

Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary School

1430 Lillooet Street, Vancouver B.C. V5K 4H6

tel. 604.713.4686

[Begbie School Website](#)

Important Information – Please Translate

這是一份重要資訊 — 請找人為您翻譯 這是一份重要信息 — 請找人為您翻譯

Mahalagang Impormasyon - Paki salin sa sariling wika

Thông tin quan trọng - Xin tìm phiên dịch

ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ-ਮਿਹਰਬਾਨੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ/ਕਰਵਾਓ

महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी - कृपया अनुवाद करें

Información importante - Por favor traducir

重要な情報-翻訳してください

중요한 정보 - 번역 부탁드립니다

Principal Update December 2020

SAFE ARRIVAL LINE; 604-713-5159 ext 12

Principal:	Mr. John Cortens	604-713-4686
OAA:	Ms. Cheryl Betteridge	604-713-4686
Director of Instruction:	Ms. Alison Ogden	604-713-5000

PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE

Chair:	Mr. Rigel Wong
Co-Chair:	Mr. Bryan Yu
Treasurer:	Ms. Elise Wong
Secretary:	Mr. Mike Zobac
Members-at-Large:	Ms. Elisa Guti�rrez, Ms. Ina Huang, Ms. Helen Sinclair, Ms. Queenie Wong, Ms. Jocelan Thiessen
Email:	begbieschoolpac@gmail.com
Website:	www.begbiepac.weebly.com
Facebook:	“Sir Matthew Begbie PAC”

Principal Holiday Greeting

Dear SMB Families,

I would like to take a few moments to sincerely wish you and your loved ones all the very best at this time of year.

The last year has been remarkable both with respect to what has been asked of us and also what we have been able to accomplish. As we continue in this vein for the foreseeable future, I sincerely trust you and your loved ones are well and managing.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those who have been impacted and have experienced loss. May you find comfort and some measure of peace during this time.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the SMB Elementary staff. I have been deeply honoured and humbled to work closely with this remarkable group of educators who time and time again have risen to the challenge of continuing such exemplary work with our students and their families under such difficult circumstances while at the same time managing the challenges we are all facing outside of school. You are an inspiration!

A very special greeting to those students who have yet to return to SMB and are learning from home. We miss you very much and look forward to a time when you are able to return to school to be with all of us.

I would also like to sincerely thank the SMB Parent Advisory Committee Executive who has worked closely with the administrative team and SMB staff to do whatever they can to create some fun for our students while continuing to work hard to build community and raise funds for the benefit of our students now and in the future. You are a great team of parents and your hard work and kindness is most sincerely appreciated.

Again, as the year draws to a close, I trust you and your loved ones will have a happy holiday celebrating in a manner that is restorative and renewing. Many challenges lay ahead of us. As we head into 2021, I would like to wish you and your family all health and prosperity!

With Sincere Best Wishes!
Mr. John Cortens
Principal

MOST CURRENT SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please continue to check the [VSB Website](#) and [SMB School Website](#) for the most current and update information.

Option Four Update

As you are aware, Option 4 (Learn from Home Transition) is provided as a temporary transition for families who can support their child's learning at home until they are ready to return to in-person instruction. This option was originally intended to end on Friday, December 18, 2020. However, the District has made the decision to extend until Monday, March 1, 2021.

Option 4 continues to be a transition program for families who intend to have their child return to in-person instruction this school year, and who can support their child's learning at home. Check-ins with school staff and opportunities to maintain connections to the school will continue as part of this option.

We will also be looking to increase opportunities for students to take part in some in-person activities to prepare them for their eventual return to school. Space will continue to be held in

our school and class to ensure a smooth transition to in-person instruction when you and your child are ready to return.

There are two intake dates for your child's return to in-person instruction following winter break: Monday, January 18, 2021 (Notice in writing by January 11, 2021) and Monday, March 1, 2021(Notice in writing by February 22, 2021)

PAC Holiday Greeting

Dear Begbie Community,

We will miss our traditional Family Pancake Breakfast this year. For many years this event has been an opportunity to connect, to share, to celebrate. We are hoping to keep this sentiment alive. We are sharing by keeping in touch and supporting each other. We are celebrating the wonderful space this is our school: our community of teachers, staff and families, and that our children continue to have access to a safe enriching school experience.

