

# HAMMOND NEWS

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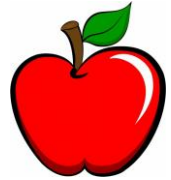
Principal: Mr. Wes Reamsbottom  
Vice Principal: Ms. Megan Olynyk

Newsletter #1 - September 15, 2021

*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.*

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Welcome back to another exciting year at Hammond! I had the opportunity to look into every class and I am excited to see students already settling into their rooms with their peers! Thank you to the staff for a great start up and I am excited for a great year at Hammond. Though we are still in a pandemic, I am excited that we are able to have sports, music and extra-curricular activities return and I hope this year affords our students an opportunity to learn and grow academically, socially and athletically. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please come in and see us. Ms. Olynyk and I are outside before school, at recess, lunch and after school as well if you need us for anything.*



*Here's looking forward to a great year!*

### Upcoming Events

Sep 23	STUDENT PHOTO DAY
Sep 30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day - no school for students
Oct 1	Non-Instructional Day - no school for students
Oct 5	World Teacher Day
Oct 11	Thanksgiving - no school
Oct 22	Non Instructional Day

### SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS and CALENDAR...

School newsletters will be sent out via the Parent Portal, and will be posted on our school website. Typically, we send out a newsletter at the end of each month. Included with this newsletter is the bell schedule and 2021/22 school calendar of non-instructional days and holidays, etc. for easy reference. Please be sure to check our monthly newsletters and the school website for any changes or updates throughout the school year, and to read about all the great happenings at Hammond!

### UPCOMING SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS...

- School will be closed for National Truth and Reconciliation Day on **Thursday September 30<sup>th</sup>**;
- There is a Non-Instructional Day on **Friday, October 1st**;
- School will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, **Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**;
- There is a Non-Instructional Day on **Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

### PARENT PORTAL...

If you are not already registered on the SD42 Parent Portal, your son or daughter will be bringing home a linking letter. This letter includes your child's unique ID number and linking key. Once registered the portal will allow parents/guardians to fill out school consent forms, receive announcements, and make secure online payments. **It is essential to register in order to receive and keep updated with school information. All field trip permissions will be via the Parent Portal.** Please take a few minutes to "link up".

## IMPORTANT SCHOOL FORMS...



*Student Information Verification Forms* will be sent home with every student next week. Please be sure to review, make any necessary changes, date and sign the bottom of page 2 and return as soon as possible.

*Medical Alert Forms* - If your child uses an Epipen, or has an existing medical condition that requires medication kept at school, or could require emergency intervention while at school, please make sure you have completed the necessary forms. Proper paperwork is required each September. Thank you.

*Consent forms* - The District has uploaded new consent forms on everyone's parent portal account. Please review these forms and sign them accordingly. They are located on a red top tab button, which will turn green once you have submitted all your forms.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES...

The school supplies this year were a bulk school buy for each teacher. A parent portal form was sent home for payment of \$55. Please send in your child's payment as soon as possible. Thank you!

## ELEMENTARY BAND...

Westview Secondary School offers an Elementary Band program for students in grade 6 and 7. Classes meet twice a week and are FREE. If you think your son or daughter might be interested in learning to play an instrument, please contact Mrs. Jensen at Westview for more information. It's not too late!

## STUDENT PICTURES and RETAKES...

A representative from Photoexpressions Studios will be at Hammond **Thursday, September 23rd** taking student photos.



## SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS...

### Bikes and Scooters

There are a lot more students riding bikes and bringing scooters to schools. It is great to see our students being active. Please ensure that your child is wearing a helmet when they leave home. Students have been asked not to ride them back across the parking lot nor by the busy front entry of our school in the mornings and after school. We ask that they walk their bikes/scooters to the bike racks to lock up.

