

# HAMMOND NEWS

11520 - 203rd Street, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 4T6  
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Principal: Mr. Adam Stanley  
Vice Principal: Ms. Hannah Baerg

Newsletter #1 -December 12, 2023

## 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.*

*Hello Hammond Families,*

*We are in the busiest month of the year and coming to the end of the longest term. While it is no winter wonderland outside, the calendar is packed with seasonal activities.*

*On Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> we have the PAC Winter Market from 10:00am-1:00pm, which is a great place to pick up unique gifts for those people who are hard to buy for. Coming up soon is the Christmas Concert, at 1:00pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> for even division families and 9:00am on the 21<sup>st</sup> for odd division families. It is split up this way so that we can hold such events while staying under the fire department capacity for the gym.*

*As always, we are grateful to our PAC for all of their support. Most of the events that are most memorable happen because of the constant commitment of our parent planners and volunteers. Wishing you all the very best for a safe and happy holiday season,*

*All of us at Hammond*

### Upcoming Events

Dec 11-13	Book Fair in Library
Dec 18	Spirit Day - Holiday Headwear
Dec 19	Spirit Day - Ugly Holiday Sweater
Dec 20	Spirit Day - Pick your own Christmas concert - 1:00 pm Even divisions
Dec 21	Spirit Day - Red and Green Christmas Concert - 9:00 am Odd divisions
Dec 22	Spirit Day - Pajama Day! Last Day before Winter Break
Jan 3	Schools Reopen after Winter Break
Jan 10	Montessori Info Night 6:30 pm in Library
Jan 24	Non Instructional Day - No classes
Feb 19	Family Day Holiday
Feb 20	Pro D Day

## CALENDAR ITEMS...

- A reminder schools close for Winter Break after dismissal at 2:20 pm on Friday, December 22. We welcome students back on Monday, January 8, 2024.
- On Monday, January 24, 2024 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/>

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE REMINDER...

Just a friendly reminder 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 before the start of the school day. There is an answering machine to take your messages if calling after hours or early in the morning. Thank you.

## 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.

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE FIRE LANE EVER, LIKE NEVER!!**. Cars parked there block views for children crossing and is meant for **EMERGENCY VEHICLES ONLY**.

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 the week before Winter Break. The Spirit days are as follows:

Monday, Dec 18 - Holiday Headwear

Tuesday, Dec 19 - Ugly Holiday Sweater

Wednesday, Dec 20 - Pick your own holiday theme

Thursday, Dec 21 - Red and Green Day

Friday, Dec 22 - Pajama Day

## DRESS FOR THE WEATHER...

As the weather is extremely rainy this year, 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**.



## HAMMOND ELEMENTARY WINTER CONCERTS...

Students are practicing daily for their performances and are stoked to perform for family and friends! We will hold the Winter Concerts on 2 days -

Wednesday, December 21, 2023 at 1:00 pm for families of Even Divisions

Thursday, December 22, 2023 at 9:00 am for families of Odd Divisions



The PAC will be selling 50/50 tickets at the Winter Concerts so bring lots of cash! They will be selling for 1 for \$2 or 10 for \$10.

## PAC NEWS ...

PAC would like to thank all of the volunteers who help with all of the various events. Hot lunch/treat days and the pumpkin patch have been successful thus far this year and they could not be done without volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering for future events please email [hammondelempac@gmail.com](mailto:hammondelempac@gmail.com).

Our monthly meetings are held via Zoom on the first Monday of each month. In the case that the first Monday is a holiday we will send out notice of the date change. You can access these meetings by joining Zoom with Meeting ID: 812 8481 2579 and Passcode: 495397. All parents/guardians of registered students at Hammond Elementary are automatically PAC members and encouraged to attend meetings to discuss/vote on various events/issues pertaining to the education of the kids.

## MONTESSORI NEWS....

There will be an Information Night on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:30 pm in the library. This is for any new families that are considering the Montessori Program for their child.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS...

Registration for kindergarten begins **January 9, 2024**. 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.
- **STEP 3: REVIEW THE REGISTRATION FORM** Review a copy of the online registration form before registration day. (Available starting January 2024 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 9, 2024

Kindergarten registration for the 2024/25 school year is open to children who are 5 years old on or before December 31, 2024. 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 9-13: Sibling Registration.** Open for siblings of students already attending the desired elementary school (currently in grades K-6).

**JAN 10: Enviro Registration.** Open for all students who want to participate in SD42's Environmental School.

**JAN 17-22: Choice Registration.** Open for all students who want to participate in any one of SD42's unique program offerings (e.g. French Immersion, Montessori).

**JAN 31- FEB 6: General Registration.** General registration for English school.

**FEB 21-July 27: 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\*\***

### **Dogs on the Property:**

Technically, dogs are not allowed on the school property during the school day and the perimeter of the property is signposted as such. While we all love our pets, we can't expect that everyone else will. Please remember that many of our students have limited experience with animals and do not know how to react to them, and others may be afraid. Small children and dogs are both unpredictable, and it is best that they learn to socialize somewhere other than the crowded and noisy environment around the school.

We recognize that people walk their dogs on school property after school hours, but please pick up after them.

### **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](http://www.sd42.ca)).

#### **WINTER BREAK...**

A reminder that schools close for Winter Break after dismissal of 2:20 pm on Friday, December 22nd. We welcome students back on Monday, January 8, 2024.





# Hammond Elementary

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## 2023 - 2024 School Calendar

School Opening Day for Students (late start 12:30 pm-2:20 pm)	Tuesday, September 5, 2023
National Truth and Reconciliation Day	Monday, October 2, 2023
Non-Instructional Day (School Growth Planning Day)	Tuesday, October 3, 2023
Thanksgiving Day Stat	Monday, October 9, 2023
Non-Instructional Day (province-wide)	Friday, October 20, 2023
Non-Instructional Day (school-based)	Friday, November 10, 2023
Remembrance Day Stat	Monday, November 13, 2023
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am dismissal)	Thursday, December 7, 2023
Conferencing Day (no classes)	Friday, December 8, 2023
Last day before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 22, 2023
Winter Vacation	Monday, December 25 to Friday, January 5, 2024
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8, 2024
Non-Instructional Day (district based)	Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Family Day Stat	Monday, February 19, 2024
Non-Instructional Day (school based)	Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Early Dismissal for Conferencing (11:30 am)	Thursday, March 14, 2024
Conferencing Day (no classes)	Friday, March 15, 2024
Schools Not in Session	Monday, March 18 to Friday, March 22, 2024
Spring Break	Monday, March 25 to Thursday, March 28, 2024
Good Friday	Friday, March 29, 2024
Easter Monday	Monday, April 1, 2024
Schools reopen after Spring Break	Monday, April 2, 2024
Non-Instructional Day (district based)	Wednesday, May 15, 2024
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2024
Last Day for Students (12:00 pm dismissal)	Tuesday, June 25, 2024
Year-end Administrative Day	Wednesday, June 26, 2024
Schools Close for Summer Vacation	Wednesday, June 26, 2024

### SCHOOL HOURS & BELL SCHEDULE

Warning Bell:	8:25 am
Classes Begin:	8:30 am
Recess:	10:20 – 10:35 am
Lunch:	12:00 - 12:40 pm
Classes Dismissed:	2:20 pm



