



*Quilchena Elementary*

*School District #38*

*3760 Moresby Drive, Richmond, B.C. V7C 4G6*

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Principal: Nichole Kusch

Administrative Asst. Sue Hughes

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### Quilchena Community

**The Weeks Ahead ~ January 15<sup>th</sup> – January 19<sup>th</sup>**

### Quilchena Community

We invite families to visit the School Calendar for all our future notable dates and events.

*January 15 – Black Excellence Day*

*January 17 - Raoul Wallenberg Day*

*January 18 – PAC Meeting 7pm*

*January 19 – Priority 1 Kindergarten Registrations Close*

*January 19 – District Program Options Applications Close*

*January 21 – Last Day to Order for Term 2 PAC Food Days*

The Quilchena staff would like to wish all our families a Happy New Year! We have enjoyed the positive buzz back in our hallways and classrooms this past week and look forward our second term together. We hope you all had a restful and family-filled winter break and enjoyed the warmer weather we received over the holidays! The predicted cold weather has arrived and will be with us for a while. We are outside each day, please make sure to dress properly (warm coat, toque, mitts/gloves) and be prepared for the frigid temperatures. We have enjoyed the positive buzz back in our hallways and classrooms this past week and look forward our second term together.

#### In Other Quilchena News:

**Black Excellence Day:** Black Excellence Day started from the movement in early 2021. Black Excellence Day is a day to stand in solidarity with Black Canadians and to learn about the contributions of Black Canadians and their ongoing civil rights struggle. A day to honour the rich history, art, and stories of Black Canadians. The term “Black Excellence” was born out of the civil rights movement in the 1960’s and honours great civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who was born on January 15, 1929.



**Raoul Wallenberg Day:** On January 17 we remember the selfless bravery of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who took the initiative to save thousands of persecuted Jews during the Second World War. In 1944, Wallenberg opened a Swedish embassy in Budapest, where 400,000 Jewish men, women and children had already been deported by the Nazis. He began his efforts to protect the Jewish community in Hungary through unconventional methods.

Wallenberg provided special protective passes, called Schutz-Passes, to more than 4,000 Jewish people. He was able to establish hospitals, nurseries, a soup kitchen and more than 30 safe houses under Swedish embassy protection to conceal and protect Jewish people. When they were forced to take part in death marches in November 1944, Wallenberg personally intervened to rescue as many Jewish people as he could on several occasions. In the six months he spent in Budapest, he helped save more than 100,000 Hungarian Jews from persecution, more than any individual, organization or government. On January 17, 1945, Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet forces as they pushed the Nazis out of Hungary. Although his fate remains unknown, his legacy remains. Mr. Wallenberg’s heroism is a lesson in humanity, compassion, and courage that inspires us every day to pursue our collective fight against hatred and antisemitism in all their forms.

**Written Learning Updates:** A reminder that your child's Written Learning Update (report card) has been published on MyEducation BC Parent Portal. Please see the [school website](#) for more instructions on how to access your account. All families were emailed from the District regarding instructions on how to access your MyEd account and how to reset your password if it expired.



**Kindergarten 2024:** Priority 1 Kindergarten Registration will close on January 19, 2024. Every year there are families who miss out on this registration period resulting in their child not being able to attend their catchment school or being placed on a waitlist, both of which cause undue stress to parents and guardians and are completely avoidable. Families are strongly encouraged to register during the Priority 1 registration period for the best chance at attending their catchment school for the 2024/25 school year. Please visit our [website](#) for more information about our online registration process, required documents, important dates, and FAQs.

**If you, or someone you know, has a child residing in the Richmond School District, born in 2019, turning 5 in 2024, we encourage you/them to register their children for Kindergarten at your earliest convenience: ONLINE – [HERE](#)**

**District Program Options Applications for September 2024/25:** Applications for Early French Immersion (entering Kindergarten or Grade 1), Late French Immersion (entering Grade 6) and Montessori (entering Kindergarten to Grade 4) are being accepted online. Parents must have their child's registration ID number (new students) or Pupil Number (current students) in order to apply. **The deadline for applications for September 2024/25 is Friday, January 19, 2024.** After this date, the online application will close and parents who wish to submit a late application will need to email [programoptions@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:programoptions@sd38.bc.ca) to submit a PDF application. Click [HERE](#) to apply now.