### Personal Devices

All intermediate classes have been reminded of our expectation around personal devices: Students are not to have these out at recess/lunch nor during instructional time (unless the teacher has allowed and is supervising use). While we recognize many parents want their children to have phones for safety reasons when walking home, there isn't any need for these to be out during the school day. We appreciate your support with this. If you need to contact your child, please call the office.



### Lunches

Please note: There are no utensils, and no microwaves in the school for student use. Please send items that need to be hot in a thermos for your children and remember to send utensils.

### Student absences and lates

We request that you telephone, email [HA\\_reception@sd42.ca](mailto: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. Remember, if we do not hear as to the student's whereabouts, we will be calling to ensure the safety of the absent student. Late students are asked to go directly to class if arriving prior to our morning announcements at 8:40 am. If arriving after 8:40 am, students must check into the office to receive a *Welcome To School* slip before going to classrooms.

### After school arrangements

To minimize phone calls to the office and class disruption, please ensure that your children are aware of lunch and/or after school arrangements when they arrive at school in the morning. We are pleased to be of assistance when unexpected problems arise however we do appreciate your efforts to keep those occurrences minimal. Thank you for your understanding.

### Label personal belongings

It was unbelievable how many clothes and other items were left in the Lost and Found at the end of each term last year. Our Lost & Found area is already filling up. *Please* label all jackets, backpacks, lunch kits, hats, etc. so we can return them to their rightful owners.

### FRUIT & VEGGIE PROGRAM (+MILK)...

The BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program is brought to schools by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation - a non-profit organization dedicated to working to bring BC's agriculture to our students. The Foundation works with local farmers and distributors to bring fresh BC products to students in public schools throughout BC. This program is part of the provincial government's healthy eating initiative. Every other week a fresh fruit or vegetable snack is delivered to the classroom. Students are offered the snack during class time. It is not meant to replace the foods students normally eat at school. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about BC agriculture and good eating habits.

The BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program has expanded to include milk. Like the fruit and vegetable snacks, the milk will be delivered to students. Your child will have the opportunity to enjoy fresh, local 2% milk in their classroom while learning about healthy eating and agriculture. Fortified soy beverage will be available as an alternative.



We wish to thank our fabulous PAC for supporting this program, and thank Mr. Dowler and Laetisha Biles with her helpers, for coordinating and delivering. Please remember to notify the school of any food or milk allergies.

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### PAC NEWS...

**Seeking Volunteers:** We are always looking for new ideas, fundraisers, and especially volunteers! If you are able to volunteer, please email [HammondElemPac@gmail.com](mailto:HammondElemPac@gmail.com) and have your name added to the list. Thank you in advance.

The next PAC meeting will be Oct. 4 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82105841177?pwd=L2lOUm9JdTNUYUZHOVJCMzIeBTQ2QT09>

Meeting ID: 821 0584 1177

Passcode: 398413

There are two Executive meetings that need to be filled: Secretary (taking monthly meeting minutes); and DPAC rep (attend a meeting once a month and report back to PAC. If interested, people can email [hammondelempac@gmail.com](mailto:hammondelempac@gmail.com)

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Purdy's – order forms to go out towards the end of November, pick up date TBD (possibly between Dec 3-9)

Neufeld's order forms will go out middle of October, pick up will be Nov. 9 between 6:00 to 7:00 pm

HOT LUNCH / Fundraising ON-LINE page will be accessible Sept. 20 to register.

Code to register for Hot lunch is **HEHL**

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### MONTESSORI SOCIETY NEWS...

Welcome back to a new school year! We would like to give a warm welcome to our new K/1 Teachers, Ms. Tyne and Ms. Brown!

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## SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS...

