

Ecole Cliff Drive Elementary

Safe Open minded Achievement Oriented
Respectful & Responsible
With Spirit

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it’s the only thing that has.”

- Margaret Mead

Principal’s Message



Cliff Drive continues to be a busy place with many great events and activities happening throughout May and June – including Track & Field season, with our meet being held this month. Planning for 2019-20 School Year has also already started. We welcome our soon to be kindergarten students to Starting With Stories, at the end of May and in June, and information about class placements is included in this edition of the newsletter.

It is with mixed emotions that I write this principal’s message. I recently announced my plans to retire at the end of this school year. It has been an honour and privilege for me to serve as your principal for the past three years. I leave with high hopes, in good spirit, and with deep humility and gratefulness in my heart. I consider myself fortunate to have been part of such a vibrant, high quality and hard working community. I am also proud of the staff at Cliff Drive and I know they will continue to work tirelessly to provide high quality education for your children. I take with me lasting friendships and thank you for all you do to make our school a special place. I look forward to watching the success and growth of Cliff Drive as it moves forward. I can assure you that the District staff is working hard to assign a new principal for September. There will be announcement within the next few weeks.

As I reflected on the past three years at Cliff Drive and what final thoughts would be the most valuable for me to share, I decided if I could share one message with you, it would be to remind your children that the world is full of as much potential as they are – if they shape their future in the image of their hopes, it is theirs to determine by setting their expectations, actions and choices.

Respectfully, *Vikki Chapman*

Track & Field

We are really proud of our track team and coaches this year. They all worked on their fitness and track and field skills. Cliff Drive will be well represented with about 130 athletes in grades four to seven participating in the Regional Meet on Wednesday, May 8th.

The athletes and many coaches had fun and are congratulated on their great efforts. Thank you also to our staff for volunteering their time at our morning Running Club to help students get ready for the upcoming meet.



Calendar Reminders

Grade 7 Band
Concert 11:15 am

Monday, May 13

Non-
Instructional
Day

Friday, May 17

Victoria Day

Monday, May 20
Statutory Holiday

Friday, May 24
Hot Lunch

Grade 7 Band Concert

Music stimulates academic strength and enriches a child's experiences at school and throughout life. The Grade 7 Band students will feature a Spring Concert on Monday, May 13th at 11:15 a.m. Please join us to celebrate our students' musical talents!

The next PAC Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 18th at 6:30 pm will include PAC Executive Elections for 2019-20. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

A special thank you is extended to year's PAC Executive, Hot Lunch Committee and Communication members for doing so much for the school. Thank you for the many extra hours of planning, support, leadership, time and commitment for the benefit of the students and staff at Cliff Drive. Our parents committed a great deal of time this year in their various roles. Our PAC Executive is as follows:

President: Joanne H.

Vice-President: Tanya M.

Treasurer: Melanie R.

Secretary: Karen M.

District PAC Representative: Tracey I.

Members at Large

Under the leadership of Diana T., Michelle G. and Tanya M. we enjoyed a wonderful Hot Lunch program. A special thank you is also extended Julieta G. for her work on weekly communications. I would also like to recognize our EP parent Trina B. who worked hard to update the classroom Grab n' Go buckets and EP Bin supplies to support our EP plan. Thank you also to a large number of hard-working parents who volunteered their time on a variety of PAC Committees to successfully fundraise, host family events and/or initiatives including the Welcome Back BBQ, Spookfest, and Grade 7 events, just to name a few! We are grateful for your time and dedication in your roles.

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) 2019-20

It is through the generosity of our parents that we are able to enrich the opportunities we desire for our students. The financial support parents provide and an active volunteer community makes a difference daily at Cliff Drive. Together we make a great school even better. We encourage every parent of a child at Cliff Drive to participate in the PAC. You may volunteer your own name, or nominate another person with their consent. Positions can be shared. Becoming part of the Cliff Drive PAC is an excellent way to become involved in your child's education and informed about school programs and events. We need parents to volunteer their time in order to keep the Cliff Drive Parent Advisory Council active and this is important because without a formal PAC we do not qualify for provincial grants and the PAC typically raises over 20,000.00 to directly benefit our students. Please consider volunteering for the PAC Executive. PAC Executive roles include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the District PAC Representative.

Parent Advisory Council Roles and Responsibilities

President

- Prepares agenda for meetings and chairs all general and AGM meetings
- Maintains email and phone list of all executive members
- Prepares and sends an update of PAC activities to all committee members twice a year (January and June)
- Annually reviews Constitution and Bylaws to ensure they are up to date. Makes or delegates revisions as appropriate, circulates for review to the executive and members 14 days prior to the AGM, at which time it will be voted on for approval
- Assists other members and committees

Vice-President

- Presides over the meetings in the absence of the chairperson
- Assists the chairperson as needed

Secretary

- Keeps an accurate and permanent record of the proceedings at all meetings
- Ensures all action items are documented
- Circulates a sign in sheet to account for all attendees
- When decision are passed and carried, includes documenting the person making the motion as well as the person seconding it
- Prepares minutes of meetings, circulates them to the executive within one (1) week following the meeting for review and approval
- Keeps copies of all agendas and minutes during time as secretary

