

Principal: Alan Millar
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Secretary: Audrey
Hammer



Principal’s Message: Happy New Year!!! Welcome to 2019 at Edith McDermott. The return from the Christmas break marks my one year anniversary here as the Principal. In that time I have come to understand why so many people refer to this place as a gift, it truly is. The community is accepting, nurturing, supportive, empathetic and positive. It works together to solve problems for all, and recognizes the diversity and growing complexities our children are faced with, and come with. Thank you for

that, as this is a public school; all students are welcome and we work together to create a wonderful and safe environment for all. I was truly fortunate to be assigned here, and I am equally as fortunate to continue here. It has been a great first year.

I did a lot of reading over the holidays and two books in particular that really resonated with me were Alfie Kohn’s Beyond Discipline & No Disposable Kids by Brendto, Ness and Mitchell. Both books really bring to life the need to connect with kids and build authentic relationships as we support them in their development, if we are after long term positive development. When we use the threat of punishment, or the promise of reward, we are reinforcing messages that they do not have “ability” to make the right choice as ethical people, but rather they make the right choice only if someone is watching and there is an outside/extrinsic reinforcement (punishment or reward). The use of “behavioural” motivators will work in the immediate, however they will not create the kind of intrinsic, ethical, decision making abilities we want our kids to have as they navigate this world. This is really a powerful, thought provoking message, as we are all familiar with bad choice, bad consequence, good choice reward. Many of us experienced this classical behaviour modification first hand. It’s simple, but the learning in this model is “to get people to do things, I have to do something to them, bad or good”. People then are inherently driven only by reward and not by what is right. Hmmm interesting food for thought and a conversation I would enjoy continuing with anyone.

Well again, it’s been a great first year - thank you to all who have made me feel so welcome and supported. I look forward too many more years here at Edith McDermott Elementary.

Alan Millar

GENEROSITY A GO GO.....

Lots of different things go on during the festive season and somethings get overlooked, but the generosity of our community sure showed itself well. From our Purdy Chocolate sales we were able to raise over \$400. towards our camp in the Spring. As well, our giving tree program allowed us to make the season a little brighter for over a dozen families in our community. Also, our global citizens gathered many toques, scarves and gloves for the needy over the holiday season. Thank you to everyone for opening your hearts and wallets in support of our student’s efforts to help their community.

Playground
Politics
Using our

W
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Recently we have been talking as community about being a community, and working to accept each other for who we are. The students have responded extremely well, to no one’s surprise. Part of being a great community is that everyone understands and can solve little problems themselves. We use the WITS model here; **Walk Away, Ignore, Talk It Out, and Seek Help**. Sometimes using our WITS doesn’t work to stop an immediate interaction. Some tell students to “defend” themselves, which is understandable, as no one wants to say to our students be victimized. However, in a school environment, as with in public, we do not approve of the use of force in anyway. If your student is having a problem and WITS isn’t working, there are other non violent strategies that can be used.... For example, encourage your student to go “**loud**” if they are unable to move away. It draws attention immediately and allows for adult support to be aware of the situation. Another strategy is to agree with the person to calm the situation and then seek help. These are just two options, but they do work and avoid any escalation in behaviour. Please refrain from advice that involves physical retaliation... Once that line is crossed, even in supposed “defence”, the outcomes for both students are not good.

Just Around the Corner Already Planning for Next Year!!!

Kindergarten registration dates have been released by the district.
Jan. 7-31 Kindergarten Registration Opens for our new elementary Cesquenele
Jan 21-Jan 25 Sibling Registration
Feb 1-Feb 4 Choice Registration
Feb 12-Feb 19 General Registration
Feb 27-June 26 Late Registration
If you know of anyone anywhere in the district, or anyone who is thinking of moving to the district with Kindergarten aged kids, please make them aware of these dates.

Upcoming Dates:
Jan 17 th 6:30
In the Know Presentation (See info in news letter)
Jan 22: PAC Sponsored Event
Jan 25: Curriculum Implementation Day (School not in Session)
Jan 25 RED Cross Baby Sitting Course
Jan 29: PAC Meeting 6:00
Jan 30: Happy Hot Dog Day Div 9 and 10
Feb 5: Grade 8 Registration

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Athletics Basketball is starting and we have had a great turnout from the students. Mr. Stublely and Mr. Millar will be coaching the boys and Mrs. McMyn and Mrs. Torrence will be handling the girls. Boys games are Monday and Wednesday and the girls play Tuesdays or Thursdays. Schedules have been sent home with the players and we are looking forward to another fun season . If you need to speak to Mr. Millar be aware on Mondays and Wednesdays after school he may not be available.



