



eNews

October 12, 2021

Mission Statement: We strive for personal excellence and promote enthusiasm for lifelong learning. We participate in and share responsibility for creating a caring, safe and respectful community, while encouraging and maintaining positive relationships.

Déclaration de Mission: Nous visons l'excellence personnelle et la promotion de l'enthousiasme pour l'apprentissage pour toute la vie. Nous participons et partager la responsabilité de la création d'une communauté aimante, sécuritaire et respectueux , tout en encourageant et maintenir des relations positives.

Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 11** Thanksgiving – No school for students
- Oct. 15** Photo re-take day
- Oct. 22** Non-Instructional Day – No school for students
- Nov. 3** Student Led- Conferences (early dismissal at 1:54 pm)
- Nov. 4** Student Led Conferences (early dismissal at 1:54 pm)
- Nov. 11** Remembrance Day – No school for students
- Dec. 16** Reports Go Home
- Dec. 17** Schools Close to Winter Break
- Jan. 4** Schools Re-Open after Winter Break

All COVID-19 updates, procedures and correspondence can be found at the following link [COVID-19 Restart Plan MCM](#). All email correspondence related to COVID-19 from Mr. Graham can be found here.

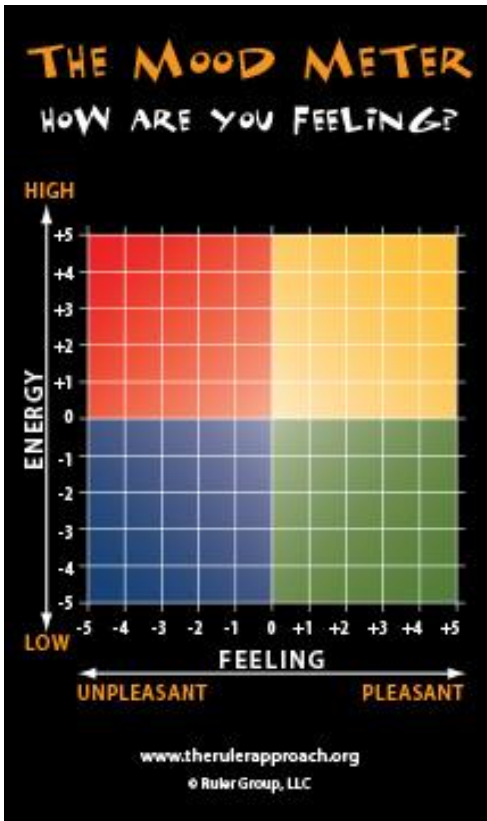
Calendar dates are constantly being updated so please keep an eye on our website and for e-mail updates throughout the year.

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/School/maplecreek/>

“We don’t just go to School, We go to Maple Creek”

Social/Emotional Learning – as Middle School Aged Children mature and learn to self-regulate

As our children get older, they get better at knowing what they are feeling and why. Even as adults, recognizing emotions is a very important attribute. This skill is called emotional awareness. [Understanding our emotions](#) (click for more info) can help us relate to other people, know what we want, and make choices. Even emotions we consider "negative" (like anger or sadness) can give us insight into others and ourselves. The following "Mood Meter" can help students learn to recognize and then regulate their emotions.



It's All Good!

Some emotions feel positive — like feeling happy, loving, confident, inspired, cheerful, interested, grateful, or included. Other emotions can seem more negative — like feeling angry, resentful, afraid, ashamed, guilty, sad, or worried. Both positive and negative emotions are normal.

Watch this YouTube video for a brief overview of how the Mood Meter works and the indicators for learning readiness for each quadrant.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qj6AlczvDhg>

The good news is that research shows that there are positive academic and social benefits for those with good self-regulation skills.

At Maple Creek, We Celebrate Diversity



Student Led Three - Way Conferences November 4th and 5th

(Interim Report #1)

On November 3rd and 4th, we are having our first Student Led 3-way conference that will include the parent(s), the student and the teacher. The intention of these meetings will be to have the students, with their teachers' support, demonstrate their understanding of themselves as learners in relation to their progress up to this point. Our hope is that these meetings will enhance the partnership between school and home with the student at the center of the communication. These will be done

remotely and details of how you can sign up for an appointment and connect virtually with your child's teacher will be sent to you later this week.

Please note the times periods for each the days are as follows:

- November 3rd – 2:15 pm to 6:30 pm
- November 4th – 2:15 pm to 4:00 pm

Appointments will be 10 minutes in length.

Also, please note that both November 3rd and 4th are early dismissal days. Students are dismissed at 1:54 pm depending on your child's start time. Appointments start at 2:15pm.