The PAC wishes you a safe and peaceful holiday filled with love.

Sincerely,

Your PAC Executive

PAC Meeting Second Tuesday of Each Month

PAC meetings are open to all parents/guardians of students registered at SMB Elementary School. Meetings take place the second Tuesday evening of each month from 7-8:30 pm on-line. If you wish to receive the log-in information please contact PAC at the email address above.

These meetings focus on fundraising and community building while working together to improve the educational experiences of our students. Please make sure to use PAC email, website and Facebook page to be up to date on all PAC events and communications.

**Next PAC Meeting
12-January-2021
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
On-line**

Snow Closure Days

On very rare occasions, the VSB will decide to close schools in the event of a significant snowfall. This is typically done in the event snowfall prevents staff and families who must drive to school from getting to school safely. A lack of staff also creates supervision issues at school.

Parents are asked to keep their children home in the event of a closure day due to significant snow fall. A skeleton staff on site will call home and ask you to collect your children in case you were unaware of the closure.

Please listen to local radio or check the VSB website after 7:00 am in order to find out if school has been closed. Please do not call the school as the office is very busy and we may not be able to answer the phones in the event of a closure.

COVID-19 Protocols Continue

As the pandemic continues we also remain very careful and vigilante, ensuring we do not become fatigued with respect to the safety protocols in place to ensure school is a safe place for adults and children to work and learn. Here are the protocols we continue to focus on:

- Daily health assessments for both staff and students
- Unwell staff or students remain at home
- Access to site limited to staff and students
- Consistent hand-washing and/or sanitizing
- Distancing for all those 12 years and older
- Minimizing contact for those 11 years and younger
- Masking for all those 12 years and older
- Students have limited contact with general population during learning and play time
- Adults continue to have very limited contact with other adults as per PHO guidelines for general population

Please refer to hyperlinks below for specific details regarding the district and school safety plan. If you have any questions regarding the specifics for your child, please feel free to ask your child's teacher.

If you ever have any health and safety concerns do not hesitate to contact the office immediately and directly to inform us of your concern so we may act on it promptly.

[VSB Safety Plan, Safe Work Instruction, and Protocols](#)

[FACT SHEET Elementary](#)

[VSB Health and Safety Plan video](#)

Student Health Assessment Checklist

Please click on the link [Student Health Assessment Checklist REVISED](#) to review the updated checklist. Please be familiar with the checklist and the procedures.

We request that students who are sick remain home until they are feeling better. Caregivers are requested to review the health assessment checklist each morning before sending students to school. Similarly, we expect all VSB employees to complete a personal health assessment each day and remain home if they are unwell.

Thanks everyone for your time and attention to this important health and safety protocol.



**From the
YMCA of Greater Vancouver
Before-and-After School Care**

Are you looking for childcare during before and after school hours? The Begbie YMCA Kids Club has available spaces. YMCA Kids Clubs follows our Place to Connect curriculum, which focuses on three key areas: health, play, and relationships. Our programs offer a variety of activities, in small groupings, including outdoor active play, arts and crafts, sports, games, and more!

To inquire about space or add your child to our waitlist, visit our website at gv.ymca.ca/child-care or email us at ymcakidsclub@gv.ymca.ca

Important Dates to Remember

4-January-Monday	School Resumes
11-January-Monday	Written notice of intention to return 18-January from Option 4
12-January-Tuesday	PAC General Meeting. All parents invited. 7-8:30 pm
18-January-Monday	Option 4 Intake
19-January-Tuesday	Pro D Day. NO SCHOOL for students
29-January-Friday	Last day for Kindergarten online registration
29-January-Friday	Mid-Year Reports sent home
29-January-Friday	Last day for online registration for Kindergarten 2021
12-February-Friday	Pro D Day. NO SCHOOL for students
15-February-Monday	Family Day Stat Holiday. NO SCHOOL
22-February-Monday	Written notice of intention to return 1-March from Option 4