QMS Weekly Newsletter



October 23, 2026

QMS Tsunami

Queensborough Middle School

Important Dates

October 23	Provincial Professional Day: **School Closed**
October 26	Fruit & veggie delivery (apples)
October 28	Grade 8 Girls Volleyball Playoffs at Alpha Secondary (4:00 p.m.)
October 29	Collaboration Day: early dismissal at 11:55 a.m.
October 30	Halloween Howler in the Gym (a.m.)
November 2	Grade 7 boys volleyball tournament at EGMS (1:00-4:00 p.m.)
November 3	Grade 6/7 immunizations in the MPR (a.m.)
November 3	Grade 7 girls volleyball tournament at EGMS (1:00-4:00 p.m.)
November 5	**Fire Drill**
November 6	Artona photo retakes in MPR (a.m.)
November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly at 10:30 a.m. in the Gym
November 11	Remembrance Day: **School closed**

Halloween Expectations: See page 8

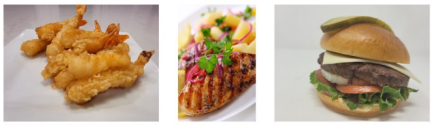
Just a friendly reminder about appropriate Halloween costumes and behaviours (see p. 8 and our School Code of Conduct).



QMS PAC Fundraiser:

Order deadline:
Monday, October 26 (end of day).

Pick-up at QMS:
Tuesday, November 3 (2:30 p.m.)



Queensborough Middle School
NEUFELD FARMS FUNDRAISER
Orders In By: October 26 2026, end of day
Pick up: November 3rd 2026, 2:30 pm

Neufeld FUNDRAISING

https://app.neufeldfarms.ca/fundraising/2026-queensborough-middle-school-503068fc17

Principal's Message:

It was a short but busy week at QMS! On Tuesday, our Grade 6-8 classes settled into their 2nd rotation of exploratory classes. Meanwhile, it was great seeing families visit the school and meet with classroom teachers during parent-teacher conferences on Wednesday and Thursday. October conferences are a great time to check in to see how your child is progressing and discuss goals, strategies and next steps for the remainder of the term. Thank you to all the QMS families who supported our QMS Book Fair this past week - and thank you to Ms. Seddon and her student volunteers for organizing such a lovely book fair. Thank you also to those who attended our QMS PAC meeting on Wednesday.

In sports this week, the gym was a busy place as lunch hour intramurals were taking place daily, and Grade 8 boys basketball practices have begun as well. On Wednesday, our Grade 8 girls volleyball team finished their regular season with 3 road games (at STM). The team won all three of their matches vs. STM, EGMS & Moscrop. Congratulations to our players and coaches for a perfect record this season (11-0). Thank you to all the fans who came out to the STM to cheer on the team. Our next games are on Wednesday as the team plays at STM. Go Tsunami!

A reminder to families that the Fuel Up lunch program is up and running for those families that wish to order food items for their child. We also have our breakfast program available on Tuesday & Friday mornings (8:00-8:30 a.m.).

As we enter the final week of October, we would like to remind families about the early dismissal (at 11:55 a.m.) on Thursday due to a district-wide staff Collaboration Day. With Halloween celebrations on Friday, please speak with your child regarding expectations and reminders for Halloween costumes and behaviours (see p. 8).

Enjoy your weekend.

John Lekakis
QMS Principal



Upcoming Events and Reminders:

Fuel Up Lunch Program (c/o Lunch Lady):

Order October/November lunches at:

https://order.lunchlady.ca/

Orders and changes must be made by noon, two days in advance of delivery.

Breakfast Program: 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!

Back to School Permissions: REMINDER!

Just a friendly reminder to parent/guardians to complete all the consent forms for your child through School Cash Online.

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.





Parent Resources/Webinars:

Check out some upcoming webinars to support parents/guardians in having conversations with their child about vaping, substance use, etc.

https://www.talksubstance.org/support/webinars/

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.

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 & contributing global citizens.

QMS Values:

At Queensborough Middle School we value:

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



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 **8:30** 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.
- 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



Youth Drop In Is Back!

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

Fall Schedule until December 18th:
Monday: Drop-In from 3:15 – 5:15 in QMS Gym/Multi-Purpose Room
Tuesday: Drop-In to 'Piping Hot Tea' from 6:00 - 8:00pm AND Table Tennis from 6:00 – 9:00pm, both in the Queensborough Community Centre
Wednesday: Drop-In from 3:15 – 5:15 in QMS Gym/Multi -Purpose Room
Thursday: Chill Vibes Music Lounge from 6:00 – 7:30pm in the Queensborough Community Centre
Friday: Drop-In from 3:15 – 9:00 in QMS Gym/Multi-Purpose Room. Dinner included.
Saturday: Console Games & More from 3:00 – 5:00pm in the Queensborough Community Centre

Upcoming Special Events:
-Fangtastic Fear Factor Halloween Party, Friday October 30th during Drop-In
-Illuminate: Youth Diwali Celebration, Wednesday November 4th during Drop-In
-Youth Skate at Moody Park Arena on Saturday, November 17th from 8:15 – 9:45pm
-Youth Swim at TACC on Saturday, November 21st from 6:30 – 8:30pm
-Ignite the Night, Queensborough Community Centre holiday decorating party, Friday November 27th during Drop-In
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 disabililty, 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 reace, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender indentity (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



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 that 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/

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."**

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.

