



Riverview Park Elementary

Mrs. A. Young, Principal

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December 2022

In learning and in life, we at Riverview Park Elementary are responsible, kind, and curious.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

December	5	Staff Meeting, 3:00 PM PAC Meeting via TEAMS, 7:00 PM -- Join on your computer or mobile app Click here to join the meeting
	6	Holiday Concert in the Gym, Red Ticket Required for Entry, 1:30 PM
	7	Holiday Concert in the Gym, Green Ticket Required for Entry, 1:30 PM
	8	Holiday Concert in the Gym, Blue Ticket Required for Entry, 1:30 PM
	9	Hot Lunch (A&W), 12:00 – 12:15 PM Term 1 Report Card (and IEPs and AIPs) Published in MyEd
	15	Santa Breakfast, 9:00 AM
	16	Last Day of School Before Winter Break
January	2	New Year's Day Holiday
	3	School Re-Opens After Winter Break

Principal's Message

December is upon us and holidays are just around the corner already. As we bring a close to 2022, we are excited to bring back some of the festive experiences from the past. December is typically a time of gathering and celebrating, sharing festive treats, and singing and that is just what we are planning to do!

At the heart of this season of sharing and caring, is **the spirit of giving**. As in past years, the RVP PAC would like to help families in need of community support in the SD43 district by **collecting donations for four family Christmas Hampers**. **Thank you to Ms. Jen Jensen for coordinating this annual project**. Please be sure to check out the details in the PAC Update below. A School Cash Online Notification was sent out to all families who are able to make a cash donation to support our annual Adopt-a-Family Fundraiser. An overview of wish list items for each family went home with students last week.

The Kindergarten Elves are back this year, **collecting non-perishable food items** each day in December. The non-perishable food items are already flooding in – thank you for your generous support!

Mrs. Wragg and the students and staff are working hard to prepare a **Holiday Concert this year, featuring the musical, Twinkle and Shine**. We look forward to welcoming families in person to our school gym this week.

I wish each and every one of you a wonderful holiday season, however you spend it. I am hoping for peace and calm and time to reflect on the past year and to look forward to 2023. I do hope you are able to connect with your family and friends this holiday season.

Best wishes!

Anita Young

INFORMATION ITEMS

HOLIDAY PRODUCTION – DECEMBER 6-8

Our school production of 'Twinkle and Shine' is just around the corner! **Tickets for this event were sent home last week.** Please review your assigned concert date below.

Concert Date	Attendance by Last Name *2 Tickets Per Family
Tuesday, December 6, 1:30 PM (Red Ticket)	Abdalvand to Ismailov
Wednesday, December 7, 1:30 PM (Green Ticket)	Jeffrey to Park
Thursday, December 8, 1:30 PM (Blue Ticket)	Paul to Zhu

Each family should have received two tickets for their assigned concert date. Tickets were stapled to student planners in a Ziploc baggie.

- For families who have more than one child attending RVP, **tickets were sent home with the oldest child.**
- For families with twins, **tickets were sent home to the child in the lowest division number.**

Please Note: If the assigned concert date does not work for your family, please find another family who is willing to trade concert dates with you. **If you are trading concert dates with a family, you will need to physically trade tickets with the family as we have only printed the specific number of tickets required for each performance and tickets are required for entrance to the concert.**

Tickets are colour-coded for each performance to avoid confusion.

- **RED** tickets for Tuesday, December 6
- **GREEN** tickets for Wednesday, December 7
- **BLUE** tickets for Thursday, December 8

Due to fire regulations that limit our gym capacity, we cannot accommodate more people than the number of tickets that have been issued. Thank you for your support and understanding.