Treasurer

- Receives and deposits all funds in a bank approved by the executive
- Keeps an accurate record of all receipts and expenditures
- Pays all bills and accounts approved by the PAC
- Co-ordinates all "float money" required for fundraising activities
- Reports at each PAC meeting
- Requests an audit from school board when terminating the treasurer position
- Maintains two accounts: general and gaming account at CIBC Tsawwassen Branch
- Performs monthly reconciliations on each of the bank accounts
- Prepares budget for current fiscal year. Collaborate with PAC members to determine which financial obligations they wish to continue funding
- Completes a gaming application by June 30th of each year in order to receive Gaming Funds from the Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch. The application is accompanied by a cancelled cheque as well as a report summarizing how the funds were spent during the year
 - Prepares a treasurer report at the end of each year. A final copy is filed following September after the bank statements for the summer have been reconciled

District PAC Representative

- Attends Delta District PAC meetings and reports back to the PAC

Lost and Found Items

Items in our school's lost and found are overflowing. Please feel free to come in and check for any of your child's clothing. There are many jackets (and other items) that have been left at school and might be needed at home! All items after May 18th will be donated to charity.

Freezie Fridays

Freezie Fridays will be held on Fridays when school is in session in May. Freezies will be sold from 3:00 – 3:20 pm outside the school by the basketball court for 1.00 per freezie. All money raised goes to Cliff Drive PAC, which helps fund field trips, teacher wish lists and other school activities.

May Days Festivities

Ecole Cliff Drive is proud to announce that Ella P. will represent our school at the May Days Parade and festivities held in Memorial Park on Sunday, May 26th. Congratulations Ella!

Starting With Stories –

Starting With Stories is a program for parents/grandparents/caregivers and their newly registered Kindergarten children for September 2019. We invite you to meet our Kindergarten teacher, District coordinators and Counselor to find out how to help your child get a good start in school. All parents, grandparents and caregivers are welcome to attend with the child. **There are 3 sessions as follows:**

Tuesday, May 21st — Session 1

Catherine Watson will be speaking about literacy and Matt Jamieson will be singing and reading with the kids.

Monday, May 28th —Session 2

- Jason Hodgins – Early Learning Coordinator for Delta School District
- What does Kindergarten Look Like Today
- How to Help Your Child Adjust to Kindergarten

Tuesday, June 4th —Session 3

Sandy Ouellette, Counsellor, will be speaking about Social Emotional Learning and the Fraser Valley Regional Library will be doing a Read Aloud with the children.

RSVP: By calling the school or emailing vchapman@deltasd.bc.ca. You may also contact our Kindergarten Teacher: Stephanie Turik: sturik@deltasd.bc.ca

Classroom Placements 2019-20

It is the time of year when staffing allocations are made to schools and planning for the next school year begins. The number of staff members assigned to Cliff Drive is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrollment. Class organization is determined by the number of teachers allocated, the number of students at each grade level, as well as class size limits, and class size designated by the Ministry.

The teaching and administrative staff will begin planning the appropriate placements of students in June. However, we may have a shuffle of teaching assignments due to retirements or other pending circumstances that will influence staffing; thus our staffing assignments may not be finalized until early summer. Reorganization in September is always a possibility. Children may leave or enter the school at different grade levels over the summer. We would like to be able to place students in their classes within the first week of school in September. You can assist us in our planning by informing us as soon as possible if you plan to move during the summer and your children will not be attending Cliff Drive. Please inform the office in person or email Mrs. Bartlett at vbartlett@deltasd.bc.ca. Please encourage any newcomers to our community to register at the school as soon as possible.

Next year's class organization may include both single grade and combined classes. The placement of students for the upcoming year is something we consider very carefully. There are a number of complex factors used to create classes including learning styles and strengths, what a student is able to achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and physical maturity, previous placements, gender balance of the class, English Language Levels and students with Special Needs. The goal of school organization at the class level is to create balanced classes based on gender, intellectual development and social/emotional development.

Please speak with your child's current teacher regarding any requests that you have, as the teachers create the classes for next year. The professional staff is in contact with the children in the school setting for 30 hours a week. Therefore, the decision about student placement, based on the above criteria, is a school-based, professional decision (continued on page 6).

Your child's present teacher, along with other staff members who work with our child, have a year's worth of current, rich information about your child and the kind of learning environment in which she/he works and learns best. As our partners, we recognize that parents have important information that may assist with the placement of their child. It is very important to phrase a request in a respectful manner, which highlights the needs of your child. As well, it is important to note that the parent information would include personal and/or educational information to best support your child rather than a request for a specific teacher. **All requests will be considered, but not assured. If you have information we should consider, this should be placed on a Parental Input form located in a folder outside the office. All input forms are due on or before Friday, June 7th. In September, when classes are determined, requests cannot be accommodated.**



Respectfully,

Ms. V. Chapman Principal, Mr. T. Weber Vice-Principal & the Staff of Cliff Drive Elementary