Mission Statement

Confederation Park seeks to enhance the learning of students by offering a variety of opportunities within the performing and visual arts. It is our belief that the integration of the arts into all facets of education teaches students to recognize and appreciate diversity. Confederation Park acknowledges the importance of physical education and academic excellence. It is integral to any school that the curriculum is wholly valued and celebrated. Valuing differences, strengths, and places for further growth is encouraged as a means to develop personal success and empathy within the school population. The arts provide a visual, aural and physical venue in which to strengthen learning, promote success and to respect a multitude of perspectives. It is within this sphere that we are able to travel into the larger world and become a positive force within society.

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Happy March, everyone! We have had another busy month with many creative and inspiring opportunities for our students to learn. Students have been involved in many activities including: extra-curricular basketball, hockey, and intermediate book club; projects such as Electricity, Living Things, and First Peoples in Canada, and participating in film-making (school-wide) to prepare for our upcoming Film Festival in April. Learning through arts-based projects continues to lead our planning and designing of learning opportunities at Confederation Park, and continues to support our students creatively as they connect to curriculum.
Staff are continuing with conversations around a **Growth Mindset**. In Dance, for example, students are creating dances with focus on this concept. They have been asked to find music that supports this area of growth and create a narrative through dance which allows the Growth Mindset to come alive through creative expression. We are also making Growth Mindset our themes for our upcoming Film Festival so we look forward to seeing how this is represented through film.

The Growth Mindset is also visible through other means of expression such as art, writing and many conversations which take place alongside students as they complete various curriculum activities. Our on-going belief in our students as competent, creative, problem-solving learners is supported through this mindset. This allows us to see learning as a journey where mistakes are seen not as obstacles to learning but as opportunities to learn more, to inspire us to take on new challenges, and realize that time and effort are big factors in our success. As Carol Dueck states, “Effort is one of those things that gives meaning to life. Effort means you care about something, that something is important to you and you are willing work for it.”
By Samantha Lane, Division 7

As we approach our Spring Break and look back on the last two terms of this year, we are very proud of what we have accomplished. We are proud of the knowledge our students have acquired, their growing understanding of various concepts, and the skills that they have developed. It is inspiring to walk amongst teachers and students as they work, share their ideas and creatively combine their understanding through artistic processes. It is a good reminder of the way in which our school philosophy drives, encourages, and supports the creative learning opportunities that inspire our students to learn, grow, and believe in themselves as competent, creative beings. A big thank you to our staff, students and parents who continue to support our philosophy and our learners in this way.

Wishing you all a very happy Spring Break!

Yours sincerely,

Helena Readman

Student-Led Conferences

Our Student-Led Conferences will be taking place for Intermediate classes (Division 1-5) on Thursday, March 2nd from 3:15-7:00. See teacher notices for details regarding your child’s class.

Student-Led Conferences are a way of celebrating student work that encourages our students to lead. Students will accompany their parents to this evening and share their work alongside other families who will be visiting at the same time. This is not a time to privately conference with your child’s teacher but a time to share in the experience of looking through your child’s work, listening to them and asking guiding questions as they explain how and what they have learned as they have journeyed through various learning processes.

If you wish to meet with your child’s teacher privately, please connect with them and arrange a convenient time outside of these conference times. We look forward to seeing you and your child at these evening events.

Please note that, due to the late evening times, we have one late start for the whole school on the morning of Friday, March 3rd. We will start school at 9:50 on this day.
**Screenagers**

There are a few screenings of the film *Screenagers* coming up around Vancouver in the next few months if anyone is interested. This film deals with the challenges many of us have with managing electronic devices effectively with our kids. The film has had very good reviews so far. Next week, there is a showing on Wednesday March 8th at the Rio theatre: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fraser-academy-presents-screenagers-growing-up-in-the-digital-age-tickets-31849915956?aff=erelexpmlt](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fraser-academy-presents-screenagers-growing-up-in-the-digital-age-tickets-31849915956?aff=erelexpmlt)

Other showings in the Vancouver area are:

- **April 20th at Irwin Park School, West Vancouver**
- **June 5th at Madrona School, Vancouver**

Please contact these schools for further information.