PHOTO RE-TAKES



If your child would like to retake their photo, or they were not able to get their photo taken, photo retake day is on November 15th.

ORDERING Also please note that the deadline to order photos for those that had their photos taken on October 15th at the re-takes as we will hand order forms to the photographer then. Please use the photo order form that was provided to your child by her/his core teacher extra copies are at the office.

"We don't just go to school, we go to
Maple Creek"

“TO Do” items for Parents

Student activity fees (Online Payment)



This year **student fees are \$35.00** (which is payment for locks, locker rentals, guest speakers, events and performances). In keeping with the other middle schools in our District, there is an **Athletic/Club fee of \$15.00**. This helps to offset the cost of maintaining equipment, uniforms, paying referees, tournament costs, outside facility rentals and some special events. The fee is for any students participating in our extracurricular activities. We are asking parents to pay for their fees online by following the instructions below:

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE EXPLAINED:

Here at **Maple Creek**, we are now only accepting online payments to minimize the physical handling of cash. encourage all parents to pay for their child's fees through our **School Cash Online Program**. Last year, as a District, we implemented that all mandatory School Policy Forms, parent volunteer forms, and permission forms are also done through your online account.

The online payment process is easy, reliable, and a secure way to pay for all your child's field trips, student fees, yearbooks, and other various items. The program will also provide you with a transaction history, so you can keep track of what you have purchased.

As we are also a **GREEN SCHOOL**, this process also eliminates paper waste as we now have electronic permission forms attached to all field trip payments. This will also eliminate sending cash with your child, and permission forms getting lost in your child's backpacks!

If you are already registered for this program, great! If not, no worries we can help you along the way. Please visit the following link to see a Brochure on how to register for your account:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maplecreek/Documents/School%20Cash%20Online%20Brochure-How%20to%20get%20started.pdf>.

Once you have registered your account, make sure to log back on and add all of your children. All children who are registered in SD43 can be added to your account. All you need is their name and birthdate!

Although we do encourage all parents to set up an online account, we do recognize that some families are not able to do so. If you are one of these families, please contact our office to advise them by simply emailing or telephoning.





More to do items for parents...

- **Student Information Verification Form (sent home with your child):** Please take the time to check over your student verification form to ensure that all information is accurate and current, especially contact information such as phone numbers and your address. Please note any necessary changes directly on the form, return it to the school and we will make these changes in our student information system. **NOTE: IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES, YOU STILL MUST RETURN THE FORM TO THE SCHOOL AND GIVE IT TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER.**
- **District Policies Forms:** Please complete via your [School Cash Online Account](#).
- **Parent E-Forms (Volunteer):** Please complete via your [School Cash Online Account](#). ***We cannot take volunteers at this time, however, when we are able to, we will have your information on file.***
- **Parent Criminal Rec. Checks and Drivers Abstracts:** In order to volunteer at our school or on your child's field trip, we do require to have your Criminal Record Check on file. **We cannot take driver volunteers at this time, but when we are able to, we will have your information on file.** Please access the following letter to get your fee waived at your local police department: [CRC Letter 2021](#) We also require parents to have a Drivers Abstract submitted each year if they are planning to drive. You can retrieve that at the following: [Drivers Abstract ICBC](#)
- **Medical Alert Form:** (Online at www.sd43.bc.ca/school/maplecreek). Click on "Parent eForms". *If your child has any special medical considerations that you would like us to be aware of please print the e-form online and return it to the office.*
- **Student Fees:** Please note, we are working on uploading the fees to [School Cash Online](#), this should be available later this week. Fees are to be paid via your [School Cash Online Account](#). Thank you for your patience!

STUDENT ABSENCES

Student absences are more important than they have ever been. The accurate tracking of students in and not in the building is so imperative right now. We would like to remind the parents at Maple Creek to please inform the office and homeroom teacher if their child will be away from school. **Please include their reason for not being in attendance.** You can call the office at **604-464-8581**, use the "Absence Report" function on our school website under "Quick Links" or email at maplecreekattendance@sd43.bc.ca.

If your child will be arriving **late**, you **must** also inform the office. If your child will be dismissed early, we ask that you please inform the office ahead of time. We also ask that you please advise whether your child will be walking or will be picked up from the school for their safety. If you will be picking up your child, please come to the office to let us know you are here and we will call your child to the office so that you can sign your child out.

Reminder: please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing any of the symptoms listed on the daily health check.

Athletics Update



Good news! Maple Creek will be offering intramurals (within school) for Volleyball and Field Hockey. Presently, there is no extracurricular (between schools) leagues happening. Middle schools across the district will be offering intramurals (within the school) until further notice. Field Hockey sessions will be on Tuesdays at lunch and Thursdays after school. Volleyball schedules will be formally posted this week. Cross Country info will be posted later next week. Students are asked to pay attention to announcements so that they don't miss out. There is a white board across from our office that will have all club and athletics information happening at the school.



