



Hillcrest Middle School HAPPENINGS

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Nadine Tambellini, Principal Tony Romano, Vice Principal

www.sd43.bc.ca/hillcrest

Mission Statement:

The Hillcrest School Community is committed to providing educational opportunities in a safe and respectful environment that encourages students to become responsible lifelong learners, both individually and cooperatively.

September 29th, 2017



Tambellini Talks

There are always so many happenings here at Hillcrest.

We encourage students to go outside at lunch time to maximize noon hour supervision and safety. We do have supervised spaces if students want to stay in: intramurals in the **gym**; homework and reading time in the **library**; games and chatting in the **MPR** or Clubs in teacher-sponsor classrooms. Our students have 20 minutes to eat their lunches. At 12:40pm, an announcement reminds students to go to lockers, put away lunches, get jackets and go to the washroom before getting 20 minutes of fresh air or remaining indoors in the above areas. We discourage students from roaming the hallways. If they want to do walk around they can go outside. The expectation is that if they remain indoors that noise level is maintained at an appropriate level and students engaged in an indoor appropriate activity.

Parents are always welcome to drop off lunches or even pick up their children for lunch. As we are a closed campus, students will not be leaving the grounds to go to Como Lake Village unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. **We do NOT allow students to leave campus on their own during the school day** to get lunch even with a note from parents- it could quickly turn into an unsafe situation and logistical nightmare.

I need some help from parents with student safety travelling 'to and from' school. We do a series of PA announcements in the morning and ask that students travel in groups, stay on main road sidewalks and refrain from wearing ear buds or listening to music. It is so important that they are aware of those around them. We also ask that students leave directly after school as this is when most streets and sidewalks are busy i.e. the safety in numbers rule. We also have been reminding students about being extremely careful if they are on bikes and skateboards: wear helmets, follow proper road safety and of course slowing down on busy roads or crowded sidewalks. We are also discouraging students from traveling through Mundy Park as it is less accessible if a problem or emergency occurs.

One last item to note- my expectation is that staff check their email at least once per day during the school week. Sometimes, it may seem our staff are not responding quickly to my emails or emails from Hillcrest families. Some staff prefer to check their emails prior to the school day beginning, during their preparation time or afterschool meaning that it make take until the next day for staff to get back to me or to Hillcrest families via email.

If it is a timely request, such as an early pick up, that you call the message into the Hillcrest office at 604-936-4237 or email 024-Office@sd43.bc.ca

Miss Nadine Tambellini

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October			NEW FSAs this month (October 2 nd to November 10 th)
	5		World Teacher's Day
	9		Thanksgiving
	12	Blk D	Fire Drill
	13		Interim reports go home
	16	9:00 am	Photo Retakes
	20		District Pro D Day
	25		School Wide Read
	26		Explorations Term 1 ends
	30		Explorations Term 2 begins
	30 to Nov. 23		Canned Food Drive begins
	31		Halloween Activities



School Photos – Retakes

Students who were absent on photo day and those who have requested a retake, will have their photos taken in the morning of **Monday, October 16th at 9am.** Those who are having retakes, please bring your proofs to the photographer when you have your retake.

Interim Report Cards – October 13th:

Interim Report cards will be sent home with your child on Friday, October 13th. This report gives a snapshot of your child's progress to this date. Please sign this report and return it to school as soon as possible.



Provincial Professional Day-October 20th:

All schools in the Province will be closed on Friday, October 20th for a common Professional Day. On this day, teachers around the province will be involved in in-service workshops and activities. School will be back in session for children on Monday, October 23rd



HILLCREST OPPORTUNITIES



Calling All Knitters!

Are you a passionate knitter and would like to share your love of knitting with students at Hillcrest? We are preparing for our special Literacy Day to celebrate Word Nerd (Wednesday, October 25th), and we would love to have some knitting be part of our special day. Please contact Ms. Trieu (ttrieu@sd43.bc.ca) if this is something that is of interest to you.

Homework Club

We have a Homework Club for our students after school from 3:10 – 3:55pm, Monday to Friday. We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for your child to get some homework completed before leaving school as well as to receive support or clarification with any aspect of homework in which he/she may be having difficulty.

Our Youth Worker, Ms. Penner- Hunt will be supervising the Homework Club. She can give extra clarification if your child is confused about a particular subject or assignment. If you are interested in your child attending on a regular basis please contact her at spenner-hunt@sd43.bc.ca. If students come on a drop-in basis, they will be asked to contact their parents to let them know they are staying for Homework Club.



Gifted Testing:

We will be completing gifted testing in October. The NEW gifted testing takes three 1-hour sittings. We will do the testing all the Fridays (October 6th, 13th and 27th) we are in session in October. Students must be committed to attending all the testing sessions.

Usually we seek out teachers to nominate students in their classrooms. If students already have a gifted designation, we will not be retesting them. Most students were tested when they were in elementary school (grade 2 or 3).

With a gifted designation, students can apply to specific programs or opportunities such as MACC or Talons. If parents would like to nominate their child for testing, please contact Jon Wiskar, our challenge teacher, at JWiskar@sd43.bc.ca **by September 29th**. We will not be hosting gifted testing at any other point in the 2017-18 school year.



Hillcrest Yearbook 2017

Our Yearbook is currently under construction by an enthusiastic group of students who devote their time to make a yearbook. The book is a wonderful collection of student photos, art work and writing that will let students relive their memories of 2016-2017 for years to come. Yearbooks are distributed next June but all books must be pre-ordered. **Cost: \$55.00 Yearbooks can be purchased through KEV online.**



Yearbook Parent Photographers Needed!

