

KWAYHQUITLUM NEWS

#1—September 14, 2018

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community Members,

Welcome back to Kwayhquitlum Middle,

We are very excited to be back for another wonderful year at Kway. We would like to welcome our new staff as well.

Ms Jody Rowat, Teacher Gr 8, Eagles
Ms Amy Stevenson, Teacher Gr 6/7, T-Birds
Ms Carol Moutal, Teacher Gr 6/7, Les Corbeaux
Ms Brianne Losier, Teacher Gr 6/7 Les Corbeaux
Ms Kaycee Howard. Teacher Gr 6/7 Les Corbeaux
Mr Jack Bale, Teacher Computers
Ms Karen Lenge, Student Services
Ms Janet Burns, EA
Ms Josie Leblanc, EA
Ms Chelsie Duemo, EA
Ms Michelle Tuan, EA

I would like to remind you to check out our website for updates and review our calendar as often as possible. I thought I would offer you Ebenal's top 10 Principal tips for the upcoming school year.



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- Sept 18 - Open House 7-8
 - Sept 20 - Band Rental Night 6-8 MPX
 - Sept 21 - SCHOOL CLOSED Pro D Day
 - Sept 24 - Photo Day—Individual
 - Sept 25 - Terry Fox Run 1:30pm
 - Sept 26 - Sept 28
 - Gr 8 Camp Elphinstone
 - Oct 8 - SCHOOL CLOSED Thanksgiving
 - Oct 18 - Interim Reports go home
 - Newsletter goes home
 - Oct 19 - SCHOOL CLOSED Pro D Day
 - Oct 24 - Early Dismissal
 - Parent Teacher Conference
 - Oct 25 - Early Dismissal
 - Parent Teacher Conference
 - Oct 30 - Photo Day—retakes individual
 - Oct 31 - Happy Halloween
 - Nov 5 - PAC Meeting 7pm library
 - Nov 9 - SCHOOL CLOSED—Non
 - Instruction day
 - Nov 12 - SCHOOL CLOSED—
 - Remembrance Day
 - Nov 13 - Gr 6 Immunization
 - Nov 20 - Gr 6 Immunization catch up
 - Nov 23 - Newsletter goes home
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MS EBENAL'S TOP 10

1. Become involved in the life of the school in any way you can.

The school understands parents have demanding schedules, but just a little bit of time spent in the school can go a long way. Whether it's to drive for a field trip or attend the PTA/ PAC, schools with involved parents are vibrant and enriched communities. Not only does this make a difference to the school, it is very beneficial to your child as well.

2. Respect the teachers and the role they have in your child's life.

We take the idea the notion, "It takes a village to raise a child." We want to work collaboratively to create the best outcomes for each student.

3. Make sure you are positive about your communication about school with your child.

Find out what the focus of the class is and support the learning by going to the library and enriching the topics through conversation and fun. I had some amazing teachers, some good teachers and some teachers I could have done without. In the situation where my teachers were less than good, my mom never added fuel to the fire when I complained, she simply encouraged my own problem-solving and spoke to the school without me really knowing what was going on. This, I'm fairly sure, kept me from starting a full-blown mutiny in the classroom with my friends).

4. Let your school know about important changes in your child's life.

Understanding there has been a separation of a child's parents, the birth of a new baby, a move, or the death of a loved one or pet can help us better understand a student that may be acting out of character. Having the context for what is happening outside of the school only helps us better assist your child and his teacher.

5. Build on your child's strengths and be positive about any challenges they are facing.

If your child is particularly adept at something, encourage her in this area. The confidence she feels as a result of her abilities creates a spill-over effect for areas they may struggle in. In turn, speaking favourably about efforts in the subjects they struggle in can act as invaluable motivation.

6. If your child has any unique learning need or health concerns let the principal and teacher know.

You may want to minimize your child's struggles or concerns you have about him. It is natural to want him to make the best impression possible. However, it is pertinent to be as upfront with the school as possible. If your child is struggling in some way, we can work to provide him with all of the appropriate support.

7. Email is GREAT for small details but is not ideal for big issues.

If you have a concern, make an appointment and have a face-to-face meeting. Although email communication can be efficient, personal communication is more effective for problem-solving. Email is perfect for questions about supplies or homework. However, face-to-face is the best way to sort bigger problems. It leaves less to interpretation and can get resolution much faster and more efficiently.

8. Two of the best extracurricular activities for your child include lots of free play and reading.

Both help stimulate imaginations, promote literacy, increased vocabulary, and focus. In play, children practice skills like numeracy, increases problem-solving, cognitive-linguistic abilities, memory, and reasoning .