The Holiday Production of 'Twinkle and Shine' will be held in our school gym and will start at 1:30 PM. **We ask that families line up outside as we will have families enter via the side gym doors. Student leaders will be collecting tickets at the door.**

Please note that the usual parking rules apply. Unfortunately, we do not have public parking available on school property other than the few spots in the turnaround and the designated handicap parking in the Staff Parking Lot for families who are eligible for handicap parking. We encourage families to walk to the event or to park on a nearby street that allows for public parking. **The driveway must remain clear for emergency vehicles in the event of an emergency.**

We encourage families to wear a mask when attending the performance. Masks will be provided for your convenience in case you forget to bring your own. **We ask that families monitor their own health leading up to and on the day of the concert.** With cold and flu season in full swing, and these large gatherings occurring right before the holidays, we want to ensure we don't create an environment that spreads cold and flu throughout our school community. **If you are not feeling well and are experiencing any cold or flu symptoms, we ask that you not attend the performance.**

Thank you for your support as we adjust our concert format this year and ensure our numbers do not exceed our gym capacity. We are excited to be back to a live, in-person event, but we also want to ensure families are comfortable attending the event.

STAFFING UPDATE

We were fortunate enough to receive **an increase in our allocation of Education Assistant support hours** in November. **Ms. Makenna Smith**, who was with us in the afternoons only, recently accepted a full-time position at RVP for the remainder of this school year. We are thrilled to have Makenna join us full time!

In addition, we received some additional teaching support time that was recently filled. **Ms. Jennifer Raptis was the successful applicant and has joined our staff for the remainder of the school year** on alternating Tuesdays and every Thursday. Jennifer was in a temporary position for the first two months of the school year, so we are fortunate to be able to welcome her back in this new position for the rest of this year.

PHOTO RETAKES

Photo retakes are now available for viewing through Mountain West Studios. You can access your child's retakes as follows:

1. On Photo Day, your student was provided with a photo flyer containing a QR login code.
2. Use this login code to access your student's personal photo gallery at myorder.mountainwest.ca.
3. ***Any active email address can be used to login.***

YOUR ORDER DEADLINE IS: Friday, December 9, 2022

1. To find out more about ordering, [Click Here](#) for support.
2. If you do not have your login code, or require assistance, please [chat](#) with us or email us at help@mountainwest.ca.
3. Orders will be shipped directly to your home address.
4. Looking to access digital downloads or check on the status of your order? Visit portal.mountainwest.ca

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards will be published in MyEd this Friday, December 9. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's Report Card, please contact your child's teacher directly. Thank you so much to our entire staff for their hard work and attention to detail throughout the reporting process. This takes a considerable amount of time and care, including the collecting and gathering of reporting data/evidence, individual conferencing with students, and drafting a meaningful and informative report card for students. I read each and every report card and it is very evident that the teachers know their students well and worked hard to communicate student learning to families this term.

***Please ensure you are able to access the Family Portal in MyEd according to the instructions that have gone home this fall. There will be no paper copies of Term 1 Report Cards.** The only way to access reports is through the Family Portal in MyEd. If you have any difficulty logging into the system, please contact me via email at ayoung@sd43.bc.ca.

INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS (IEP) AND ANNUAL INSTRUCTIONAL PLANS (AIP)

In past years, our Student Services Department has provided families with an IEP and/or AIP in paper copy. This term, we will be publishing these documents in MyEd, just as we have published report cards over the past year. **For those families who have children with an IEP or AIP, please watch for an additional published report in MyEd this coming Friday, December 9.**

PLANNING FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Plans for the upcoming school year are already underway. Please see the overview below for information on Kindergarten Registration, the Cross-Catchment Application Process, and Programs of Choice Options. For more detailed information, please visit www.sd43.bc.ca where you will find more information under top tabs 'Schools' and 'Programs'.

Kindergarten Registration

Children who are five years old on or before December 31, 2023 may enter school in September 2023. Kindergarten registration will be held between January 31, 2023 and February 2, 2023 via online forms. These online forms will be available on our school website at the time of registration. For more information, please visit the district site at: [KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\) \(sd43.bc.ca\)](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)

Cross Catchment

Parents sometimes wish for their children to attend a school that is not their catchment school. In such cases, a Cross Catchment Application is required after registering at their catchment school. School District 43 uses a random draw process for Cross Catchment applications (using in-district priority, then out-of-district).

Cross Catchment application forms, along with more information about the process, can be accessed online at [CROSS CATCHMENT - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\) \(sd43.bc.ca\)](http://www.sd43.bc.ca). The Cross Catchment process is open from Friday, February 3, 2023, 9:00 AM to Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 4:00 PM.

