

Happenings – Hillcrest Middle Newsletter

Monday, September 30th, 2019

THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST: (see repeating events below)

Monday, Sept. 30 th	· Grade 7 FSA Testing Week starts tomorrow
Tuesday, Oct. 1 st	· PAC Pizza Lunch – Green and Red Teams · Tic Toc Performance – 1:30pm Gym · Grade 7 Boys Volleyball game at Hillcrest vs. Montgomery
Wednesday, Oct. 2 nd	· Grade 6 Immunization Catch-Up · Grade 8 Boys Volleyball game at Hillcrest vs. Montgomery · Grade 8 Girls Volleyball at Montgomery
Thursday, Oct. 3 rd	· Cross Country Meet – 4:00-5:00pm Eagle Mountain
Friday, Oct. 4 th	· Grade 6 students to Richmond Oval · Div. 18, 19, and 20 Soap Stone Carving · Yellow Team Bowling 10:00-3:00pm Zone Bowling · District Swim Meet – 11:00-3:00pm City Centre Aquatic
Please see our school calendar on our website: Hillcrest website	

Upcoming Events:

October 8	Blue Team Div. 9 and 10 to Library	October 18	Div. 13 and 14 Soap Stone Carving
October 9	Blue Team Div. 11 and 12 to Library	October 23	Early Dismissal – Student Conferences
October 11	Div. 15, 16, 17 Soap Stone Carving	October 24	Early Dismissal – Student Conferences
October 14	Thanksgiving	October 25	Non-Instructional Day (District/Prov)
October 15	PAC Pizza Lunch – Blue and Yellow	October 29	PAC Pizza Lunch – Orange and Green

Repeating Events:

Athletics (see games in calendar above):

- Volleyball:
 - Grade 6 – Monday/Friday – Lunch
 - Grade 7 Boys – Wednesday – Lunch; Friday 3:15-4:30pm
 - Grade 8 Girls – Tuesday 7:30-8:30am; Thursday 3:15-4:30pm
 - Grade 8 Boys – Thursday 7:30-8:30am; Monday 3:15-4:30pm
- Swim Team: Monday/Wednesday 4:40-5:30pm Eagle Ridge Pool
- Cross-Country: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30pm – Room 163
- Intramurals - Lunch: Tuesday/Thursday

Music:

- 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:

- Being a Change Agent

School Happenings:

- Yearbook 2019-2020
- Gr. 6 Richmond Oval Experience
- Gr. 6 Immunizations
- Meet the Teacher Open House Review

PAC News:

- PAC Notes & Requests

Community News:

- Links to Coquitlam Wide City Events
- Gr. 6 Stay Active Card Info
- Noon Hour Supervisor Job Ad
- District Vandal Watch

McFaul's Chat and Chew: Teacher Being a Change Agent

As the world moves rapidly into the future with autonomous driving cars, personal robots and homes that are synchronized to your watch/cell phone, I wonder what the world of education looks like as we travel into the future. We can be sure of this that our children's children will not have an educational experience that will reflect the same image as to what we experienced in our days in school. Already that mirror image has changed due to many influences like technology, social emotional challenges and brain research around the idea of neuroplasticity, plus a plethora of other influencers. One key thing that is for sure is this key adage, students who feel safe and supported are more likely to perform better academically. The challenge is how do we best create that safe and supportive environment amongst all of this change. A fellow educator, George Couros, had the following key characteristics of how teachers can be the agents of change in supporting overall growth in our students. He identified these frames of reference:

- Have a Clear Vision
- Be Patient yet Persistent
- Ask Tough Questions
- Knowledgeable and Leads by Example
- Strong Relationships Built on Trust

These all sound simple and straight forward and probably you can harken back in your memory to some very fine teachers who met many if not all those characteristics. The challenge is being all of these in an environment that is far more connected regarding knowledge and at times much less connected regarding authentic relationships. Education is all about change and the faster that change develops the more at risk is our human connection as the attributes of patience and persistence at times get left in the dust or bypassed in our quest of futuristic advancements.

To balance this push and pull I believe that we must focus on the strength of these relationship features that we all can develop during our daily interactions. The ideas of welcoming all to our work space, ensuring that all voices are honoured, presenting alternative perspectives for the sake of academic controversy, learning to read the nuances of facial expressions, body language and voice tonality, exploring empathy and sympathy and accepting creativity in the various ways of how we think and solve problems. Teachers can be the masters of these skill sets so that we continually lead by example and persist in asking the open-ended questions of why along with the tough questions of analyzing the details of a situation. Of course, when balancing all these weighty features one must multiply it by 26 - 28 different heads, hearts and souls. To do this is where the art and science of teaching come together and when in synchronicity the classroom becomes a safe place to support inquiry from every individual in respect to their personal learning profile.

