

EAGLE RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2023

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/eagleridge>

Newsletter #1



Eagle Ridge

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful summer. We would like to welcome all new and returning families to Eagle Ridge. We would also like to welcome all new and returning staff to Eagle Ridge.

Please read and share the following information with your family. If you have any concerns and/or questions, please call me at the school.

Mr. D Hutchinson

ACTION PLAN FOR LEARNING (APL) AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Our school goals are again Numeracy, Social & Emotional Learning, and Indigenous Learning. Our Action Plan for Learning and Code of Conduct are available on the Eagle Ridge website

<http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/eagleridge>

EAGLE RIDGE BELL SCHEDULE 2023-2024

Period	Time
Welcome Bell	8:58
Period 1	9:00-9:40
Period 2	9:40-10:20
Recess (Grades 3-5)	10:20-10:40
Recess (Grades K-2)	10:40-11:00
Period 3	10:40-11:20
Period 4	11:20-12:00
Lunch (Grades 3-5)	12:00-12:30
Period 5 (Grades K-2)	12:00-12:30
Lunch (Grades K-2)	12:30-1:00
Period 5 (Grades 3-5)	12:30-1:00
Period 6	1:00-1:30
Period 7	1:30-2:00
Period 8	2:00-2:43

EAGLE RIDGE STAFF 2023-2024

We welcome back all our staff and new staff joining the Eagle Ridge community.

Grade 5	Mrs. Gutenberg
Grade 5	Ms. Howey
Grade 5	Mr. Williams/Ms. Hoang
Grade 4	Ms. MacKenney
Grade 4	Ms. Martin
Grade 4	Ms. Howard
Grade 3	Ms. Salary
Grade 3	Ms. Morrison
Grade 3	Ms. Patrick
Grade 2/3	Ms. Cambrey
Grade 2	Ms. Phelan
Grade 2	Mrs. Peresin/Ms. Young
Grade 1/2	Mrs. Papantoniou/Mrs. Pokrajac
Grade 1	Mrs. Vakenti
Grade 1	Mrs. Schwartz
Kindergarten/1	Ms. Kroeker
Kindergarten	Mrs. Williams/Mrs. Leaney
Kindergarten	Ms. Davy/Ms. Meinerz
Teacher-Librarian	Mr. Drake
Digital Literacy	Mr. Botero
Learning Services	Ms. Gow, Mrs. Knittel, Ms. Young, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Hoang, Ms. Stein and Mrs. Pokrajac
Education Assistants	Ms. Sheets, Mrs. Hans, Mr. Yuen, Ms. McIntyre, Ms. Dobrill, Ms. Giri, Ms. Siemens, Mrs. Trembath, Ms. Sharbatmalaky, Ms. Moazami, Ms. Rajwani, Ms. Yu and Ms. Royal
LISW	Ms. Preston
Counsellor	Mr. Stutz
Youth Worker	Mrs. Hope
SLP	Ms. Futa
Noon Hour Supervisors	Mrs. Noble, Ms. Johnson, and Ms. Valera
Aboriginal Support	Ms. Bosshart
Secretaries	Mrs. Richmond, Ms. Edward
Custodians	Mr. Nava, Mr. Jung
Principal	Mr. Hutchinson

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION: PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE GUIDANCE FOR GRADES K-12 SCHOOLS (Document is posted on our website)

Vaccines

Vaccines are important tools to protect against many serious communicable diseases. Vaccination protects from serious illness due to COVID-19 and is the most effective way to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on our communities. All COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in Canada protect against serious complications, including from the omicron variant. It is important to get all recommended vaccine doses to get the most effective protection against serious cases of COVID-19. People 6 months and older are eligible for COVID-19 vaccines. More information about COVID-19 vaccines is available from the [BCCDC website](#). Students and staff are also encouraged to ensure they are up to date on [all recommended vaccines for other communicable diseases, including COVID-19 vaccines](#).

Health Awareness

Staff, other adults entering the school (parents, caregivers) and students are aware that they should not come to school if they are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities.

What To Do When Sick

Staff, students, or other persons in the school setting who are exhibiting symptoms of illness, such as [COVID-19](#) or [gastrointestinal illness](#), should stay home until they are well enough to participate in regular activities. Staff, children, or other persons can attend school if their symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition (e.g., seasonal allergies) or symptoms have improved enough to where you feel well enough to return to regular activities and any fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g. acetaminophen, ibuprofen). The [When to Get Tested for COVID-19 resource](#) or the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#) provides more information on whether you should get a test for COVID-19. If you are unsure or concerned about your symptoms, connect with your health care provider or call 8-1-1.

Staff, children, or other persons in the school setting who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the guidance on the [BCCDC website](#) as to how long they should self-isolate. They can return to school when they no longer need to self-isolate as long as symptoms have improved and they are well enough to participate in regular activities. Schools should **not** require a health care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) to confirm the health status of any individual, beyond those required to support medical accommodation as per usual practice.

People with symptoms who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home until their fever has resolved and they feel well enough to participate in daily activities.

