

# QMS Newsletter



Volume 4, Issue 4  
December 2019

## Queensborough Middle School

### Important Dates

<b>December 2</b>	Winter Production rehearsal for cast members only Gym 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
<b>December 2</b>	Santa Grams on sale this week
<b>December 2</b>	MDI information letter home to parents of grade 7 students
<b>December 2</b>	Winter Production Order forms sent home
<b>December 3</b>	Christmas Hamper and Sock Drive begins
<b>December 3</b>	Last day to bring in Raffle Basket item
<b>December 3</b>	Warm Hearted Waffles QMS PRIDE Club & QEE Diversity Club Foods Room 9 a.m.
<b>December 4</b>	Frozen Cookie Dough and Pie order pick up Hall by MPR/Gym 1:30-3:00 p.m.
<b>December 9</b>	Raffle money, ticket stubs and unsold tickets due back to school
<b>December 10</b>	Middle School Parent Focus Group 6:30-7:45 p.m. Glenbrook Middle School Library
<b>December 11</b>	Whole school Dress Rehearsal for Winter Production
<b>December 12</b>	Winter Production: Mary Poppins Jr. 1:15 p.m. & 7 p.m. performances
<b>December 12</b>	Cast members arrive for evening performance 6:00 p.m.
<b>December 12</b>	All students arrive for evening performance 6:30 p.m. Report to home base classroom
<b>December 13</b>	Term 1 Report Cards published on Portal
<b>December 16</b>	Last day to bring in donations for Christmas Hamper and Sock Drive
<b>December 20</b>	Last day of school before Winter Break
<b>January 6</b>	School reopens after Winter Break
<b>January 15</b>	PAC meeting 6:30 p.m. in the Library

### Principal's Message:

As Winter Break approaches, preparations are underway for our much anticipated Winter Production of "Mary Poppins Jr." Each and every child and staff member plays an important role in bringing this highly anticipated performance to life. We hope you all can join us at either our afternoon or evening performance on December 12th.

Ms. Schweers and her helpers are currently organizing donations for our Christmas Hampers which will be delivered to families in the Queensborough Community on December 17. If you are able to assist with donations of new socks, non-perishable food items and gifts, please drop these items off in the boxes located in the hall outside of the office.

Report cards are going online! Our first term report cards will be **published** to the MyEdBC parent portal on December 13. Paper copies of report cards will **not** be provided this term. Parents and guardians will receive an email during the first week of December with instructions on how they can sign up for portal access. Please contact the office by email ([queensborough@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:queensborough@sd40.bc.ca)) if you need help with this process. We are working to make our report cards easy to understand for both parents and students. Please let us know how we are doing!

Happy Holidays and all the best for 2020,

Lisa Nasato



### Quick Reference:

Important Dates:	pg. 1
Important Information:	pg. 2
QMS Report Cards Going Online!	pg. 3
Upcoming Events and Reminders	pg. 4
Student Activities	pg. 5
PAC News	pg. 6
Severe Weather Letter from the Superintendent	pg. 7
MyEdBC Parent Portal instructions	pgs. 8 & 9
Christmas Hamper Donations	pg. 10
Mary Poppins Ticket Order Form	pg. 11

## Important Information:

### Closure of Schools Due to Inclement Weather or Other Hazards:

December has arrived and along with it, winter weather! We would like to remind parents once again of the following:

- The District will endeavor to keep all schools open provided that safety can be ensured for students and staff.
- Should schools be closed, announcements will be made over CKNW and CBC radio stations early enough in the day (usually before 6:30 a.m.) to allow parents to have students remain at home. Phone calls & emails will also be made to parents who are part of our School Messenger Automated Calling System.
- If the school is open and a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make alternate arrangements for their child. In these instances, we ask that you call the school at **(604) 517-6040**. A message can be left at anytime to report an absence.
- Parents are encouraged to make advance alternate plans in the event of an unexpected school closure.

Please ensure the school has current contact information for parents/guardians and emergency contacts. Thank you!



### School Drop Off and Pick Up:

The parking spaces directly across from the school (adjacent to Ryall Park) are used by our staff during the school day (7 a.m.– 5 p.m.). Please refrain from parking in these spots when dropping off/picking up students before and after school, visiting the school during the day, and dropping off lunches.



Please **do not** leave your car idling while waiting for your child(ren).

**QMS staff and students thank you for your understanding and cooperation.**

### Middle School Parent Focus Group:

New Westminster Schools is conducting a comprehensive **review of special education services and programs**. As part of the review, we are conducting focus groups facilitated by contracted consultants. The focus groups are just one way in which we are collecting input regarding inclusive practices in New Westminster Schools.

