

Champlain Heights Newsletter – October 2024

6955 Frontenac Street

Vancouver, British Columbia, V5S 3T4

604.713.4760

Administrative Assistant: Ms. Shamaine Ference

Principal (Main and Annex): Sarah McAlister

Vice-Principal (Annex): Katherine Tso

Director of Instruction: Chris Wong

School Trustee: Christopher Richardson

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Chair: Cassie Rodriguez pac_cha@vsb.bc.ca



Debra Sparrow, xʷməθkʷəy̓əm Master Weaver

Picture of Debra Sparrow, who designed a Reconciliation Blanket that was gifted by the school district to all the schools. Our school is carefully considering the location to display our blanket.

Hello Champlain Heights Families! Please also see the PAC update and PAC calendar of events that will be attached to this email.

Important Dates to Note

- Monday, Oct. 14 – Thanksgiving (school not in session)
- Tuesday, Oct. 15 – 2pm Early Dismissal for parent teacher conferences
- Wednesday, Oct. 16 – PAC Meeting 6pm at the Annex
- Thursday, Oct. 17 – 2pm Early Dismissal for parent teacher conferences
- Tuesday, Oct. 22 – Trout Lake cross country meet
- Friday, Oct. 25 – Pro-D day (school not in session)
- Monday, Oct. 28 – Halloween Dance 6-8pm
- Friday, Nov. 1 – Photo Retake day

WHAT'S NEW AT CHAMPLAIN ELEMENTARY?

Staffing Update

We would like to welcome the following staff who are new or returning to our school team: Mr. Jack Stirling (Indigenous Enhancement Worker), Amy Hagedorn (Resource), Navi Rai (Div. 8 Teacher Thursdays), Peggy Chan (Div. 10 Tuesdays), Carolyn Morgan-Chan (SSA), Jennifer Thodeson (SSA), Bal Grewal (SSA) and Tara Regehr (Supervision Aide). In the past month we said farewell to Ms. Carmen Aldakhlallah and Ms. Carissa Wong (SSAs) and thank them very much for their service to the school and our students over the past few years!

Voluntary Student Accident Insurance Plans

The VSB is offering parents access to two voluntary student accident plans which offer coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical/dental expenses and critical illness. If families have questions about the program, they can contact either company through the contact information on their respective websites. The two companies that are offering this product are the IA Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) and Study Insured.

Families can register online to purchase and participate in either of these plans by using the URL's provided below;

<https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan - Group insurance

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan - Group insurance

Parking on Frontenac

Ongoing challenges have been continuing with parents and caregivers parking in DO NOT STOP zones, blocking visibility of pedestrians crossing at the crosswalk. This has created a very unsafe environment for our students. Police support has been requested to correct this problem. The city will also be notified and will issue tickets with photographic evidence of parking violations. PLEASE do not speed in the school zone, or make u-turns on Frontenac or park or stop within the zones indicated by signage because drivers will not be able to properly see students crossing the road and it is not safe. For the safety of your children and the children of our community, please respect these bylaws and regulations. Parents, if you see unsafe driving and parking putting students at risk, you are encouraged make a report to the VPD non-emergency line (note the license plate, vehicle make and model and driver description).

FSA's

FSA assessments are taking place this month for Grade 4s and 7s. Parents and guardians of those students have received some information from the school regarding the value of FSA's and there are very few cases where a student exemption is required. For more information, please see the [Ministry's FSA website](#).

After the Bell

Did you know the VSB has an award-winning podcast called VSB: After the Bell? It gives you a direct and inside look at Vancouver's public school system and the people in it. Tune in for candid, intimate and honest conversations about what's happening in schools.

To kick off season three, we look at effective communication strategies for parents/guardians to connect with their child's educators. Featuring an elementary and secondary principal, we hear about best practices, approaches to avoid and so much more!

We also discuss the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), a hot topic in the District especially for students in grades 4 and 7. We talk to an education expert about what it is, why it's important and debunk common myths about the assessment.

Click the links to listen to episode 1: [effective communications](#) and episode 2: [the Foundation Skills Assessment](#); or find it on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or wherever you listen to podcasts by searching VSB: After the Bell. [Mariann Roberts: VSB: After the Bell Podcast](#)

Student Supervision

Please note that all children are expected to be outside during recess and lunch. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather.

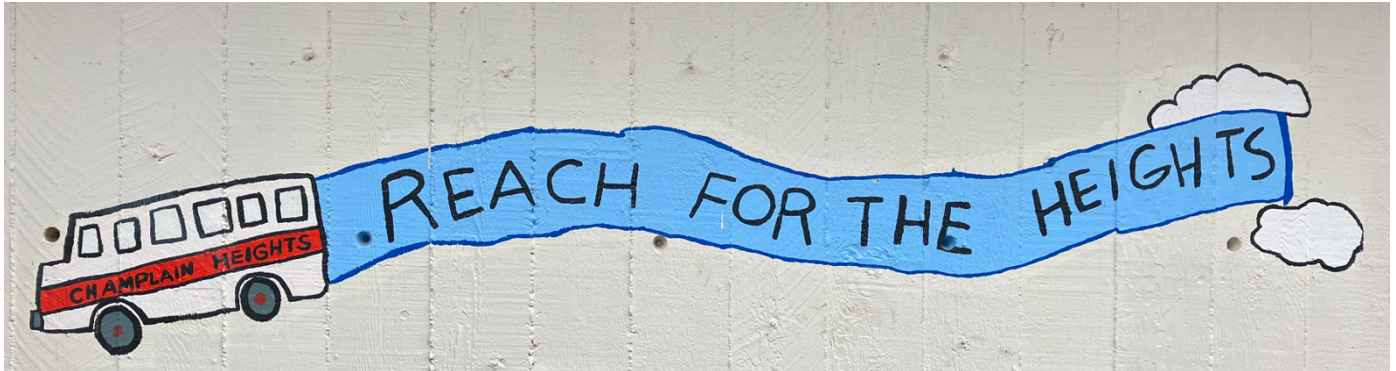
As a reminder, before school, students are expected to wait for their teachers outside before entering the classroom. We ask that families bring their children as close to 8:55 am as possible each day, however, we do have a few staff members circulating outdoors for supervision between 8:40-9:00am and 3-3:20pm daily.

Athletics Update

Cross country practices and mini meets are well underway and the Trout Lake Cross Country meet is coming on Oct. 22. Volleyball practices have also already begun. A big thank you to our staff coaches!!!

VSB Student Threat Risk Assessment Protocol - Fair Notice Protocol

In the event that a student makes a threat of violence or harm to other students, staff or the school community, the school will initiate the VSB student risk threat assessment process. Please see the attachment for more information about this protocol.



Attached: Fair Notice Protocol
October PAC calendar
Monthly PAC Update



VSB Safe Arrival Program

On behalf of our Office Team here at Champlain Heights, thank you very much for following the district-wide Safe Arrival Program! Please continue to report your child’s absence in the following ways:

<p>To Report Your Child’s Absence via <i>Telephone</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Call 604-713-51592. Provide the two-digit extension for our school: “18”3. Record your message (include child’s full name, grade and division)4. Hang up	<p>To Report Your Child’s Absence via <i>E-mail</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. E-mail: chaattendance@vsb.bc.ca2. Type your message (include child’s full name, grade and division)3. Hit send
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Please report the absence to the Safe Arrival Program *even if* you have already notified your teacher.