

HAMMOND NEWS

11520 - 203rd Street, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 4T6
Phone: 604-460-1136 / Fax: 604-460-1137
Website: (<https://schools.sd42.ca/hammond/>)
Twitter: @HammondSD42



Principal: Mr. Wes Reamsbottom
Vice Principal: Ms. Megan Olynyk

Newsletter #3 -December 11, 2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At Hammond Elementary, students and staff work hard to build a positive school culture. We believe that everyone has a responsibility to create a caring, safe and orderly learning environment.

December is always a bustling time at Hammond with many festive activities as we prepare for the Winter Break. As we know, this year is very different; however, you can still feel a festive buzz in the building with our door decorating, Christmas crafts, our ugly sweater spirit day and many other activities. Though we may not be able to tell you in person this year, the Hammond staff would like to wish all Hammond families a safe and wonderful Winter Break!

As always, feel free to say hello to Mrs. Olynyk or myself before or after school while we are out supervising the students.

Wishing everyone a safe December!



REPORTING

Tuesday afternoon, November 26, and all day Wednesday, November 27 was dedicated to 3-way conferencing. This year due to COVID these conferences took place over ZOOM which was a new experience for all. All in all, for the first time it was very successful! It is our hope that sharing learning and goal setting was a positive experience for our students. We appreciate all the support our families give to their children. Your time and encouragement result in your child having a positive outlook on school and learning. Report cards were sent home on December 7.

Upcoming Events

Dec 15	Spirit Day - Ugly Sweater and Holiday Headwear
Dec 16	Zoom Assembly
Dec 18	Last Day of Classes before Winter Break
Dec 11	Kids Only Shopping
Jan 4	Schools Reopen after Winter Break
Jan 14	Montessori Zoom Parent Information 7:00 pm
Jan 25	No Instruction Day - No Classes

CALENDAR ITEMS...

- A reminder schools close for Winter Break after dismissal at 2:20 pm on Friday, December 18. We welcome students back on Monday, January 4, 2021.
- On Monday, January 25, 2021 there is no school for students as staff will be involved with School Growth activities.



Please always check the calendar on our Hammond website page <https://elementary.sd42.ca/hammond/>

LIBRARY NEWS...

A big thank you to the PAC and especially Laetisha Biles, for all the work they do to make Hammond great! This year's Virtual Book Fair was a great success!

POWER OUTAGE...

During the windstorm on November 17 we ended up losing power for almost 3 hours after that we realized that we needed more flashlights and batteries, which we have replaced. Thanks to the number of people with cell phones we made out great!

PARKING

Please be respectful of Hammond's neighbouring properties and not block driveways when dropping off or picking up your children. Please do not park for any length of time in our designated handicap parking spaces. Those spaces are for vehicles with handicap passes **ONLY**. If you park there thinking you will only be a moment, that moment could be the time one of our handicap students needs that spot. Your respect and consideration is appreciated.

A reminder to those families using the parking lot at the end of the day, if everyone follows our procedures and is patient for 10 minutes things will go smoothly and safely. It is with cooperation, patience and following a few simple guidelines that we can minimize the frustrations and keep the parking lot safe for everyone.

Guidelines:

- When double parked or stopping beside a yellow curb you **must** stay in your vehicle so you can move it if the person you are blocking needs to exit the lot.
- Do not block an open parking space.
- It is imperative that we leave a **clear path** through the middle of the lot so traffic can keep moving.
- If you get to the flagpole and your child has not arrived yet, **continue to circle** the lot until they do.
- Do not park at the entrance that funnels traffic into and out of the lot as it blocks traffic flow.
- Use the perimeter sidewalks to walk to the overflow lot rather than weaving in and out of the cars.
- If you have a large vehicle, or are towing any trailers, please consider parking on side streets.
- **Travel through the parking lot at idle speed.**



SPIRIT RAISER NEWS...

Hammond *Spirit Raisers*, made up of a group of grade 4 and 5 students in Division 5, have organized a Spirit Day for Tuesday, December 15 - dig up your favourite, ugliest Christmas sweater or wear your favourite Holiday headwear!

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER...

As the weather is about to get rainier, it is important that your child is sent to school dressed appropriately for the weather. As well, an extra set of clothes kept at the school will enable your child to change should he or she get wet or muddy while playing during recess or lunch. We will be sending the students out during these breaks **rain or shine**. Please encourage them to **dress for the weather**.



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS...