Your feedback and input is very valuable to us and we invite you to a focus group at **Glenbrook Middle School on Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm** in the library.

The focus group will be facilitated by Laurie Meston who has been contracted by the school district to assist with the review of special education services and programs.

### Attention Grade 7 Parents and Guardians:

#### FSA Booklets:

Our grade 7 students completed the Foundation Skills Assessment this October and November. Marked booklets and results will be sent home with students in the new year.



#### MDI:

During the months of January & February, grade 7 students will be participating in the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) by completing an online survey. An email and letter regarding the MDI was sent home to all families of grade 7 students on December 2. The survey is part of a study led by researchers at the Human Early Learning Partnership at the University of British Columbia. The purpose of the study is to better understand and measure areas of middle child development that contribute to children's well-being, health and school success by asking children themselves about their thoughts, feelings, and experiences in school and in the community. Researchers, schools, and governments use the study results to plan programs and services for children.

For more information about the MDI, please visit:

[www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi](http://www.earlylearning.ubc.ca/mdi)



## QMS Report Cards Going Online!:

### MyEdBC Family Portal:

QMS is excited to begin use of the MyEdBC family portal to facilitate communication between teachers, school and families. We are in the process of creating family portal accounts for **ALL** families at QMS. The portal will allow students and parents/guardians to view:

- class attendance information
- contact information
- assessment information shared by teachers
- student schedules
- school information
- **published report cards**

During the **week of December 2**, you will receive an email from [sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca](mailto:sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca). Please open this email and follow the instructions below to access your family portal account. It is important that you log in and get acquainted with the portal environment since **you will be receiving your child's report card through the parent portal when we send them out on December 13**. Moving forward, we hope to do much of our communication around student learning through the family portal.

If you do not see an email from [sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca](mailto:sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca) by Wednesday, December 4, please check your spam filter as the system will be sending similar emails to may parents simultaneously.

Please email the school at [queensborough@sd40.bc.ca](mailto:queensborough@sd40.bc.ca) if:

- you do not receive an email from MyEdBC by Wednesday, December 4 (This email contains initial login information).
- you are having difficulties logging into your account.

### Login Instructions:

Instructions for accessing the Portal have been emailed to all families, included in this newsletter, and posted to the QMS webpage.

The portal can be accessed at: <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do>

Initial login information and a temporary password to access your account will be sent to you from the MyEdBC email ([sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca](mailto:sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca)).

If you have children at NWSS then access to all your students' information will be through your existing account.

Families of elementary school students will be moving onto the portal in the near future.

### Security:

MyEdBC is a secure student information system used in all public school districts in the province of BC. Access to your child's information is only provided to legal guardian(s).

**PLEASE ENSURE WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS ON FILE AT THE OFFICE!**

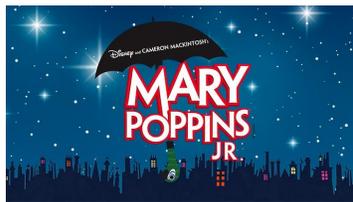
## Upcoming Events and Reminders:

### Winter Production:

The staff and students of QMS proudly invite you to our Winter Production of:

### “Mary Poppins Jr.”

Thursday, December 12  
QMS Gym  
1:15 p.m. performance  
7:00 p.m. performance



#### Admission:

Adults: \$5  
High School Students: \$3  
Children: Free with ticket

Tickets must be purchased in advance as we sold out last year. Tickets **will not** be available at the door for our evening performance. **Please consider attending the afternoon performance.**

Look for the order form sent home with students on Monday, December 2 or see the copy included with this newsletter.

### Food & Sock Drive:

As December begins, the community of QMS is collecting food items to support families at this costly time of year. As we build Hampers, we are looking for the following items:



© Can Stock Photo

new socks, juice, salad dressing, pickles, pancake mix, syrup, chocolate chips, stuffing mix, mayonnaise, icing sugar, candy canes, cranberry sauce, marshmallows and gift cards.

There are decorated boxes available by the office. Can you help us fill the boxes by making a donation?

Donations will be gratefully accepted until  
**Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.**



Thank you for your generosity!

**DONATIONS NEEDED**

Can you help??

### Santa Grams:

The Holidays are a time to show others how much you care. A great way to do this and help support the grade 8 end of year activities is by buying Santa Grams. Send your friends, teachers (and hey, don't forget yourself!) a candy cane and message of warm wishes.



**On sale during the week of December 2**  
**\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00**

Santa Grams will be delivered to home base classrooms on **December 20** where teachers will hand them out.

Thank you for your support!