9. Have a regular routine and provide good nutrition for your child.

Although technology is an incredible tool, reduce screen time and increase green time. Make sure your child gets lots of outdoor play and physical activity. Outdoor play is great for overall health. In addition, it prompts new play ideas and can help regulate stress and other emotions.

10. Teach social responsibility and kindness.

Resist the natural inclination to solve your child's problems. Let him learn through experiences. The only way to develop into a kind, mature, responsible person is to learn resiliency.

MESSAGE FROM EXPLORATIONS



On Explorations...

Welcome to another season of Explorations!

We were excited to meet students today as they began their first day of explorations. Students are in one of the following:

Music with Mr. Kwong

Digital Media Arts with MX. Vittie

Tech ED with Mr. Skerratt

Computers with Mr. Bale or Ms. Bauder

Home Ec with Mrs. Brassard

They will be in this learning environment for approximately seven and a half weeks and then will move with their classmates to the next exploration.

We are excited to welcome Mr. Bale to our teaching team, working with computer students in the morning while Mrs. Bauder is off working with teachers throughout the district.

We have only seen students for one period, so not too much to share....yet J Please ask your kids which exploration they are in and see if they can remember the teachers name!

LEARNING COMMONS

Welcome back! It is shaping up to be a great year in the Learning Commons. (formerly known as the Library) I am very excited about the creativity, collaboration, and connections already happening! My name is Trish Quan and it is my second year at Kway. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about resources and programs.

My email is tquan@sd43.bc.ca or if you are in the building, drop by and say hi.

Found an overdue book over the summer? Return them to the Learning commons as soon as possible, no questions asked!

Trish Quan

LES CORBEAUX

Les Corbeaux are soaring into the new school year. In the first week of school, they explored their personal identities and their identities as members of Les Corbeaux. In Math, we are all back to basics, reinforcing our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills. The whole pod will be investigating global government in Social Studies. Les Corbeaux are looking forward to further exploring our identities and learning to share our stories.

THUNDERBIRDS

The Thunderbirds are excited to start another school year here at Kway! The T-Birds are a unique team; we have five grade 6/7 classes, which include two MACC classes. Ms. Stoffberg and Mr. Cupit are our returning MACC teachers, and Ms. Jones, Mr. Dureau, Ms. Stevenson are our grade 6/7 teachers. We would like to welcome Ms. Stevenson, our new grade 6/7 teacher, who will be replacing Mr. Ellis, who will be greatly missed, but has moved to work in student services. During the first week back, the teachers have had a chance to meet all the new grade 6's and welcome back the grade 7's. Students have circulated through the five classrooms and participated in various team building activities and lessons. We have played 'getting to know you' games, done a team scavenger hunt, written letters to our future self, created student crests, inspirational art, and much more! All have been fantastic ways to get to know the students, and for them to get to know us! We look forward to a new year filled with challenges, teamwork, and fun!

TIMBERWOLVES

The Timberwolves would like to welcome all new students and families to our team! We look forward to meeting everybody at our Open House on Tuesday at 7pm. The Timberwolves are currently participating in class building activities and getting to know their class, teammates, and teachers. The Timberwolf teachers would like to remind parents that students need to have their supplies as soon as possible. If you require a supply list, the office can assist with this. The Timberwolves are a BYOD Pod, (Bring Your Own Device). All students are expected to have a device to use on a daily basis. Please see the form that was sent home on Thursday. We look forward to a fantastic year!

BEARS

Welcome to the Bears Team!

It has been an exciting start-up for our grade 8 Bears students. Over the past couple of weeks, we have been getting to know one another through games, circle activities, and team-wide events.

Students have been creating posters about themselves and thinking about their own character traits, which they are displaying artistically in a Bear template. You will see these templates in our hallway during our open house on September 18.

We have also been working on setting goals under the theme of "being extraordinary" in our grade 8 year, with a focus on stretching ourselves and doing something new, outside our comfort zone.

As our school is going BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) this year, teachers have been going through a series of lessons that we are calling "Digital Boot Camp" which take students through the basics of safe and effective use of a computer.

Grade 8 students and teachers are very much looking forward to their trip to YMCA Camp Elphinstone in Gibsons, on September 26th-28th.

EAGLES

The Eagles have landed at Kwayhquitlum Middle. We have had a great start to the year on the Eagles. Students had an opportunity to meet the grade eight teachers the first week of school during rotations that included: math games, growth mindset, values posters, camp talk, and much more. Our intention is to give exposure to many teachers in the building so that many connections with adults can be made. Once in our teams the Eagles completed a fun minute-to-win-it competition with a final showdown at the end. During this time, students were getting to know their peers and cheering each other on.

