

## CHARLES DICKENS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1010 East 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C  
V5N 3S5

Telephone: (604) 713-4978

Fax: (604) 713-4980

Website: <http://dickens.vsb.bc.ca>

Principal: Julie Weatherall

Vice Principal: Shelley Sunner

Secretary: Anne Canning

Secretary: Michelle Ventresca

PAC Co-Chairs: Daniela Forde, Sara Getz,

Laura Poree, Tiffany Searchfield

Director of Instruction: Aaron Davis

Trustee: Carmen Cho



CHARLES DICKENS ELEMENTARY

### MISSION STATEMENT

Together we bring alive our commitment to develop each child's potential in all domains through a long-established philosophy built on mutual respect, continuous learning and opportunities for leadership within a child-centred, multi-aged framework.

# July 2021

We acknowledge that we *learn*, work together, and play on the unceded and traditional territory of the x̱m̱əθḵəy̱əm (Musqueam), seɬwɪtulh (Tsleil Waututh) and s̱ḵw̱x̱w̱7mesh (Squamish Coast Salish) peoples.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS (Staff in-service)**

**Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 – 9:45 Students attend last year's class (see below)**

**Thursday & Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>: Students attend last year's class**

**Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>: Students move to new classes *if possible***

**Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>: Pro-D Day – no school for students**

**Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>: Orange Shirt Day**

*Dear Dickens Community:*



What a lovely way to end the year – with a coffee and pastry cart right outside our door for staff to order a treat and enjoy a visit in the short-lived cool under the shady trees. Our COVID year ended with yet another unprecedented event – a heat wave so intense it broke all previously recorded heat records and necessitated closure of VSB schools for Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup> and the afternoon of Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Thank you so much, PAC! You have been amazing this year, supporting students by your generous donation of money for games and activities for outdoor learning and indoor games. In addition, you came up with unique events such as the Scavenger Hunt, Trivia Night, and a Virtual Sleepover. We so enjoyed the Coffee Cart and hope you all received your 'Dickens Parents are GREAT!' fridge magnet in the report card envelope of your oldest child.**



### **Back to 'Nearly' Normal**

**Next year we hope to be back to nearly normal. At this time, we anticipate that there will not be Learning Cohorts, staggered entry times, staggered recess and lunch times or Playground Zones.**

**Next year school starts at 9:00 and ends at 3:03. There will be a 20-minute recess in the morning and a 47-minute lunch.**

**The first day of school is on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 9:45 am. Students should report to their last year's class. For the first day of school please follow the line-up schedule below:**

- **Primary classes line up in their 'pink tape' spots from 2020-2021.**
- **Intermediate classes line up in the field (signs will be posted).**
- **New students including students from the Annex, line up at the front door – you will be meeting in the library.**

- Kindergarten students are to follow the gradual entry schedule they will have received (September 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> with September 16<sup>th</sup> as their first full day).

We anticipate that students will be in their last year's classes for the rest of the first week. We hope to be ready for students to move into their new classes for week two. We will keep you informed as to when the move to new classes will take place.

We will receive more information from the VSB at the end of August which will inform us about what we are able to do for the 2021-2022 school year. We will inform you about the events, activities, field trips and sports which will be allowed next year as soon as we receive updates. At the beginning of September, we will also share information about masks, parent volunteers, and school/community events.

Please see the 2021-2022 Calendar which is reposted below.

Here is a link to the end of year slide show. It is not as student and event filled as it would be in a normal year, and some photos could not be shared because of media consent, but it does give a flavour of a year full of the unprecedented and how Dickens' staff did their best to create an engaging learning environment while following COVID protocols.

<https://vimeo.com/572456918>



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### [2021 Slideshow.mp4](#)

This is "2021 Slideshow.mp4" by Shell s on Vimeo, the for high quality videos and the people who love them. [vimeo.com](https://vimeo.com)

Wishing you a wonderful summer – have fun and continue to keep safe.

*Julie Weatherall,*

Principal, Dickens Elementary

## CALENDAR 2021– 2022

Charles Dickens Elementary School

### School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	186
Number of Days of Instruction	178
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	7 Non Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 30)

### Important Dates

First Day of School for Students	Wednesday September 8, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Monday October 11, 2021
Remembrance Day	Thursday November 11, 2021
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday December 17, 2021
Winter Vacation Period	Monday December 20, 2021-Monday January 3, 2022
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Tuesday January 4, 2022
Family Day	Monday February 21, 2022
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday March 11, 2022
Spring Vacation Period	Monday March 14-Friday March 25, 2022
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday March 28, 2022
Good Friday	Friday April 15, 2022
Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
Victoria Day	Monday May 23, 2022
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Wednesday June 29, 2022
Administrative/School Closing Day	Thursday June 30, 2022

### Professional Development and Non-Instructional Days (school not in session)

Tuesday September 7, 2021	In-Service Anti-Racism Training Day
Monday September 27, 2021	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 22, 2021	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Friday, November 26, 2021	Indigenous Focus Non-Instructional Day (District Wide)
Monday January 17, 2022	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 18, 2022	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Monday, April 25, 2022	Professional Development Day (District Wide)

### Parent Conference Dates

### Early Dismissal Times

Wednesday, October 27, 2021	2:00 PM Dismissal
Wednesday, December 1, 2021	2:00 PM Dismissal
Wednesday, March 9, 2022	2:00 PM Dismissal
Wednesday, April 13, 2022	2:00 PM Dismissal