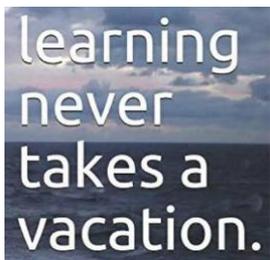


**Intent to Attend Notice:** Planning for the 2024/25 School Year has begun (can you believe it?). Your youngest child will have brought home a blue notice, the *Intent to Attend Form*. Please complete this and return it to their teacher by January 19. The information gathered will help with our staffing and classroom planning for next year. If you have any questions about how to answer, please contact Mrs. Hughes in the office.

**Thinking about Grade 8:** The parents/guardians of our Grade 7 students have been given a letter indicating their catchment high school (and the parent information evenings they host) earlier this week. Please contact Mrs. Hughes if you did not receive this information. If you are considering submitting a Transfer Request click [HERE](#) the form is also available on our school website under Parents>Resources>Forms. Completed forms are to be *emailed directly to the chosen high school* between February 5-29. Students applying for out-of-catchment incentive programs MUST also submit a transfer request.



**Voluntary Student Absences:** As we begin our second term, we would like to remind families of the importance of student attendance. We acknowledge that there may be exceptional circumstances that necessitates a student's extended voluntary absence, but it should not be the goal of families to remove their children from school for vacations during instructional time. We have very generous vacation periods throughout the year that can be used for holidays. Missed school not only impacts your child, but also the entire class when group projects and collaboration times are affected. If voluntary absences exceed the allowable amount, your child will be withdrawn, requiring re-registration on your return. We cannot guarantee their placement at Quilchena as there are currently waitlists for several grades.



If voluntary absences are unavoidable, please complete the Extended Leave Form [HERE](#) and return it to the office at least one week prior to departure. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.



**Homestay Hosts Needed:** Would you like to be a homestay host for an International Student for a month, semester, or year? SD38's Richmond International Education (RIE) Homestay Program is looking for local families to offer a welcoming home to our newest International Students. Contact RIE to find out more about this enriching opportunity. [study@sd38.bc.ca](mailto:study@sd38.bc.ca) 604-668-6217

**Reconciliation, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion with the Richmond School District**

**(REDI):** On January 25 & 30, a webinar series on Zoom for parents and caregivers to understand and support SD38 initiatives around inclusion and belonging. This initial 60-minute session is designed to help you understand the district's commitment to reconciliation, equity, diversity and inclusion, and the values and language that inform our practices in schools. The facilitator, Destine Lord, will draw on the district's strategic plan to drive the conversation and make connections between the plan, the district's vision, and introductory concepts of anti-oppression. By building the language, you can help support your learner as they move between home and school and back again. There will be opportunities with future sessions to further explore REDI concepts. Please see the attachment for registration information.



**PAC News:**



**PAC Meeting:** Our January meeting is on Thursday 18 at 7pm. We're meeting at the school in the Multipurpose Room (Exterior Door 4). We hope to see you there. The agenda will be emailed to families earlier in the week.

**PAC Hot Lunch Food Days TERM 2:** Hot Lunch ORDERING for Term 2 (January to March) is available now until January 21. Late orders WILL NOT be accepted. Don't miss out! You MUST be registered to order, if you haven't registered this year, please do so HERE as the system is cleared at the end of each school year.

Jan 30 – Domino's Pizza	Feb 5 – Pasta	Feb 12 – Sushi Lovers	Feb 20 – White Spot
Feb 26 – Subway	Mar 4 – Taco Luis	Mar 11 – Sushi Lovers	

Questions? Lana at [quilchenafundraising@gmail.com](mailto:quilchenafundraising@gmail.com)

**A Peek Into Coding in Division 4**