COVID – PROTOCOLS

Thanks to all for your cooperation with following and adhering to the COVID-19 protocols. These are especially important to mitigate the contact with people once the students arrive at the school. We are fortunate, up until this time, to have no exposures at Maple Creek thanks to everyone's efforts.

Here are some reminders:

- Complete the daily health check with your child every day.
- Ensure your children have their masks with them every day. It is an essential item and even more important than a cell phone 😊. We have an ever-increasing number of students arriving to school without a mask. We do provide disposable masks, however we would like to reserve these for the exception and not the rule.
- If your child is sick, please keep your child at home until the symptoms are gone.
- Review the importance of following the protocols with your children from time to time

Updates are regularly emailed to parents so look out for those important updates.

VALUABLES AT SCHOOL



We would like to ask parents to discuss the issue of bringing valuables eg. large amounts of money, personal electronic devices such as: ipods, cell phones, game gear, video games/equipment, or even jewelry to school.

It is very unfortunate and frustrating when personal items get damaged or go missing from unattended knapsacks or classrooms and we would like to eliminate students from experiencing the disappointment of losing something dear to them by asking them to safeguard these items if brought to school.

FIRE DRILLS, EARTHQUAKE DRILLS AND LOCKDOWN DRILLS



Every year, we have three earthquake drills, three fire drills and at least two lockdown drills. Many of you are familiar with fire drills and earthquake drills, but some of you may not be familiar with lockdown drills. A lockdown is when we close and lock all exterior doors to the school, close and lock all classroom doors and have students sit down in the classroom as a group silently. The door windows in each classroom also get covered so nobody can peer in. Essentially, anyone who could enter the school would find the school locked up and silent with no evidence of any adults or students being present. The purpose of such a drill is to be prepared for any number of potential emergencies that may arise where we need students to be in a safe, secure area where they cannot be seen, heard or found. Being prepared for a potential emergent situation is prudent planning; however, this may cause some anxiety for some students. We recommend you sit down with your child and discuss the rationale behind a lockdown drill. At the school level, we discuss the rationale, answer any of the students' questions and have a debrief to clarify or answer any further questions after the lockdown. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Robertson – VP.

SCHOOL OFFICE PHONES



The office phones will only be used by students for emergency purposes or with the permission from their teacher. To minimize the physical handling of the phone, and congestion in the office, **we ask that parents please send lunches with their child(ren) to school and inform the office via email or phone for any early dismissals prior to your child leaving.**

CELL PHONE POLICY AT MAPLE CREEK



It is the school's policy that students are not to use their cell phones in the school during school hours. The only exception is when specific permission is given in class by a Teacher for the purpose of using the phone to search for information for a specific projector to listen to music while doing their work.

Any student found repeatedly using their cell phone during school hours will have their phone confiscated and, in the future, stored at the school's office during school hours for a specified period (eg. 1 month).

With this information, we would like to ask our Maple Creek parents to refrain from texting or calling their children's cells with information that requires an immediate response, so the students aren't put in a position of disobeying our school policies. Instead, please remind students to check their cells after

school for messages that possibly could have been left for them by you or leave a message at the office for them to pick up.



Wildlife Alert Procedures for Maple Creek

A. Daily Procedures:

1. All doors will be locked.
2. Exterior garbage cans emptied.
3. Principal/supervisor visually checks playfield prior to students being dismissed at recess and lunch. Staff on supervision always keep a watchful eye.

Emergency Actions

B. Bear Sighting off of school grounds:

1. Phone call from neighbour or parent received. Time and location of bear sighting are noted.
2. Announcement made to notify school if sighting is near a dismissal time.
3. Students kept indoors if time of bear sighting is near a break time (recess, lunch)
Students and parents advised of bear sighting in neighbourhood if sighted near 2:54 pm. Students walking or biking are reminded to be alert and go in pairs. If there a risk, administration may reroute students or hold students and inform parents to pick students up at the school.

C. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds during instruction time:

- 1 Staff report wildlife sightings to the office.
- 2 Announcement made to notify school that a bear is on school grounds.
3. Students kept in at recess and lunch.
Coquitlam RCMP and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

D. Sighting of wildlife on school grounds if students or staff are outdoors (Morning; Recess; Lunch or Afterschool)

If sighted by supervising staff, a whistle is blown/students notified.

Announcement made asking everyone to proceed indoors.

