET FOR: TUESDAY SEPT. 17TH @ 7:00 in the library

SPC Card: This is a student discount program for students with offers and discounts at thousands of stores and restaurants across Canada. If you are a student, simply present your SPC Card with your student card at participating retailers and you instantly receive discounts on each visit, it's that easy!

Offers vary, but generally around 10 to 15%. To see the complete list of stores you can go to the website:
<https://www.spccard.ca/deals>

Some partners include:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • Aerie | • Booster Juice | • Bluenotes |
| • A&W | • Pizza Pizza | • Journeys |
| • American Eagle Outfitters | • Burger King | • Little Burgundy |
| • Arden | • Call It Spring | • PINK |
| • BENCH | • Kernels Popcorn | • Footlocker |
| • Bentley | • Forever 21 | • Topshop/Topman |

Benefits of buying SPC at your school:

- We give the school \$3.50 for every card purchased.
- Get the lowest price in the market (**\$10 tax included**).

Now you can **buy the card online over the summer and still support your school**. Online sales started **June 1!** Students that buy it online will receive this year's digital card and get next year's card mailed to them when the card comes out on August 1. That's an extra 2 months of savings.

TO BUY YOUR CARD ONLINE go to www.spccard.ca/purchase, fill out your info & use promo code: **37268**

Big Brothers and Discover Books Donation Bins – No longer hosted by Hillcrest: Hillcrest no longer hosts the Big Brothers clothing donation bin nor Discover Books bin that located at the Como Lake Ave. entrance to the school. Big Brothers no longer provides this service and we no longer receive payment for the Discover Books collection. In addition, we have encountered many incidents of items dumped beside the bins that requires clean up.

QSP Magazines: Our prize portion of this fundraiser is over, but you can order magazines online all year long. QSP offers popular titles in both paper and electronic form from both Canadian and international publishers. Magazine subscriptions make great gifts that last the entire year. Magazines may be ordered online at

www.qsp.ca – **Hillcrest is Group 3745007.**

Hillcrest PAC profits an average of \$10 per subscription sold, making this a profitable fundraiser.

Fundraising by Donation: If you would like to support Hillcrest PAC by providing a donation please see the attached PAC donation letter/form. Alternatively, you can make your donation through the School Cash Online (KEV) system by clicking here. No other fundraiser has a 100 percent profit margin and for donations of \$25 or more you will receive a tax receipt from SD43.

Community News:

Change to Student Accident Insurance

For some time now, School District 43 has been offering our families the opportunity to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance thru the Kids Plus Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

We were recently notified by the provider that they will be discontinuing the Kids Plus Accident Insurance program and will be replacing it with the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan. The new product is called Accifamily and offers comprehensive insurance coverage for the whole family.

The cost of this policy depends on whether you select Basic Coverage or Enhanced Coverage, as well as the number of family members to be covered.

For more information on this new accident insurance, please visit the Accifamily website at:

<https://ia.ca/individuals/insurance/accifamily>

... or call their toll-free number to speak to a customer support representative. That number is:
1-888-266-2224



ATTENTION NEIGHBOURS OF HILLCREST MIDDLE SCHOOL

You can help stop vandalism on school grounds

What You Can Do

Parks, schools and public spaces are most vulnerable at night. Keep your eyes and ears open for suspicious activities. Everything you see and hear helps. Note the physical characteristics and clothing of individuals. If you see automobiles, jot down license plate numbers.

Report All Suspicious Activities to the Vandal Watch Tip Line

604-927-7600

Call immediately when something raises your suspicions.

Do not wait for the damage to be done.

Your Call is Anonymous and Confidential

No one will ask for your name or phone number. Security personnel will be alerted and will investigate. They will take direct action or involve the police. **Do not get involved in a confrontation yourself.** The Tip Line is available 24 hours a day.

KEEP THE TIP LINE PHONE NUMBER HANDY. MAKE SURE IT IS GIVEN ONLY TO RESPONSIBLE ADULTS.