

Mr. Darryl Unger, Principal

December 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **Snow Days – What To Expect**



As we approach the winter season the school would like to remind you about the district Inclement Weather policy. The Richmond School District has developed a “Snow Policy” that ensures all schools will be open unless snow or other weather conditions reach the level of civic emergency (a very rare occurrence) or there is damage or other circumstances (e.g., power outage) at a particular school that makes it impossible to operate safely.

Staff, students and parents should assume that schools will be open. Should it become necessary to close schools, that decision will be made as early as possible, and no later than 6:00 a.m. Closures will be announced on local radio and television stations as well as the school district website.

Students are encouraged to attend school on a snow day. However, it is understood that some students travel to school in ways that may not be possible or safe on a snow day. Therefore, no student will be penalized for lack of attendance. Student safety is the first priority of the District.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for their children’s safe travel to school on a snow day. If, for any reason, a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school they should make other arrangements. Schools will be kept open to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend is the responsibility of each family.

Special needs school busses will attempt to operate on their normal schedule during a snow day. Significant changes to the regular bus schedule as a result of weather conditions will be reported on the district web site(www.sd38.bc.ca). Should the condition of side streets require a change to the operation of special needs school busses, or any cancellation of service, all affected families will be informed individually by telephone.



**Volleyball:** Our Gr. 6 & 7 volleyball team had a great time learning new skills and strategies. We played a number of local school teams and got to meet students from other schools. Our students worked really hard to improve their skills and played some exciting games. Thank you to the parents and teachers who were able to help with transportation.

**Christmas Raffle:** From Nov. 28 – Dec. 16 we will be selling Christmas raffle tickets. The front display case is filling up with many wonderful prizes. Tickets are 25¢ each or 5 for \$1.00. All proceeds to the Richmond Food Bank and BC Children’s Hospital. If you are able to make a donation to the raffle please drop it off at the office. The more prizes we have the more fun it is for the students. Movie passes, gift certificates, games and toys are great donations.



**Food Bank:** Tomsett will be collecting canned and non-perishable items for the food bank. Items can be dropped off in the front hallway until Dec. 14th. Any cash donations for the Food Bank can be left at the office.



**Winter Performance:** Our Winter Performance will be on December 7. Doors open at 6:00pm and performance at 6:30pm. Please come and enjoy the performance coordinated by Cathy Silverberg and performed by our school.

**Leave of Absence:** Each year we receive numerous requests from parents to grant leaves of absence for students. Just a reminder of the District Policy: If a student is away from school for non-medical reasons for more than 4 weeks (not including statutory holidays) they will be removed from the school register. When they return they will have to re-register and possibly be required to have an ELL assessment at the School Board office (if they are an ELL student).

If you are going on an extended trip please be sure to fill out a Leave of Absence form at the office indicating your return date.

**PAC Direct Donations:** The Tomsett PAC would like to thank all families who were able to make a donation to the “Direct Donation” Campaign this past month. The cheques and cash have been forwarded to the Richmond School Board office. Income Tax Receipts will be generated by the School Board and will be forwarded to you from the Tomsett office. Parents and families can take advantage of making a Direct Donation to the Tomsett PAC at any time of the year. Any donations made up to December 31 can be claimed on 2016 Personal Income Tax.



**School Cash Online:** To make paying school fees easier, Richmond school district is now accepting online payments. School Cash Online allows parents and community members to pay school-related fees online safely, quickly and easily. With School Cash Online, you can purchase items like spirit wear, lunches, and field trips. Anytime, anywhere. Please visit the Tomsett school website for the link and sign up! <http://tomsett.sd38.bc.ca>



For more information please visit <https://richmondsd38.schoolcashonline.com>

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Principal