



January Newsletter 2021



Sir Richard McBride Elementary

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Principal: Ms. Lindsay Thompson OAA: Ms. Charlotte Tudose-Geerlings

Trustee: Ms. Carmen Cho Director of Instruction: Mr. Aaron Davis

Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-richard-mcbride>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

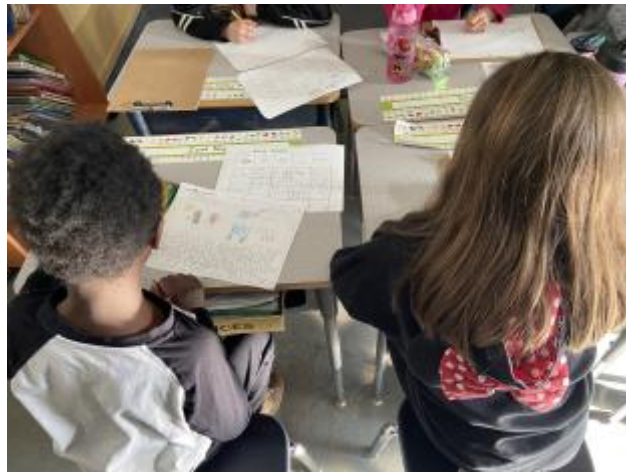


We are happy to welcome back staff and students after the Winter Break and it has been a busy first three weeks as we return to our regular routines. We continue supporting an environment where Health and Safety is our top priority, and provide daily reminders to our school community. It is amazing to see our staff greet students each morning making sure that each child knows they are loved and cared for!

When I reflect on the first part of the school year, I can't help but feel proud of the efforts of our entire school community to make this year as positive as possible. We have definitely been thrown curveball after curveball. For that matter, I expect it is not over. I am sure there will be a couple more surprises before the year is over. Regardless of what comes up, you have my assurance that we will continue to work hard to provide the best education possible for your child!

Lindsay Thompson

Principal







IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY REMINDERS FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

We want to remind families that we ask all parents of grades 2-7 to please remain on the sidewalks when dropping off and picking up your children, *parents are not allowed to wait on the grass or school walks during this time.* Parents of K-1 in outbuilding should drop off and pick up quickly and without congregating on grounds.

We would also like parents to leave the playground **expeditiously** once pick-up is complete in order to mitigate the number of families congregating and socializing during this time. We ask that families please take some time to review the latest provincial health order regarding activities and travel.

Talking about this with children is important and we will continue this conversation at school as you are also at home. There are many restrictions for public places, but the PHO has stated that schools are not public spaces. Here is the link to the government of BC website regarding the provincial health order [PHO Orders](#).

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY

Each year, the Ministry of Education collects data from students, parents, staff and administrators. This information is made available to administrators and helps to plan for school goals, instructional practices and highlights areas of strength and opportunities for stretches.

The Grade 4 & 7 students will be completing this survey during school time. Grade 4 & 7 students Learning from Home, can access the survey via the link below. Students must log-on using their 9 digit PEN number. If you have a child Learning from Home, you would have received this information at the beginning of the school year.

Parents, the survey can be accessed via the link below and DOES NOT require a log-in process. Please choose the "Direct Access" option to the right, select "39- Vancouver" for the school district and select "Sir Richard McBride Elementary School" from the drop down menu. The survey is available in English, French and 16 additional languages.

Thank you in advance for your feedback.

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm

REGISTRATION FOR CHOICE PROGRAMS GRADES 1-7

****Deadline approaching – January 31, 2021****

Registration for the following District Programs is open for registration between November 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021

- Early French Immersion
- Late French Immersion (Grade 6)
- Intensive French (Grade 6)
- Montessori Program (Grades 1-7)
- Fine Arts Program (Grades 1-7)
- Early Mandarin Bilingual (Grades 1, Grades 4 – 6)
- Mandarin Bilingual (Grade 4, Grades 5 – 6)
- Indigenous Focus (Grades 1-7)
- Please visit the [Sir Richard McBride website](#) for more information.



KINDERGARTEN CHOICE PROGRAMS

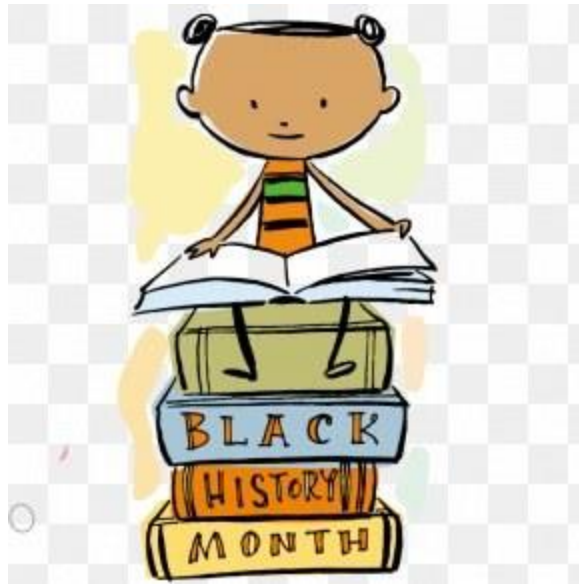
Kindergarten choice program registration is from January 11 until February 3, 2021 at 4 pm.

