

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Start Up Information

We hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. We are excited for another school year to begin and look forward to welcoming all our returning students as well as those new to our school community. We have included some information to help families plan for the return to school.

Communication

Home-School communication is very important to us. We know a strong home-school partnership underlies every success for students. Below are some ways to access ongoing information at our school:

- Visit our school public website regularly at <https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maillard/Pages/default.aspx#/=>
- Read direct messages emailed to you. If you have not received correspondence for a long time, please contact the office to verify your email address. We send out emails regularly with updates on an as needed basis.
- Attend a PAC meeting. PAC meetings are scheduled monthly and information on that first meeting will be sent to parents.
- Always be comfortable contacting your child's teacher by phone or email. (Staff email addresses can be found on our school website.)

Maillard Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast-Students

We look forward to hosting our students for a pancake breakfast on Friday, September 6th, from 8AM to 8:30AM.

It is a great opportunity for students to join Ms. Lisa our Youth Worker and learn about our Breakfast Program that will start again on Monday, September 9th.

Note: Our breakfast program is open every school day morning from 8AM to 8:30AM during the school year. There is no cost to students and no sign up required to participate.

First Day of School: Tuesday September 3, 2024

-School Gym

- Grade 8: 10:00 am – 10:30 am
- Grade 7: 9:30 – 10:00 am
- Grade 6 and all new Grade 7s & 8s: 11:00am – **11:30am** (UPDATED END TIME)

Upon arrival, students are asked to line up at the back of the school outside the gym doors.

All students should enter through the gym doors for attendance in the Gym. It is important that all students attend as they will be given information about the location of their connection group for the first week.

First Week Plan: September 4 to 6, 2023 (Connections Group Week)

On Wednesday, September 4, students will meet their Connections Group in the Connections Teachers classroom. Students will be working in their teams on core values to build community, team building activities, reviewing code of conduct, playing games, establishing team, completing student profiles, and getting to know the members of their team.

Our goal is to have students start the regular schedule in their assigned classes on Monday, September 9, 2024.

First Week Supplies

For opening week (September 4-6, 2023), students need minimal supplies (pen, pencil, eraser, a glue stick, some paper, and some pencil crayons). Note, they will not have a locker assigned to them during this first week and will likely be taking their supplies home every day. They do not need a device. They can bring their full supplies, including device, when they are in their permanent classroom on Monday, September 9, 2024.

School Supplies

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maillard/Parents/SchoolSupplies/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

BYOD: Bring Your Own Device

École Maillard Middle School is a *Bring Your Own Device* school. For more information regarding laptops, please see our school website: Programs & Services/Technology.

Bell Schedule

2024-2025 BELL SCHEDULE	
<u>Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday</u>	
Warning Bell -----	8:35
In-Class Learning Begins-----	8:40
Blk 1-Team Wolves Expo-----	8:45 - 9:35
Blk 2-Team Ravens Expo-----	9:35 - 10:25
Nutrition Break -----	10:25 - 10:40
Blk 3-Team Bears Expo-----	10:40 - 11:30
Blk 4-Core Class-----	11:30 - 12:20
Lunch Break -----	12:20 - 1:00
Connections (Tues & Thur Only)-----	1:00 - 1:25
Blk 5-Core Class-----	1:25 - 2:56
<u>Wednesday</u>	
<u>(No Exploration Classes on Wednesday)</u>	
Core Class -----	9:00 - 10:25
Nutrition Break -----	10:25 - 10:40
Core Class-----	10:40 - 12:20
Lunch Break -----	12:20 - 1:00
Core Class -----	1:00 - 2:56

Wednesdays are a 9:00 am start to allow teachers to collaborate and attend meetings.

Parent Tasks: Online Payments

As you are likely aware the district has moved to an online payment system, ***School Cash Online***, that allows you to view and pay for your child's school activities such as field trips and school-related fees, safely and conveniently. Visit our school website and click on Online Payments for step-by-step instructions to set up your account.

Once you have registered, you will receive a confirmation email that you have registered your account. You will then have to go back into the link in that email to attach your child(s) to your account. You can attach ALL your children, no matter what school they are in the district, choosing the appropriate school from the dropdown for each child. You will be required to enter their legal first and last name and date of birth.

Once set up, you will receive email notifications of upcoming events such as field trips and receive follow-up reminders for unpaid events. You will also be able to grant permission online for your child to attend events and notify teachers if you are able to volunteer. You will be able to view the history of payments of each of your children.

Student Forms

Visit our school website and click on ***Parent E-Forms*** to complete: School Policies, Emergency Release, Volunteer & Driver Forms and Medical Alert.

Student Fees

Visit our school website and click on ***Online Payments***. All fees can be paid through School Cash Online. Fees are due by September 27, 2024.

- **\$35 Student Activity Fee** - the cost covers school-wide activities for students, leadership events and presentations. The activity fees also support lock rentals.
- **\$5 Emergency Fee** - covers the cost of emergency prep supplies for the school year. This includes water, food and first aid supplies that may be required during a large-scale disaster. As many of the supplies expire, this is a yearly cost and is non-refundable.
- **\$25 Athletic Fee** – this is a one-time/yearly athletic fee for students who play on a sports team. Students can sign up for more than 1 sport throughout this school year.

School Calendar

On our school's public website, you will find the school calendar. This calendar includes any holidays and professional development days, along with school events.

Cell Phone Policy

As per Ministry policy, students are not permitted to use cell phones during school time for any purpose unless part of an educational activity. They are asked to leave their phones in their school locker or at home during the day. If you need to contact your child, please call the school's main office at 604-931-3574.

Lockers

Each student will be given a locker to store their personal items. Locks will be provided by the school. It is important that students DO NOT share their combination with friends. Space is limited and any decorative items must be magnetic. No use of tape or markers.

The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost or stolen articles. Students are responsible for the care and safety of all their personal belongings and are encouraged not to bring valuable items to school.

Band & Choir

Our band and choir program are led by Mr. Kirkwallace. Students are encouraged to listen to announcements in the first few weeks regarding signing up. All levels of ability are welcome.

Athletics

Our athletic program offers a variety of sports and opportunities for all students. Students should listen to morning announcements as well as look in the Maillard Announcements Team Page for sign up opportunities for upcoming sports teams.

Drop Off and Pick Up

As students arrive at the site, some from different parts of the district, many students will be driven to school. There will be cars converging around the school at the same time. Drop off and pick up times may be extremely congested, and I ask for your cooperation with the following expectations. **Student safety is of paramount concern.** We appreciate your patience and attention to student safety during busy pick up and drop off times.

The Staff Parking Lot is not a drop-off or pick up area for students.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Steve Roos

Principal

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Ms. Harpreet Esmail

Vice-Principal

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