The Eagle represents courage, strength, and perspective. Our Eagles are learning how to fly but will be soaring to new lengths this year, stretching themselves to learn new skills and try new things. As a team we have discussed what being an Eagle means to us and will have a creative display in our team area; come check it out during open house on September 18.



Preparations are underway for our grade eight students to head to camp; we are less than two weeks away! You should have received an email regarding 'all things camp' but if you did not, please email your child's homeroom teacher or call the office. For those students not attending camp, there will be activities at the school in which to participate. We look forward to our camp experience with the students.

The Eagles teachers, Mr. Adrain, Ms. Kooner, Ms. Morgan, and Ms. Rowat along with our student services teacher, Ms. Mc Cutcheon welcome all of the parents and students to the team! Thank you for sharing your children with us for the year!

ORCAS

The Orcas have had a great start to the year. We have added some new teachers to the team this year as Ms. Tuan, Ms. Li, Ms. Wong, and Mr. Hart have joined us. They are all excited and looking forward to work with our returning Orca teachers Mr. Woode, Mr. Hinada and Mr. Vadeboncoeur. We have also added a great deal of energy to the team with all of our new great 6 students and a few new grade 7 students. It has been a quick transition for all our new students as our returning grade 7 students have already demonstrated great leadership and have been very welcoming. Our focus so far has been on getting to

COLLABORATION WEDNESDAY

We would like to thank the Kwayhquitlum community for the opportunity to have time set aside where our staff can gather on a weekly basis to develop schoolwide initiatives that will benefit our students. We recognize that this has meant a different schedule for Wednesdays and appreciate the positive manner in which it has been received. During our first Collaboration sessions, our staff has been focused on the Mood Meter and how it can be used to support our students both in the classroom and throughout the school. Our Exploration teachers worked with every student in the school and introduced them to the Mood Meter and had them create a personalized magnet that they will be able to use throughout the year. As we move forward with our Wednesday sessions, we will be focusing on developing our school-wide Community Circles and other initiatives that members of our staff believe will improve the experience for our students at Kway.

KEV – ONLINE PAYMENT/FORM SYSTEM

We encourage you to register your account online now! If you haven't already opened your account follow these steps:

Go to <https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com>

Click on "Get Started Today"

Create your account

Enter first and last name (must be your child's legal name); click continue

Enter fields: address, phone number, e-mail address; click continue

Choose a password and security question

Make sure to OPT IN to receiving e-mail notifications for updated school information

KEV is also where you will find the School Policy form, School Volunteer form., and the Driver Volunteer form.

Please note: if you have paid fees by cash or cheque to your child's teacher and receive an automatic email from KEV saying the fees are not paid, you can disregard this email.

OFFICE MATTERS

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 by telephone, email or through a written note. A very convenient option is to submit your child's absence on our school website:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/middle/Kwayhqitlum>. Follow the link and click on the **Absence Report** on the main page under Quick Links.



This information is entered into our computer system and dispersed to all staff. If no notification 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. Thanks in advance for your cooperation as this assists our office staff greatly.

FORMS, FORMS AND MORE FORMS

Start-up packages and forms were sent home earlier this month. Please ensure that the following forms are completed returned to your child's teacher as soon as possible: Student Verification Form and Emergency Release Form. Activity and Athletic fees are due at this time as well. If your child has a medical concern and requires a medical alert, please visit our school website, under Quick Links <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/kwayhqitlum/Parents/Forms>.

Medical Alert Forms—We require that the physician complete a section of the *Request for Administration of Medication* form and sign it before medication can be given to a student at school by school staff. It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure that all medications are kept up-to-date. Any medications that you wish the school to administer to your child now require consent from your family physician. This includes Tylenol or Advil. Due to this procedure Kwayhqitlum Middle will not be administering any medication without the written consent of a physician.



SUN PEAKS

Coming soon to Kwayhqitlum Middle School! If you have a child who is a skier or snowboarder who is interested in a fabulous weekend on the slopes, look no further! The mountain offers green, blue, and black runs, including deep steeps, long cruisers, glade zones, powder stashes, and corduroy groomers. All of these can be found within 4,270 acres of skiable terrain. Three mountains surround a European-style, ski-through village filled with quaint shops, cafés and eateries. Sun Peaks has an abundance of activities and events for both on and off the slopes. Student and parent meeting dates will be announced soon. If you need more information please contact Mr. Adrain at Kwayhqitlum Middle School.

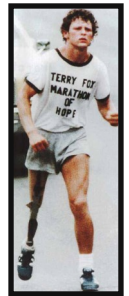
BACK TO SCHOOL

As both children and parents are getting back into the school routine, we would like to recommend students and parents/guardians adhere to the following safety and driving guidelines. Please encourage your son/daughter to walk to and from school as much as possible. There are many cars accessing the front entrance, therefore drop-off in front of the school is very busy. This could become potentially dangerous when kids are running across streets or parking lots. If possible, park a block or two away, so your child can safely access the sidewalks.

