

QMS Weekly Newsletter



January 26, 2024

QMS Tsunami

Queensborough Middle School

Important Dates

January 29	Grade 8 Boys Basketball game at Moscrop
January 30	Fruit and veggie delivery (apples)
January 30	Exploratory Rotation #4 begins
January 30	QMS Ski Club trip to Mount Seymour POSTPONED
January 31	Grade 8 Boys Basketball vs. Alpha (home game at NWSS)
February 1	Earthquake Drill
February 6	Grade 8 parent planning meeting (7:30 p.m.)
February 7	Get Real Movement (anti-black racism) virtual presentations for Grade 6-8 classes
February 7	Student-led parent-teacher conferences Early dismissal at 11:55 a.m.
February 8	NWSS course selection presentation for Grade 8 classes (9:00 a.m. in the Gym)
February 8	Student-led parent-teacher conferences Early dismissal at 11:55 a.m.
February 8	Safer Spaces parent presentation (see p.7)
February 9	QMS Winter Olympics
February 13	Fruit and veggie delivery (snap peas)
February 14	Field Trip (Div.1-4): Carousel Theatre
February 16	District Professional Development Day Students do not attend
February 19	Family Day School closed

Grade 8 Parent Planning Meeting: **8TH GRADE PARENT MEETING**
Monday, February 6 (7:30 p.m.) on MS Teams

If you would like to get involved with planning our Grade 8 year-end activities please join us with the link below:

[Meeting Link](#)

Principal's Message:

The week began with a pair of field trips to NWSS. On Monday, all Grade 8 class enjoyed watching the Annie musical performance, while on Tuesday the Grade 5 classes attended a Hunger Games themed dance show. With the Translink job action taking effect on Monday morning, we had to respond quickly and thankfully we were able to secure two school buses to transport the students (and luckily not having to cancel the field trips).

In sports, our Grade 8 boys basketball team saw a lot of action with three tough games over five days. After battling hard, the team came up short in their games vs. EGMS (Monday) and Burnaby Mountain (Wednesday). However, the boys ended the week on a positive note winning with a strong performance at home vs. Cariboo, in front of big crowd of Tsunami fans. Looking ahead to next week, the team has two remaining games before the regular season comes to an end. Go Tsunami!

It was also a very busy Thursday at QMS as we had our class, team and club photos taking place. The highlight of the day most certainly was the QMS Band Concert. Congratulations to our beginner and advanced band students and members of our flute ensemble for a lovely evening of music! Thank you to our families for all their support - it takes a lot of dedication and discipline to get to those early morning band classes! Indeed, special thanks to Ms. Stephen and Ms. Kliefoth for their all their effort and commitment in guiding our young musicians - they're making such wonderful progress!

Next week, please note that unfortunately (again due to weather) the second QMS Ski Club trip to Mount Seymour has been postponed. Once a new date is set we will let our QMS families know.

Enjoy your weekend - stay dry!

John Lekakis
QMS Principal



Inside QMS: Band Concert



Inside QMS: Grade 8 Boys Basketball



Reminders:

2023-24 Yearbook:

Hello QMS families: If you would like to purchase a yearbook, please use the link below. Please keep a record of your order, as last year we had a few purchase more than one by accident. Thanks! Yearbook Team

Purchase a yearbook at:

www.ybpay.lifetouch.ca

ID Code: 13411624

Cost: \$26.50



Three-Way Conferences:

Wednesday, February 7 & Thursday, February 8

Please note that students will be dismissed at lunch (11:55 a.m.) on both of these Conference days.

Information from your child's teacher is being sent home regarding conferences bookings.



Reporting Student Absences:

Call or email Queensborough Middle School at:

604-517-6040

Email: queensborough@sd40.bc.ca

Please notify the school by **9:00 a.m.** if you know your child will be absent or late for school. You may leave a phone message (please include your child's name and division #) at the school (or email) anytime of the day or night.

Please cut this out and put it on your fridge!



Leaving School at Lunchtime

We have a closed campus at QMS.

