

## Champlain Heights Newsletter – September 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



Hello Champlain Heights Families! Welcome to the 2024/2025 school year! We are so happy to be welcoming two new Kindergarten classes as well as over 30 new students to the school this September. Students have transitioned to their new classes this morning and will let parents know who their new teacher is and where they will be lining up for drop off and pick up. You will also be e-mailed a welcome letter from your child's teacher today. Hopefully many of you will come to our first PAC meeting of the school year on Sept. 19 at 6pm in our library. Please also see the PAC update and PAC calendar of events that will be attached to this email.

### **Important Dates to Note**

- Thursday, Sept. 19 – Terry Fox Run 2:00-3:00pm followed by Meet the Teacher event 3-4pm  
PAC Meeting for Annex and Main School parents 6pm at Main School
- Friday, Sept. 27 – Pro-D day (school not in session)
- Monday, Sept. 30 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (school not in session)

### **WHAT'S NEW AT CHAMPLAIN ELEMENTARY?**

#### **Staffing Update**

We had to say goodbye to some staff members at the end of June. Ms. Cavanagh, Ms. Manninen and Mr. Hildebrand have retired. We also said goodbye to Mr. Jack Stirling, Ms. Allan, Ms. Chu and Ms. Luistro who will all be working at other schools this year. The above individuals have all made a tremendous contribution to our school community and we will miss them all dearly and hope our paths cross again one day. Thanks to all of them!

We would like to welcome the following staff who are new or returning to our school team: Ms. Kerri Timothy (Indigenous Enhancement Worker), Kate Spence (Resource), Chantelle Appleby, Lukas Lombardi and Katie Babbitt (Intermediate Teachers), Peter Nickel (part time P.E. and French).

### Champlain Heights Classroom Teachers Staff

DIV	GRADE	TEACHER(S)
1	7	Holly Sose
2	6/7	Katie Babbitt
3	6	Marissa Lopez
4	5/6	Shannon Mah
5	5	Lukas Lombardi
6	4/5	Chantelle Appleby
7	3/4	Tasia Wong
8	3/4	Carolyn Latondresse (M-W, F) TBA (Th)
9	2/3	Stephanie Wasserman
10	1/2	Janet Renshaw (M, W-F), TBA (Tu)
11	1/2	Angel Angel-Lara
12	1	Jenny Lamarche
13	K	Christina Lao
14	K	Tanya Tran, Peggy Chan (Fridays from Oct.)

### School Calendar for the school year

The school calendar for the upcoming year is attached. Please note the early dismissal dates and Professional Development dates.

### Lunches

This year students in Divisions 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 will be eating lunch every day in the lunch room at 12:10pm under Supervision Aide and SSA supervision. The rest of the Divisions will be eating in the classrooms either before or after lunch hour. Pizza Wednesdays will continue (please see update below).



### **Pizza Days**

We are very excited to announce that our Pizza Wednesdays will start on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>! If your child is interested in ordering pizza, they need to place their order between 8:30-8:55 am on Wednesday mornings in the lower hallway next to the YMCA. There are four types of pizza – cheese, pepperoni, Hawaiian, and vegetarian. Each slice is \$3.00 and exact cash payment is kindly requested. Pizza will be delivered to your child's classroom before 1:00 for them to enjoy! All profit raised from Pizza Wednesdays goes toward the grade 7 farewell events as grade 7 parents, guardians, loved ones and our grade 7 students assist with this initiative. Our pizza supplier is Paragon Pizza. Should you have questions about this, kindly email Mrs. Sose at [hsose@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:hsose@vsb.bc.ca).

### **A Respectful Workplace**

The Vancouver School Board is committed to fostering safe schools that promote mutual respect, cooperation and social responsibility. There is zero-tolerance for violence, harassment, or disrespectful behaviour in the school community. We strive to make our schools and sites welcoming places for everyone in our community.

As we begin a new school year, we ask that you pause and remember VSB staff are valued community members. Be considerate, and ask, will my actions or words hurt someone?

It is our shared responsibility to ensure interactions are conducted safely and respectfully. Students learn here, and together we can be models for those that are watching.

### **School Bell Schedule**

The school bell schedule has been updated. School will start at 9am, recess will be 10:30-10:50, lunch will be 12:10-12:55, and dismissal will be at 2:58pm daily.

### **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 to enter the classroom. Please review the drop-off and pick-up locations and procedures as set out by your child's teacher. We ask that families bring their children as close to 8:55 am as possible each day. Thank you!

