



Issue 02

22-Nov-2019

Principal: Ms. Risha Golby

Director of Instruction : Mr. Richard Zerbe

Superintendent: Ms. Suzanne Hoffman

Liaison Trustee: Ms. Barb Parrott

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Grandview Community,

It's hard to believe how quickly October flew by and how fast the end of November is approaching. Before we know it, the busyness of the Christmas season will be upon us.

With that in mind, I would like to let families know that our Winter Celebration will be on Thursday, December 12th. The sign-up sheet has been sent out. Make sure you return the form before December 5th. We look forward to seeing you all there!

It has been a busy and fun-filled month, full of some fantastic learning opportunities for our kids. The following is a recap of some of the events that have taken place this past month:

Thanks to those parents who came to our Student Led Conferences. It was so lovely to see our kids shine as they communicated their learning, goals and intentions to their parents and guardians. It is a valuable experience and an important part of your child's education!

Our school was lucky enough to be chosen for an Ocean Wise Grant, where many of our Division's had the opportunity to visit the Aquarium and have a private viewing of the Aquarium's 4D movie. I know many of our students were inspired, and we have even discussed launching a school initiative to help with local ocean and beach clean-up. Stay tuned for more information!

The District Cross Country Meet took place at Trout Lake on October 17th. The students were very excited to attend this event for the second year in a row, where over 2500 athletes from around Vancouver participate. We had ten athletes from Grandview this year, and they did a fantastic job representing our school. Thanks to all the staff who helped with our morning practices. A big thank you to Donna for driving us to our mini-meets. And last but not least, a big thank you to Ms. Rasotto and our fabulous parent volunteer, Annelie, for their help and support on the day of the race.

The second annual PAC (Parents Advisory Council) Pumpkin Carving event was a great success. PAC continues this

year with its goal of community building, and simple events like this are such an excellent excuse for us all to get together as a community. A big thank you to our Exec. and other volunteers for putting these events together.

This year, Robyn Smyk, our fabulous librarian, has been leading our students on an adventure into the world of design a creativity, through our newly imagined Library Maker's Space. While much more is still to come, our classes really enjoyed participating in their first Makers Space Challenge: The Carboard Challenge. In this challenge, intermediate students were asked to make arcade games from cardboard that they could play with the younger students in our school. From 'whack-a-mole' to pinball, tickets and prizes, they play days were equal in fun to a day at the PNE. Thanks, Robyn for organizing!!

On the last Professional Development Day, the Grandview Staff participated in a powerful session with Michelle Lorna Nahanee from the Squamish Nation on decolonizing practices. Her interactive workshop entitled 'Sinulhkay and Ladders' helped us facilitate some essential conversations a staff and helped us reflect on our practice and how as a school, we can move from reconciliation to reconcile-ACTION.

This week our Gr. 5-7 students were lucky enough to participate in all-day session with the youth-led organization called Live Different. Indigenous speakers, musicians and facilitators worked with our students to encourage them to be the own author of their lives and to create their own stories. It was a powerful message of resilience, compassion and power that I know our students enjoyed. Thanks to our school counsellor Glen Manery for organizing this fantastic event.

The Library Book Fair will take place all next week. Just a reminder that, due to change with Scholastic, we can accept only debit or credit cards this year (no personal cheques). If this will be a barrier, please don't hesitate to come to speak to me.

Please read the Changes to the Reporting Process in Vancouver on the next page.

Risha Golby

Changes to the Reporting Process in Vancouver:

Our reporting practices (report cards) are changing in the district in order to better align with BC's redesigned curriculum. Our focus is shifting towards doing, rather than knowing, and as such, is becoming learning-focused not achievement-based.

The goal of the District is to create a reporting process that is timely and responsive with increased student ownership and parent involvement. Asking students these questions about their learning: Where am I now? Where am I going? What do I need to get there?

This strength-based reporting approach will emphasize a student's capabilities and aptitudes. Comments regarding a student's progress will be individualized, specific and may include the student's own voice. This approach will define what works for the student and will build upon that student's individualized strengths.

The basic principles of this new reporting style are as follows:

- a shift in thinking about a student and the way in which we approach teaching and assessing the curricular and core competencies in our classrooms.
- looking at students with a focus on the future outcomes and how to best use their strengths and abilities to promote progress. Teachers can use the student's strengths to make a plan for supporting the areas for growth and ways to support learning.

- having a belief that all students have strengths and abilities and a use of consistent and regular feedback to both student and parent will make a difference for the learner.

