

Quilchena Elementary School District #38

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Principal: Nichole Kusch Administrative Asst. Sue Hughes School Liaison Trustee: Ken Hamaguchi

Quilchena Community

The Week Ahead ~ September 22nd – September 26th, 2025

We invite families to visit the <u>School Calendar</u> on our <u>website</u> for all of our future notable dates and events. Simply click on the 'event' for more details.

September 22 – Professional Development Day (students not in session)

September 22 – PAC Hot Lunch Ordering Closes

September 23-24 – Rosh Hashanah

September 24 – PAC Meeting 7pm Door #4

Another week has flown by, and we are mid-way through September. It was wonderful having families join us during our Open House on Thursday evening and being able to meet our staff and connect with your child's teacher(s). We continue to be very fortunate with this beautiful weather, which has brought many smiles and joy during our Morning Walk and our recess and lunch breaks. Thank you for making the effort to be at school on time so your child(ren) may begin the day with their peers. Our morning walk is valuable part of our day where we get to connect and prepare our minds and body for learning. A reminder that our first bell rings at 8:40am, attendance is taken at 8:45am and then we all head outside for our walk. If you arrive to school after this, please sign in at the office for attendance and join your class. Giving yourself time in the morning so you are not rushed helps everyone begin the day in a calm manner.

In Other Quilchena News:

Rosh Hashanah: Shanah Tovah! To our Jewish students, staff, and families, we wish you a sweet and meaningful Rosh Hashanah as you welcome the Jewish New Year 5786. May this time of renewal be filled with hope, joy, and connection.

Saying Goodbye: After almost 7 years at Quilchena, our beloved school secretary, Mrs. Hughes, will be moving on to other career opportunities. Her final day at Quilchena will be Monday, September 29th, she will be dearly missed. Please stop by the office sometime next week to say goodbye.

<u>50th Anniversary:</u> We are thrilled to announce a momentous occasion in our school's history — Quilchena is turning 50! For half a century, our school has been a cornerstone of learning, growth, and community spirit. Whether you're a current student, a proud alumnus, a dedicated staff member (past / present), or a cherished friend of the school, your presence will make this celebration truly special. It's time to come together and celebrate the legacy we've built and the bright future ahead. Please join us on Thursday, October 2nd from 5:00pm to 6:30pm to mark this special occasion. Spread the word!

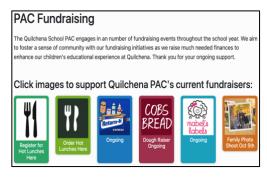




<u>Terry Fox:</u> We ended our week with our school-wide Terry Fox Run. Thank you to all our families who donated to support *Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope*. We surpassed our goal and have raised over \$800 so far! Donations will continue throughout the month of September and can be brought to school or made online <u>HERE</u>.

<u>Outside Weather:</u> As our weather starts to shift to more rainy days, please remember that every day is an outside day at Quilchena and to dress for the weather. Students will not only be outside for recess and lunch play but taking part in learning activities outside throughout the day. A change of socks, pants and shoes are highly recommended as we want to limit the amount of phone calls home and drop offs at school. Thank you for your support with this.





<u>Did You Know?</u>: Our school has a dedicated website packed with helpful information for families. Whether you're looking for the latest school news, event calendars, student resources, or important updates, our website is your go-to hub for everything happening at Quilchena. We also have a comprehensive PAC area – a screenshot of the Fundraising Page is here – where you can be kept up to date with parent activities. We're committed to keeping our families informed and engaged — check in regularly and stay in the loop! Visit us <u>HERE</u> to explore:

Student Photos are Ready to Order through Mountain West Studios:

Your online gallery from your school photo session is now live!

- Please visit this link to access the gallery: https://vando.imagequix.com/K9L3W9Z
- Your webcode to access your images was provided on photo day.
- Any active email address can be used to login.
- Your order deadline is: October 2 2025 (after the deadline a late fee is applicable)

Missing your login code? No problem!

- 1. Visit https://www.mountainwest.ca/support-for-families
- 2. Enter the information required.
- 3. Your code will be emailed within 1 business day.

Catch Up Photo Day:

- Did you miss the first photo day or are needing a retake? Retakes are offered for expression, poor posture, or head tilt; not for personal style changes (ie: change of clothing or hair). Please note all glass glare is removed on final prints.
- If you would like your photo taken, we will be at your school on: October 23 2025
- Click Here to sign up. The cutoff to sign up is October 21 2025

Click Here to find out more about ordering.