We ask that students stay at school and not leave the school property and the adjacent park during lunchtime between 11:55 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

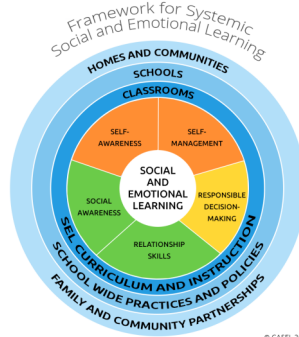


Students may go home for lunch **only** if they have a permission form signed by their parent or guardian.

This form **must be completed/signed each year** and is available at the office. **Please ask!** This form is for going home, not for visiting the Community Centre or a store.

QMS Learning Goal for 2023.2024

For the upcoming school year, our staff has decided our learning focus for the coming year. For the last two year's our goal focused on developing the five SEL competencies with our students: self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, social awareness and responsible decision-making. This year we aim to develop and transfer these SEL skills so students can navigate technology and the online world. Our school learning plan is on our school website.



Breakfast Program: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Students can enjoy a delicious and nutritious breakfast in the Foods Room every Wednesday morning (8:00-8:30 am) for only 50 cents.



We'd love to expand the program to more than one day per week. If you would like to volunteer (one hour commitment) please email PAC Chair Leanne Mackie (qmspac2013@gmail.com).

Thank you to our community volunteers for providing this wonderful program to our students!

School Routines and Expectations:

School Mission:

At Queensborough Middle School we are dedicated to working together within a safe, caring, respectful learning environment to enable all students to reach their full potential as life-long learners and contributing global citizens.

QMS Values:

At Queensborough Middle School we value:

- ♦ respect for ourselves and others
- ♦ respect for learning
- ♦ respect for the environment



QMS Vision:

- ♦ Our vision is that our students reach their full potential as caring, self-motivated people with good self-esteem and high standards.

Dress for the Weather:

Students go outside for fresh air and exercise during recess, lunch and daily physical activities.

Students are expected to “dress for the weather” as we usually are outside rain or shine. It’s always a good idea to keep an extra set of clothes at school.



Please report to the office when visiting the school:

Please sign in at the office when entering the school. We need to be aware of all visitors to the school and identifying yourself with one of our “visitor” badges is helpful to staff who may not know you.



Reminders About the School Timetable:

- The first bell rings at **8:31 a.m.** Students may enter the school at **8:25 a.m.** (There is no supervision from staff members before or after school.)
- Nutrition Break is from **10:10 to 10:25 a.m.** (Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks and dress for the weather as we are outside most days.)
- Lunch is at **11:55 to 12:45 p.m.** Students play outside first and come inside to eat their lunch at **12:25 p.m.**
- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle daily.
- Students are dismissed at **3:00 p.m.**

Bell Schedule

8:31 a.m.	Welcoming Bell
8:36 a.m.	CHAT begins
8:40 a.m.	Morning classes begin
10:10 a.m.	Nutrition Break/recess
10:25 a.m.	Morning classes continue
11:55 a.m.	Lunch begins (outside)
12:25 p.m.	Students inside to eat
12:45 p.m.	Afternoon classes begin
3:00 p.m.	Dismissal

Bell Schedule!

Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards:

Many students ride bikes, scooters or skateboards to school. For you child’s safety, **please ensure that they are wearing an approved helmet** especially now with weather and visibility becoming worse with seasonal changes Students who do not wear a helmet will be asked to leave their bikes, scooters and skateboards at home.



Thank you for helping keep our children safe. Scooters & skateboards can be stored in the cage located by near the counselling office.



Fuel Up Lunch Program:

Order January lunches at:

<https://newwestschools.ca/programs-services/fuel-up/online-ordering/>



Orders and changes must be made by noon, two days in advance of delivery.

****FRIENDLY REMINDER TO DRESS WARM FOR THE WINTER WEATHER****

QCC Youth Events:

Upcoming QCC Special Events:

Join us afterschool on Mon, Wed, and Friday at 3:15pm for Drop-In. Enjoy games, sports, crafts, karaoke, baking & cooking. Students in grades 6-8 are welcome to attend. Monday & Wednesday 3:15 – 5:15pm; Friday 3:15 – 9:00pm (dinner included).



