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<http://portal.sd69.bc.ca>

“Learning and growing together”

October 1st, 2009

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE—DARREN FREEMAN

A funny thing happened to the phone in my office that a staff member had brought in earlier in the day. It rang! The fact that it rang is no surprise. What was odd was that it belonged to a student who had been caught texting in class two blocks earlier. I noticed that the name on the screen was remarkably similar to the name of one of our grade 8 students. After looking up the student’s schedule, I made my way down to the classroom. As I stood in the doorway, still in stealth mode, I watched the student quickly send off message after message every time the teacher turned away to help another student. The end result is that the phones were held until the end of the day; parents were contacted and informed that it would not be given back until a parent picked it up. Our policy is very clear. We expect students to put away their phones from the time they enter the school grounds until the time they leave. We are realistic enough to know that many families rely on this form of communication to connect with each other on a daily basis. However, the issue that we have at the school level is not whether to use it, but when to use it. There will always be those that believe that items such as cell phones should be completely banned from schools. There are also those that believe that cell phones should be an integral part of 21st century education. This debate will continue as technological advances blur the line between cell phones, mp3 players, and internet connections. Our goal is to continue to guide students towards appropriate decisions in all areas of their life. Do you even know the language that your child is speaking through texting? You can Google any number of web-sites (e.g. Top 50 Internet Acronyms Parents Need to Know) to get a quick list of definitions. I tried one and was shocked that they would even consider creating such a secretive language. I know I am naïve and somewhat Pollyanna-like, but I am also realistic.

TERRY FOX UPDATE

WOW! As a school we were able to collect and donate \$625.43 to the Terry Fox Foundation. Way to go QBMS and thank you to all those who supported our fundraising and run! Your support is appreciated!

SEWING CLUB

Sewing Club will begin this coming Monday October 5th, 2009. There is still time to join, so if your child is interested, please have them pick up a form from Ms. Bogle in the Home Ec. room.

QBMS ART CLUB starting up on Wednesday, October 7th! Welcome, welcome.....Due to the overwhelming response and limited space available, art club membership will be on a “first come, first serve basis.” Please ensure that parent permission forms are returned to Ms. Dempster ASAP. The first 20 students will be accepted. A \$10 donation will be sincerely appreciated to contribute to healthy snacks and startup art supplies. Contact cdempster@sd69.bc.ca or 250-752-9212 for more information.

PIZZA DAY

QBMS will be having our next Pizza Day on Monday, October 5th. Pizza will be sold for \$2.00/slice at lunchtime.



GOTCHA WINNER

Congratulations to this week’s Gotcha winner...*Rosie of division 6-3!!!!*



QBMS SPIRIT WEAR

Spirit wear (QBMS clothes) will go on sale later this month. Garments will include sweat pants, running shirts, golf shirts, shorts and the popular hoodie. All clothes are navy in colour and will have QBMS or the QBMS logo on them. Prices range from \$22 to \$30.

First order will arrive soon for students to size and purchase. If the correct size is not available, a second order will be made prior to Christmas. Look for more price information coming out soon!

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Worthen at bworthen@sd69.bc.ca

♪ QBMS Music Notes ♪

1. Concert Band & Stage Band Fee (\$25.00 each)

Just a reminder to all members of the Concert Band and Stage Band that there is a club fee of \$25.00 to belong to each of those groups. The fees may be paid with cash or with a cheque written out to Qualicum Beach Middle School. Please see Mr. Kellas to pay your fee.

2. Music Parents’ Group Meeting: Monday, Oct. 19th at 7pm

Our next meeting of QBMS Music Parents’ Group is on Monday, October 19th at 7:00pm in the band room. We will be discussing possible trips for the Concert Band and Stage Band to go on this year as well as organizing a few fundraisers.



IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

- Monday, October 12 - Thanksgiving Day
- Thursday, October 22 - QBMS Reporting Day (no students in attendance)
- Friday, October 23 - Provincial Pro D (no students in attendance)
- Week of October 12 - Interim Reports



A TRAINING OPPORTUNITY WITH RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Restorative Practices can provide you with cooperative interventions to use effectively with your children, your peers, and in your life as a whole.

