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

“Learning and growing together”

September 11, 2009

#### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE—DARREN FREEMAN**

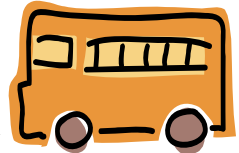
Welcome Back! Imagine trying to arrange a massive gathering with over 300 of your closest family and friends. You carefully arrange the seating placements, taking into account the things you know. Then the guest list changes at the last minute and within a week you receive notice that 41 of your guests have either been added or removed from the expected guest list and your carefully arranged seating plan is out the window! That is how we dealt with our opening week. That being said, we have been working throughout opening week. That being said, we have been working throughout opening week preparing the school for the energy that can only be found in the overall mass of middle school students. I will deliver more information about school start-up, staffing changes, and other school pieces next week. Enjoy the weekend.

Our school office hours for the 2009-10 school year: **8:00am—3:45pm**. Please note there is no student supervision available until 8:30am, and the gate and school will also not be open until 8:00am.

# WELCOME BACK!

#### **BUS ZONE & STUDENT DROP-OFF AREA**

We ask for your assistance when dropping off or picking up children at the school. Please use the side entrance to the school. Please do not use the front of the school for this purpose as it is the school's bus zone. Also we would like to have your cooperation in making the roadways safe for our children and encourage you to use extreme caution when approaching the school as we have single lane traffic on Laburnum Road. We thank you for your support in this matter.



#### **STUDENT ABSENCES**

We would ask parents to please phone the school at 250-752-9212 in the morning when your child is going to be absent or late. Our appreciation goes out to those parents who do let us know of their child's absences. Parents who phone in greatly reduce the number of calls QBMS office staff are required to make each morning. Thank you in advance for your help.

#### **QBMS ART DEPARTMENT**

QBMS Art Department would greatly appreciate recycled newspapers and toilet paper rolls to help start up the 3D Art programs.

#### **EMERGENCY RELEASE/MEDICAL FORMS**

Your child was sent home with an Emergency Release and Medical Form. Please complete these forms and return to the school, even if there is no change to be made on the form. Thank-you!

#### **SCHOOL START-UP COLLECTIONS**

QBMS will be collecting the following fees:

A **textbook deposit** fee of \$50.00 is collected from each student at the beginning of each school year. Cheques are payable to QBMS and are to be post dated to June 15th, 2010. (mandatory)

An **emergency preparedness fee** of \$3.00 is collected. (mandatory)

A student planner for \$8.00. (mandatory)

**Locks** are \$6.00.

Please be sure to keep your **post dated cheque** for the textbook deposit *separate* from all other payments, which may be combined.

#### **QBMS PAC NEWS**

**Our first PAC Meeting of the year will be on Monday Sept 14th at 7:00pm in the library.**

**With the Government cut backs to the PAC gaming funds (Approx \$10,000), your efforts are needed NOW more than ever. Please come out and help support your PAC.**

#### **TERRY FOX RUN 2009-10**

Pledge sheets have been set out to teachers to give to students this week who would like to help raise money for Cancer Research. If your son or daughter collects donations, please have them complete and return the pledge form and donations to the school. **From September 14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, a table will be set up in the main foyer at lunch where donations and pledge forms need to be dropped off.** A “Twoonie for Terry” collection will also be part of the pledge desk and students may also choose to donate there. This year the school run will be held on Monday September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at approximately 10:00am.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

##### **SEPTEMBER**

Monday, September 14	- School Photographs from Life Touch Photo
Wednesday, September 23	- Instrumental Rental Night for band students
Thursday, September 24	- Meet the Parent Night 7:00 – 8:00
Friday, September 25	- School Planning Day (no students in session)
Thursday, October 8	- Grade 6 Immunizations (9:00am-12:00pm)

**SUPERVISION-SAFETY REMINDER:**

Teacher supervision of students begins in the morning at 8:30 a.m. There is no supervision before 8:30 a.m. Students are asked not to arrive earlier in the morning unless they are involved in some organized activity or they have been requested to come for some other reason.

Supervision of students is also provided during recess and during the lunch break. After the 2:55p.m. dismissal students are expected to be in the bus line-up or on their way home. After school, a teacher is on supervision at the bus line-up until the last bus leaves. There is no supervision after this time on regular school days.

**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 Plus™ 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 Plus™ are available in the main office or application can be made on-line at [www.iapkidsplus.com](http://www.iapkidsplus.com)

Board of Education  
School District No. 69 (Qualicum)

**STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS/ALERTS**

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

Parents are to provide medication in its original container clearly marked with the student’s name. Please check the expiration date of the medication. The school cannot administer any medication unless the required form, “Request for Administration of Physician Prescribed Medication” has been completed. 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 at 248-2044 for assistance.

Please advise the school office and we will determine the specific medical questionnaire for you to fill out, e.g., asthma care plan, insect allergy, seizure follow-up, food allergy, diabetes care plan, or request for administration of physician prescribed medication. Our public health nurse will contact you if further information is required.

**CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS**

All **new** volunteers please fill out a Consent for Disclosure of Criminal Record Information at the Parksville RCMP detachment. If you will be doing any kind of volunteering in the school or driving, please fill out one as soon as possible in order to allow for the RCMP to have completed their record checks in good time for our activities. If you have previously had a check completed while your child attended our school or while they attended grade 5 in our district, a copy of your Criminal Record Check may already be on file in our office. It is not necessary to have it redone. At present, the RCMP does NOT require that criminal record checks be done annually.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Just a reminder that parents are to check in at the office when arriving at school. **Please do not go to your child’s classroom. We will call your child to the office** so you can meet with him or her. If you are waiting for your child after school, **please wait in the foyer** until the 2:55 p.m. dismissal, before picking up your child. This practice eliminates the possibility of strangers wandering the school during school time and the interruption of instructional time. Your cooperation on this practice is for the **safety of students and staff.**

**PHONING PARENTS**

As part of our Emergency Preparedness Plan we require that each Homeroom have at least two phoning parents to contact families in the case of an emergency. If you are able to fulfill this role please contact the school and leave your name and phone number.

**PHONE CALL REMINDERS**

To reduce the number of classroom interruptions during school hours, students are strongly encouraged to make their after school arrangements at home. The office phone is not for students to use except in emergencies. Parents, we are glad to pass along messages to students in an emergency or if something comes up during the day such as a medical appointment, but in most cases, please arrange pick ups at home. Students may not usually receive phone calls/messages at school from other students.

**STUDENT SIGN-OUTS AND SIGN-INS**

A reminder that students required to leave school early must first check with the office before leaving. It is helpful if parents are able to send a note with students to verify the early departure. Also, if students are late, they need to sign in at the office.

**DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION UPDATES**

A demographic information sheet was sent home with students this week showing the personal information we currently have on file for your child. If you have any changes to address, phone number, emergency contacts etc., please indicate them on the sheet and return it to the office.