Moving forward, our teachers will have the opportunity to report to parents in more flexible ways while providing clear and understandable information about their child. This shift in reporting is being phased in over the current school year with full implementation coming in the 2020/21 school year.

This year is a transition year for us at Grandview. We currently have 6 classrooms who have been participating in the Reporting Pilot for the last few years, while the remaining divisions are using the traditional format.

As we prepare for the transition to this new format in the next school year, the District has implemented changes in the current reporting process for this year. Previously parents received formal written report cards three times per school year. Traditionally parents received one formal written report per term with a final report on the last day of school in June.

This school year parents will receive formal written reports at the end of January and at the end of the school year in June. Regular parent teacher conferences will continue. The format of the report will not change for this school year, only the frequency of the written reports.

The following table describes the changes to reporting moving forward in the 2020-21 school year:

Then - Reporting	Now-Communicating Student Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting on student achievement with parents at prescribed intervals throughout the year • Letter grades for all students in Grades 4-9 with each written report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing communication of student learning Mid- Year and End of June • Letter grades for students in Grades 4-9 are not included unless specifically requested by parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 times/year for written reports • 2 times/year for informal reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant, descriptive and timely feedback for learning is provided a minimum of 5 times each school year using a variety of methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identical items/tasks used to evaluate student learning for the whole class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of student learning can be demonstrated in a variety of ways. Students are actively involved in the assessment process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal student voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student voice included in the communication of learning

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE:

Nov 25 - 29 - Book Fair from 8:30 - 9 AM and 3-4pm

Monday, Dec 2- PAC meeting 5-7 pm

Thursday, Dec 12 - Winter Celebration 5-7 pm

Friday, Dec 20 - Last day of instruction before Winter Break

Dec 23-Jan 3 - NO SCHOOL Winter Break

Monday, Jan 6 - School reopens

Monday, Jan 13 - PAC meeting 5-7 pm

Friday, Jan 24 - Lockdown Drill @ 10:30

Monday, Jan 27 - NO SCHOOL Pro-D Day

GRANDVIEW SCHOOL

CODE OF CONDUCT

As a student at Grandview, I:

Take care of myself

Take care of others

Take care of this place

SAFE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. **Please report prior to 9 am if your child will be late or absent to the following telephone & extension or by email only.**

Please call 604-713-5159 school code # 33 or Email to: graattendance@vsb.bc.ca.

Please leave a message with the following information: Child's Full Name, Child's Division and/or Teacher's Name, indicate whether he/she will be absent or late, reason for absence and length of absence.

Please note: Students arriving at 10:45 and later are marked absent for the morning.

Student Sign Out Procedure

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSISTANT

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We have sent out sign-up sheets for each student for the Winter Celebration which will be on Thursday, December 12th from 5-7 pm. To help us organize the event, please make sure the form is returned no later than **Thursday, December 5th**. Doors open at 5pm. There will be performances, craft sale and photo booth by the Vancouver Opera. We hope for the return of the cakewalk and PAC will also be doing some fundraising. It should be a fun evening.

If you are looking for **Christmas hampers** this year may we suggest accessing **Salvation Army**. The online application link is: <http://salvationarmyvancouver.com/programs/seasonal/christmas-toy-shop/> It will give you the dates that you will need to register by. We have the **Vancouver Christmas Bureau** applications at school on the front counter. **Union Gospel Mission** also is offering hampers. You need to go to the office to register (601 East Hastings).

There will be another Parent cooking program on November 27th. Start time is 3:45pm. If you are interested in joining us, please let me know as we have limited space.

Stay warm and be safe

Donna Mah
Neighbourhood Assistant
dmah@vsb.bc.ca

LIBRARY NEWS

Scholastic Book Fair is here once again! It starts Monday, Nov 25th until Friday, Nov 29th from 8:30 – 9 am and 3:00 – 4:00 pm. Lots of great books to choose from. Start your Christmas shopping early! Please come out and support your school library.



Maker Space

As some of you may know, Grandview has started its very own Maker Space. Students are learning to apply the skills of designing and creating. We had a very successful first run with our Cardboard Challenge. The intermediate students made arcade games out of cardboard and invited the primary classes in to play the games they made. We had ring tosses, marble runs, pinball machines and many other games; all made from cardboard!

As we continue to build and create, I am asking for help in collecting things to build with. I'm looking for recyclables; bottle caps, paper rolls, plastic bottles, old cd's or dvd's, etc. Any craft material you would like to get rid of is welcome as well; felt, popsicle sticks, etc. You can bring it all to the library.

Thank you!

Robyn Smyk



Fun times at Grandview



Halloween at Grandview

