



e-Bulletin – 24 September 2021

Greetings École Moody Middle School of the Arts Community.

We are so very grateful to be starting up this year with such excitement and positive energy. While we continue to focus on our health and safety protocols, and prioritize staff and students' safety, we are beginning to see what our thriving middle school of the arts is supposed to look like as we move forward.

Teachers and staff have been connecting with students over the first couple of weeks and beginning to formalize routines and expectations. It has been an interesting process helping students socialize and get used to larger groups outside and more movement around the school. Some of our extra curricular activities are starting up slowly and we are encouraged by the excitement that offers. Band and Choir are starting things off and our sports sign up is right around the corner with some after school programming through Port Moody Rec also getting things rolling in mid to late October. We are going slowly and taking precautions as we bring some of the “extra” activities back into the building and are very much looking forward to seeing how it will all play out in our thriving middle school.

Our school wide theme this year is “Identity and Belonging”. It goes without saying how crucial this idea is in our current times. We must support and foster everyone’s personal identity and weave that into the incredible tapestry that is our learning community. In doing so we help our youth express themselves as part of something bigger not only at school but out in the world as well. We have spent the first few weeks of the school year focusing on activities that help students understand who they are and how they can contribute, by showing kindness and compassion everyday. We all still have much to learn and are excited to move fully into our journey, embracing our *First Peoples Principles of Learning* to guide us along the way.

We continue to embrace the arts daily, integrating art into most everything we do. Some exciting activities already planned for this year that will enhance our vision will be working with one or two Artists in Residence focusing on identity and belonging. Staff, students, and parents will also have the opportunity to engage with, Creative Engagement Facilitator, Katarina Thorsen building and mapping our vision going forward. Staff get started with Kat on the October 1st Professional Development Day and we will reach out to students and our PAC later in the Fall of 2021. It is an exciting process that will help articulate what it means to live, learn, and play at École Moody Middle School of the Arts.

The 2021-2022 school year is officially underway, and we are getting our legs under us for an incredible run this year. Please take the time to read our Moody Matters as it comes out every few weeks. It is

important information that keeps you connected with your children in their learning journey and celebrates some of the wonderful things we do around here. We fully appreciate our Parents and Guardians as partners in our school. Please stay in touch with your children’s teachers and our school staff as this can only enhance the experience at school. Our first EMMSOTA PAC Meeting is on September 27th at 6:30 PM on ZOOM. We would love to see you there. It goes without saying, that we are so honoured to be working with your children this year and we thank you for sharing them with us every day.

Cheers, A Bientot

Mark Clay Kathryn Jung
Principal Vice Principal



IMPORTANT DATES – 2021-2022

SEPTEMBER	
7	School Opens
15	Photo Day
30* New: No School	Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
OCTOBER	
1	Pro-D Day (School Based) – School not in session
7	Parent/Teacher Virtual Orientation 6:30
8	Terry Fox Run Day
11	Thanksgiving – Schools not in session
18	Photo Day Re-takes
22	Pro D Day (Provincial) – Schools not in session
NOVEMBER	
8	Immunizations Blitz #1 for Grade 6 students
10	Remembrance Day ceremony
11	Remembrance Day – Schools not in session
16-18	Communicating Student Learning 3-way conferences
19	Immunizations Blitz #1 for Grade 7 students
DECEMBER	
9	Winter concert
16	Report cards sent home on MyED
Dec 20-31	Winter Vacation – Schools not in session
JANUARY	
3	Winter Vacation – Schools not in session
4	Schools open after Winter Vacation
28	Grade 8 Tours of Secondary Schools
31	Pro D Day (School based) – School not in session
FEBRUARY	
21	Family Day – Schools not in session
22-24	Communicating Student Learning 3-way conferences
23	Pink Shirt Day
25	Pro D Day (District) – Schools not in session
MARCH	
3	Group Photo Day

10	Report cards sent home
14-25	Spring Break – Schools not in session
28	Schools re-open after Spring Break
APRIL	
15-18	Good Friday & Easter Monday – Schools not in session
22	Pro D (District) – Schools not in session
25	Spring Musical - Elementary School performance
26-28	Spring Musical - evening performances
MAY	
23	Victoria Day – Schools not in session
18 (grade 6) / 20 (grade 7)	Immunizations – Blitz #2
JUNE	
6	Pro D Day (School based) – School not in session
9	Year-end Concert
27	Year-end Recognition & Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony
29	Last School Day / Report cards sent home
30	Administrative Day – Schools not in session

