

Chief Maquinna Elementary Newsletter

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/chief-maquinna/Pages/default.aspx>

April 2025

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Maquinna Families,

Spring is here! We hope all families and staff had a fun and relaxing Spring Break. We are back for the final term of the year with so many exciting events planned! Save the dates for: Whole School Panorama photo on April 8th, the AIRS Assembly on May __th, Sports Day on May 16th, the PAC BBQ on June 6th (Friday) and Beach Day on Monday, June 23rd. We hope you can join us for these events and others listed in the calendar below.

Thank you for checking your email (and junk/spam folder) daily for updates and notices from the school or district. I will try my best to be outside at drop off and pick-up if you have questions or concerns or please give me a call or drop by my office.

Warm regards,

Joyce Chong

Land Acknowledgement

"With deep gratitude and respect, (we/I) (are/am) honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)."

"Always be a little kinder than necessary"

J.M. Barrie

"Kindness begets Kindness"

Greek Proverb

TRAFFIC SIGN CHANGES NEAR MAQUINNA - PLEASE BE AWARE:

Please be aware that The City of Vancouver has made STOP sign changes at the intersection of SLOCAN and East 3rd. There are also sign changes made on East 2nd, Slocan and East 3rd (stopping, parking and 3 minute parking). These changes have been made to ensure the safety for everyone: with better sightlines, to reduce congestion and to help with drop-off/pick-up. Please take the time to understand and to follow them. Also, be aware that U-Turn are illegal on any through street (East 2nd and East 3rd as well as Slocan) in Vancouver. For more detailed information, please see these links:

[Vancouver Traffic Signage](#)

[Vancouver Street Traffic By-Laws](#)

MAQUINNA PAC AND SPRING BBQ IN JUNE – PLEASE HELP!

A very BIG THANK YOU to members of the Maquinna PAC for their time and efforts with fundraising, planning and providing experiences for all students. They are currently making plans for the Annual Spring BBQ on June 6th. They are looking for parent volunteers to help with the event and are seeking large prizes for the Raffle and smaller prizes for the games. If you are able to assist with a donation of a large item, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please look out for the flyer with more information about the PAC BBQ this week. It is a great community event and a wonderful opportunity to get together with friends and meet new families. Please get involved to make this amazing event possible.

If you are able to contribute a prize or would like to volunteer, please email the PAC at Maquinna.school.pac@gmail.com.

VSBC

STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY 2024/25

Students in Grades 4 and 7 will be participating in the Student Learning Survey during the month of April. Families are also asked to complete the survey as it provides important information to assess the effectiveness of educational programs, to improve educational program delivery, and to report on student performance and achievements toward system goals such as Human and Social Development and Career Development.

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective. The Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7 their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province, in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included. The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at Please click on this link to complete the survey before May 2nd: [Student Learning Survey for Parents/Guardians](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey) (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey>). Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section. The e-survey site will be open until May 2, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Chong at the school (604) 713-4705 or through email.

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCING ON APRIL 23RD/24TH – EARLY DISMISSAL AT 2:00 PM

Invitations to Student-Led conferencing on April 23rd and April 24th will be out shortly via email. Student-Led conferencing is an opportunity for your child to share their learning with you. The Classroom Teacher will be available to answer questions and to assist if needed. Within the Bookings, you can ask for a translator and/or to meet with a Resource Teacher if your child is supported by one. We ask that you pick-up your child promptly at 2:00 pm as conferences start immediately. If you are unable to meet during the times given, please contact the classroom teacher for alternate times. We look forward to seeing you!

TRACK AND FIELD:

Track and Field practices are beginning next week on Monday, and are open to Grades 4-7 students. A consent form with information will go home on Thursday for interested students. Practices will be after school on Mondays and before school on Fridays. A big thank you to coaches: Ms. Plant, Mrs. Loughheed, Mr. Sabbagha and Ms. Aimee for their time and work with students. Wishing everyone a great track season!

BADMINTON:

Extra-curricular Badminton for Grades 6/7's will begin next week. The team will be coached by Mr. Sabbagha and practices and games are on Thursdays. The best of luck to our badminton team.

YMCA: FREE 10-WEEK HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PROGRAM:

*Generation Health Community is a **FREE 10-week healthy lifestyle program** for children and their families, delivered through YMCA BC and in partnership with the Childhood Healthy Living Foundation. Program participants will meet virtually or in person to learn about healthy eating, physical activity, goal setting, body image, self-esteem and more! We have 4 program days to choose from : Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday Virtually or Sunday in-person. This program requires prior registration through these details: phone 1-888-650-3141 or send an e-mail to generationhealth@bc.ymca.ca .*

Families who join this program receive a complimentary membership to the YMCA.