Phone: 1.888.644.4494

Email: <u>help@mountainwest.c</u>a



Opt-in to District/School Text Message Communication: The Richmond School District has implemented a communication tool that will enable both the district and our school to send you text messages. This will improve the ability to deliver time-sensitive information to you, including emergency notifications. Given the significance of this communication tool, we strongly encourage you to opt-in for this service. If you haven't already done so, you can choose to opt-in by sending a text message to 978338 with the comment 'Yes'. Read more <u>HERE</u>

Spirit Wear Orders:

We're happy to announce the shop is open! HERE







Quilchena's Grab & Go Fridge: At Quilchena we have a snack fridge called the "Grab and Go Fridge." This



fridge was funded through the Ministry of Education Feeding Futures Program. Students can access food in the fridge when they need a nutritious snack to help them get through the day. We know that healthy minds and bodies begin with fresh quality food. The fridge will be stocked with food delivered by the Richmond Food Bank and Fire Fighters, and we are grateful for their support!

These past weeks, teachers and staff have been reviewing and reminding students to understand the purpose for the fridge, as well as the difference between a want and a need (please see attached). Our goal is to have students access the fridge when and if needed and encouraging them to make responsible decisions and not taking when they don't. This will help ensure that there is enough food for when students need it.

Construction: The ongoing construction on Moresby Dr. & No. 1 Rd. has been erratic and at times quite extensive. We are anticipating lane closures, parking restrictions and heavy traffic until mid-October. Please prepare an alternate route to school (see map below) and allow extra time for your journey for those days when construction is heavy.



<u>Needing Support:</u> Please reach out to Mrs. Kusch (nkusch@sd38.bc.ca) if you require financial assistance for school-related costs (school supplies, field trips or other school-related costs). As always, all requests will be treated with dignity, and your privacy will be respected. We want to work with our families to ensure that students have everything they need to be successful at school. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can help.



Homestay Program: SD 38 is once again reaching for support with our Homestay Program. We continue to face a shortage of host families for our International Students. Consider hosting an international student for a month, semester or year. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

<u>Grade 5 Active Pass:</u> The City of Richmond is offering students in Grade 5 a pass for FREE admission to drop-in swimming, skating, pitch and putt gold, and various drop-in programs at local community centres. Please click <u>here</u> for more details and registration process for the free pass.





PAC News: The PAC is a forum for parents and guardians to discuss matters that impact our school. We also plan fundraising activities and community-building events that support our students' learning. Next PAC Meeting Wednesday 24th @ 7pm. Door #4

Please feel free to email us at <u>quilchenapac@gmail.com</u> if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you and wish you the very best for the school year! To learn more about our Quilchena Parent Advisory Council (PAC), please visit the <u>Quilchena PAC page</u>, (under the Parents tab in the school's website).

PAC Food days are back!

Tired of packing lunches for your child? Not to worry! This year our PAC food days will take place **weekly** on Mondays or Tuesdays. Vendors are listed below. Ordering and payment is done in the Hotlunches.net system. **Ordering opened on Monday, September 8**th and will close on Monday,

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September 22nd. No late orders will be accepted.

Should you have any questions, please contact Noel at <u>noelleung82@hotmail.com</u>.

Register your children <u>HERE</u> Please visit the PARENTS page <u>HERE</u> and select 'PAC Fundraising' to find all the information on how to register and order your lunches in the **Hotlunches system**!

Term 1 Food Days are as follows:

Sept. 29 Sushi Lovers Nov. 10 Libby's Kitchen

Oct. 6 Taco Luis
Oct. 14 Freshslice
Oct. 20 Just Poke
Oct. 27 Ttop Kitchen
Nov. 3 Village Curry
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Nov. 17 Just Poke
Nov. 24 Freshslice
Dec. 2 Sushi Lovers
Dec. 8 Taco Luis
Dec. 15 Village Curry

Please Note: Every year parents need to re-register to set up your account and place orders. Your login from last year won't work.



Family Photo Night

Our very popular **PAC Family Photo Night fundraiser** is back! This year, we're holding an outdoor photoshoot, scheduled for Sunday, October 5th at Terra Nova Rural Park with last year's photographer: Vivian Chung Photography. We've booked the school gym for October 3rd as a backup just in case the weather doesn't work out. Please see the attached flyer for the booking link.

We can't do it without you! Are you available to help make this fundraiser a success? Consider volunteering to help for an hour on the day, many hands make light work. Please sign up HERE

A Peek into Our Terry Fox Run

















