

NANOOSE BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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*"At Nanoose Bay Elementary, students, parents and staff
are inspired with a passion for learning."*

NBES School Goals

Literacy – To improve reading comprehension & writing | Social Responsibility – To develop active citizenship

"Help us to be the always hopeful gardeners of the spirit"

May Sartou



Welcome back everyone! We hope you have all had some restful, rejuvenating days and a chance to enjoy the many warm, sunny, lingering summer moments!

We would like to extend a special welcome to the new families who have joined our school and community. We hope you will find Nanoose Bay to be a safe and nurturing place in which your children will learn, grow and develop. We encourage all parents to participate as fully as you can in the programs of the school, classroom activities, and the initiatives of the Parent Advisory Council. It is our strong and spirited parent community that helps to make our school a special and inclusive school environment. Please contact the school at any time if you have questions or information about your child that will assist us in responding to their needs and supporting them in their learning program.

OLYMPIC THEME: 'Reconnecting Start'



Following on the success of past years we are once again beginning our new school year with a 'Reconnecting Start'. For the first day and a half students will be returning to their old classrooms and participating in a series of Olympic Themed activities. This approach gives us a chance to look at new registrations and 'no shows' and to balance our new class lists. It also allows everyone to begin the year in a spirit of community and celebration! We are excited about the Olympic year that stretches before us and hope to find meaningful ways to bring some of this excitement into our school programs. Special thanks to our staff for all their creativity and hard work in organizing our opening events!

CLASS ORGANIZATION

We have spent many hours and have taken great care in creating our class lists. We hope by Thursday to have all students tentatively placed in their new classrooms. We have always tried to make the best placement decisions focusing on the needs of each child, while paying attention to academic and social groupings as well as balancing gender and grade distributions. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we complete this challenging and complex process.

TRAFFIC SAFETY



Parents are reminded that the drop off area outside the main school entrance is a very busy and congested area. It is a **DROP OFF AREA ONLY!!** If you wish to escort your child into school then it is necessary to park in the parking lot or on the road side outside of the school grounds.

Due to changes in bussing we anticipate increased congestion in our 'drop off' area before and after school.

Please do not use the bus drop off area. Thanks for helping keep our school safe.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS: A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL!

Nanoose Bay has a very active and committed Parents Advisory Council. They are involved in planning many special events for the school as well as raising funds to support programs in the school and in helping to build a new wheelchair accessible playground. Every parent is automatically a member of PAC and is invited to attend our monthly meetings.

The first PAC meeting of the year will be **next Wednesday, September 16th, at 8:30 am in the Parents' Room (beside the Kindergarten-Rm 8). EVERYONE WELCOME!** Come on out and support the school!

THE NEW PLAYGROUND IS COMING!!

Our new playground has been ordered and is on the way. We hope to have it installed in the next few weeks. There have been some unavoidable delays but now everything is on track. We are incredibly grateful for the leadership shown by Cynthia Pollak who has taken on this enormous undertaking since its inception. We also appreciate the ongoing support of our PAC and the amazing support of many community organizations. Once the equipment is here it should be able to be installed quickly. **We are counting on parent volunteers to help with this process.** Listen for updates!! We can't wait to see this wonderful addition to our outside space!!

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION & STAFF 2009 – 2010

Tandy Gunn	Library	Tarri Morrison	Speech & Language
Tara Miller	Primary	Colleen Manson	First Nations Support
Angela Davidson	Primary	Bev Whitta	Education Assistant
Patricia Craig	Primary	John Campbell	Education Assistant
Ginny Brucker and Laura Norman	Primary	Gina Coutts	Education Assistant
Leslie McCallum and Kathy Robinson	Primary/Intermediate	Denise Hansen	Education Assistant
Cathy Stannard and Carmen Fletcher	Primary/Intermediate	Wendy Cervo	Education Assistant
Tara McClinton	Intermediate	Nancy Nicholson	Education Assistant
Helena Kortas	Intermediate	Julie Windram	Education Assistant
Cheryl Dunfield	Music		
Colette Vaisius	Learning Resource Teacher	Mark Hibbert	Custodian
Mandy Thirlwell	PE	Steve Hamilton	Principal & Counselor
Colleen Barnatt	Secretary		



STUDENT PLANNERS

All students will receive student planners early next week. **We believe that planners play a vital role in home-school communications.** They provide teachers with a way to let parents know about classroom events and specific information about their child. We encourage parents to use their child's planner to give the teacher information that will assist the teacher in better meeting their child's needs. We encourage parents to take the time to look at this year's planner with their child and review the many different types of information, especially **the first 8 pages which outline many policies and procedures of our school.** The cost of the planners is **\$8.00** each – please send payment to your child's teacher **no later than Monday, September 14th**. (If possible, please pay by cheque payable to Nanoose Bay Elementary).

STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS (ALERTS)

Please note it is the responsibility of parents/guardians to make their child's school aware of any **life threatening** medical problem/s your child/children may have. This includes any changes in condition for those students already on our medical alert file.

Parents are also to provide medication in its original container marked with the student's name. Please check the expiration date of the medication. If the medication requires administration (e.g., injection) it is important that those charged with the procedure have the proper training. Please call the Health Unit 248-2044 for assistance.

SAFE ATTENDANCE SYSTEM



Please call the school office in advance to notify us of student absences and late arrivals. Our answering machine will take messages before or after office hours so you may call at any time (468-7414). Late students must check in at the office for a late slip, and parents picking up their child early are asked to advise the office. If a student is reported absent and parents have not contacted us, our secretary will telephone your home.

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

The School District requires Criminal Record Checks for all parents/guardians and community members wishing to act as a school volunteer. If you have previously had a Criminal Record Check completed for Nanoose Bay Elementary School, the RCMP has informed us that a new form is not required. All new parents/volunteers must go to the Oceanside RCMP Detachment in Parksville and complete a "Consent for Disclosure of Criminal Record Information" form.



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 (QUALICUM)

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Qualicum School District does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. However, the School District does provide the opportunity for families to voluntarily purchase private accident insurance through the IAP Kids PlusTM Accident Insurance Program underwritten by Industrial-Alliance *Pacific* Life Insurance.

All parents are encouraged to purchase Student Accident Insurance, either through their own insurance agent or through the Student Accident Insurance Policy.

Applications from IAP Kids PlusTM are available in the main office or application can be made on-line at www.iapkidsplus.com

Board of Education
School District No. 69 (Qualicum)

NBES 2009 – 2010 DAILY SCHEDULE

7:43	First bus arrives / teacher supervision begins
8:07	Warning buzzer (bells in bold)
8:10	Commencement buzzer
9:55 to 10:15	Recess (20 minutes)
10:40	Kindergarten dismissal
11:30 to 11:45	Eating period (15 minutes)
11:45 to 12:25	Lunch break (40 minutes)
2:03	Dismissal buzzer
2:07	Bus buzzer (buses load)

DATES TO NOTE:

Friday, September 25	School Planning Day; students not in attendance
Monday, October 5	Photo Day
Monday, October 5	Open House/Family Dance
Monday, October 12	Thanksgiving Day statutory holiday
Thursday, October 22	Pro-D Day; students not in attendance
Friday, October 23	Provincial Pro-D Day; students not in attendance
Wednesday, November 11	Remembrance Day statutory holiday
Friday, November 27	District-wide Reporting Day; students not in attendance
Friday, December 18	Last day of classes prior to Winter Break
Monday, January 4	School re-opens after Winter Break
Tuesday, February 19	Reporting Day; students not in attendance
Friday, February 22	District Professional Development Day
Friday, March 5	Last day of classes prior to Spring Break
Monday, March 22	School re-opens after Winter Break
Friday, April 2	Good Friday; students not in attendance
Monday, April 5	Easter Monday; students not in attendance
Friday, April 30	District Pro-D Day; students not in attendance
Monday, May 24	Victoria Day; students not in attendance
Tuesday, June 29	Last day of school for students
Wednesday, June 30	Administration Day; students not in attendance

CHANGES TO BUSSING REGISTRATION

As in past years, students requesting transportation service must have a bus pass. However, unlike past years, not all students will be eligible for bus service. The District has had to reduce its bus fleet by 8 busses which has resulted in a complete redesign of its transportation system. To do this, the District will enforce walk limits to 3.2 km for kindergarten to Grade 5, 4.0 km for Grades 6 to 8 and 4.8 km for Grades 9 – 12. The system has been designed to assure transportation to their neighbourhood school for students living outside of the walk limits. Please see our website at www.sd69.bc.ca and click on “Transportation Information” to view the walk limits and collection points for your school.

Eligible riders are those students living outside the walk limits of their neighbourhood school. Registration fee for these riders is \$40 per student.