Is gaining cooperation with others a goal that seems elusive?

Restorative Practices presents a model that will help you develop new skills and possibilities in your relationships with others.

The District Restorative Justice Committee would like to offer an introductory training in restorative processes and practices. During the last few years, the RJ Committee has provided four such training opportunities with over forty district teachers and educational assistants participating. Participants have found the training valuable and transformative both personally and professionally. This year we would like to offer this training to the parents and staff of our school community. The fall training session will consist of 3 two hour sessions along with suggested reading material, and is limited to 12 participants.

The concepts introduced draw on the work of Diane Chelson-Gossem and locally developed materials from the restorative justice training in our district.

For more information or to register for the sessions please contact David Osborn or Darcy Dalgaard.

Dates: Monday, Oct. 19, 26, and Nov. 2.

Time: 7:00 to 9:00

Location: Arrowview Elementary

David Osborn, R.C.C.
District Counsellor, SD. 69
 752-5651 ext. 405 dosborn@sd69.bc.ca

Darcy Dalgaard
District Counsellor, SD. 69
 752-9212 ddalgaard@sd.69.bc.ca

website: <http://aes.sd69.bc.ca/> (click: programs & services, then school counselling, then Restorative Justice)

PAC NEWS

Please come out and participate in brainstorming for more fund-raising ideas for our school - TUESDAY, Oct. 6, 7:00 at QBMS Library. Because of Govt. cutbacks to PAC gaming funds, our monetary resources have been cut by more than half - which is a significant amount. Why do we need to do fundraising? In a new school like QBMS, there are many items the school needs:

- books for a needy library,
- our student computers are old and need upgrading,
- our emergency preparedness kiosk is currently almost empty and needs to be filled

Essential programs that the PAC would like to carry on with:

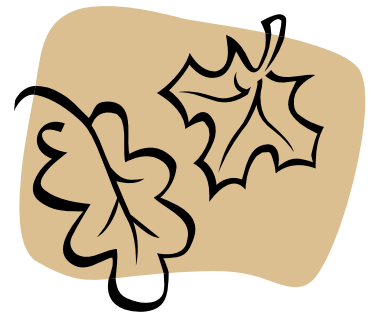
- student fund that provides food items for those students who come to school with none
- providing fees for classroom activities that some cannot afford to participate in.
- Mountain Bike Club
- Chess Club
- Gym equipment
- awards for assemblies
- many, many others

Let's put our heads together and come up with some innovative ideas that will engage our community to participate in our fundraising!

Please feel free to e-mail ideas on this or any questions/input regarding QBMS PAC - qbmspac@yahoo.ca

H1N1 INFORMATION

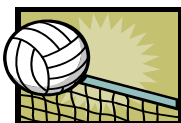
Included with this newsletter is information from the Medical Health Officer about the H1N1 Virus.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Check the Community News and Events link (second tab on the left side) of the School District website. www.sd69.bc.ca

Please note that Community News and Events will no longer be included in our weekly newsletter. Instead, they will be posted on the website. You can also view Community News from the QBMS website.



VOLLEYBALL PRACTICE SCHEDULE (SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER)

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning Practice 7:45-8:30am	Gr. 6 Girls Ms. Bogle	Gr. 6 Boys Mr. Worthen	Gr. 8 Girls Ms. Frampton	Gr. 7 Boys Mr. Dodd	
After School #1 3:00-4:00pm	Gr. 7 Girls Ms. Sprague	Game Day Gr. 8 Boys and Girls Gr. 6 Boys	Gr. 8 Boys Mr. Johnsen	Game Day Gr. 7 Boys and Girls Gr. 6 Girls	Gr. 8 Boys Mr. Johnsen
After School #2 4:00-5:00pm	Gr. 8 Girls Ms. Frampton				