**Spring Break Dates**

Last school day for students before Spring Break is **Friday, March 10th**. We have two weeks of Spring Break and return to school on **Monday, March 27th**.

**Gardening Club**

Both Rachel Yensen and Tammy Vigliotti were busy in our garden over the past week, weeding and organizing the beds for new plant growth. They had many student helpers who put on gardening gloves and helped to prepare the soil for our upcoming spring season. Many thanks to Rachel for organizing this!

**Electronics**

Just a reminder that use of electronic devices (including cell phones) is not permitted during the school day for connecting socially with others. If a teacher, however, gives consent to use a device as a translator or a calculator in math, for example, this will be permitted. Please see your child’s teacher for more information regarding specific use of devices in class if necessary.

**Grade 7 Public Speaking Contest**

Congratulations go to Heloise LeBlanc and David Huang for representing Confederation Park at the Grade 7 Public Speaking Contest last Thursday. The theme was ‘What I Am Most Proud Of’. Both students attended the Speech event at Capitol Hill and spoke clearly and passionately about being proud of their families. Well done, Heloise and David!

**Parking**

Just a reminder to parents to use the large City parking lot on the north-side of the school instead of Pandora Street. Neighbours that reside on Pandora report that many parents are double-parking during drop-off and pick-up times causing congestion. There has also been some damage to front lawns due to drivers reversing into their private space as they leave this area. Whenever possible, therefore, please avoid using Pandora to pick up and drop off your child.

**Parent Coffee Morning**

Thank you to those parents who joined our Parent Coffee Morning on February 14th. This was a great way to share information regarding our school goals of Writing and Social Responsibility/Social Emotional Learning.

During the meeting parents shared their ideas around supporting our learners in school and at home. We also discussed the possible school activities and events which we could consider in order to help our students grow in these areas.
Our school goals are currently:

**Writing:** Students will take greater ownership over the development of their writing by using applied strategies and a growth mindset to improve the quality of their work.

**Social Responsibility/SEL:** Students will take ownership over the use of self-regulatory strategies and behaviours (including language,) to positively contribute to a safe, caring and respectful classroom/school community.

Themes/ideas that were discussed in our conversations were: Workshops for families; motivating activities through the arts to engage learners; buddy activities; using technology; neighbourhood fieldtrips to engage learners in their community; calming stations (as in the one outside our office area.)

There will be another Coffee Morning scheduled for next term. More information to follow after Spring Break.

**Medical Alerts**
We are currently updating our medical alert information at the office. If you have a child who has recently developed a medical condition, please contact the school office so as we can update our information and ensure we have all the necessary paperwork. Medical alerts are typically those with a life-threatening diagnosis such as an anaphylaxis allergy or asthma, for example. Any other medical concerns can be shared with the classroom teacher and you will then be directed to the office to complete paperwork if necessary.

**Outside Clothing**
A reminder to have your child wear appropriate clothing for this time of year. We encourage students to head outside during recess and lunchtimes and this proves difficult when they do not have adequate clothing for our wet and colder temperatures. Hats, scarves, gloves and warm jackets are recommended on really cold days as well as shower-proof jackets on our wet days. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Clubs and Teams**
Our **Basketball** teams wrapped up a successful season with play days at Burnaby North School for both the girls and boys teams. Thank you to our coaches, Ms. Coutts, Mr. Seto and Ms. Parmar, and of course to our hard working basketball players! Thank you for representing Confederation Park so well!

Our **hockey club** continues to run with Mrs. Safarik on Wednesdays at 12:15 with intermediate students.

Mrs. Pesa continues to run the very popular **Card Club** on Tuesdays at lunch. This club is now officially closed as it has reached capacity.

Ms. McKenna also continues to lead the **Green Team** initiative with a group of dedicated students.