Programs of Choice

SD43 offers Programs of Choice for families who may be interested in different learning opportunities for their children. These include Early French Immersion (Kindergarten Entry), Late French Immersion (Grade 6 Entry), Early Montessori Program (K-5), Late Montessori Program (6-8), Mandarin Bilingual Program (K-12), and the Reggio Influenced Program (K-5).

Programs of Choice – On-Line Applications for Kindergarten

The online application process for Kindergarten Programs of Choice opens on January 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM and closes on January 11, 2023 at 4:00 PM. The link to the application will be posted on the district website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca>

Parents must apply within this time period in order for their child to be considered for placement. Selection will be done by a random lottery draw with priority given to younger siblings of students who will be attending the Program of Choice at the same school in September 2023.

Children who are not successfully placed will be on a waitlist and must register for Kindergarten at their catchment school. Parents who currently have a child attending a Program of Choice and wish their upcoming Kindergarten child to enter must still apply and indicate "Confirmation of Sibling Status applies." Please ensure we have your most current address. For more information on Programs of Choice, please visit: [Programs - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\) \(sd43.bc.ca\)](http://www.sd43.bc.ca)

Late Programs of Choice – On-Line Applications for Middle School

The online application process for Late Programs of Choice for Middle School opens January 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM and closes January 11, 2023 at 4:00 PM. The link to the application will be posted on the school district website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca>

Parents must apply within this time period for their child to be considered for placement. Selection will be done by a random lottery draw with priority given to younger siblings of students who will be attending the Program of Choice at the same school in September 2023.

Children who are not successfully placed will be on a waitlist. Parents who currently have a child attending a Program of Choice and wish their upcoming child to enter must still apply and indicate “Confirmation of Sibling Status applies.” Students currently enrolled in Grade 5 Montessori must apply if they wish to continue in Grade 6 Montessori. For more information on Programs of Choice, please visit: [Programs - School District No. 43 \(Coquitlam\) \(sd43.bc.ca\)](https://www.sd43.bc.ca/programs)

CATCHMENT LETTER FOR GRADE 5 STUDENTS

All parents of Grade 5 students will be receiving the annual Catchment Area letter this month which will indicate your child’s catchment Middle School based on the address we have on file. If your address is incorrect and you believe your child should attend a different school, you must contact the office as soon as possible so that the documentation on file can be updated. This is an important part of our process for transitioning students in Grade 5 to their new school for September.

MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI)

SD43 has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children’s social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings, and experiences.

This year, the MDI will be administered to students in Grade 4 across the school district. An information letter was sent to parents of Grade 4 students via email last week with more details about the questionnaire and our timeline for completion.

GRADE 4 FOUNDATION SKILLS ASSESSMENT (FSA) UPDATE

The Grade 4 Foundation Skills Assessment results for your child will be returned to parents prior to the holidays. If you have not already received your child’s FSA, please watch for the assessment in the coming week.

MONITORING OUR HEALTH

Thank you so much for your continued support in monitoring your child’s health prior to sending your child to school. We have appreciated the tremendous support from our entire school community. Please don’t hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions or concerns.

PAC NEWS

PAC Meeting – December 5 at 7:00 PM

At the request of our PAC, the December PAC Meeting will be held on Monday, December 5 at 7:00 PM via Teams. All parents are welcome! Please click the link to join: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

PAC Fundraiser Update

Purdy’s Chocolates

Thank you so much to our generous RVP Community for supporting this year’s Purdy’s Chocolates Fundraiser. With your generosity, the PAC has raised hundreds of dollars towards school initiatives! Thank you so much to Ms. Tanya Adams for coordinating this year’s fundraiser. Chocolates will be available for pick-up at school this coming week.

Adopt-a-Family

RVP has committed to helping four families in need of community support in the SD43 district this holiday season. More detailed information on what donations are needed and how to donate was sent home with students last week. Donations will be accepted directly at school or via School Cash Online.

Santa Breakfast

Our pancake breakfast was a huge highlight for students last year, so the PAC has decided to continue this tradition this December. On Thursday, December 15, every student will receive a pancake breakfast and juice. Pancakes will be delivered by 9:00 AM. Please place an order on the Hot Lunch site to help cover the cost of the pancakes/drink (\$5 per order). Every student will receive breakfast, regardless if an order is placed or not. Each child will ONLY receive one order of pancakes. We are hopeful that Santa will be able to make an appearance at this year's breakfast!