### **School Fees**

School fees for the upcoming school year will remain the same at \$35 per student. Classes that will be utilizing a student agenda will have a \$9 fee to cover the cost of the student agenda. There is also a \$10 per student performance fee to go towards bringing in a few performances during the school year.

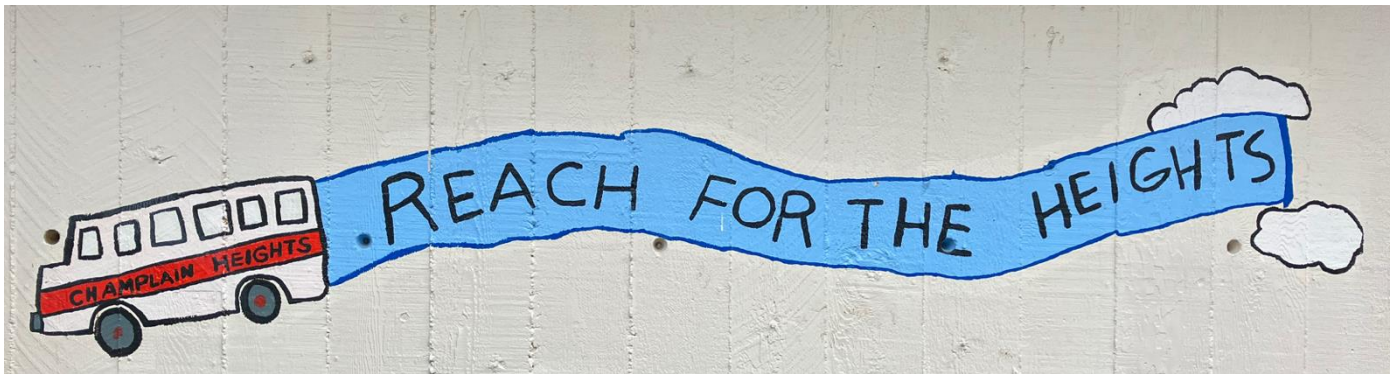
### **Athletics Update**

Later this month there will be a meeting for students in Gr. 6 and 7 interested in participating in the Volleyball team this fall. Cross country will also begin promptly at the start of October. Mini meets will take place Wednesdays starting Oct. 2. Thank you to Ms. Mah who is taking over the lead coaching role!

### **Code of Conduct for 2024/2025 School Year**

Our Code of Conduct will be sent home in the student welcome package next week. The policy for personal devices at school is as follows: students are not permitted to use personal devices (cell phones, smart watches, tablets, etc.) at recess and lunch or during class time unless under the provision of the classroom teacher for educational purposes (research, listening to music during calming time, etc.), and will vary class to class, teacher by teacher. For the first warning, students will be reminded to put their device in their backpack. Upon a second warning, the teacher/staff will remove the device and return to student at the end of the day. For a third offence, or if the student is photographing or filming students, (other than a school sanctioned project or club activity, etc.) the device will be brought to the office and the student's parent will need to pick up the device and also ensure all photos and videos of other children are deleted.

The district's anti-racism and anti-discrimination policy is also addressed in the code of conduct. Students shall not discriminate against others on the basis of the race, religion, colour, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, family status, age, sex or sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, or physical or mental disability, or for any other reason set out in the Human Rights Code of British Columbia, nor shall a student publish or display anything that would indicate an intention to discriminate against another, or expose them to contempt or ridicule, on the basis of any such grounds. **Racism, transphobia, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination will not be tolerated in our school.** This includes name calling, using racial slurs, or sexual orientation terms as put downs. The school will treat seriously behaviour or communication that discriminates based on the BC Human Rights Code.



**Attached:**     2024-2025 School Calendar  
                         September 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><b>To Report Your Child's Absence via <i>Telephone</i>:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Call 604-713-5159</li><li>2. Provide the two-digit extension for our school: "18"</li><li>3. Record your message (include child's full name, grade and division)</li><li>4. Hang up</li></ol>	<p><b>To Report Your Child's Absence via <i>E-mail</i>:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. E-mail: <a href="mailto:chaattendance@vsb.bc.ca">chaattendance@vsb.bc.ca</a></li><li>2. Type your message (include child's full name, grade and division)</li><li>3. Hit send</li></ol>
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Please report the absence to the Safe Arrival Program *even if* you have already notified your teacher.