STUDENT SOCIAL MEDIA USE: (DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILD IS WATCHING ONLINE?)

✓SB

At school, we have been finding some student behaviour that has been influenced by what students see on social media platforms such as Youtube, TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram. These behaviours include inappropriate language, racist comments and playing aggressive games during recess/lunch break. I've included some resource links to help families in supporting their children in social media usage. Please take a moment to have a look and to get a deeper understanding of Social Media and the many different platforms or "playgrounds" where your child(ren) play online. They offer tips, information and recommendations for safe use of social media.

<https://www.common sense media.org/articles/social-media>

<https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/behavior-and-development/screen-time-and-digital-media>

https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/behavior-and-development/social_media

HOMEWORK CLUB: FREE TUTORING!

The homework club continues to run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays afterschool from 3:00 – 4:00 pm. Students are welcome to drop in to complete homework, review for a test, receive some extra tutoring 1:1, and catch up on a project etc. Please pick-up of your child promptly at 4:00 or let the school know if your child has permission to walk home alone.



LIBRARY NEWS:

Families, don't forget that the library is open before and after school every Thursday and Friday! (See attached poster for hours). Students and their families are all welcome to come in to read together and exchange books. Ms. Kwok will also be around to help with schoolwork. We look forward to seeing you!

THE BIG ONE AT 2:00 – THURSDAY, MAY 1ST, 2025 – HELP WANTED:

The district, and our school, will be conducting an Earthquake Drill as part of the Big One at Two event on May 1st at 2:00 p.m. We will be asking families to help with the reunification drill which entails picking up your child at approx. 2:15 pm. You are welcome to take your child home after you "reunify" with your child(ren) or have your child stay until 3:03 pm. Please email Maquinna@vsb.bc.ca if you have time to help with the reunification drill at 2:15 pm on May 2nd. You will need to bring 1 piece of Identification with you for the drill. Thank you.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP GRANT:

Before Spring Break, a group of grade 6/7 students met to research for an additional \$1000 Student Leadership Grant to add to last year's grant. With the money, they will be adding to the 4 kits created last year. The kits are to help with learning how to "code" through robotics and electronics. They will be the "experts" sharing their knowledge and the kits with other grade 6/7 students in the area of coding.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 3 – PAC meeting 6:00 pm – Library – All Welcome – in person and online.

April 8 – Whole School Panorama Photo (weather dependent)

April 18 – Good Friday – No School

April 21 – Easter Monday – No School

April 23 – AIRS (Artist in Residence) Presentation Assembly 9:00 a.m. Gym

April 23/24 – Student-Led Conferences – **NOTE: 2:00 pm dismissal for all students – please pick up your child promptly.**

April 25 – Prince of Wales Leadership students at Maquinna (Grade 6/7s)

April 28 – Professional Day (district wide Indigenous Focus Day) – No school for students

Future dates for family planning:

May 1st – The Big One at Two – District Earthquake Drill 2:00 pm – Parent volunteers needed for pick-up. More info to come.

May 16th - Sports Day (Friday) More info to come – PAC Lunch purchase TBA.

A message from PAC

Hello Maquinna Community,

Please join us at the Maquinna PAC meetings on April 3rd, in person in the library or online. Any guardian can attend the meetings, and it is okay to just listen in without your video camera on. We always have an update from the principal about how things are going at school, we decide on how to spend fundraised dollars to support the student's educational needs, and we sometimes talk about policies to bring forward to other parent advisory councils to improve the student experience. Childcare is provided.



Zoom Link will be sent on April 3rd.

SAVE the DATE! PAC SPRING BBQ, June 6, 2025. 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Food, Games, Prizes and the Maquinna Community!

HELP NEEDED: Calling all volunteers! Help us plan and host this year's Maquinna Spring BBQ!

Dear parents and guardians,

Planning is underway for our annual Spring BBQ and **we need your help** to make it the most successful event yet!

Our Spring BBQ is a beloved tradition that brings together students, families and staff for an evening of delicious food, fun games and laughter. **At this time**, we need help in the following areas:

- Help solicit donations of prizes for a raffle draw.
- Donations of smaller prizes for our games
- Join the Spring BBQ Planning Committee

Please contact the Committee at: if you are interested in being involved, or wish to learn more. Our next planning meeting is scheduled for: Monday, April 28th, 7pm, via [Zoom](#)

JSB