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 27-29, all students and staff at ÉMMSOTA will be honouring and respecting our First Peoples led by **Mme Grayston** with support from **Andrea Hotomanie** (Indigenous Youth Worker), **Mr. Clay**, **Ms. Turje**, **Ms. Reichert**, and **Ms. Jung**. Students are encouraged to wear **orange** all week and especially on Tuesday, when we will come together as a school to hear our choir sing a traditional Welcome Song as well as hear firsthand oral stories of what it means to be Indigenous in Canada. We will wear **orange** to raise awareness for Residential School survivors, those who did not make it home, and their families. We will wear **orange** to show respect, raise awareness, learn the history of Indigenous Peoples and rise up to set our own “calls to action” for Truth and Reconciliation. This year, families were provided with the opportunity to purchase orange shirts designed by Tsèmsyen (Tsimshian) artist **Morgan Asoyuf** with the words “Every Child Matters”. The heart represents that every child matters and that every child has rights, deserves to be respected and loved. We hope students will extend the conversations at school to home with the family. Attached are some suggestions on how to have this important dialogue with our students. Stay tuned by reading the next edition of the *Moody Matters* for more stories about the students who will bear witness to their Indigenous culture by wearing orange.

What Can You Do On Truth and Reconciliation Day?

September 20 Events for Families and Community – see attached document

Included you'll find pertinent information:

- Review the 94 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.
- Learn about Orange Shirt Day.
- Find a local event and participate in your local community.

Student Vote

On Monday, September 20th, while local voters were casting their real ballots in the gym, students here were doing their own Student Vote in the Library Learning Commons! In the days leading up to Election Day, students learned about the issues, parties, and process of federal elections and decided which candidate to vote for. Student election workers from each class, plus some extra Water Pod students, helped make the voting process happen for our school. The final results for our school put Bonita Zarrillo of the NDP in the lead, followed by Will Davis of the Liberal Party and then Nelly Shin of the Conservative Party, so it's clear that student party preferences were slightly different than the adult voters of our electoral district where Bonita Zarrillo (37% of votes) beat out Nelly Shin (31% of votes) this time (as she lost by 153 votes in 2019) followed by Will Davis as the top three candidates of this tight race of Port Moody-Coquitlam. (Results from September 22, 2021)



L-R: Emma, Ginger and Mia at the sign in table



Emilie stationed by the Voting Booths



L-R: Fire Pod student voter, Megan and Addison checking ID at the sign in table

Teen books explanation

École Moody Middle School Library Learning Commons

Our collection of books in the Library Learning Commons here at EMMSOTA continues to grow and evolve. We have graphic novels, picture books, e-books, as well as non-fiction and fiction books in both English and French. Our collection is suitable for students ranging in age from 8 through 14+. As such, there are some fiction materials in our collection that may be suitable for more mature students only; these books are marked with a

“TEEN” or “Mature Read” sticker. We recognize that age does not necessarily convert to maturity, so we have decided not to restrict students from taking out “TEEN” books if they choose to do so. However, we want to make our school community aware of the denotation of “TEEN” and what it may mean about what your child chooses to read from our Library. If you are concerned about your child taking out a book too mature for them, please have a discussion with your child about not taking out “TEEN” books until you feel they are ready to do so.

Here is what you need to know about Middle Grade and Young Adult distinctions in literature.

(Source: <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/what-parents-need-to-know-about-middle-grade-and-young-adult.html>)

Middle Grade Books:

- Ages: 8-11 years
- Grades: 3-6
- Length: 30-50K words
- Characters: Protagonist (main character) is around the age of the reader, 8-11 years old or younger
- Topics: friendship, family, the character’s life and world, external conflict vs internal
- Point of View: often third-person, meaning the narrator is outside the story looking in
- Content restrictions: no profanity, graphic violence, or sexuality permitted Examples: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, *Sisters* (by Raina Telgemeier), *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*, *Wonder* (by R.J. Palacio)

Young Adult Books:

- Ages: 12-18 years
- Grades: 7-12
- Length: 50-75K words
- Characters: Protagonist is older, 12-18 years old
- Topics: self-reflection, internal conflict vs external, analyzing life and its meaning
- Point of View: often first-person, meaning the narrator is telling the story about himself or herself
- Content restrictions: profanity, violence, romance and sexual situations permitted

Examples: *The Divergent Trilogy*, *The Fault in Our Stars*, *The Hunger Games*

Now, these guidelines are just that—guidelines. Often the lines may be blurry in some books, which makes categorizing them difficult. If you are ever confused or concerned or want to learn more, read the book yourself to see if it is a good fit for your child. You are the best gauge, as the parent. You know best what your child can and cannot handle.

Band/Choir October Rehearsal Schedule

Band rehearsals – 7:50-8:35am

Choir rehearsals – 8:00-9:00am

For all Band and Choir rehearsals, please gather outside at the main entrance of the school at least 5-10 minutes before the rehearsal begins. Mrs. Reichert will bring students in the front door and to the music room where we will wash our hands before we begin. If a student is late, they will be able to come in the front door on their own and come straight to the music room to join us.