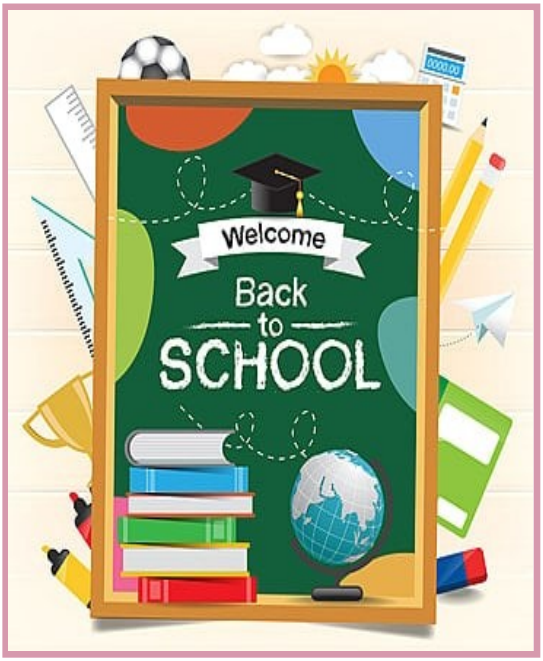
Scooters and bikes can be stored on the racks in front of the school. Bikes, scooters and skateboards are not permitted in the building.



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.



QMS PAC Fundraiser: Neufeld Farms

View our Gourmet Foods by scanning the QR code below
All of your favorites are just a click away...







Queensborough Middle School
NEUFELD FARMS FUNDRAISER

Orders In By: October 26 2026, end of day
Pick up: November 3rd 2026, 2:30 pm

Neufeld FUNDRAISING

https://app.neufeldfarms.ca/fundraising/2026-queensborough-middle-school-503068fc17

www.neufeldfarms.ca

Fraser Health: School Vaccination Info

fraserhealth
Better health. Best in health care.

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".

NEW

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 604-864-3400	**Agassiz** 604-793-7160	**Burnaby** 604-918-7605	**Chilliwack** 604-702-4900	**Cloverdale** 604-575-5100	**Guildford** 604-587-4750
Hope 604-860-7630	**Langley** 604-539-2900	**Maple Ridge** 604-476-7000	**Mission** 604-814-5500	**New Westminster** 604-777-6740	**TriCities (Port Moody)** 604-949-7200
Newton 604-592-2000	**North Delta** 604-507-5400	**North Surrey** 604-587-7900	**South Delta** 604-952-3550	**White Rock** 604-542-4000	

SD40 Halloween Costume Reminders:

New Westminster Schools celebrates diversity and inclusion, and Halloween is a wonderful time for students and staff to creatively expressive themselves in all manner of costumes. Before doing so, however, we want to share the following reminders:

Students who wear a costume to school must be easily recognizable and identifiable to staff and other students. No masks that fully cover the face are allowed.

Costumes that are in poor taste (e.g. meant to cause shock or dismay), ones that ridicule, demean, or are otherwise intended to hurt or offend individual identities, cultures, etc., or contain hurtful, inappropriate images/language that promote discrimination, violence, alcohol and drug use, etc. are strictly forbidden. For more information on how to select costumes, visit:

https://www.parents.com/holiday/halloween/navigating-questionable-halloween-costumes/

Replica weapons (e.g. guns, knives, etc.) are strictly forbidden.

Always follow the school's code of conduct.

Possessing or using firecrackers/fireworks at school is strictly and always forbidden.

Your school or classroom teacher may have additional information on how to celebrate.

Please contact us if you have questions.

We appreciate your help in making Halloween an enjoyable event for all.



Community Sports: Parenting in the Digital Era

REGISTER HERE:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parenting-in-the-digital-era-tickets-2002771011007?aff=oddtdtcreator



Community Sports: Badminton



Community Sports: Swimming





CAPRICE

ARTISTIC SWIMMING

LOVE THE WATER?

JOIN OUR RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

OCTOBER 2026 TO MAY 2027

AGES 8+ | ABLE TO SWIM 50M UNASSISTED

SATURDAY AM	SUNDAY PM
təməsewtxʷ Aquatic and Community Centre*	Edmonds Community Centre
New Westminster	Burnaby
10 - 11 am OR 11 am - 12 pm	6 - 7 pm OR 7 - 8 pm
*DEEP-END POOL- CONFIDENT SWIMMERS ONLY	

MAKE A SPLASH WITH CAPRICE

Email for more info:
registration@capriceswim.ca

District Threat Assessment Protocol: Fair Notice

New Westminster Schools

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
KEVGROUP

Fast. Safe. Convenient.

Register Today!

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.

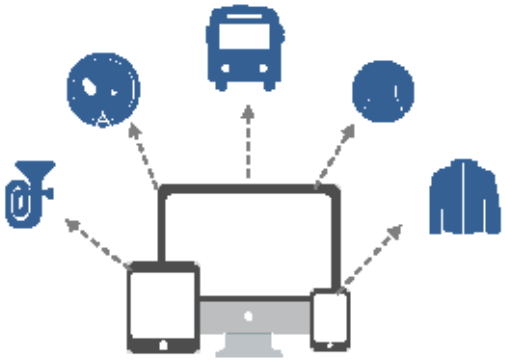
Why sign up for *School Cash Online*?

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.

Purchase these items and more online.

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



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

© 1996 - 2016 KEV Group