Literacy Literacy Literacy.....

It continues to be our focus.. We encourage parents to spend time reading with their students, modelling reading behaviour. For older students, sharing some of your favourite titles or characters and discussing them can be a great way to not only support literacy development, but also open up a whole new realm of relationship with your student. And dads, it's even more important to have male role models reading.

One of the things that happens as our students get older, is we forget the power of being read to. Research is clear on the positive impacts of reading aloud on students from K-12 and beyond. Seems a bit odd, however modelling intonation, context, expression and just simply the joy of reading has measurable positive outcomes.



Parking....

A great New Year's Resolution.... Park a block or two away from the school and walk.... It's a great way to help fulfill that exercise goal and help keep our parking lot safe.

- 1) Do not leave your vehicle. Even for a quick second.
- 2) As the vehicle ahead of you pulls out, pull forward as far as you can.
- 3) Make it quick. Remind your students not to "delay" in class or at the curb, and don't chat with friends. Get in and get out.
- 4) Be patient and polite. No one is going anywhere fast and "hot" heads create unsafe situations.
- 5) Relax and if you have a comment or concern, come talk to me... I try to be out there everyday.



Transport
Canada

#PartWaysOK

Three Great Morning Opportunities for Students

Continue As mentioned in all previous newsletters, we have three great opportunities for kids at Edith McDermott from 8:00-8:25, especially as the weather continues to be wet and cold. Also, we hear of so many students with lots of responsibilities and activities outside of school which is amazing - this time can be used to help balance school with those other responsibilities.

In the Library students are welcome to enter and settle into some reading activities.

In Room 2027 students are welcome to enter and get some extra help or finish up some homework.

In Room 1011 students by invitation only will be invited to participate in some fine motor skill exercises.

All three areas will have adult supervision and assistance for students. All are welcome as long as they utilize the space as described. We would love to see more kids take advantage of these opportunities.



CANADIAN
RED CROSS

Jan 25th RED CROSS Babysitting Course for grade 6 & 7 students Here at EME.
[Register online. Scroll to the end of this newsletter for details](#)

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Our PAC!!!

Is Awesome.... The Next PAC meeting is from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on January 29th in the EME library. Free child minding is available for parents who want to come but have little ones at home. PAC is a great way to get involved in your school and support the great work PAC does supporting students, teachers and the community at large.



A reminder if Snow is ever in the Forecast.....

Please take some time to visit the district website under the parent tab to review the inclement weather procedure particularly as it applies to school closures. We have included here where that announcement, if made can be found.... Let's hope it doesn't come to it but.... Please be ready. The decision to close schools is made by 6 a.m. Details are:

- posted on the SD42 Twitter feed ([@sd42news](#));
- posted on the SD42 Facebook feed ([SD42Facebook](#));



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- shared with News 1130, CKNW, and CBC 690 radio stations;
- posted on the SD42 Website (www.sd42.ca).

GRADE 8 REGISTRATION INFORMATION 2019/20

FOR PARENTS OF GRADE 7 STUDENTS

OVERVIEW






To provide an optimal learning environment for all students, the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District No. 42 (SD42) must manage enrolment across all schools, ensuring that enrolment numbers match building capacity.

“Where space and facility is determined to be available,” the school district has an open boundary policy that allows flexibility in choice regarding which secondary school students may attend (*School Act section 74.1 Section 6*). Due to increasing enrolment in recent years, however, the majority of students are assigned to their catchment school. All our high schools meet the needs of all learners.