Ms. Parmar’s **Book Club** continues to meet on the last Thursday of the month at 8:15.

**Dance Club** has started with Mrs. Ishii on Mondays at 12:15 for intermediate students. These students will work with the genre of “swing dance” this year and prepare to perform at the
District Festival of Dance at Burnaby Mountain Secondary School which runs from May 1 – 3. An exact date will be provided soon.

Continue to check the page “Clubs and Teams” on our school website for more information. The “Clubs and Teams” page can be found under the “School Info” tab on our home page.

Thank you to all our club and team leaders, both staff and parents, for making these opportunities possible for our students.

**Fine Arts:**
Our Intermediate students attended a Young People’s Concert on Monday, February 20th at Michael J. Fox Theatre. The performance was titled “Misatim” by Red Sky Performance. This was the last performance of the Young People’s Concert series for this year. We look forward to next year’s series!

Div. 1 & 2 attended a presentation by the engaging Maestro Bramwell Tovey at Alpha school on Monday, February 20th.

The Anti-Bullying Day Assembly was held on Tuesday, February 21st led by Alex and Annika. It was a wonderful event filled with meaningful presentations from many of our classes and staff!

Primary Days of Music will be held at our school on March 9th in the afternoon. This district event is for grades 2 and 3 students. It will be an afternoon full of shared singing and individual performances!

*** Save the date!!
Confederation Park School invites you to our first ever ‘Film Festival’. This red carpet event will be held on **Tuesday, April 11th and Wednesday, April 12th in the evening**. Stay tuned for further details.

**Registration for 2017-18**

Last month was registration time in our school district. If you have a child entering Kindergarten next fall and have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible as we will shortly be starting to organize for next year.

**PAC NEWS**

**CONTENT. CURRICULAR COMPETENCIES. BIG IDEAS. OH MY!!**

BC has a revised curriculum which has begun to be gradually implemented this year. Many parents are concerned about what this will mean for their child. What will change? Will all learning be personalized? Will this way of learning suit my child? How do the key components of content, curricular competencies and big ideas support deeper learning?

BCTF representative Mary Loblaw will answer these questions, and more, for Confed parents on **Wednesday, March 29th at 7 p.m.**

The 90 minute “So we have a revised curriculum: What does this mean for my child” presentation will explore elements of the new curriculum, comparing the past curriculum with the revised curriculum, and highlighting the ways that parents can support their children’s learning. Mark it on your calendar and be sure to attend.

(Thank you to all of the parents who responded to the PAC survey regarding topics of interest. This session is in response to your input.)
HIPPITY HOPPITY EASTER’S ON ITS WAY!
Purchase your Easter chocolates from Purdy’s Chocolatier as part of our group and raise money for Confederation Park Elementary School. Prices are regular retail prices but 25% of each purchase will go to ConfedPAC to be used towards school projects and activities. Information packages with instructions will be sent home next week and orders must be placed online by Friday, March 28th, 2017. All orders will be available for pick up on Wednesday, April 5th in the school library. Chocolates will be packaged in an opaque Purdy’s bag and stapled shut so little eyes can’t see what the Easter Bunny is bringing. If you have any questions or would like to help out packaging orders, please contact Anita Siu at purdys-fundraising@confedpac.ca.

HOT LUNCH – SPRING SESSION
Ordering for the Spring Hot Lunch Session will commence following March Break. Watch for information to be sent home the week of March 27th. Online orders will be due by Thursday, April 6th and with the first lunch being delivered on April 13th.

APRIL ORDERS BRING MAY FLOWERS
Confederation Park is gearing up for its annual Spring Plant Sale. Once again we will be offering a variety of high quality, gorgeous hanging baskets and flats of bedding plants as well as herbs, tomatoes and a few new items. Complete information and order forms will be distributed at the end of March. Orders will be due mid April with plants being delivered Friday, May 12th just in time for Mother’s Day.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR NEEDED
We are still looking for a coordinator(or two) to take on the duties of the Emergency Preparedness Kiosk. Duties include:

- At the beginning of each school year, sorting supplies based on class lists
- Ensuring perishables are up to date and when necessary, purchasing new supplies and replacing them
- Working with the Principal and Staff during the planning/implementation of special emergency drills (as needed)

This is an extremely important program and the position needs to be filled as soon as possible to ensure the Kiosk is ready if ever needed.