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we have had to cancel our Christmas Concerts this year. We hope to be able to sing and entertain parents next year!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE REMINDER...

Just a friendly reminder we request that you telephone, email HA_reception@sd42.ca, or advise via the parent portal to let us know if your child will be late or absent from school. There is an answering machine to take your messages if calling after hours or early in the morning. Thank you.



CONSENT FORMS...

A reminder to parents that still have not finished filling out the consent forms on the parent portal to do so as soon as possible. Please log in to your parent portal and click on the "consent forms" tab at the very top. There are several forms that need to be filled out. Thank you.

MONTESSORI SOCIETY NEWS...

There will be a Montessori Information Zoom meeting on Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 pm. Please pass on the information to families you think may be interested in entering the program. Families can call the school to provide an email address so they can be sent the Zoom Meeting link.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS...

Registration for **kindergarten** begins **January 2021**. Registering your child for kindergarten is a big step, but it doesn't have to be a difficult one. With the easy new online registration process, you can register your child from the comfort of your own home. Re3view the registration steps below to ensure you are ready for the big day. Complete steps 1-4 before registration to save time.

- **STEP 1: OPEN A PARENT PORTAL ACCOUNT** You must open an SD42 Parent Portal account to access registration. If possible, complete this step well before registration.
- **STEP 2: FIND YOUR REGISTRATION DATE** Review the registration categories (SIBLING, CHOICE, GENERAL) to find your registration period. Dates are posted on the school district website. Registration for the 2021/22 school year will open January 6, 2021.
- **STEP 3: REVIEW THE REGISTRATION FORM** Review a copy of the online registration form before registration day. (Available starting January 2021 at <http://parents.sd42.ca>)
- **STEP 4: REVIEW ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA** The order in which the district places new kindergarteners is determined by the Acceptance Criteria. Review these online.
- **STEP 5: REGISTER** your child at <http://parents.sd42.ca>
- **STEP 6: PROVIDE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION - Registrations begin January 6, 2021

Kindergarten registration for the 2020/21 school year is open to children who are 5 years old on or before December 31, 2021. Visit the district website for detailed information on the five phases (sibling registration, choice registration, general registration, and late registration), registration timelines, and other important information:

<http://www.sd42.ca/kindergarten-registration/>

Kindergarten Registration Phases:

JAN 6-12: Sibling Registration. Open for siblings of students already attending the desired elementary school (currently in grades K-6).

JAN 20-25: Choice Registration. Open for all students who want to participate in any one of SD42's unique program offerings (e.g. Environmental School, French Immersion, Montessori).

FEB 3-10: General Registration. General registration for English school.

FEB 24-July 31: Late Registration. This phase is for parents who may have missed previous registration phases.

****online registration always opens at 12:00 pm on each of the first registration days****

School Closures (Inclement Weather):

It is recognized that from time to time, it may be necessary to temporarily close school/facilities when extreme weather conditions exist and may endanger the health and safety of students/staff. When a decision to close schools is made, information is posted on the SD42 Twitter feed (@sd42news); posted on the SD42 Facebook feed (SD42Facebook); shared with News 1130, CKNW 980, and CBC 690 radio stations; and posted on the SD42 Website (www.sd42.ca).

COMMUNITY NEWS...

Grade 4 and 5 SnowPass: Make this holiday one the kids will not forget. Pick up a SnowPass for your 4th or 5th grader and get them skiing and snowboarding this season. Only a month until the Christmas break! Wondering what to do with the kids this holiday season to keep them busy? Well, worry no more! The Canadian Ski Council has the ticket, literally. The CSC's Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass provides children in grade 4 and 5 with two lift tickets at each of the 125+ participating ski areas across Canada for just \$29.99. That's enough skiing and snowboarding to keep them busy all winter long. The Grade 4 & 5 SnowPass is a national program and can be used at over 125 ski areas across Canada, including ski areas in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic Canada, and the Yukon. So, no matter where you live, everyone can take advantage of this fantastic offer. To see a full list of participating ski areas, please visit <https://www.skicanada.org/>. Registering your child for a SnowPass is easy and any child in grade 4 or 5 is eligible (or those born in 2010 or 2011). Just visit <https://www.skicanada.org/>, upload your child's picture and proof of age, enter your method of payment, and presto - your child's personalized SnowPass will be mailed directly to your home within days. Applications will be accepted until the end of February 2021.

WINTER BREAK...

A reminder that schools close for Winter Break after dismissal on Friday, December 18. We welcome students back on Monday, January 4, 2021.