**StrongStart:** School District #42 provides eight StrongStart Centres, situated across the district and funded by BC's Ministry of Education. StrongStart centres are parent-participation, drop-in programs offering opportunities for preschoolers to engage in play-based activities with other children and adults. Everyone joins our facilitators in story, song, gym and sharing times and interacts socially with new friends and neighbours. Parents and caregivers have opportunities to meet other parents and to share and support their children's early learning experiences. Our centres are situated in the following Elementary Schools: *Blue Mountain, Davie Jones, Eric Langton, Fairview, Glenwood, Hammond, Harry Hooge and Highland Park*. Centres are open Monday to Friday unless schools are closed for holidays or non-instructional days, and are free for children 0 to five. Come and join the fun! You can pre-register by emailing the Strong Start Co-ordinator [sarah\\_neider@sd42.ca](mailto:sarah_neider@sd42.ca). For more information, please go to [www.sd42.ca](http://www.sd42.ca) or call 604-463-4200.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS...

**Active Kids Club:** This is an after-school program offered by the Maple Ridge Parks and Recreation to children in K to Grade 7. The program is currently available at Hammond Elementary. Registration packages are available at [www.mapleridge.ca/parksandrec](http://www.mapleridge.ca/parksandrec).

## School Safety Notification System

The Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District has updated its *School Safety Notification System* in collaboration with the Ridge Meadows RCMP. The revised notification system follows provincial recommendations and covers the six following scenarios:



**Drop, Cover, and Hold** – Used in the event of an earthquake, explosion, or any event that shakes the school.



**Hold and Secure** – Used when there is a security concern, such as a police incident, in the neighbourhood of the school.



**Lockdown** – Used to prevent intruders from entering occupied areas of the school, or in times when it is necessary to isolate students and staff from a danger outside or within the building.



**Shelter in Place** – Used as a short-term measure to protect students and staff from potential dangers outside the school (e.g. environmental weather-related emergencies, dangerous wild animals on school grounds, or a missing child).



**Room Clear** – Used to move people away from a hazard contained in one room/area.

You can find more information about the revised *School Safety Notification System* on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/school-safety-notification/>



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## 2021 - 2022 School Calendar

School Opening Day for Students (11:00 am dismissal) .....	Tuesday, September 7, 2021
National Truth and Reconciliation Day.....	Thursday, September 30, 2021
Non-Instructional Day .....	Friday, October 1, 2021
Thanksgiving Day Stat .....	Monday, October 11, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (province-wide) .....	Friday, October 22, 2021
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am dismissal).....	Tuesday, November 30, 2021
Conferencing Day .....	Wednesday, December 1, 2021
Remembrance Day Stat .....	Thursday, November 11, 2021
Non-Instructional Day (district based) .....	Friday, November 12, 2021
Christmas Concert – am .....	Wednesday December 15, 2021
Christmas Concert – pm .....	Thursday, December 16, 2021
Last day before Winter Vacation .....	Friday, December 17, 2021
Winter Vacation .....	Monday, December 20 to Friday, December 31, 2021
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation.....	Tuesday, January 4, 2022
Non-Instructional Day (school based).....	Monday, January 24, 2022
Family Day Stat .....	Monday, February 21, 2022
Non-Instructional Day (school based) .....	Tuesday, February 22, 2022
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am).....	Thursday, March 10, 2022
Conferencing Day .....	Friday, March 11, 2022
Schools Not in Session.....	Monday, March 14 to Friday, March 18, 2022
Spring Break.....	Monday, March 21 to Friday, March 25, 2022
Schools reopen after Spring Break .....	Monday, March 28, 2022
Good Friday .....	Friday, April 15, 2022
Easter Monday .....	Monday, April 18, 2022
Non-Instructional Day (district based) .....	Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Victoria Day .....	Monday, May 23, 2022
Last Day for Students (12:00 pm dismissal).....	Wednesday, June 29, 2022
Year-end Administrative Day .....	Thursday, June 30, 2022
Schools Close for Summer Vacation .....	Friday, July 1, 2022

SCHOOL HOURS & BELL SCHEDULE	
Warning Bell:	8:25 am
Classes Begin:	8:30 am
Recess:	10:20 – 10:35 am
Lunch:	11:50 - 12:30 pm
Classes Dismissed:	2:25 pm