## Student Activities:

### Yearbook Club:

Thank you to those of you who have purchased your 2020 Yearbook. If you have not yet purchased a book, please consider doing so. Our goal is to sell 150 books and with your support we will reach that goal.

You can purchase a book online at:

**YBpay.lifetouch.ca**  
**School ID number is 113980120**

We have discovered that if you use your phone to make this purchase there is a program glitch and you will be charged \$35.00. The actual price of the book is \$25.00. If you use your computer to make the purchase, you will be charged the correct price of \$25.00. Lifetouch is working to fix this problem, but for now, we are encouraging you to use your computer when you make this purchase. We will be coming up with a plan to refund the extra \$10 that some families were charged.

Thank you to Ms. Schweers, Ms. Mannix, Ms. Madlam-bayan, and our yearbook crew for their work capturing memories of the year in our upcoming edition.



### Peer Pals:

Peer Pals are back by popular demand! We have decided to run the Peer Pal Program again this year and will run it from January until March, and if possible, a second term from April to June. Grade 7 and 8 students will be invited to apply to the program.

Peer Pals give up 1 lunch hour a week to volunteer as a noon-hour problem solver and will work with the Grade 5 students at QMS to resolve playtime conflicts. This is a great way to earn volunteer service hours and practice some lifelong skills (active listening, brainstorming solutions and monitoring success).

Applications are due in by:

**Thursday December 05 at 3:00 p.m.**

Encourage your grade 7 or 8 son/daughter to think about this opportunity to be a leader on our school grounds.



### PRIDE Club:

Our PRIDE Club has had an active month working with the Diversity Club at Queen Elizabeth Elementary. About 30 students met to discuss the role of a Pride/Diversity Club in creating a school culture of kindness.



shutterstock.com • 497143474

As a follow-up, the clubs met a second time to celebrate their work, as they focus on inviting each child (at QMS and QEE) to proudly be themselves. The members of these clubs believe each child has a right to “be themselves” without fear of being judged or teased. QMS hosted a “Warm Hearted Waffles” event on December 3 for the QEE Diversity Club members to focus on thinking about ways to make all peers feel valued.

## PAC News:

### Basket Fundraiser:

Classes at QMS have been paired to collect items for themed baskets. We are asking each student to bring in an item that fits the theme to add to their basket. A suggested donation of \$5 in lieu of an item is also an option (the PAC will use this money to purchase items for the basket). We ask that all basket items be brought to school on or before the end of school on **Tuesday, December 3** at which time the PAC elves will collect them and wrap the baskets.

The following baskets will be raffled off at the beginning of the evening performance of "Mary Poppins Jr." on Thursday, December 12:

<b>Div. 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Spa Basket</b>
<b>Div. 3 &amp; 10</b>	<b>Coffee &amp; Tea Basket</b>
<b>Div. 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>Baking Basket</b>
<b>Div. 6 &amp; 8</b>	<b>Chocolate Basket</b>
<b>Div. 7 &amp; 9</b>	<b>Family Fun Night Basket</b>
<b>Div. 11 &amp; 12</b>	<b>Automotive Basket</b>

Each student has been given a booklet of raffle tickets to sell. Please assist your child with this by offering these tickets to family, friends and coworkers. Students **are not** to be selling tickets door to door unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

The cost for tickets are as follows:

- 1 ticket for \$2**
- 3 tickets for \$5**
- 6 tickets for \$12**
- 20 tickets (full book)**



If your child is willing and able to sell more tickets, there is a sign up sheet at the office. We will get extra tickets to them.

Ticket money, stubs and unsold tickets are due back to school on **Monday, December 8**.

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser.



### Cookie Dough and Pizza Sale:



Orders will be delivered to the school this week! Please pick up on:

**Wednesday, December 4**  
**1:30– 3 p.m.**

**Hallway by the Gym/Multipurpose Room**  
(Please enter the school using the doors near the gym)

Information regarding pick up has been sent home with the children of those who placed orders.

Thank you for your support!

### QMS Parent Advisory Council:

The next PAC meeting of the 2019-2020 school year is:

**Wednesday, January 15**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**QMS Library (2nd floor)**

All parents and guardians are welcome!





# Closure of Schools Due to Severe Weather:



School Board Office, District No 40  
811 Ontario Street  
New Westminister, BC V3m 0J7

604 517 6240  
info@sd40.bc.ca  
newwestschools.ca

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

November 25, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In preparation for the possibility of severe weather conditions, we would like to remind parents/guardians that all schools in the New Westminister School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible, during inclement weather including snowfalls.