KIDSCAN THEATRE

Riverview Park would like to welcome back KidsCAN theatre in the new year. Students in **Grades 2-5** are invited to join the cast of **KidsCAN Theatre Company's** mini-musical adaptation of the 1977 Broadway musical **Annie**, by Charles Strouse, Martin Charnin and Thomas Meehan, which was based on the *Little Orphan Annie* comic strip created by Harold Gray in 1924. Participants will tell this rich Depression-era story through song, dance, and characterization, all the while building self-confidence and having FUN with their peers.

Where: Riverview Park (RVP) Elementary School, Coquitlam, BC

Dates: Rehearsals will start on January 16 and run until March 8, 2023

Rehearsal Times: Mondays and Wednesdays at lunch in the school gym, unless otherwise specified.

(Note: There will be NO class on Monday, February 20. This day will be made up during production week.)

Performance: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 (exact time to be announced)

Class size: A total of 24 participants in Grades 2-5

Cost: \$159

To register, please visit the KidsCAN Theatre site through the following link: [KidsCan Theatre | Performing Arts for Children](#)

WINTER WEATHER

Schools are not routinely closed due to snow or other inclement weather conditions. All schools in School District 43 (Coquitlam) will remain OPEN, if possible, during winter weather, including snowfall.

However, on occasion, a district-wide or partial-district closure is required due to extreme weather. Partial-district closures affecting individual schools may occur due to the very different geography within our school district. If there is a partial-district closure affected schools will be identified.

The decision on schools remaining open or needing to be closed, because of extreme weather, occurs **before 6:30 AM** so that families can plan and make alternate arrangements.

Any district-wide or partial-district closure will be decided and communicated by 6:30 AM via the School District 43 website www.sd43.bc.ca and CKNW AM 980 radio, CKWX 1130 radio and CBC (690) radio.

Extreme weather can also impact transit. Transit schedules may face significant changes or cancellations due to the weather conditions. Parents seeking information on transit schedules need to consult the Translink website: <http://www.translink.ca/>

We encourage families to continuously check the School District 43 website for updates and changes: www.sd43.bc.ca

Learn more about SD43's process for emergency and inclement weather status updates at: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/NewsEvents/Pages/EmergencyInformation.aspx>

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Traffic Congestion at Drop-Off and Pick-Up – IMPORTANT Safety Reminders!

Our morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up has been very busy, especially on rainy and snowy days. **The traffic congestion has been challenging and, in some cases, unsafe for children.** Please do your part to help ease congestion as much as possible by remembering our drop-off and pick-up rules included in this update below.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Safety Reminders

Please review the following important safety rules and please help us keep all our children safe by following these rules every day, even when you are in a hurry.

- 1. Drop-Off/Pick-Up Lane:** Please remain at your vehicle at all times during drop-off and pick-up and when in the drop-off/pick-up lane.
- 2. Parking and Round-About:** The five parking spots in the round-about are the only places where parking is permitted. At no time are parents permitted to leave their cars in the round-about area and students are not to be taken to the cars that are waiting in this area. When waiting in the round-about, cars are to proceed to the pick-up lane when space becomes available.
- 3. Through Lane:** Please do not drop students off or pick students up while stopped for traffic in the through lane. Cars pull out quickly and unexpectedly and this is a concern for student safety.
- 4. The Quick Goodbye:** As much as possible, when in the drop-off lane, ensure your child is ready to go and can exit the vehicle without your assistance. Even the extra minute or two that is required when parents need to exit the vehicle and assist students can really slow things down and add to the congestion.
- 5. Street Parking Option:** Avoid the congestion all together and park on one of the streets close to the school and walk the rest of the way.
- 6. Delayed Pick-Up:** For families with older children, you may wish to delay your pick-up at the end of the day by a few minutes to allow for congestion to clear. Sometimes, a matter of 5-7 minutes can make a significant difference in reducing traffic congestion.

Thank you very much for your support of these important safety rules during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. If you have a family member picking up your child, please be sure to explain the safety rules associated with drop-off and pick-up.