Not easy, but worthy of striving for and, one heck of a lot of fun in working to achieve.

School Happenings: **Events and Activities.**

Yearbook 2019-2020 – This is one idea that requires some very serious forethought as this puts the concept of delayed gratification to the ultimate test. The purchasing of the traditional Yearbook in October when the excitement and hoopla is based in the month of June and the memories are stored away for a lifetime is a huge challenge to the concepts of patience and persistence. It seems so far away the idea of signing Yearbooks and reflecting upon the past 10 months; whereby, the energy of the lives and the reality of one's existence is captured in photos and messages. The time to purchase a Yearbook is now as you will ensure that your child has that memory memento secured for the wish of holding onto and getting the treasured signatures and messages from significant people in their life. The time to purchase is now because you will save money in the long run than if you purchase later in the year. The time to buy the pre-ordered Yearbook is now because you want to have possession of evidence that shows the growth, the relationships and the memories of life at Hillcrest Middle.

We are pleased to offer a Hillcrest Yearbook for sale again this year. This is a beautiful, hard cover, full colour book that is well over 50 pages in length. This year, students will be participating in creating this lovely memory that will be treasured for a lifetime. Purchase the 2019-2020 School Yearbook at the Early Bird Sale price of only \$55.00. Only available at this price for 8 weeks. Sale ends November 22nd at 9pm. Don't miss your chance to get the yearbook at this special price. Any remaining copies of the Yearbook will be offered for sale in the New Year for an increased price. Limited quantities available.

Please go to our website and click on the link for purchasing a yearbook, as this is our first round of sales and you do not need to pay more and risk missing the purchasing timeline for when June delivery of this always valuable and hot commodity rolls around and it then becomes critical that your child has a Yearbook.

Gr. 6 Richmond Oval Experience – We depart this Friday for our Richmond Oval experience field trip day. Our goal is for our Gr .6 students to have the opportunity to connect with peers from their previous school along with building new relationships with classmates of whom they will spend further hours with throughout this coming year. All the events have supervisory staff from the Oval sharing their talents and instructions on how best to play and engage in the activities ranging from Giant Soccer, Obstacle Course, Museum Tour, Indoor Climbing and other physical activities.


Please send in the signed parental form on salmon/orange coloured paper that was sent out last week as a hard copy on the acknowledgment of risk for any type of field trip activity. Please ensure that your child has snacks, lunch and a refillable container for their hydration and nourishment throughout the day, there is no need to send money for food purchasing.

Gr. 6 Immunization – The world of Public Health turns quickly and this past week you as parent/guardians did a wonderful job of having a quick and reliable response to having the Immunization documents completed, signed and returned within 1-2 days. This is not an ideal process; however, when placed in a precarious position of timing our clerical staff and you responded with promptness and care.

We have just secured the second date for those families that did not have their child's documents ready to go and who are wanting the public health nurse to administer the correct immunizations for your child. We have the morning of Wednesday Oct. 2nd for the few families that missed the first attempt for round one of Gr 6 Immunizations for this year. Please send in your completed forms to the office and the public health department is available at Tri-Cities Public Health **604-949-7200** to answer any questions or concerns.

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 and some paper copies as it is critical that we have every student complete a Policies and Permissions form and make payment of Student Activity Fees.

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:

OUR NEXT PAC MEETING: TUESDAY OCTOBER 15th @ 7:00 pm in the library

PAC MEMBERS NEEDED – Our PAC Executive need people interested and willing to volunteer to support our school community. You would be working with a very dedicated team of parent volunteers in helping with the organization, support and administration of many school and district initiatives.

We have an immediate need for someone to help with fundraising projects. We ask that you contact our PAC Leaders: ANNIKA MOUNTAIN annika@wilmount.ca and/or JENNIFER BELL-IRVING jennilynns49@gmail.com if you are able to help. We do not need a large time commitment in order for you to make a difference!