Students enter the school via the nearest unlocked exterior door. Move calmly towards entrances. Students then proceed to their classrooms once they are in the school. Coquitlam RCMP and Conservation Officers are contacted immediately for assistance or further instructions.

E. If You See wildlife:

Remain calm; don't panic. Often the wildlife is simply looking for food and will move on if it finds nothing to eat. Keep away from the wildlife and go inside – bring all children inside. Never approach the wildlife and do not run from the wildlife. Do not act submissively by crouching down or whispering. Warn others of the wildlife's presence, but don't do it by yelling. If the animal climbs a tree, keep people and pets away. When things quiet down, the animal will come down and leave. This usually happens after dark when the animal feels safe. When the animal is safely out of the area, check the area to ensure there are no attractants available.

Staff, students and parents are instructed to not approach the bear or cubs.

<https://wildsafebc.com/>- this is a great resource

TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT MAPLE CREEK



If you have tried to pick up your children after school, you already know that there is a congestion problem with traffic in front of the school in the loop. We have a few suggestions to improve the congestion level.

1. Let your children walk and cycle home, or if that is not possible arrange a different pick-up location such as the turn-around at the south end of Ozada, or through the path at the east end of Lincoln.
2. If you are picking your child up in front of the school pull right up behind the car in front of you and keep moving up so that there is a continuous flow.
3. Do not stop in the narrow area of the driveway between the speed bumps. There can be no cars stopped in this area as it limits the driveway to one lane that creates a congestion problem. This area needs to be kept clear. Please do not drive over the first speed bump unless there is room for your car to move up.
4. Your children can walk to your car safely on the outside of the loop or through the middle section of the circle.
5. You should not be double parking cars so that your children can get in the car. You must only pick up your children when you are parked on the right side of the driveway, up against the curb.
6. Cars should also not be left unattended for any reason. If you need to park, please park in the side parking lot. Traffic congestion is a problem for a short period of time each day approx. 2:40-3:05 p.m. Fridays and rainy days are extremely busy. Please do your part in helping keep our driveway safe for the students and the drivers.

Every home is a
university and the
parents are the
teachers.

Mahatma Gandhi



3700 Hastings St Port Coquitlam, BC V3B 5K7
Phone: 604.464.8581 Fax:604.937.8045
Office Hours: 8am - 4pm
Email: maplecreek@sd43.bc.ca

To all Maple Creek parents/families:

Re: Fundraising Campaign for Maple Creek Middle School

The Maple Creek Middle School PAC (Parents Advisory Council) is asking each family to make a **one-time donation** at the start of this school year to help raise \$5,000 to fund various school activities throughout the 2021/2022 year that are not otherwise funded.

Funds raised will benefit students directly by providing the wish-list items determined by the school to support an enriched learning environment for all students. Last year funds raised paid for classroom supplies, equipment, events and outings, as well as many other items. We are suggesting a donation of \$25 per student, or \$40 per family, but will be grateful for any amount you can provide.

Donations can be made via the KEV School Cash Online system and an email will be sent when this item becomes available. Alternatively, you can pay by cash or cheque. Please attach the bottom portion of this form and submit it with the cheque to the office. **Please make all cheques payable to "Maple Creek PAC".**

If you have any further questions, please contact the PAC Chair at maplecreekpac@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!



Detach and return to school classroom or office with student:

Name: _____ Enclosing: ___ Cash or ___ Cheque

Per Family Donation Amount: _____ Check One
_____ \$25.00 one student
_____ \$40.00 family
_____ Other* \$ _____ (fill in)

Tax Receipt requested in the name of: _____

**Tax receipts must be requested at time of donation and are issued before Feb 28, by the Coquitlam School Board Finance Department for donations of \$25 or more. Please indicate above if you require a tax receipt.*



THE GO-GIRLS! PROGRAM IS NOW OFFERED ONLINE!

This is a fun, safe, virtual program for youth in grades 6 - 8 focused on connecting with peers and trained volunteer mentors in a group setting.

This program offers games, activities, and discussions around relevant topics such as: friendships, problem solving, active living, social media, and balanced eating.



FREE



VIRTUAL
USING ZOOM



MAKE
FRIENDS



GAIN CONFIDENCE
& SELF-ESTEEM

“GO-GIRLS! HAS TAUGHT ME
HOW TO BE CONFIDENT AND
STAND UP FOR MYSELF.”



This program is run through Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland and is monitored by staff.

WANT TO REGISTER?

Contact Vanessa Gale at
vgale@bigsisters.bc.ca or 604-836-2122



Big Sisters
OF BC LOWER MAINLAND

HELP US ALL STAY SAFE

**SIGN UP TODAY AND PAY
SCHOOL FEES ONLINE**

<https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com>