Yearbook Club is looking for parents who would like to volunteer a little of their time to snap some photos during school wide events at Hillcrest. You can choose to do one event or more if you wish. Your photos would be valuable to the Yearbook Club as we aim to have a good cross section of our student population to include in the book. All that is needed is a camera and we supply you with a USB to download the photos.

If this interests you, please email: mychan@sd43.bc.ca

INTERESTING INFORMATION

Homework:

There have been many recent articles in the newspapers and magazines about homework. How much is too much and the benefits or lack of to support student learning, retention and study habits. There is no easy answer and some of the articles tend to contradict each other. As a staff, we have the following rules of thumb:

- Things not done in class are homework; there is enough time given in class to complete these assignments
- Reading is a very beneficial form of homework to increase fluency and comprehension of the written word and can be a great family activity
- Parents can help their children by checking their agendas or other homework device and checking to make sure homework is done
- Generally, students do 10 minutes of homework per grade level i.e. grade 1 students complete 10 minutes of homework, grade 2 students complete 20 minutes, etc.

PAC NEWS

Our next PAC meeting will be held Tuesday October 17 at 7:00 pm in the Library. All parents and guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The PAC is on Facebook – find us at Hillcrest Middle School Parents (Coquitlam)

Should you have any questions about fundraising at Hillcrest, please contact Catherine Hubbs at hillcrestfundraising@gmail.com.

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.



Pizza Lunch Fundraisers: The PAC will be offering pizza lunch fundraisers throughout the year. All orders and payments will be through the MunchaLunch system. Please see the attached instructions for registering and ordering.

We serve two teams on each date on a rotating basis - **remember to order only on your child's team dates**. Each team gets two lunches this term.

PAC pizza lunch dates:

Green and Red Teams - October 3 – orders for this lunch are now closed.

Blue and Yellow Teams - October 17 – orders due Oct. 10

Orange and Green Teams – Nov. 7 – orders due Oct. 31

Red and Blue Teams - Nov. 14 – orders due Nov. 7
Yellow and Orange Teams - Nov. 28 – orders due Nov. 21.

The pizza lunch coordinators for this year are Catherine Hubbs and Deb Dobson who can be reached at hillcrestlunches@gmail.com.

Psst....Do you have multiple children on different teams? Order extra and the kids can share it - for example if you have Child A on Red Team and Child B on Orange Team order for both under Child A's name on Red Team Pizza Days and order for both under Child B's name on Orange Team dates. The catch - you must order the entire lunch for all kids under the child's name who is on the team being served lunch. The kids must pick the entire order up at the same time.

We need volunteers to run the lunches! If you have about 40 minutes available from about noon to 12:40 pm we would appreciate your help. We are currently short six volunteers for the lunch next Tuesday, October 3.

The pizza lunch coordinators for this year are Catherine Hubbs and Deb Dobson who can be reached at hillcrestlunches@gmail.com.

SPC Cards:

SPC is Canada's favourite loyalty card that provides students with discounts and at thousands of the best stores and restaurants across Canada.

More details at www.spccard.ca.

At a cost of \$10.00, most SPC Card members will cover the cost of the card on first trip to the mall and the cards are valid until July 31, 2018! Cards may be ordered online at www.spccard.ca/purchase. Remember to **Promo Code 37268** Hillcrest to receive the \$3.50 profit.



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Big Brothers and Discover Books Donation Bins – Hosted by Hillcrest: Hillcrest hosts both a Big Brothers clothing donation bin and a Discover Books bin both located at the Como Lake Ave. entrance to the school. These bins are conveniently open 24/7 and benefit both Hillcrest (we get 10 cents per pound of donated clothing, footwear, linens, material and accessories/eight cents per pound of books) AND Big Brothers. We usually make about \$1000 per year from the clothing bin and \$500 per year from the book bin.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Continuing Education:

Families, if the adults in your household are looking to take some courses- look no further than our own Coquitlam Continuing Education. Check out the link for some amazing opportunities:

<http://online.flipbuilder.com/bmr/xxag/mobile/index.html>



SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES EDUCATION SERIES - FALL 2017 A Free Group - Open to the Public

SHARE Substance Use Services invites you to attend any or all of our Education Series. The program is open to everyone in the community. It has important information for those who are struggling with substance misuse/abuse or are concerned about their use. It will also help those people affected by others' substance use. There is no cost for this group. Topics will vary from week to week as outlined below. The format includes slide presentation, video and discussion.

Oct. 19, 2017 - Use / misuse / abuse ~ Gain a better understanding of substance use.

Oct. 26, 2017 - Medical aspects and effects of alcohol and drug use. What happens to the body and mind under the influence.

Nov. 2, 2017 - Alcohol ~ How dependence develops; managing use; effects of use during pregnancy; and driving while intoxicated will be discussed.

Nov. 9, 2017 - Marijuana: A second-class addiction? Use for medical purposes?

Nov. 16, 2017 - Trauma & substance use ~ The relationship between trauma and substance use.

Nov. 23, 2017 - Relapse Prevention ~ Discussion about the psychological, emotional & physical aspects of relapse, and relapse prevention safety planning.

Nov. 30, 2017 - Mental Illness and Addiction ~ Understanding the links between mental illness and substance use.

Dec. 7, 2017 - Substance Affected ~ How someone's use of alcohol or drugs can affect others, and how to help others respectfully while practicing self-care.

Dec. 14, 2017 - Stage II Recovery ~ Sustaining substance use change into the future.

When: Thursdays: 6:30 pm – 8:00pm Where: 2nd Floor - 2615 Clarke Street, Port Moody For More Information, Please Call 604-936-3900