Also, please consider serving on the PAC Executive for the next school year (2020-2021) as we have at least 2 executives leaving the school and therefore the PAC. We are seeking people interested in the following 2 positions:

A. CHAIRPERSON

- shall convene and preside at all executive, general and special meetings or notify the Chair Designate to assume this duty as necessary
- shall ensure that an agenda is prepared and distributed following the Bylaws
- shall ensure a quorum is present before calling a meeting to order
- shall be the official spokesperson and representative for the PAC, always acting on behalf of the majority of members and not personally
- shall be a signing officer
- shall have primary responsibility for review of budget documents, bank statements, funding applications and report submissions
- shall liaise between the PAC and the principal, including: memos to be attached to school newsletters, meeting when required,
- shall respond to parents concerns when necessary
- and other duties as assigned

B. VICE-CHAIR

- shall assume the responsibilities of the chairperson in their absence.
- shall maintain PAC bulletin board
- shall photocopy and distribute PAC notices as required
- shall accept extra duties as required

Elections for these positions (and all executive positions) will be held in May. If you would like to learn more please contact us.

FUNDRAISING - If you have questions about fundraising please contact Joanne Gaska at coq.hms.fundraising@gmail.com.

Pizza Lunch Fundraisers: The Hillcrest PAC organizes pizza lunches for purchase throughout the year. Coordinators for this year are Michelle Morrison and Amber Tarling who can be reached at hmsshotlunch@gmail.com.

All orders and payments will be through the MunchaLunch system. Please read the attached instructions before registering and ordering. You will also find a list of hot lunch dates for the year. Two teams are included at each hot lunch and teams rotate throughout the school year.



REMINDER: Our 1st Pizza Lunch for GREEN and RED Teams IS TOMORROW – OCTOBER 1ST!!

NEXT UP WILL BE BLUE AND YELLOW TEAMS ON OCTOBER 15TH

If you have more than one child at Hillcrest and they are on different teams you can order lunch for all of them under the name of the child whose team is being served lunch that day. Please see the instructions for ordering if you have more than one child at Hillcrest.

PIZZA LUNCH VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED – If you are able to help out some Tuesday lunch hours for approximately 30-40 minutes with the organizing of our student Pizza Lunches your time would be well spent and greatly appreciated. Please contact Michelle Morrison at hmsshotlunch@gmail.com or sign up as a volunteer via our MunchaLunch system online (see attachment to this

newsletter). It takes a minimum of 16 volunteers to serve each lunch. Time commitment is just 40 minutes on lunch days from 12:05 to 12:45 pm.

Fundraising by Donation: If you would like to support Hillcrest by providing a donation you can do this through our School Cash Online (KEV) or by completing the PAC donation letter/form. 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:

Gr. 6 Stay Active Card Information

The Tri Cities, in cooperation with School District 43, are pleased to once again offer the Grade 6 Stay Active! Program for all School District 43 Grade 6 students. This program has been approved by the Cities of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody to promote youth involvement in physical activity. We are very excited about this community partnership and we hope that you will be able to take part in it.

A letter issued by the school is required for registration. Grade 6 students must take this letter to the Recreation location that serves their home address, with their **birth certificate and proof of residency** (has to be **phone, hydro, cable, gas bill or Property Tax Notice - driver's license and PO Boxes are not acceptable**).

- Coquitlam residents register at Coquitlam Recreation locations;
- Port Coquitlam residents register at Port Coquitlam Recreation locations;
- Port Moody, Anmore & Belcarra residents register at Port Moody Recreation Centre

With this verification, you will receive a Grade 6 Stay Active! Card – a photo identification card (**student must be present so that photo can be taken**) that you can use from September 3, 2019 to September 6, 2020, **to access 12 free visits of drop-in swimming, skating and gymnasium programs** in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam or Port Moody.

All Grade 6 students are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. This summer have fun and stay active during public skating, access to the indoor and outdoor pools, or being active with your friends at City run drop in gym programs! All during your Grade 6 year.



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.

Coquitlam Open Learning Opportunities:

Please see the various links below for: [Continuing Education](#),

Casual Noon Hour Supervisors

School District #43 Coquitlam is looking for Casual Noon Hour Assistants to be available on an On-Call basis to supervise students indoors and outdoors during lunch break (one hour per day) at various schools throughout the District in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Anmore.

Previous experience working with groups of children is an asset. Successful candidates will be available over the lunch hour Monday – Friday, 5 days per week while school is in session and be willing to accept callouts to all schools in our District. We offer \$21.43 per hour plus 16% in lieu of benefits.

To apply, please click on the following link and create a user account/profile. <https://ejp.sd43.bc.ca/postings/Account/Login> Once you have completed your profile you will have access to the job postings.