

QMS Weekly Newsletter



September 11, 2026

QMS Tsunami

Queensborough Middle School

Important Dates

September 14	French and Punjabi classes begin
September 14	QCC Drop-in begins at QMS (3:15-5:15 p.m.)
September 15	Exploratory Rotation #1 begins for students in grades 6, 7 & 8
September 16	Advanced band classes begin at 7:30 a.m.
September 17	Fire Drill
September 18	Welcome Back Assembly in Gym (2:00 p.m.)
September 21	Reconciliation Week
September 21	Fuel Up Lunch Program begins for participating students
September 22	Artona Photo Day: morning only
September 22	QMS Band Parent info meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Music Room
September 22	PAC (Parent Advisory Council) meeting 7:00 p.m. in the Library— TBC
September 25	Professional Development Day Students do not attend
September 29	Beginner band classes begin at 7:30 a.m.
September 29	Orange Shirt Day
September 30	National Day of Truth and Reconciliation School closed
October 2	Terry Fox Run Approx. 1:00 p.m. Volunteers needed

Welcome to the following new staff members:

- ♦ Ms. Lamasan - Vice Principal
- ♦ Ms. Escobedo Garcia (Foster) - Gr. 8 Teacher
- ♦ Mr. Hett - Gr. 6/7 Teacher
- ♦ Ms. Deitcher - Gr. 5 Teacher
- ♦ Mr. Nicholl - Music Teacher
- ♦ Carey Mercer - Resource Teacher
- ♦ Ms. Helmich - Counsellor
- ♦ Ms. Ahmad - ELL Teacher
- ♦ Leanne Wayner - Child & Youth Care Worker



Principal's Message:

Welcome to all our students and families as we begin the 2026-2027 school year! We hope you all had a fun and restful summer and are looking forward to the year ahead.

QMS is growing again! We are welcoming a few new staff members and our office staff has been busy with new student registrations. We currently have **416** students divided among **16** divisions. **Almost all our classes are full, and have no room to move students into.** In June our staff worked very hard to make the best decisions for every class placement, and students are now settled into their classes. It often takes some time for students to adjust to a new environment, routines and new classmates — which is all part of the middle school experience. We appreciate your support and cooperation in reassuring your child that change (which comes with a new school year) brings fresh opportunities for students to learn and grow, build resilience, and create new friendships.

During the last week of August, QMS staff met for two productive Professional Development Days. During this time we explored themes including enhancing the student experience, school community, culture, and school growth plan. This year our school goal will continue to focus on numeracy and literacy.

We invite families to take an active interest in the school and their child's progress. A strong connection between home and school is key to optimizing each student's success. Your involvement matters - please consider participating in school activities. Parents/guardians are invited to attend the first PAC meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. (Library) to find out about how you can be involved in our wonderful QMS community. We will confirm the date/time for the meeting soon.

Ms. Lamasan and I are looking forward to getting to know our new students, and learning together with all our staff, students and families this year. Please remember that classes begin at 8:34 a.m. (not 8:36 a.m.).

Enjoy your Sunday!

John Lekakis
QMS Principal



Upcoming Events and Reminders:

Terry Fox Run

Our Terry Fox Run is scheduled for **Friday, October 2** (after lunch). We need volunteers to take up posts along the route. If you are able to help, please email our QMS PAC at: qmspac2013@gmail.com



Breakfast Program begins September 22: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Students can enjoy a delicious and nutritious breakfast in the Foods Room every Tuesday & Friday morning (between 8:00-8:30 am) for only 50 cents.



If you would like to volunteer (one hour commitment) please email our PAC Chair at qmspac2013@gmail.com

Thank you to our community volunteers for providing this wonderful program to our students!

QMS Band:

Any Grade 5-8 students interested in joining the QMS Band program, please let Ms. Stephen know. QMS Band sign-up forms can be picked up at the office. There will be a QMS Band parent info meeting on Tuesday, September 22 at 6 p.m. in Music Room.



Leaving School at Lunchtime

We have a closed campus at QMS.



We ask that students stay at school and not leave the school property and the adjacent park during lunchtime between 11:55 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

Students may go home for lunch **only** if they have a permission form signed by their parent or guardian.

This form must be completed each year and is available at the office. **Please ask!** This form is for going home, not for visiting the Community Centre or a store.



QMS Learning Goal for 2026.2027

For the upcoming school year, our staff is once again engaging in professional learning in the areas of numeracy and literacy. For the prior three years our school goal focused on developing the five SEL competencies with our students: self-awareness, self-management, relationship skills, social awareness and responsible decision-making. Stay tuned for more updates on our school learning plan.



Student Planners:

The planner is a powerful organizational tool for students and an important means of communication between parents and teachers.