Also, please make sure you drive slowly to keep our children and neighbourhood safe. The driving speed in a school zone is 30km/hour. Thank you.

TERRY FOX RUN AND FUNDRAISING

Kwayhqitlum will be holding our annual Terry Fox Run on **Thursday September 25th** Fundraising began this week, and we are off to a great start. As a school in Terry's hometown we know how important it is to raise funds and raise awareness to fight against cancer. Students can contribute to our fundraising total by bringing in donations to the classroom teacher. Parents, friends and relatives are able to support us by sending money with students, or contributing online. Visit www.terryfox.ca/KwayhqitlumMiddleSchool to make a donation to Kwayhqitlum's fundraising total. Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a tax receipt. Thank you for all your support!



CASUAL NOON HOUR ASSISTANTS

School District 43 (Coquitlam) is looking for permanent and casual noon hours.

Up to 5 hours a week, (1 hour a day during the school's lunch time)

Monday to Friday while school is in session. (off spring break, winter break and summer break)

Rate of pay: \$20.65 an hour plus 16% in lieu of benefits.

Please send your resume to : humanressourcesupport@sd43.bc.ca

LUNCHTIME HELP NEEDED FOR THE COMPUTER LAB

Lunchtime help needed! If you are available to help out at lunch, Kway students would benefit by having the computer lab open as often as possible from 12:15 pm to 12:45 pm. Once or twice a week would really help. This computer time would be for students needing to catch up on schoolwork only. Please email Ms. Bauder at ebauder@sd43.bc.ca if you are interested.

KWAYQUITLUM PAC UPDATE

Welcome parents to yet another schoolyear!

The Kway PAC is still in desperate need of a Treasurer. If you may be interested in helping out please contact the PAC directly at kwaypacchair@gmail.com and we can discuss the details. The Treasurer position will have a great support system with a wicked bunch of people.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to our school and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Dee - PAC chair

NEEDED

Dear parents, our home economics class is looking for any yarn you are able to donate. You may drop it off at the office. Thank you.



BC SCHOOL FRUIT & VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

Kwayquitlum Middle is excited to be involved again with the BC School Fruit & Vegetable Nutritional Program. Students will receive a fruit or vegetable snack in the classroom, during class time, once every two to three weeks. It is not meant to replace the foods they would normally eat but help them enjoy a fruit or vegetable with their classmates. These fruits and vegetables are BC grown and by serving them in our schools, it helps students learn about produce available locally. It also supports the local market. Some examples of fruits and vegetables that may be included in the program are: different apple varieties, tomatoes, snap peas and mini cucumbers.

Please see the Kwayquitlum Middle School website for further information. If you are not interested in participating in this program, please complete the Reverse Consent Form that can be found on our website, hard copies are available in the office.

ROAD WORK

There will be road work for about 3 weeks at the back of the school—Salisbury Road.

Welcome to School Cash Online

What is School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees. The portal is customized to meet your school's needs and allows parents to add students, make payments, check current balance/account history and print or view receipts.



Is it safe to use?

Our top priority is to keep your personal information safe. *School Cash Online* is PCI compliant, CSAE 3416 certified, HTTP Secure and adheres to the highest industry standards of security.

School Cash Online does not share your personal information with any third party. *School Cash Online* will never contact you to divulge confidential information via phone, email or mail.



What Payment Methods are Available?



myWallet

An online wallet that can be loaded to hold funds and pay for your child's fees on *School Cash Online*. myWallet also allows you to allocate funds to pay for school fees at a later date, as you would with a gift card. It can take up to 7 days from the date the funds are loaded for funds to become available.



eCheque

An electronic version of a paper cheque used to make payments online. Anyone with a chequing/savings account can pay by eCheque through *School Cash Online*. To pay with an eCheque, simply enter your account number on the payment screen and click submit.

How do I use myWallet?

myWallet offers you a secure alternative to traditional payment methods without the need for you to enter the payment information multiple times.

1

Go to your district's School Cash Online portal URL (example - <https://schooldistrict.schoolcashonline.com/>)

2

Click the "Sign Into Your Account" button and enter your email and password to access your account.

3

Select the myWallet tab, click "Add Funds to myWallet" and use eCheque to load funds into your myWallet account (it may take up to 7 days for funds to become available to pay fees).

4

Once your funds have been made available, add all your items to the shopping cart, select the checkout option and select the myWallet payment method to make purchases.

For more information contact Parent Helpdesk at
parenthelpdesk@schoolcashonline.com or 1.866.961.1803