If you have questions, or would like further information, please contact chair@confedpac.ca

HELP US FILL THE PAGES!
Have you gone on a class field trip this year? Helped in the classroom on a special project? Cheered on your child at a sporting event? Attended a school wide community gathering? Have you captured any of these moments on your phone or cameras?

The 2016/17 Confederation Park Memory Book is under development and our aim is have every child represented in the book.

In addition to sections for sports, clubs and school events, each class will have a page dedicated to candid photos taken of them throughout the year.
We need the help of Confederation Park parents to fill up these pages.

We need your photos! They do not have to be “professional quality” – snap shots are perfect! They are memories and that is what the book is all about.

Please send your photos to memory-book@confedpac.ca and add a quick note if the images show a particular place or event as well as the Division number.

DIGGING IN THE DIRT

We are pleased to announce the Garden Club will once again be beautifying our lovely garden at the front of the school. Past parent coordinator Tammy Cline has past the trowel onto Rachel Yensen who is eagerly making plans for the spring clean-up and planting.

The Garden Club is one of the few school clubs open to all grades, K – 7. The children gather on a regular basis to pull weeds, spread new dirt and cover the beds with mulch, plant and water, as well as develop friendships and have fun.

More information and registration forms will with be available after the break.

STAY INFORMED. STAY CONNECTED.

Things are constantly changing so stay in touch! Check us out by joining our closed Facebook group or visiting our website.

PAC Website: http://confedpac.ca
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/confedpac/

Community Announcements

Burnaby Baseball Association

youth baseball programs for boys and girls between 4 and 18 years of age

Registration open for 2017 season.
For additional information or to register online visit www.burnabybaseball.com

www.burnabybaseball.com
Burnaby Neighbourhood House 
Invites you to Celebrate 
Our New Home!

BNH North House 
Grand Opening Celebration

Date:     Friday, March 10, 2017
Time:     2:00pm - 6:00pm
Address:  4908 Hastings Street, Burnaby

Drop in for a tour, refreshments, 
kid friendly activities, program displays 
and meet who’s living and working 
in the neighbourhood!

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 4:00pm

RSVP by: Thursday, March 9th 
email: simoneb@burnabynh.ca

For more information: 604.294.5444
March Break Camps

March 13 to 17
Art & Cooking (grades K to 2)
Coding & Robotics Camp (grades 3 to 7)

March 20 to 24
MakerKids (grades K to 2)
Coding & Robotics Camp (grades 3 to 7)

Pro-D Day Camp

April 24
Electricity Camp (grades K to 5)
Coding & Robotics Camp (grades 3 to 7)

Location: 109 - 3701 Hastings Street, Burnaby
For More Information, please go to www.believeinyourchild.org

As BC certified teachers and parents, we are a non-profit foundation committed to helping raise, educate and empower children. The competencies below are our guiding principles which we weave into our programs covering topics from science to dance, from coding to painting: Creative Thinking; Personal, Social & Emotional Health; Critical Thinking; Communication. Through STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Art Math) programs, we strive to stimulate and develop all aspects of the minds of our learners. Our program has been developed by experienced, BC certified teachers and experienced academic leaders to complement the new BC Curriculum.
## March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Student Led Conferences (3:15-7:00pm) (Gr. 4-7’s)</td>
<td>Late start for everyone, 9:50am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hot Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gr. 7 Public Speaking District Finals Div. 3 &amp; 4 Field trip to Vancouver Aquarium</td>
<td></td>
<td>Primary Days of Music, pm @Confed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bake Sale hosted by Div. 1 Div. 10 to McGill Library, 1:00 pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First day back to school Div. 1 &amp; 2 Art Project in class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>