



Qualicum Beach Elementary School

Principal: Corleen McKinnon Vice Principal: Mark McInnes

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

A Note from the New Principal

August 30, 2023

Dear QBES Parents,

The anticipation and promise of a fresh new school year is upon us. Students, parents, and teachers are all feeling the excitement of the return to school on Tuesday, September 5th!

I am so happy to be returning to QBES where I spent five years as Vice-Principal not so long ago. Though I enjoyed the high school immensely, the opportunity to return to QBES as Principal is most welcome. I look forward to meeting new students and their families as well as re-kindling connections with those I knew in years past. Everyone knows that QBES is a great school. Those of us privileged to work and attend school here know that this school is a sum of its parts: a terrific location, excellent teachers, enthusiastic students, caring EAs, meticulous support staff, and a positive and forward-thinking parent community. For all of these reasons, it's great to be back.

Tuesday morning will be a "Re-connect" at QBES. The purpose is for students to see their teacher and classmates in a familiar and supportive environment. It allows us to finalize class placements for a smoother start to the new school year before children move into their permanent classrooms. There are some staff changes so see the teacher list below along with their meeting spots.

Start time: 8:47

Early Dismissal: 11:40 (Busses will run by these times)

Welcome New Staff

- **Heather Redfern** - will be the half-time clerical alongside Jane.
- **Jennifer Pickard** - will be teaching part-time "UPSTREAM", partnering with VP Mark McInnes in Room 214 and will be the school librarian.
- **Greg Lewis** - will be in Room 220 teaching Intermediate and the ADST exploratory.
- **John Titanic** - will be our PE specialist and will also teach some French and ADST in Mr. Wilson's class.
- **Michelle Whitehead** - will be in Room 222 teaching Intermediate.
- **Lisa Deurksen** - will be our new Learning Support Teacher alongside Martin Libby.
- **Karen Campbell** - is our new Counselor. She will work Monday to Thursday.
- **EA Staff** welcomes back the super-talented **Leah Eirikson** and **Catherine Jones**.

Looking forward to a great school year.

Yours,
Corleen McKinnon
Principal, QBES

Reminders for the first day:

- Please send your child with a snack and **reusable water** bottle.
- Do not send school supplies on the first day. Supply lists are posted on the school website.
- Parent "drop off loop" – please do not park – meant to be a quick drop and go area.
- Front of the school is for busses only.
- Bus passes will be distributed to students in their classrooms. Reminder that students are to use their bus pass from the previous year.
- If you have any questions, please find Mr. McInnes or Ms. McKinnon - we will be wearing our pink QBES t-shirts.

Bell Schedule

- Start Time: 8:47
- Lunch Playtime: 11:30 – 12:05
- Eating Period: 12:05 – 12:20
- Afternoon Recess: 1:20 – 1:40
- Dismissal: 2:40



Where do I go on the first day?

If your child is new to QBES....



- New grade 1 – 3 students, Mr. Titanic and Ms. Duerksen will meet you in the multi purpose room, entrance is by the garden.
- New grade 4 – 7 students, Mr. Alden and Ms. Whitehead will meet you at the swing sets.

Last year if your child was in....

- Ms. Mohr’s class: she will meet you in the front of the school by the main entrance.
- Ms. Kuramoto’s class: she will meet you in the front of the school by the main entrance.
- Ms. Chandra’s class: she will meet you in the front of the school by the main entrance.
- Ms. Katchur’s class: she will meet you in the front of the school by the garden.
- Mrs. Willers’ class: she will meet you in the front of the school by the garden.
- Mr. Freed’s class: he will meet you at the back of the school.
- Ms. Beasley’s class: she will meet you at the back of the school.
- Ms. Furness’ class: she will meet you at the back of the school.
- Mr. Wilson’s class: he will meet you at the back of the school.
- Mr. Johnsen’s class: he will meet you at the back of the school.
- Mr. Gauvin’s class: will meet Ms. Wolfe at the back of the school (Basketball court).
- Mr. Lee’s class: he will meet you at the back of the school.
- Mr. Friesen’s class: will meet Mr. Lewis at the back of the school (Basketball court).
- Mr. Redpath’s class: Mr. Lewis will ALSO meet you at the back of the school (Basketball court).
- All STREAM students will meet Mr. Siemens and Mrs. Pickard at the back of the school (this will include new students to the program).

Important Dates to Remember	
Tuesday, September 5	First Day of School
Wednesday, September 6	First Full Day of School
Friday, September 8	Coffee and Meet-and-Greet for Kindergarten Parents
Tuesday, September 12	PAC Meeting at Deez Restaurant (lower level). All welcome.
Friday, September 15	Grade 5-7 Exploratory survey sheets due at office
Tuesday, September 19	Family Welcome Back Picnic 5 PM – 7 PM
Tuesday, September 19	Meet the Teacher Night 5 PM - 6 PM
Saturday, September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
Monday, October 2	National Day for Truth & Reconciliation – students do not attend
Thursday, October 5	Individual Student Picture and Classroom Picture Day – (Individual Retakes October 24 th)
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, October 20	District Professional Day – students do not attend

Don't Forget!

<div><div>Find this information helpful?</div><div></div><div>If you have not done so already, sign up for our monthly newsletter using the QR code or by visiting the QBES website.</div><div>Check your email to confirm your subscription <u>after signing up</u>.</div></div>	<div><div>Family Welcome Back Picnic – (a PAC event)</div><div>Date: Tuesday, September 19th Time: 5 – 7 pm</div><div></div><div>Bring: a blanket & meal for your family. *PAC is arranging an on-site Food Truck Outdoor Games for the Kids! *Held together with QBES Meet the Teacher Night</div></div>
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