

THE QUADRA WEEKLY BRIEFING

Dear Quadra Community,

Parent/teacher meetings have been the topic of the week and many productive exchanges have taken place with more to come this afternoon/evening. Thanks for your patience as we moved toward yet another online platform to facilitate these meetings and kudos to Jen Palmer and Meagan Ridsdale, our fantastic office team, for all their hard work navigating us through this process.

A repeat from last week but still highly relevant: **Important info: Parking lots and our neighbours:** *By necessity, last year we had to use the door we labelled as H as a student entrance. This door is right off the gym and leads out to our smaller parking lot off Finlayson. Last year, we chained this area off and re-designated the maintenance staff parking spot to our other parking lot as students needed to walk through the parking lot to get to their entry door (H). As we no longer are running a cohort system, we don't require the use of this door this year and have removed the (H) from the door. The parking lot is once again a very active area with District maintenance staff coming and going from morning to end of day. Our admin team occasionally has to leave the building for offsite meetings as well. Students are being retrained to avoid travel through this parking lot. To help us with this, we are asking that parents not use this parking lot as a walkway to drop off or pick up their children. Supervision staff, in the last few weeks, have been gently asking parents to avoid this area. All most all such requests have been received respectfully but several parents have been quite upset. Please understand that safety is our primary concern and walking through either of our two parking lots with or without children is not an example of safe practice.*

NEW Quote for the week:



Looking Ahead:

- **Oct 22**
 - Pro-D – No school for students
- Nov 1-5
 - School-Wide Write
- Nov 2
 - PAC Meeting 7pm
- **Nov 5**
 - Photo Re-take Day
- **Nov 11**
 - Remembrance Day – No School
- **Nov 12**
 - Pro-D – No school for students

From Our Wonderful PAC:

As a reminder our next PAC meeting is being held on Tuesday, November 2 at 7 PM, everyone is welcome to attend.

From Our School District:

The Greater Victoria School District is considering the sale of 1.9 acres of land at Lansdowne Middle School - South Campus to the Victoria Hospice Society. We wish to provide you with additional information and an opportunity to share your input.

Please see the following letter from our Interim Superintendent, Deb Whitten for more details:

Greater Victoria School District Seeks Input on School Police Liaison Officer Program

VICTORIA, BC – The Greater Victoria School District is reviewing the School Police Liaison Officer (SPLO) Program. The District is asking for feedback from all members of the learning community through a survey to gather input on people’s perspectives and experiences with the program.

In September 2020, the Board of Education passed a motion to form a committee to review the SPLO Program. The committee represents students, parents and guardians, key stakeholders, Indigenous groups, police officers, senior administration and trustees.

Over the last year, the committee has participated in educational learning opportunities on anti-racism and culturally committed approaches. The committee hosted a speaker series informed by school

communities and members of the public about their interactions with the SPLO program, including the collection of written and recorded submissions that could be shared with the committee to review.

As part of the next steps, the District wants to hear from the community about the future direction of the SPLO Program, including individual experiences and perspectives. The results of the survey will inform recommendations for the Board's consideration by spring 2022.

"The Board is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment for all of our students and staff," said Ann Whiteaker, Board Chair. "We are working hard to understand how best to move forward with the program to meet the needs of our diverse community, in partnership with the policing community. It is important we hear the perspectives and experiences of our learning community and encourage participation in this survey on the SPLO Program."

For more than 30 years, police liaison officers from multiple departments have served as resources to District schools. They assist with education and drug prevention, school safety drills, community and sports events, and addressing school violence. Currently, there are 12 police liaison officer positions serving elementary, middle and secondary schools in the District.

The survey is open for two weeks. It will close on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 4 p.m.

SURVEY: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SD61-SPLO-Program>

Have a Wonderful, Safe Weekend,
Connor McCoy
Principal