In rare instances where a school closure is warranted, the decision will be made by 6:30 a.m. at the latest and will be announced over the radio stations **CKNW AM 980** and **CBC AM 690**. Phone calls and emails will also be made to parents and guardians who are part of our SchoolMessenger System. Further, school and district websites will be updated accordingly.

Student safety is our priority and we ask that if a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school then they should make alternate arrangements for their child. Student absences due to unsafe travel to school during inclement weather conditions will be excused. We also encourage parents/guardians to make advance alternate plans in the event of an unexpected school closure.

If you have any questions, please speak with your school principal.

Sincerely,

Karim Hachlaf  
Superintendent of Schools





# MyEdBC Parent Portal Instructions page 1:



## Family Portal Instructions

### Logging In

1. Navigate to the following link. You should end up at the login screen shown below.

<https://www.mveducation.gov.bc.ca/asp/en/login.do>



- Enter your login ID and Password which you will have received with your confirmation email
- Click **Login**

2. You should then arrive at this screen. Click OK



3. The criteria for a new password are given on the screen
  - Minimum 8 characters
  - At least one number
  - At least one capital and one lower case letter
  - At least one 'special' symbol (S,#,&)
  - Can't contain "password" or any personal id

Fill in the fields as required, *make sure you know your new password*. We suggest writing it and storing it. Click OK

4. On your first login you will arrive at this screen, please fill it in.



Please note this information down as it will allow you to retrieve a new, system generated password if the need arises. Click **Submit**

5. You will land on a screen that looks like this.





## MyEdBC Parent Portal Instructions page 2:



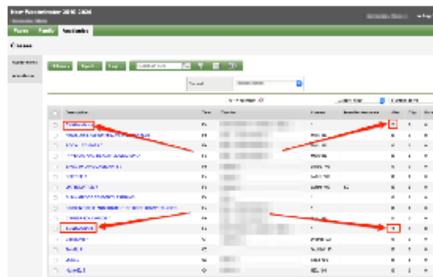
### Family Portal Instructions

6. Clicking on the Family top tab you'll end up on a screen with these choices on the left side



- The Details screen, shows your student's demographic information, please insure that it's correct.
- The Contacts side tab should have the correct demographic information for your family and emergency contacts. Please contact the school immediately regarding any errors.
- The Transcript side tab will allow you to monitor your child's learning progress in each.
- The Assessments side tab will show results of any standardized assessments your child may have taken (e.g. FSA results)
- The Schedule side tab allows you to check which courses your child has been scheduled into. This is particularly useful in high school before the start of the school year.
- The Membership side tab shows information about student enrollment and student programs.
- The Documents side tab is where the teacher, or the school, can store any scanned documentation pertaining to your child's education.

7. Under the Academics top tab you'll see the following.



- This is a list of all classes that a student is *currently* enrolled in.
- Due to the way attendance is tracked in our district, attendance data is also found on this screen
- Clicking into any course, the Assignments side tab allows you to see information about student achievement on any given assignment

Please take the time to log in and browse our new student information system. It is going to be a powerful tool to communicate student learning as we continue to strive for excellence in SD40.



# QMS Christmas Hampers:

## We need your help!



# QMS CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

**We are collecting food & gift donations for Christmas Hampers to support our local families.**

**Some items we are hoping to collect are:**

**Non-Perishable Food Items:**  
Pickles, Salad Dressing (Ranch & Thousand Islands), Syrup, Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Pancake mix, Icing Sugar, Chocolate Chips, Mayonnaise, Juice, Gingerbread house kits, Candy Canes, Coffee & Tea.

**New Toys**

**New Clothes**

*Please note toys and clothes can be suitable for an age range of 5 to 14 years*

**Items can be dropped off at the front office.**  
**Thank you in advance for your help.**



# Winter Musical Production:

## QUEENSBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL PRESENTS:



**Thursday, December 12th. in the QMS Gym.**  
**2 Performances: 1:15 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**  
**Adults: \$5. / High School Students: \$3. / Children: FREE (with ticket)**

It is recommended that you purchase tickets ahead of time due to space limitations. *Please consider attending the afternoon performance!*

Fill out the form below & send it back to QMS. *Tickets will be sent home with your child.*

**NOTE:** *There is no cost for Children 12 & under but in order to follow guidelines for maximum seating allowances, separate tickets for children will be issued.*

Adults: \$5. / Children: Free / High School Students: \$3.  
(with ticket)

	Quantity	Ticket Price	Line Total
Adult Ticket 1:15 pm			
High School Student 1:15 pm			
Children 1:15 pm		Free	
Adult Ticket 7:00 pm			
High School Student 7:00 pm			
Children 7:00 pm		Free	

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Payment