Non-medical masks and face coverings

The decision to wear a mask beyond when it is required by public health is a personal one, based on individual preference.

Respiratory Etiquette

Parents and staff can teach and reinforce good respiratory etiquette practices among students, including:

- Cough or sneeze into their elbow or a tissue. Throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene.
- Refrain from touching their eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Refrain from sharing any food, drinks, unwashed utensils, cigarettes, or vaping devices.

Hand hygiene

Rigorous hand washing with plain soap and water or using an [effective hand sanitizer](#) reduces the spread of illness. Everyone should practice diligent hand hygiene and schools should facilitate regular opportunities for students and staff to wash their hands. To learn about how to perform hand hygiene, please refer to the BCCDC's [hand hygiene poster](#).

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Please do not use the staff upper or lower parking lot at any time as parking is required for Eagle Ridge staff and other District staff who arrive at varying times throughout the school day. Please drop off and pick up students along Falcon, Coquitlam Crunch parking area or on neighbouring streets. The area in front of the school is for quick drop off only. Please do not park and leave your car and be aware that City Bylaw Enforcement Officers will be stepping up traffic enforcement around Coquitlam schools with random patrols.

LATE ARRIVALS AND EARLY DISMISSALS

Students arriving late or leaving early must report to the office window before attending class or departing from the school. Parents picking up early must check in at the office window and not directly to the classroom. **Please do not enter the building.**

DROPPING OFF STUDENT LUNCHES

We encourage parents to send their children with their lunches in the morning. On the *odd occasion* when a parent needs to drop a lunch off we ask that the lunch is in a sealed container with the student's name on it.

WESTCOAST LUNCH - We Are Going Outside to Play

Students should be prepared to be outside each day at lunch. We will only stay inside if it is raining very hard or it is extremely inclement weather. Proper boots and water-resistant jackets with hoods will help keep children warm and dry.

EXTRA CLOTHING AND INSIDE SHOES

Please send your child with a full change of clothing to be left at the school. All students should also have an inside pair of shoes to be left at school. They will be used for P.E. so please do not send slippers; running shoes are best. Please label everything with student's name or initials.

ALLERGIES - WE ARE A NUT, SCENT AND PET AWARE SCHOOL

We have a number of students who have severe allergies to various food products such as nuts and dairy. Individual classes may be sending a note home to avoid sending foods to the school that may contain these products. The oils transfer from children's hands to door handles, keyboards, iPads and other surfaces. It does become a safety issue for some and I know we all want all of our children to be safe. Please inform the office if your child has any allergies that we should be aware of.

Some staff and some students are sensitive to perfumed products. We request that you do not enter the school if you are wearing scented products. Please do not send these types of products to school with your child. This includes scented hand sanitizer.

STUDENT PLANNERS

Each year we ask students from grades 1-5 to purchase school planners as an organizational and communication tool between home and school. The cost for the planners is **\$6.00**. Planners have a handy plastic pouch that students can put all notices and loose work sheets in to take home. Please make your payment through School Cash Online (www.schoolchonline.com). **Parents will be notified when School Cash Online is available.**

Parents should check their child's planner on a daily basis to see what homework assignments have been given, if there are any special events coming up, or to see if the teacher has written any notes. The classroom teachers usually check the planners each morning as well.

LITTERLESS LUNCH PROGRAM

This year Eagle Ridge Elementary will continue with our efforts in going green when possible. Our goal is to reduce our ecological footprint. All students are encouraged to take home all garbage/wrappers and recyclable containers from their lunches.

COMMUNICATION

Each week our “What’s New on the Ridge” newsletter is electronically sent to our community. This newsletter highlights events from the past week as well as provides a reminder of the events happening in the upcoming week. Many of our teachers also use email, Seesaw, and/or Teams as tools for communication. Please visit our website at <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/eagleridge> for all newsletters, school information and community information.

Eagle Ridge Elementary is on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly twitter). We will post ongoing Eagle Ridge information for parents on these social media platforms. It’s @eagleridgeSD43 for all three – please find us, like, and share.



BC FRUIT, VEGGIE AND MILK PROGRAM

The BC Fruit and Veggie Nutrition Program informs our students of the locally grown fruits and vegetables, importance of washing your hands and fruits and vegetables before eating and gives students the opportunity to sample the different fruits and vegetables offered with the program. Milk has also been added to the program.

PROGRAMS

Our plan is to host a multitude of After School Programs again this year. More Sports and Place Des Arts will be facilitating the programs. More information can be found on our website

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Grade 4 and 5 Student Leadership Program has Eagle Ridge student leaders on various service teams in the school. They volunteer their time monitoring the playground, library, computer lab, and setup/operation of assembly technology equipment.

SPORTS

We offer Volleyball and Basketball during the standard sporting seasons on scheduled days. Many of the staff takes part in training our grade 4 and 5 athletes for the Como Lake Relays, holding practices for five weeks prior to the event. Grade 3, 4 and 5 athletes also have the opportunity to train and participate in our Track and Field program in preparation for the district track meet held in late May.

STUDENT PHOTOS

Our individual student photos will be taken **Monday, September 25th**. Retakes will be Monday, October 23rd.