Students are expected to write homework assignments in their planners each day, and we ask that parents sign the planner each evening. The cost of the planner is \$10 and can be purchased through School Cash Online.

Reporting Student Absences:

Call or email Queensborough Middle School at:

604-517-6040

Email: queensborough@sd40.bc.ca

Please notify the school by **9:00 a.m.** if you know your child will be absent or late for school. You may leave a phone message (please include your child's name and division #) at the school anytime of the day or night.

Please cut this out and put it on your fridge!

School Routines and Expectations:

School Mission:

At Queensborough Middle School we are dedicated to working together within a safe, caring, respectful learning environment to enable all students to reach their full potential as life-long learners and contributing global citizens.

QMS Values:

At Queensborough Middle School we value:

- ♦ respect for ourselves and others
- ♦ respect for learning
- ♦ respect for the environment

MISSION



VISION



VALUES



QMS Vision:

- ♦ Our vision is that our students reach their full potential as caring, self-motivated people with good self-esteem and high standards.
- ♦ Our students are preparing to be contributing members of the global community through the development of life-long learning skills.
- ♦ Our local community is important to us and we are working together to share resources and develop appreciation of our heritage and history.

Reminders About the School Timetable:

- The first bell rings at **8:31 a.m.** Students may enter the school at **8:25 a.m.** (There is no supervision from staff members before or after school.)
- Nutrition Break is from **10:25 to 10:40 a.m.** (Students are encouraged to bring healthy snacks **and** dress for the weather as we are outside most days.)
- Lunch is at **11:55 to 12:45 p.m.** Students play outside first and come inside to eat their lunch at **12:25 p.m.**
- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school.
- Students are dismissed at **3:00 p.m.**

Bell Schedule

8:31 a.m.	Welcoming Bell
8:34 a.m.	CHAT begins
8:40 a.m.	Morning classes begin
10:10 a.m.	Nutrition Break/recess
10:25 a.m.	Morning classes continue
11:55 a.m.	Lunch begins (outside)
12:25 p.m.	Students inside to eat
12:45 p.m.	Afternoon classes begin
3:00 p.m.	Dismissal

Bell Schedule

Youth Drop In Is Back! **Starts on Monday, Sept. 8**

The first day of Youth Drop-In is on Monday, September 8th. Drop-in occurs on Monday and Wednesdays from 3:15pm-5:15pm and Fridays from 3:15pm-9:00pm. Fridays include dinner. Open to all grades 6-8 students.

Visit www.newwestyouth.ca or email Val at: vmckinnon@newwestcity.ca



The Fall schedule will be:

MONDAY: Drop-In from 3:15-5:15pm at QMS

TUESDAY: Piping Hot Tea from 6:00 – 8:00pm at QCC. Table Tennis from 6:00-9:00pm at QCC.

WEDNESDAY: Drop-In from 3:15-5:15pm at QMS

THURSDAY: Chill Vibes Music Lounge from 6:00 – 7:30pm at QCC

FRIDAY: Drop-In from 3:15-9:00pm at QMS

SATURDAY: Console Games & More from 3:00 – 5:00pm at QCC

Full Program details can be found online [here](#). Each program costs \$1 or purchase an Annual Membership for only \$21 at QCC.

School Routines and Expectations:

QMS Code of Conduct

The QMS Code of Conduct follows the guidelines of the BC Human Rights Code. QMS Staff, Students, Parents and any visitors to the school are expected to follow the Code of Conduct.

The purpose of the QMS Code of Conduct and Code of Consequences:

- ◆ To establish and maintain a safe, caring and orderly environment for purposeful learning
- ◆ To clarify and publish expectations for student behavior at school, going to and from school, and while attending any school function or activity at any location
- ◆ To promote the values expressed in the **BC Human Rights Code** respecting the right of all individuals in accordance with the law-prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation or gender identity-in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school.

Acceptable Behaviour for QMS Students:

- ◆ Showing Respect, Compassion and Integrity
- ◆ Respecting self, others, the learning environment and the surrounding environment
- ◆ Helping to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- ◆ Informing an adult, in a timely manner (in advance, if possible) of incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- ◆ Engaging in purposeful learning activities in a timely manner
- ◆ Acting in a manner that brings credit to QMS
- ◆ The use of personal digital devices at school is to be restricted for educational purposes, to promote online safety and focused learning environments.



Unacceptable Conduct for QMS Students:

- ◆ Behaviours that:
 - Interfere with the learning of others
 - Interfere with an orderly environment
 - Create unsafe conditions
- ◆ Acts of:
 - Bullying, harassment or intimidation
 - Physical violence
 - Retribution against a person who has reported incidents
 - Discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity (prohibited grounds set out in the **BC Human Rights Code**)
- ◆ Illegal acts, such as:
 - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
 - Possession or use of weapons
 - Theft of or damage to property

RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY

The unacceptable behaviours listed in the Code of Consequences are examples only and are not intended to be an all-inclusive list.