Courtesy riders are those riders who live within the walk limits of their neighbourhood school or who are cross-boundary, that is, attend a school other than their neighbourhood school. Transportation for courtesy riders will depend on whether there is room on the bus after eligible riders have registered. Priority will be given to the youngest student living furthest from their neighbourhood school, but within the walk limit. Registration fee for courtesy riders is \$100 per student.

*There is an exception to the walk limits for students attending Nanoose Bay Elementary and living at the following locations **on the inland side of the Island Highway**: Alcott, Dufferin, Kaspar, Lana, Marmar, Matthew, Morello, Noble, Orca, Reena, Ross, Sea Blush, Shooting Star, Summerset, White Heather, Wild Rose. Students living in this area are within the walk limits but are eligible for bus service.*

PLEASE REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 11, 2009.

After September 11, 2009, all applications, whether they are from eligible or courtesy riders, will be considered on the same basis. PREFERENCE MAY NOT BE GIVEN TO STUDENTS LIVING OUTSIDE OF THE WALK LIMITS IF THE APPLICATION IS RECEIVED AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2009.

The Board office (100 Jensen Avenue E, Parksville) will remain open until 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8th, Wednesday, September 9th and Thursday, September 10th to receive applications.

Information for Parents and Caregivers ~ **How H1N1 Influenza Is Transmitted**

The H1N1 flu virus, like other influenza viruses, spreads mainly through the coughing or sneezing of a sick person. It may also be spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with the virus and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth. Young children, pregnant women, and people with chronic diseases such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease may be at higher risk for complications from this infection.

Symptoms

In most children, the symptoms of the H1N1 flu virus are similar to the symptoms of regular flu. They include: Fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue, occasionally vomiting and diarrhea.

Preventative Measures

There are everyday actions that can help prevent the spread of germs that can cause respiratory illnesses like the H1N1 flu virus:

- Teach your children to wash their hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to cough and sneeze into a tissue or into the inside of their elbow. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to stay at least two metres (six feet) away from people who are sick.
- Children who are sick should stay home from school and daycare and stay away from other people until they are feeling better and able to fully participate in normal activities.

Medically Fragile Child

For this guidance, a medically fragile child is a child who needs intensive, life sustaining medical assistance or therapy, and needs assistance with daily living (for example, a child who uses an oxygen tank, has trouble moving, is fed through a tube, needs suctioning, or is on a ventilator). Many of these children need skilled nursing care and special medical equipment. These medically fragile children may have chronic lung disease, severe cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, immunodeficiency, or problems with their metabolism.

If Your Child Is Sick

While the majority of H1N1 cases in B.C. have been relatively mild, it is important to take proper precautions:

- Unless they need medical attention, **keep children who are sick at home**. Do not send them to school or daycare until they are feeling better and able to fully participate in normal activities.
- If your child needs to see a doctor or health-care provider, call ahead and report your child's symptoms.
- Have them drink a lot of liquid (juice, soups, Pedialyte®).
- Keep the sick child comfortable. Rest is important.
- For fever, sore throat, and muscle aches, you can use fever-reducing medicines that your doctor recommends based on your child's age. Do not use aspirin with children or teenagers.
- If someone in your home is sick, keep them away from those who are not sick.
- Keep tissues close to the sick person and have a trash bag within reach for disposing used tissues.
- Please inform your child's school that they are home sick with flu like symptoms

School Closure Policy

Based on the experience to date about the current H1N1 situation, public health officials in B.C. do not anticipate that closures of individual schools, community-wide closures, or province-wide closures will be useful for controlling the transmission and impact of H1N1.

Vaccine

Canada is working on an H1N1 vaccine, which will be made available as per national guidelines when it is ready. Once the vaccine arrives in British Columbia (expected in November), people will be able to get immunized at their doctor's office or at an immunization clinic set up especially to deliver the vaccine. Consultations are underway that would allow pharmacists to deliver vaccinations as well.

Antiviral Medication

Those in high-risk categories (pregnant women, young children and people with underlying health conditions such as asthma, diabetes and morbid obesity) should visit their doctor prior to the fall to determine whether they should be prescribed antivirals in advance, for use in the event they show H1N1 flu symptoms.

You can call Health Link BC at 8-1-1, 24 hours a day/seven days a week to speak to a nurse if you have more questions or are concerned about any illness/symptoms experienced by you or your children. For the latest facts on the H1N1 flu virus, including back-to-school information, visit www.gov.bc.ca/h1n1.