



# École Coquitlam River Elementary

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Follow us on Instagram: @CoquitlamRiver

Principal: Mr. D. Mushens

September 22, 2023

## **On the Calendar**

Friday, September 22	Today - District Professional Development Day
Wednesday, September 27	Fruit & Veggie Day
Thursday, September 28	PAC Hot Dog Day
Friday, September 29	Orange Shirt Day
Monday, October 2	School Closed in Recognition of National Truth and Reconciliation Day

Please regularly check the [calendar](#) on the [school website](#) for updates and information.

## **Parent Information Evening Highlights**

It was nice to see those who were able to come to our parent information evening this week. Here are a few things we talked about in our main session, in case you weren't able to join us:

### ***Our Action Plan for Learning (APL):***

We shared our APL's 3 school goals in the area of *Intellectual Development, Human & Social Development, and Indigenous Learners & Indigenous Ways of Learning*. Details of our APL can be found on the [school website](#) and will be updated shortly

### ***Focus on Attendance***

Except when students are sick (and they should definitely stay home when they're sick!), it's important that we are making every effort to be at school as much as possible. Research shows a direct correlation between attendance and learning, *especially* at the elementary level, when we are focused on skill building and learning *how* to learn.

Hey – we get it. Sometimes, life happens. There are flat tires and the occasional traffic jam. But being *on time* for school is also an important skill and commitment we should be teaching our kids. The *routine* of being at school on time, arriving with our peers, getting ready and into the mindset for learning is an important part of the learning process. It shows students that coming to school is part of their job and responsibility and we should be taking it seriously. Students should be lined up outside their classroom when the bell goes at 8:50 each morning.

Please help us help our students to recognize and understand the importance of regular, consistent, timely attendance as part of their daily routine.

### ***School & Home Working Together***

We want to encourage a partnership between school and home. Here are some key ways we can do that:

- Check planners, class & school emails
- Practice daily reading, either silently, and/or aloud with your student
- Volunteer, get involved in school activities
- Reach out to us, especially if your child is feeling anxious, overwhelmed, struggling to come to school

- If your family is needing help with food at home, lunches/snacks, clothing/shoes/school supply fees, etc, please let us know in confidence by contacting our counsellor Jo Kopf ([jkopf@sd43.bc.ca](mailto:jkopf@sd43.bc.ca)) in confidence or me

### ***Polite & Respectful Communication***

Let us remember that we are here to do our very best for the students in our care. Sometimes, when you hear something of concern, before picking up the phone or firing off an email in anger, take a moment to consider:

- Everyone is doing their best
- Keep in mind that context matters – sometimes the *perspective* of a 5-10 year old child doesn't give the whole picture
- We are *people* too – abusive, disrespectful communication is not acceptable and is a violation of the school and district code of conduct that applies to all of us: students, parents, and staff

The best way we can teach students to learn to solve problems is to role model how to do so ourselves, to seek solutions rather than blame. Working together in a polite and respectful manner always leads to better outcomes.

The slides from our brief presentation are available on the [school website](#).

### **Dress for (dry!) success**

We have been lulled into a sense of relatively dry security these first few weeks of school but be assured, the wet weather is 'a-comin'! According to weather forecasters (yeah, we know they're about as accurate as economists guessing interest rate hikes!), the rain is coming at us with a vengeance next week.

Remember that rain or shine, we head outdoors unless the rain is *very* heavy. Please ensure your students have appropriate clothing, including rain gear, boots, and indoor shoes for when they return to the great indoors.

It bears repeating that it's a *great* idea to label clothing with your children's name. We have already amassed a growing collection of discarded clothing in our lost and found, outside the gym. If it's labelled – we will return it (we're nice that way!).

### **NOON HOUR SUPERVISORS FOR SD43**

SD43 is looking for casual Noon Hour Assistants to supervise students for one hour per day during their lunch break! (This is a paid position and previous experience working with children is an asset.) Please submit your resume through the following link:

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/District/JobOpportunities/External%20NonTeaching%20Positions/Casual%20Non%20Hour%20Assistants%20-%20Ongoing%20Recruitment.pdf> if you would be interested in becoming a Noon Hour Assistant for one of our sites!