

September 8, 2023

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'We inspire competence, character and compassion'

Scott Fiddes, Vice-Principal | scott_fiddes@sd33.bc.ca

Classes are now set for the school year. We thank you for your patience while we confirm student registrations and work with our district office to finalize our class configurations. Staff put a lot of thought into student placement. Teachers and Administrators take the responsibility of creating class lists very seriously and put forth much time and thought into creating balanced classes. In the Spring, teachers begin discussions around the best class for student placements while also considering a myriad of factors such as, class size allowance, class learning need and composition factors such as:

- intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development
- student learning styles and strengths
- degree of independence in student work habits
- integration of students with exceptionalities
- grouping certain types of learners for Educational Assistant support
- balancing levels of achievement
- social compatibility of groups and individuals



Student Supplies

Students can now bring in their school supply money. Cost is \$45.00 for grade 1-5 and \$50.00 for Kindergarten (\$45.00 for supplies and \$5.00 for consumables).

Students will purchase library book bags from the library for \$1.00.

The following Teachers will be using school planners this year: Mrs. Cross, Mrs. Roseboom/Mr. Fiddes, Mrs. McIvor, Mr. Neely, Ms. Threlfall. Planners can be purchased at the office for \$6.00.

Welcome Open House / BBQ

Will be held on Wednesday, September 20th from 5:00-7:00pm. Meet & Greet in the classrooms from 5:00-5:30pm followed by BBQ from 5:30-7:00pm. This is a PAC "by donation" event, we are asking families to donate what they can on the evening of the BBQ, there will be donation boxes at the school. RVSP order forms are due back on Tuesday, September 12.

PARKING LOT: Drop Off & Pick Up



Your child's safety is our focus followed by ensuring a smooth flow of vehicles. The parking lot has one entrance and exit. Drivers are asked to pull right up to the main crosswalk to wait for your child to arrive.

Families are asked to do their hugs, kisses and well wishes before entering the parking lot to allow for a prompt exit of the vehicle.



CROSSWALKS

Student and Families are reminded of the importance of using the crosswalks and sidewalks when crossing our school parking lot and when crossing the streets adjacent to our school. Thank you in advanced for modelling this important safety measure for all students.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Is set to open on Monday, September 11th. Breakfast Club will be open from 8:00-8:19am each morning.



LUNCH CLUB

Bowls of Hope has partnered with the Chilliwack School District to provide soup, bread and fruit daily for students who wish to come to a mixed grade group setting for lunch. Lunch Club is set to open on Monday, September 11th.

PHOTO DAY

Bring your Best SMILE!
Student Photo Day:
Tuesday September 26, 2021



PAC Meeting

The 1st PAC meeting of the school year will be Monday September 26th at 7:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room. Please consider attending this meeting to learn of the various ways parents can support the school, teachers and learn more about our wonderful school community.



New Bell Schedule

8:09	Playground Supervision Begins
8:19	First Bell
8:24-10:30	Class in Session
10:30-10:45	Recess
10:45-12:09	Class in Session
12:09-12:54	Lunch
12:54-2:20	Class in Session
2:20	Dismissal
2:35	Playground Supervision Ends

Important/Handy Contacts:

District Website: sd33.bc.ca
School Website: strathcona.sd33.bc.ca
School Email: strathcona@sd33.bc.ca
School Phone #: 604-792-9301
Parent Advisory Committee
President: T.B.D.
Email: strathconapac@gmail.com
Facebook: [strathcona elementary pac group](https://www.facebook.com/strathcona.elementary.pac.group)

School Messenger - Safe Arrival - Student Absence Logging System

Dear Parents/Guardians,

At the **Chilliwack School District** one of our greatest priorities is ensuring that all our students arrive safely at school each and every day.

To enhance our existing absence-checking procedure, we are introducing **a new, more efficient** student absence reporting system called **SafeArrival**. This new system will reduce the time it takes to verify student attendance, make it easy for you to report your child's absence and easy for staff to respond to unexplained student absences.

With **SafeArrival**, you are asked to report your child's absence in advance using any of these 3 convenient methods:

1) Using your mobile device, download and install the **SchoolMessenger app** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (or from the links at <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival>). The first time you use the app, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.

2) Use the SafeArrival website, <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival>. The first time you use the website, select **Sign Up** to create your account. Select **Attendance** then **Report an Absence**.

Call the toll-free number **1-833-698-6567** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

These options are available 24 hours/day, 7 days a week. Future absences can be reported at any time.

In addition, we will use the **SchoolMessenger Communicate** automated notification system to contact parents whose child is absent when the absence was not reported in advance. The automated notification system will attempt to contact parents at multiple contact points until a reason is submitted for the absence. If our system is unable to reach the designated contacts, office staff will follow up.

If you report your child's absence in advance using the **SafeArrival** toll-free number, website or mobile app, you will NOT receive these notifications.

Starting **Monday, September 11, 2023**, please report absences in advance using **SafeArrival** instead of sending notes or calling/emailing the school.

Starting **Monday, September 11, 2023**, staff will be using the **SafeArrival** notifications to let you know if your student is absent (when you haven't reported the absence in advance).

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we implement this new system.



Days in Session	188
Number of Instructional Days	178
Number of Non-Instructional Days	10
Schools Open	September 5
Truth and Reconciliation Day – Statutory Holiday	October 2
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #1 (Pro-D Day)	October 6 (District)
Thanksgiving Day - Statutory Holiday	October 9
Early Dismissal Day #1	October 19
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #2 (Pro-D Day)	October 20 (Provincial)
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #3 (Pro-D Day)	November 10
Remembrance Day - Statutory Holiday	November 13
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #4 (A&E Day #1)	November 24
Last Day of School before Christmas Holidays	December 22
Christmas Holidays	December 25 to January 5
Schools Reopen after Christmas Holidays	January 8
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #5 (A&E Day #2)	January 26
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #6 (Pro-D Day)	February 16 (District)
Family Day - Statutory Holiday	February 19
Early Dismissal Day #2	March 1
Last Day of School before Spring Vacation	March 15
Spring Vacation Period	March 18 – March 29
Good Friday - Statutory Holiday	March 29
Easter Monday - Holiday	April 1
Schools Reopen after Spring Vacation	April 2
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #7 (Pro-D Day)	April 26 (CTA)
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #8 (Pro-D Day)	May 17
Victoria Day - Statutory Holiday	May 20
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY #9 (A&E Day #3)	May 31
Last Day for Students / Early Dismissal #3	June 27
Administrative Day	June 28