Friday	September 24	Choir
Friday	October 1	Pro-D – No Choir
Monday	October 4	Jr. Band – Flutes only
Tuesday	October 5	Jr. Band – Clarinets only

Wednesday	October 6	Jr. Band – Saxophones only
Thursday	October 7	Jr. Band – Trumpets only
Friday	October 8	Choir
Monday	October 11	Thanksgiving – No School
Tuesday	October 12	Jr. Band – Trombones/Baritone only
Wednesday	October 13	Jr. Band – Bass Guitars only
Thursday	October 14	Jr. Band – any students who missed the previous sectionals
Friday	October 15	Choir
Monday	October 18	Sr. Band (1 st rehearsal)
Tuesday	October 19	Jr. Band – Woodwinds only (Flute/Clarinet/Sax)
Wednesday	October 20	Sr. Band
Thursday	October 21	Jr. Band – Brass/Bass only (Trumpets/Trombone/Baritone/Bass Guitar)
Friday	October 22	Pro-D – No Choir
Monday	October 25	Sr. Band
Tuesday	October 26	Jr. Band – Woodwinds only
Wednesday	October 27	Sr. Band
Thursday	October 28	Jr. Band – Brass/Bass only
Friday	October 29	Choir

Bell Schedule 2021-2022

Monday – Thursday		Friday	
Band 7:50 – 8:35		Band / Choir 8:15 – 9:00	
Daily Art	🔔 8:35	Daily Art	🔔 9:00
1	8:40 – 9:30	1	9:05 – 10:35
2	9:30 – 10:20	<i>Nutrition Break</i> 10:35 – 10:50 🔔	
<i>Nutrition Break</i> 10:20 – 10:30 🔔		2	10:55 – 12:25
3	10:35 – 11:25	BRICK	
4	11:25 – 12:15	<i>Lunch</i> 12:25 – 1:00 🔔	
<i>Lunch</i> 12:15 – 12:50 🔔		3	1:05 – 3:00
5	12:55- 1:45		
6	1:45 – 3:00		

Getting to school on time is a key factor in establishing successful learning routines!

Attendance, (including lates & early dismissals)

Timely Arrival

Please assist your child in arriving to school on time. Schedules and routines are extremely important to a student's development and academic achievement as key concepts and lessons begin promptly when the bell.

Absence

Parents/guardians are asked to report all absences, including daily, ongoing absences, lates or early dismissals, using our online Absence Report form – click here: [Absence Report](#)

Alternatively, please contact the school office by phone 604-461-7384 or email moodymiddlesecretary@sd43.bc.ca

Our secretary "call back" is in place to help ensure the safety of our children and we call all contact numbers in priority sequence if a child is not accounted for. Please assist us by ensuring that you have called in to report your child's absence.

Lates:

Please assist your child in arriving to school on time. Schedules and routines are extremely important to a student's development and academic achievement as key concepts and lessons begin promptly at our scheduled bell time. Students arriving late should come through the main front entrance, sanitize and sign-in at the LATES desk. Students will then be escorted to their classroom or given instructions from the office.

Early Dismissals:

Whenever possible, please make appointments for your child outside of school hours. If you do need to pick up your child early, we ask that you advise your child, your child's teacher and the office in advance so that the student is ready to leave without interrupting their classmates. Please notify the school regarding the time of departure and pick-up or student transportation plans (walking/bus/etc.). All students must sign out in person at the office before leaving school property. Students must have permission to leave before they will be allowed to sign out.

If you are picking up your student, please call the office when you arrive. We will send the student out to you in the parking lot.

Parking, Transportation and Student Safety

Please plan to drop-off and pick-up your student off site as much as possible to reduce the traffic flow. Our parking lot does allow for a few cars at a time to drop off and pick up students, and if you choose to use the drop-off zone, we ask that you support us in making this work in a safe and respectful way. The drop off and pick up spaces are in our staff parking lot along the south side adjacent to the school. Please keep to a safe speed of 10km/hr and less in our lot and through the drop off zone. Be mindful that this is a staff only parking lot and spaces are limited. The flow of traffic is one way in, all the way around the lot and out the same way stopping at the stop sign before entering the intersection. Please drive cautiously in our school zone of 30 km/hr and less, thinking about student safety first. We

appreciate the number of parents who have chosen to access our nearby streets (e.g. James, Henry, St. George) to drop off and pick up your child. No U-Turns, please.

This is an ideal time to remind your children about traffic safety and being mindful of crosswalks and sidewalk use. Student safety is of utmost importance to all of us, so please consider doing your best to support our plan. We all thank you.