PARENTS AND VISITORS IN THE SCHOOL

Parents and visitors are only permitted in the school if they have an appointment. At the designated appointment time they must check-in at the school office.

WASHROOM USE

Students should not be coming back into the school to use the washroom after they have been dismissed for the day.



Backpack Buddies

Last year Eagle Ridge partnered with the Backpack Buddies program to deliver groceries to families in need. Backpack Buddies' mission is to ensure food security for every child in BC. The program delivers a bag of groceries for students to take home with them on each Friday for the weekend. Each bag contains nine single-serving meals plus some fresh fruits, veggies and/or snacks. If you would like to participate in this program or would like more information, please contact the school:

Don Hutchinson (Principal) dhutchinson@sd43.bc.ca or

If you are not in need but would like to support this program, you may donate at <https://www.backpackbuddies.ca/donate-now>

INFORMATION FROM OUR SCHOOL BOARD

BC DEMOGRAPHICS SURVEY

We all deserve to live in a province where we have equitable opportunities to thrive. But many of the systems and structures our society is built on turn a blind eye to the unique needs of Indigenous Peoples and racialized people. That's why the B.C. government is running two important initiatives. They're asking everyone in B.C. to fill out the BC Demographic Survey to help identify and eliminate systemic racism from government programs and services. The survey is available online in 15 languages until Oct. 15 and will take about 15 minutes of your time. It is available at <https://antiracism.gov.bc.ca/bcdemographicsurvey>

The B.C. government is also asking for public input in developing anti-racism legislation that will hold government accountable for addressing systemic racism within its programs and services, and to provide supports to those who have been negatively impacted. No matter what your experiences or background is – your input matters! The public questionnaire is available until Oct. 15 in 15 languages and takes about 10 minutes to complete. It is available at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/antiracism>

So, don't wait! Your feedback is anonymous and will help us make our province work better for everyone. Every person's perspective counts.

CASUAL NOON HOUR SUPERVISOR POSITIONS

School District #43 Coquitlam is looking for Casual Noon Hour Supervisors. This position requires individuals to be available on an On-Call basis to supervise students indoors and outdoors during lunch break (one hour per day) at various schools throughout the District in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and Anmore.

Previous experience working with groups of children is an asset. Successful candidates will be available over the lunch hour Monday – Friday, 5 days per week while the school is in session and be willing to accept callouts to all schools in our District. We offer \$21.86 per hour plus 16% in lieu of benefits.

To apply, please click on the following link and create a user account/profile. <https://ejp.sd43.bc.ca/postings/Account/Login>. Once you have completed your profile you will have access to the job postings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Hutchinson at 604 464 5848 or dhutchinson@sd43.bc.ca

Mr. D. Hutchinson
Principal

NEWS FROM THE PAC

Welcome to the New School Year!

Hello Eagle Ridge families, and welcome to the 2023-2024 school year. This year will have opportunities for school-wide events, parent education speakers, student activities, fundraising, and more. We hope to connect with each of you!

PAC Meetings

Join our monthly meetings to hear updates from the principal and voice any feedback you may have, or even join one of our established committees.

- All parents and guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Mr. Hutchinson as well as a teacher representative will attend each meeting. - The agenda will be posted on our website a week in advance. If you would like to add an agenda item, please contact us 10 days prior to the meeting.
- Our first PAC meeting of the year will be held **Sept. 20th, 7pm, online**. The link will be sent in advance of the meeting.

You are the PAC!

All parents and guardians of students at Eagle Ridge Elementary are members of the PAC. Whether you're new to the school, or have a child entering their last year, your involvement and feedback help shape our school. Your commitment can be small or big, whatever suits you and your schedule.

If you would like to be added to our volunteer list, join a committee, or have any questions please contact us at eagleridgepac@gmail.com

What does the PAC do?

The purpose of the PAC is to provide support, feedback, and advice to school administration to best serve the needs of all our students. The PAC also raises funds to support our children's learning and a variety of initiatives throughout the year.

Last year you helped the PAC raise over \$ 12,000! The funds were used in the following ways:

- Purchased iPads and other technology to support Digital Literacy and classrooms
- Teacher appreciation gifts
- Stipends for each teacher to use in their classroom
- Parent Education workshop

With Gaming Funds, we funded events including:

- Dance week
- Pancake breakfast
- Year-end dance
- School-wide presentations and activities

PAC Volunteer Opportunities

This year we have events planned throughout the year that will need many volunteers. several committees with volunteer opportunities available. Reach out if one interests you!

- Fundraising (promotion, handing out items, etc.)
- Hot lunch (communication with restaurants, handing out lunches)
- Traffic Safety (meeting with the City, education, etc.)
- Communications (Newsletter, event promotion)
- Parent Education (organize speakers, etc.)
- Scholastic Book Fair (helping students shop for and purchase books)
- Grade 5 Committee (fundraise for graduation events)

Contact us to be placed on the volunteer list!

Stay connected & keep up to date! eagleridgepac@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/EagleRidgeElementarySchoolPAC/ www.sd43.bc.ca/school/eagleridge