- Indigenous Focus School
- Early French Immersion: K – 7
- Early Mandarin Bilingual

- Montessori
- Nootka Fine Arts

Visit the [VSB Kindergarten Choice Programs](#) webpage for more information.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH-February



The staff at McBride is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for BIPOC students. As we move forward with this important initiative, we will be celebrating Black History Month in February. We would like to make our celebration of diversity, inclusion and anti-racism education part of our everyday culture at McBride. Please look for projects and photos of the this celebration in newsletters, our [website](#) and on [Twitter](#).

SPIRIT WEEK AT MCBRIDE



The week of January 25th to 29th is Spirit Week at McBride. Students and staff will be celebrating school spirit with a different theme each day of the week.

Monday is Rainbow Day: Wear many colours!

Tuesday is Crazy Hair Day: Do something fun with your hair!

Wednesday is McBride Pride Day: Wear our school colours – blue and gold!

Thursday is Twin Day: You and one or more people can dress alike!

Friday is PJ Day: Wear your pyjamas!

We hope students and staff enjoy this week of fun!

PAC News

PAC MEETING

The next meeting date is: January 27th @ 6:00pm. All meetings will be at 6pm and for now they will be held on Zoom. The Zoom link will be shared prior to the meeting to all parents. We look forward to welcoming our new Kindergarten and new to the school families to our PAC.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

The PAC organizes and runs McBride's hot lunch program but is postponed at this time.

PAC QUESTIONS Any questions regarding PAC events please email the PAC at mcbridelementary@gmail.com

SNOW PLAN



As we are into cooler weather, it is important to review our procedures for emergency school closures. In the event of a major snow event, the movement of traffic can become severely hampered. Please review our Snow Plan for details. [McBride Snow Plan](#)

VANCOUVER HAWKS FIELD HOCKEY

Dear McBride School parents,

Last year, I had a great time at McBride school introducing the sport of field hockey to the grade 1 - 3 students. I am a parent with children at McBride Annex, retired National team player, and a coach/board member for the Vancouver Hawks Field Hockey club.

As I am unable to come coach at your school this year due to Covid, I wanted to share that registration for Junior Spring Field Hockey U5- U18 league <http://www.vancouverhawks.com/juniorprograms> is now open.

[Junior Programs - Vancouver Hawks JUNIOR PROGRAMS Vancouver Hawks Field Hockey Club operates a variety of programs for junior players \(U5-U18\) thr...](#)

I will be coaching the U5-U7 group and a U9 team this year and it would be great to have more students from our community join these and other age group programs.

I have included the Vancouver Hawks registration flyer and if you have any questions about the sport, club, or would like help understanding what equipment is needed please contact info@vancouverhawks.com. Early registration is open until February 7th. I hope to see you at the field!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Nesbitt



SCHOOL PHOTO UPDATE



Currently, the VSB has postponed school photos for the time being. We have another date of February 18, 2021 booked with the photographer, but won't know if that is happening until the VSB makes a decision regarding this. Thank you for your patience.

SCOOTER STORAGE



We are aware students are wanting to ride scooters to school. However, unfortunately due to current space density issues and lack of storage, we are not able to keep them in the school at this time. Thank you for your support with this.

SWING INSTALLATION



When we were having our wonderful new inclusive playground installed, the VSB had to take away our already existing swings. They are back now to install four of the six swings. The safety fencing has been installed on the south side of the playground and will be there for the next few weeks.

SCHOOL BOARD NEW YEARS MESSAGE



January 8, 2021

Dear Vancouver School District families,

We would like to wish all of you a happy 2021! With a new year comes hope and optimism, and 2021 is no exception. As we begin a new year and classes resume this week, we are able to reflect on 2020, and all of the challenges we have faced.

As the Board of Education, we thank our educators, school based and District staff for continually adapting and continually supporting our students and school communities. We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to you, for supporting your child's education throughout the past year.

At the final Board meeting of 2020, the year-end report by the Chair was shared. It highlights how the work we do, as a Board, affects schools and your children's education. We wish to thank trustee Fraser

for her service as Board chair; we appreciate her ongoing commitment and dedication to student success.

Trustees elected us as the 2021 Chair and Vice-Chair. We feel honoured to be taking on these roles. We know that all trustees are committed to their work and are proud to have the opportunity to make a positive impact on education for the students of Vancouver.

Thank you to those who took part in community engagement processes, such as the Building for Modern Learning engagement. In that process, we heard from a wide variety of voices to learn about ways we can use District buildings across the city for the learning needs of students today and in the future. Our priorities are to create modern learning spaces and ensure all students are in seismically safe schools. We appreciate your input which helps guide the decisions we make to enhance Vancouver's public education system.

Please follow the District on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [instagram](#) for updates, and visit the District [website](#) for information about our schools and your children's learning. We believe it is important to communicate in a transparent, timely manner. All of our committee meetings and our public board meetings are live streamed on YouTube which allows you to stay informed and follow the work of the Board.

We are committed to providing the highest quality learning experience for all students and helping them reach their intellectual, social, and physical potential in a safe and inclusive environment.

We wish you all the best in 2021!

Carmen Cho – Board Chair

Estrellita Gonzalez – Board Vice

IMPORTANT DATES TO TAKE NOTE OF



January 27th- PAC MEETING

January 29th- CSL Reports Go Home

January 29th-Last Day for Priority Registration for Kindergarten 2021

February 12th- PROFESSIONAL DAY- No School for students

February 15th- FAMILY DAY- NO SCHOOL

February 24th- Anti-Bullying- Pink Shirt Day