Drop-In fee is \$1 per time, or \$21 for year pass. Year pass must be purchased at the Community Centre. Drop-In will continue over the Winter Holiday at the Queensborough Community Centre.

More info on all these great programs can be found at newwestyouth.ca or email Val at vmckinnon@newwestcity.ca

Youth Drop-In upcoming Special Activities:

Monday February 5th Lunar New Year Dumpling Making

Saturday February 10th Moody Park Arena Youth Skate from 8:15pm – 9:45pm. Cost is \$2 and includes skate rental

Saturday February 10th Youth Overnighter at the Youth Centre – prepare for a full night of wild and whacky activities. Cost is \$20members/\$25non-members

Monday, February 12th Braids & Barbers: A Black History Month Event at the Anim Hair Studio (502 Columbia Street) Youth can have a free haircut between 4-7pm, enjoy snacks and learn about black hair culture.

Friday, Feb 23rd Youth Black History Month Basketball Bash. Play basketball with local artist Gabe Gibbs. 7-10pm at NWSS

Parent presentation (hybrid): Thursday, February 8 (6:30 p.m.)

Middle school parents in New Westminster are invited to this parent presentation with a focus on creating safer spaces online for youth. Parents are invited to attend either in person (at FRMS) or online using the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82299501539?pwd=ZGZ5RHlYanJ0ak5WYjAyMmNuaGprQT09>



SAFER SPACE
for Adults

Safer Space for Adults can be presented in a two-part series (topics listed below) or in a 60 minute presentation for a quick overview. It is designed for parents, caregivers and service providers.

To request a workshop, contact Courtney Liem, Program Facilitator, at:
cliem@plea.bc.ca
236 889 1891

Part 1: App Literacy – discusses and defines online child sexual exploitation, sextortion, grooming and looks at today's most popular apps, resources.

Part 2: Intimate Images and Practical Conversations – discusses how to have practical conversations with your youth about online safety, legality of intimate image sharing, device safety, resources.



Children of the Street

childrenofthestreet.ca

Community Sports: Ball Hockey

PLAY BALL HOCKEY

There is now an exciting new opportunity to play minor ball hockey in New Westminster! We are proud to introduce the **New Westminster Minor Ball Hockey Association - Home of the Knights!** We are a newly incorporated non-profit organization with the goal of promoting the game of ball hockey and providing New Westminster families a low-cost, local option to play.

Becoming a Knight is for everyone - if you can run, you can play! We are currently offering co-ed programs for ages U7-U17 (2018-2008 birth years). We are committed to fostering the values of teamwork, skill development and sportsmanship, with the ultimate goal of instilling a lifelong love for ball hockey.

For those unfamiliar with ball hockey, the season is short, yet intensive, and it does wonders for cardiovascular endurance and hand eye coordination, two skills that really help boost a player's performance in ice hockey. There are enormous benefits to taking off the skates and cross training in different sports in the offseason. Ball hockey is a great way for kids to do that, while still scratching that hockey itch. For those of you who don't play ice hockey, ball hockey is a fantastic opportunity to get involved with the sport during the spring and summer months and play with friends!

Moody Park Arena will be our proud home for the 2024 season. Located centrally in New Westminster, players will not have to travel far for games and practices. This includes everyone living in Queensborough too!

For the upcoming 2024 season, the New Westminster Knights will be offering the following safe, fun and affordable programming:

- ★ One practice per week;
- ★ Up to two games per week; and
- ★ Skill development sessions with former International Street and Ball Hockey Federation (ISBHF) World Championship players and coaches

For anyone expressing interest, but hesitant to join, you are welcome to join one of our two free "Try Ball Hockey" sessions on **February 11, 2024** and **February 18, 2024** at the Queen's Park Sportsplex. More information about these events will be made available on our website soon.

To visit our website (www.nwmbha.com) please scan the QR code below. We are now accepting registrations for the 2024 season, which will run from late March through June 2024. If you have any questions, please contact nwballhockey@gmail.com. We look forward to having you join the Knighthood!