GRADE 8 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES	
1	<div>ONLINE REGISTRATION</div> <div><div><div>FEB</div><div>5</div></div><div>Registration opens at 12 pm (noon) on Tuesday, February 5, 2019. All Grade 8 registrations are done through the <i>Parent Portal</i> at https://parents.sd42.ca. Each registration is time-stamped at the moment the registration form is opened to begin the online registration process.</div></div>
	<div>2</div> <div><div>DETERMINING CATCHMENT SCHOOL</div><div><div><div><div></div></div><div>The registration form will automatically populate with your child’s secondary catchment school based on the residential address on file with your child’s elementary school.</div></div><div>You can also find your child’s secondary catchment school using the school locator tool at http://www.sd42.ca/school-locator/.</div><div><div><div></div><div>New development areas may not show accurate results. Please confirm with your child’s elementary school if necessary.</div></div><div><div></div><div>If the address you register on the portal does not match what is on file, proof of change of address will be required. Rental agreements are not accepted as proof of address.</div></div></div></div></div>
3	<div>ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA</div> <div><div>The size of the school facility may limit the number of out-of-catchment registrations that can be accommodated. The school district will accommodate catchment registrations first, then attempt to accommodate sibling out-of-catchment registrations. Sibling placement cannot be guaranteed, however. Our acceptance criteria are as follows:</div><div><div><div>1.</div><div>In-catchment area students who, in the previous year, attended the school;</div></div><div><div>2.</div><div>In-catchment area students who, in the previous year, were placed by the district in a different school due to a lack of space</div></div><div><div>3.</div><div>Siblings of in-catchment area students (grades 8 to 11);</div></div><div><div>4.</div><div>New in-catchment area students;</div></div><div><div>5.</div><div>Siblings of out-of-catchment area students enrolled in the school (grades 8 to 11);</div></div><div><div>6.</div><div>Out-of-catchment area students currently attending an SD42 school;</div></div><div><div>7.</div><div>Out-of-district students currently attending an SD42 school;</div></div><div><div>8.</div><div>Students not currently attending an SD42 school but residing in Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows;</div></div><div><div>9.</div><div>Out-of-district non-resident students.</div></div></div></div>

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4	ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE  Deadline for Grade 8 online registration is 12 pm (noon) on February 20, 2019 . If you do not register your child by the online registration deadline, you will need to complete a paper registration form at your child's catchment high school.
5	PLACEMENT NOTIFICATION  Parents will be notified by email before Spring Break about their child's assigned school.
6	TRANSFERS AFTER DEADLINE  Movement between schools after the February 20 deadline requires a transfer process. Transfer forms are available at all secondary schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none">The ability to transfer will be limited by building space and available staffing. See Student Transfer Guidelines.A review of transfer requests will be completed before the Grade 7 orientation date in May. Individual meetings and/or visits will occur after placement.

RED CROSS Babysitting Course

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Red Cross Babysitting!

Babysitting

1 day- 7 hrs., for Grade 6+

\$60 + GST Online Registration

So you want to be a babysitter? Or, your parents want you to take this course so they feel confident leaving you at home alone?

Different from all other Babysitting courses! Babysitting with First Aid Hero emphasizes first aid and learning through real life scenarios. Active role-play! Interactive and fun! Covered in this course:

- ❖ *Exploring the Business of Babysitting*
- ❖ *Creating Safe Environments*
- ❖ *Safely Caring for ages 0-12*
- ❖ *First Aid Skills*

WHERE: Edith McDermott Elementary, 12178 Bonson Rd,
Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2L5

WHEN: Friday, January 25, 2019

TIME: 8:30am – 3:30pm

COST: \$60 + \$3GST = **\$63.00 TOTAL**, Register Online and SAVE \$5!

Mail Fee: \$65 + \$3.25 GST = **\$68.25 TOTAL**, extra charge for administration.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

Online- Please follow the Registration Link online <http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html> in the Edith McDermott row.

Mail- Fill in the Registration Form Online or attached along with your payment written to Maria Rosen, post-dated 7 business days prior to the course and, mail to First Aid Hero, P.O. Box 19111, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4R8. Please write your child's first/last name on the bottom left part of the cheque. **By mail fee is \$68.25 total.** Registration only accepted once payment is received.

By Mail Deadline: Friday, January 18, 2019.

Online Deadline: Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 7pm.

Late Registration accepted online only.

About FIRST AID HERO

Authorized Red Cross Training Partner, First Aid Hero, specializes in Babysitting and other recognized First Aid courses for children. Maria Rosen, President & CEO, is a Red Cross Instructor, Lifeguard, professional children's performer and Montessori teacher. Instructors of First Aid Hero are paramedics, fire fighters, police officers, lifeguards and other qualified professionals.

For more information contact Maria 778-322-7442 or maria@firstaidhero.com
www.firstaidhero.com