A student's medical, cognitive, social-emotional and personal profile must be considered in the determination of appropriate interventions and/or consequences. Therefore, the application of the school's Code of Conduct must take into account the student's ability to meet behavioural expectations.

Disciplinary action, wherever possible, is preventative and restorative, rather than merely punitive. The purpose of consequences for unacceptable behavior is to help students learn from mistakes and be proactive about preventing further inappropriate behaviour.

Safety First:

Safety to and from School:

Parents and Guardians:

Please take care when dropping off and picking up your children from school:

- ⇒ Drive slowly in the vicinity of the school and park
- ⇒ Watch for pedestrians
- ⇒ Don't stop in or block the crosswalks
- ⇒ Please park in legal, designated areas



Students:

Be Aware of Your Surroundings:

Pay attention when walking to and from school.

Watch out for moving vehicles at driveways, back lanes and parking lots. If you are listening to music, remove an ear piece before crossing the street or walking in less populated areas.

Team Up:

It is safer and more fun to walk to school with family or friends. If something unusual happens on your way to or from school, report the incident immediately to an adult you know and trust.

Check the school website for our “Best Routes to School” brochure for maps and safety tips for walking and cycling to school, and the following link for Back to School Safety Tips:

<https://www.tranbc.ca/2015/09/01/prepare-to-be-schooled-bc-is-back-to-school/>

Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards:

Many students ride bikes, scooters or skateboards to school. For your child's safety, please ensure that they are wearing an approved helmet. Thank you for helping to keep our children safe.

Scooters & skateboards can be stored in the blue cage located by near the counselling office.



Visitors:

Please report to the office when visiting the school:

Please sign in at the office when entering the school. We need to be aware of all visitors to the school and identifying yourself with one our “visitor” badges is helpful to staff who may not know you.

Personal electronic devices:

If students have an electronic device that they want to use for personal reasons on the way to and from school, they must lock it in their locker as soon as they arrive at school.



At times, teachers may permit students to bring devices into the classroom for educational purposes; otherwise they should be secured in their lockers. Emergency phone calls can be made at the office during the day.

Please note that any personal items brought to school are at the student's own risk - the school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.

In keeping with the new BC Ministry of Education's Ministerial Order M89 (and AP 104 District Code of Conduct), **"The use of personal digital devices at school is to be restricted for educational purposes, to promote online safety and focused learning environments."**



QMS Community School Programs:

Click [here](#) to register



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS QUEENSBOROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Yoga

Description: Stories are built into yoga sequences of movement and relaxation. The objective is to inspire a sense of wonder, well being, our interconnection with nature, and to have FUN!

Grades 5-8

Time: 3:00-4:00pm
(Wednesdays)

Dates: Oct 7 - Nov 18
no class Oct 21 & Nov 11

Location: Music Room

Program Fee: Free

Coding

Description: Students will learn to make games using advanced coding concepts and to bridge the gap between Scratch to Python coding. **Grades 5-8**

Time: 3:00-4:00pm
(Wednesdays)

Dates: Oct 7 - Nov 25
no class Oct 21 & Nov 11

Location: Classroom next to Library

Program Fee: Free

Program participants are selected via a randomized draw. To submit an application, please follow this link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/D5cFMsmvG5>

Forms will be accepted until Wednesday, September 23rd.

Community Schools

604-517-6291 | communityschools@sd40.bc.ca

Fraser Health: School Vaccination Info



School Vaccination Information for Parents

Getting vaccinated on schedule is the best way to protect yourself from many dangerous diseases. Public health regularly checks immunization records for students in Grades 6 and 9 to help make sure they are up to date on vaccines.

We offer all routine vaccines needed for students in Grades 6 and 9 when students are in school.

Families can check their child's immunization records online to see if they need any vaccines by logging into immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/ then looking at "Immunization forecast".



Give consent for the child's vaccines online

This year, students, parents, or caregivers of students in Grades 6 and 9 have the option to provide consent for vaccines online. You can fill out consent now or any time before the school clinic.

To give online consent for immunizations, scan this QR code or go to immunizationconsent.gov.bc.ca/s/.



Note: If you identify as Indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit), please contact your local health unit to learn about additional vaccines that may be available to Indigenous students.

If vaccines are needed, please see [Vaccines | HealthLink BC](#) for more information on the specific vaccine your child needs.

What if the child had vaccines but they are not on their immunization record?

If the child's record is missing vaccines they already had, please do the following:

1. Find the paper record at home, if one was given to you at the time of vaccination.
2. If you do not have records at home, contact the health care provider who gave the vaccines and ask for a copy of the immunization record.
3. Report the immunizations by:
 - Scanning this QR code to submit the records or
 - Submitting it online by going to: FraserHealth.ca/immunizationform.