New West DPAC Meetings for 2023-2024

The New West DPAC (District Parents' Advisory Council) represents all parents and caregivers of students registered in the district, and all parents and caregivers are invited to attend and participate in our monthly meetings.

Our meetings occur on the third Thursday of each month and are offered in a hybrid format. The in-person location rotates through our schools, and the zoom link for virtual attendance is posted on our website and on our Google calendar.

Click [here](#) for our calendar

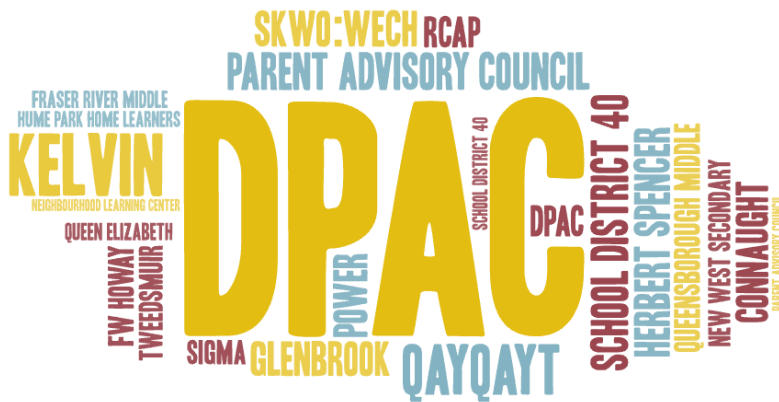
Click [here](#) for our website

Our next meeting is on **Thursday January 18th, at 7 pm** in the library of Ecole Herbert Spencer Elementary, or over zoom. Our full meeting list for the remainder of the year is:

- November 16th, in person at Ecole Herbert Spencer Elementary
- *No meeting in December*
- January 18th, in person TBD
- February 15th, in person TBD
- *No meeting in March*
- April 18th, in person TBD
- May 16th, in person TBD
- June 20th, in person TBD

To contact DPAC with any question, concern, or comment about education in our District you can email us at newwestdpacchair@gmail.com , or message us through our [Facebook page](#) . We hope to see you out at our next meeting!

Laura, Cyrus, Sue and Krista
The New West DPAC Executive



School Routines and Expectations:

QMS Code of Conduct

The QMS Code of Conduct follows the guidelines of the BC Human Rights Code. QMS Staff, Students, Parents and any visitors to the school are expected to follow the Code of Conduct.

The purpose of the QMS Code of Conduct and Code of Consequences:

- ◆ To establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for purposeful learning
- ◆ To clarify and publish expectations for student behavior at school, going to and from school, and while attending any school function or activity at any location
- ◆ To promote the values expressed in the **BC Human Rights Code** respecting the right of all individuals in accordance with the law-prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation or gender identity-in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school.

Acceptable Behaviour for QMS Students:

- ◆ Showing Respect, Compassion and Integrity
- ◆ Respecting self, others, the learning environment and the surrounding environment
- ◆ Helping to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- ◆ Informing an adult, in a timely manner (in advance, if possible) of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- ◆ Engaging in purposeful learning activities in a timely manner
- ◆ Acting in a manner that brings credit to QMS

Unacceptable Conduct for QMS Students:

- ◆ Behaviours that:
 - Interfere with the learning of others
 - Interfere with an orderly environment
 - Create unsafe conditions
- ◆ Acts of:
 - Bullying, harassment or intimidation
 - Physical violence
 - Retribution against a person who has reported incidents
 - Discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity (prohibited grounds set out in the **BC Human Rights Code**)
- ◆ Illegal acts, such as:
 - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
 - Possession or use of weapons
 - Theft of or damage to property



The unacceptable behaviours listed in the Code of Consequences are examples only and are not intended to be an all-inclusive list.

A student's medical, cognitive, social-emotional and personal profile must be considered in the determination of appropriate interventions and/or consequences. Therefore, the application of the school's Code of Conduct must take into account the student's ability to meet behavioural expectations.

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive. The purpose of consequences for unacceptable behavior is to help students learn from mistakes and be proactive about preventing further inappropriate behaviour.

**RESPECT &
RESPONSIBILITY**