

ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2019 Newsletter

Ms. Dani Morrow, Principal
Ms. Colleen Mullin, Vice Principal
Ms. Sharon Lachmanec, Head Secretary

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Published 10 times a year

We gratefully acknowledge that we are learning together on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish People

ALEXANDER'S SYMBOL OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY

'Uy' Skweyul! Over the last 2 years, we have embraced the symbolism of the stqeeye' (wolf) to represent our school community. The stqeeye' shows strength in the family, and the kinship associated with it is known to have strength and loyalty in *all* relationships. This is what we believe about our school community at Alexander. And, like a wolf pack, Alexander learners are **POSITIVE**, **ACCEPTING**, **COOPERATIVE**, and **KIND**. We are excited to see where this journey continues to take us! You will notice a new display out on the back wall of the school. This large stqeeye' watches over our learners as they play together each day. And beside it, we have the first of many Grade 7 Legacy Gifts. The colourful stqeeye' paws are each dedicated to Alexander School from each of the members of last year's Grade 7 class.

WATER ONLY



After 2 amazing and successful years of celebrating "Water Only," we want to carry forward to healthy initiative! Please save juice boxes, energy drinks, and soda pops for at home 😊

Thank you to our amazing PAC, who have provided us with ANOTHER whole-school set of awesome Wolf PACK water bottles!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES – REDUCED PRICE!!

We have great news! We have reduced our School Supply Service to just \$20 per student! For only \$20, we will make sure your student is supplied with EVERYTHING they need for the entire year! You don't have to set foot into a School Supply store; we will do all the work for you! And, we even offer a payment plan! If you are unable to pay \$20 right now, we are happy to collect smaller installations throughout the year. If you have already paid the old price of \$25, please give us a call or stop by the office so we can reimburse you.

STAFFING

I would like to officially "introduce" you to some of our new staff:

1. Ms. Mullin is our new Vice Principal! In addition to her roles a VP, she will also be sharing the role of Resource teacher
2. Dana Kolosoff has accepted a temporary contract with us; she will be our Indigenous Education teacher (until Mrs. Klyne returns from Leave)
3. Arlene Chesley has joined our EA team

You might see a few other new faces around the school. We are lucky to have some temporary EAs here with us for a few weeks until the positions are filled. We are grateful that so many of these EAs want to stay at Alexander 😊

MEAL PROGRAM

A friendly reminder to all of our families – the funding for our meal program comes entirely from grants, donations, and monetary contributions. If your son or daughter will be participating in our meal program this year, please consider making a contribution to this worthy cause. Money (cash or cheque) can be dropped off in the office; we are grateful for every dollar we receive! Please stay tuned for a few changes this year; we will be offering a low-cost "Hot Dog" day on a regular basis.

INDIGENOUS ANCESTRY *(A message from Denise Augustine, Director of Aboriginal Education)*

Uy'skweyul! Tansi! Welcome to another year of growth and learning. Indigenous education staff work throughout the district to foster inclusive classrooms where every student feels a sense of belonging and experiences academic success. As you may know, in 2017, the Federal Government changed from using the term Aboriginal People to Indigenous Peoples when referring to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples. This change acknowledge the rights of Indigenous Peoples as outlined in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It will take us some time to transition in to the new language, so you may see the terms Indigenous and Aboriginal both used.

If your child has Indigenous ancestry (First Nations, Metis, or Inuit... documentation is NOT required), and you would like to self-identify, please see the school secretary for a self-identification form. Each year your child will be funded for and included in Indigenous Education programs. Most programs will be delivered in the regular classroom. You will be asked to give permission for any activities offered outside of the regular class. No proof of ancestry is required. Please go to <http://abed.sd79.bc.ca/faq/> for more information. You can opt out of Indigenous Education services any time by notifying the Indigenous Education staff in person or in writing either at your school or through the District Office.

NOON HOUR SUPERVISOR – JOB OPPORTUNITY

School District 79 is actively recruiting casual Noon Hour Supervisors!

This position is ideal for stay-at-home parents or grandparents interested in meaningful work with students. If you, or someone you know, would like to spend an hour a day supervising students, we would like to hear from you! Required qualifications are grade 12 and First Aid/CPR – Occupational First Aid (OFA) level 1 available from St John Ambulance. A vehicle and driver's license is also required. Full job description #34 available online: www.sd79.bc.ca

If you are interested, please scan and submit your resume to:

Human Resources Officer, Vanessa Lysne:

vlysne@sd79.bc.ca

or drop off at the School Board Office:

2557 Beverly Street

Duncan, BC

V9L 2X3



A FEW REMINDERS FROM THE DISTRICT

- Please be aware that there is BC Provincial Government legislation that bans all smoking on any school property, include inside of all vehicles on the property, at all times.
- In accordance with the Schools Protection Program, students and parents are reminded that students' personal property is not covered under the program, so students should not leave personal belongings at the school. Neither the school, nor the School District, are responsible for the loss or damage to students' personal property.
- If any parents require for any medications for their child to be administered by the school, please visit the office to fill out a "Request for Administration of Medication at School" Form.
- Please review these important Policies/Procedures. If you would like a paper copy, one can be provided for you, from the school's main office:
 - Admin Procedure 2550 – Healthy Schools
<https://bcSD79.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/38544?preview=40596>
 - Policy 5100 - District Code of Conduct
<https://bcSD79.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/566?preview=37501>
 - Policy 5110 - Intimidation, Harassment, Aggression
<https://bcSD79.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/566?preview=37502>
 - Appeals Procedure Bylaw No. 2
<https://bcSD79.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/561?preview=20246>

<h2>September Dates to Remember</h2>
Thursday, September 5 th – Fun Day/Sports Day
Friday, September 7 th – Some classes on Field Trips; Kindergarten Pancake Breakfast
Wednesday, September 18 th – Early Dismissal at 1:28pm
Monday, September 23 rd – NO SCHOOL



FOLLOW US ON



FACEBOOK!

We have been working hard at keeping our School Facebook Page more up to date this year. We are posting at least once per day, and sharing things like notices for field trips, weekly updates, amazing photos of our students' art, and of course some important reminders.

Please consider following our page at: fb.me/alexanderelementaryschool