For more information

- B.C.'s immunization schedule: [Immunizations schedule for children | HealthLink BC](#)
- Fraser Health information and resources on immunizations: FraserHealth.ca/immunize

If you have questions, please call your local public health unit.

Public Health Units					
Abbotsford 604-884-3400	Agassiz 604-793-7160	Burnaby 604-918-7605	Chilliwack 604-702-4900	Cloverdale 604-575-5100	Guildford 604-587-4750
Hope 604-880-7630	Langley 604-539-2900	Maple Ridge 604-476-7000	Mission 604-814-5500	New Westminster 604-777-8740	TriCities (Port Moody) 604-949-7200
Newton 604-582-2000	North Delta 604-507-5400	North Surrey 604-587-7900	South Delta 604-852-3550	White Rock 604-542-4000	

District Threat Assessment Protocol: Fair Notice



District Threat Assessment Protocol: Fair Notice

In the interest of student and staff safety and security, there may be times when schools conduct Threat Assessments.

What Behaviours Initiate a Student Threat Assessment? What is a Threat?

A student threat assessment will be initiated when behaviours include, but are not limited to, serious violence or violence with intent to harm or kill, verbal/written/drawn threats to harm/kill others, Internet, social media, email or text threats to harm/kill others, threatening gestures, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats, and fire setting. All threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

Duty to Report:

To keep school communities safe and caring, staff, parents, students and community members must report all threat-related behaviours.

What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team which is multi-disciplinary. The team may include the Principal, Vice-Principal, Counsellor, Resource Teacher and Police Officer. The District Threat Assessment Team may consist of District Staff, the Safe Schools Coordinator and other Ministries/Agencies (e.g., Ministry of Children and Family Development or Fraser Health Authority). District Staff and Community Agencies are trained in the Threat Assessment protocol and process.

Ideally parents/caregivers are involved and engaged in the process and have given consent to share information to support student safety. However, in emergency safety situations, such as Threat Assessments, all parties (the school, School District and the appropriate Community Agencies) have the ability to share information on a need-to-know basis; as supported by case law, and expanded upon by privacy commissioners, without consent or participation of the threat maker and their parents/caregivers.

What is the Purpose of a Student Threat Assessment?

- Ensure the safety of students, staff, parents/caregivers and others.
- Ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.
- Understand factors contributing to the threat makers' behaviour, including the impact of trauma
- Be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.
- Promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

What Happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

All threat making behaviour by a student shall be reported to the Principal who will activate the protocol for the initial response. Once the team has been activated, interviews may be held with the student(s), the threat maker, parents and staff to determine the level of risk and develop an appropriate response to the incident. Intervention plans will be shared with parents, staff and students as required.

Can I Refuse to Participate in a Threat Assessment Process?

It is important for all parties to engage in the process. However, if for some reason there is reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker or parent/caregiver, the threat assessment process will continue in order to promote a safe and caring learning environment, with or without the consent of the threat-maker and/or their parents/caregiver.

Online Consent Forms:

SchoolCashOnline
KEV GROUP

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

Register Today!

Purchase these items and more online.

Use your computer, tablet or smartphone to register and pay online.

1. Create Your Profile

Go to our school website at queensboroughschool.ca click the "Fees and Forms" button and then the green "REGISTER AND LOGIN HERE" link or go to: <https://newwestschools.schoolcashonline.com/> and click on "Get Started Today".

2. Confirm Your Email

Check your inbox for the email confirmation and click on the link inside. Sign in with your new login details.

Stay connected by selecting "Yes" to email notifications about upcoming fees.

☒ I want to receive email notifications for new fees assigned to my student and updates on school-related activities.

3. Add a Student

Click "Add Student" and fill in the required fields with your child's details.

Why sign up for School Cash Online?

School Cash Online is an online parent portal that offers a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school activity fees.

- ✓ Pay for your child's school fees online. Anytime, anywhere.
- ✓ Stop sending your child to school with money.
- ✓ Get automatic email notifications about upcoming school fees and activities.



Which payment methods are accepted?



Credit Card

Pay with Visa or MasterCard on School Cash Online by entering your credit card number, CVV number (the three digits on the back of your card), card expiry date, and billing information.



eCheck

An electronic version of a paper check used to make payments online. Anyone with a checking or savings account can pay by eCheck on School Cash Online.



myWallet

An online wallet that can be loaded to hold funds and pay for your child's fees on School Cash Online. myWallet also allows you to allocate funds to pay for school fees at a later date.

Interac Online

Pay directly from your bank account with Interac Online.



For more information, contact Parent Helpdesk at
parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com or 1.866.961.1803

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