Picture Day

Picture re-take day will be October 18.

To order, go to our website (mountainwest.ca) and click on "View + Order". After entering the web code found on the flyer provided to each student, you can view all the photos taken and purchase prints or digital downloads.

The other option is to scan the QR code found on the web code flyer provided after the photo sessions and it will also take you directly to the ordering site.

You can also find detailed instructions on our website that cover all details of preparing for photo day and the ordering process.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Students are asked to ***Bring Your Own Device*** on a daily basis. Technology is an incredible tool that supports learning and we want to ensure students have easy access to it on a regular and timely basis. This does not mean their entire days will be in front of a screen. We will continue to have clear expectations for technology use that include "Tech Free Breaks" at Nutrition Break and Lunch, and cell phones / personal devices stored away when not in use supporting learning in the classroom.

For information about BYOD, please click on the following link to our website:

[MoodyMiddle Publications - click on BYOD](#)

Class Placement

Every year we spend an incredible amount of time building classes and considering many factors to create the best possible learning environments for all our students. It is not a perfect science, and we are not always able to place students with their friends every year. While we like to keep students on the same Pod for at least a couple of years, our class size and composition numbers often dictate the need to move some students around. This process is done collaboratively with teachers and other staff. We do what we can to make appropriate class placements in all situations. We ask that students and parents support our decisions and have positive conversations about change and the opportunity to make new friends in a variety of school community settings. Thank you.

Lunches

Please send your child with a litter-less snack, lunch and refillable water bottle each day. We do not have microwaves or hot water (kettles) available for student use. We ask that you work with us to

ensure student safety by sending students to school with food at the start of the day rather than dropping it off at the office during the day. We are trying to limit drop-offs as this adds another complication to contact tracing if and when needed. Any drop off of lunch for students requires parents to call the office before entering the building, follow safety protocols, by sanitizing hands and signing in upon entry. It is imperative all families follow these safety protocols. Please ensure your child has all their belongings for the day when they leave in the morning.

Inclement Weather Communication

As our weather is changing quickly, please be prepared by planning ahead to arrive to school in a safe and timely fashion with students dressed appropriately for learning and play both indoors and out. For school closures due to inclement weather, check our website or listen to a local radio station for updates by 6:30am on school days.

Communication

Announcements that are made each morning at the school are posted on our website daily to facilitate shared communication between the classrooms and our school community.

Parents with messages for their children are asked to contact the office. Notifications of these messages will be passed on to the student during nut break, lunch time or at the end of the day. As we are protective of the learning environment of all our students, we cannot relay messages to students during class time concerning social arrangements. We also ask parents to respect our technology expectations and not to text or contact your child directly by cell phone during the school day. Messages sent through the office are always the best way to go. Thank you.

*Did you know? ÉMMSOTA has a [Twitter](#) account! Please find us **@43Moody** for updates.

SchoolCashOnline (SCO)

Our School District continues to use SchoolCashOnline (SCO) for ONLINE policy/permission forms, fee payments, and newsletters. Within the first two weeks of school, we will be distributing on-line notices regarding **mandatory forms that need to be completed each year.**

To maximize our communication, please ensure you are registered for SchoolCashOnline. If you have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible – click here: <https://sd43.schoolcashionline.com/> Then click on **'GET STARTED TODAY'**

If you are unable to complete on-line forms and payments, please let us know at the office as soon as possible.

PAC

PAC MEETING: SEPTEMBER 27, 6:30PM – ZOOM INVITATION TO COME...

Dear Parents,

Please join us at the first PAC meeting of the new school year at 6:30pm on Monday, September 27. A ZOOM invitation will be sent out to parents from the PAC. PAC meetings are a great way for parents and guardians to find out more about what's happening in the school, to ask questions and participate in and help enrich their student's school experience. There are a number of executive and volunteer

opportunities available. PAC has some great fundraising initiatives for the coming school year but needs volunteers to help make them a reality. Hope to see you there!

For purposes of voting / authentication we ask that you kindly appear on camera and include your name as you logon to the meeting.

EMMSOTA PAC Facebook Page:

"Like" our page to receive updates on events, meetings and fundraising initiatives:

<https://www.facebook.com/EMMSOTAPAC/>

Follow us on Twitter

Twitter name – @43moody

. . . school news, breaking stories, reminders, links, accomplishments, educational dialogue and another means of communication!

[Download](#) the Twitter app



Moody Middle communicates with families via email, including sending newsletters, field trip notices and payment notices. If you do NOT wish to receive email from Moody Middle, please reply to this email with 'UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject line.

moodymiddlesecretary@sd43.bc.ca

[PAC Website](#)

[School Website](#)

[District Website](#)