

Skwo:wech Stream



September 6, 2024

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first regular week at Skwo:wech! Getting to know students and families has been a real pleasure and I look forward to meeting more. The Family Reading event today was a great experience!

Here is our new communication with families called the Skwo:wech Stream. We will endeavour to let you know all the important things in an easy to ready format.

Thank you and have a wonderful weekend,
Mr. Ken Millard, Principal



Important Dates

Photo Day – Tuesday, Sept 24

- Individual and class photos. *Kindergarten* photos are taken before lunch - you may want to send a set of play clothes for your child to change into after the photo is taken (they will still play outside at recess).
- Photo Retake Day: Monday, Oct 28

Orange Shirt Day at School – Thursday, Sept 26

- Students are encouraged to wear an orange shirt or something with orange

PAC Meeting – Thursday, Sept 26

- 7pm – In person

Non-Instructional Day – Friday, Sept 27

- School closed for students

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Monday, Sept 30

- School closed

Updates**FuelUp! School Lunch Program**

- Families should have received an email from our school district last Tuesday, Sept 3 regarding September menu and ordering. If you require help with setting up your account or ordering, please email new.westminster@thelunchlady.ca. Questions on subsidies or feedback, please email Fuelup@sd40.bc.ca
- FuelUp! lunches will resume Monday, Sept 16. Orders must be submitted at least 2 business days in advance. For example, the first day for lunches is Monday, Sept 16, so orders must be submitted by 10:00am on Thursday, Sept 12. Info: <https://newwestschools.ca/programs-services/fuel-up/overview/>

Creative Pack School Supplies

- If your child's Creative Pack has any missing or damaged items, please visit this website for more information: <https://creativepacks.ca/pages/missing-damaged-products-creative-packs-canada>

Teachers' Emails

Div. 1 Ms. Sharp – lsharp@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 8 Ms. Bhatti – sbhatti@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 15 Ms. Toufic – htoufic@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 2 Ms. Gibson – lgibson@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 9 Ms. Lee – mlee@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 16 Ms. Stewart – astewart@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 3 Mr. Stevens – mastevens@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 10 Ms. Tse – jtse@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 17 Ms. Thompson – jthompson@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 4 Ms. Hikida – khikida@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 11 Ms. Lacey – slacey@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 18 Ms. Whyte – swhyte@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 5 Mr. Bamford – rbamford@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 12 Ms. Hill – mehill@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 19 Ms. Ballantyne – vbaltantyne@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 6 Ms. Macleod – emacleod@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 13 Ms. Gong – cgong@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 20 Ms. Simpson – jsimpson@sd40.bc.ca
Div. 7 Mr. Wong – ddwong@sd40.bc.ca	Div. 14 Ms. Stephanie – skwok@sd40.bc.ca	Div.21 Ms. Mattarollo bmattarollo@sd40.bc.ca



Animals on School Property

- The School District's policy regarding bringing pets to school is designed to ensure the safety of our students. **Animals are not allowed on school property** without the prior approval of the Principal. Guide dogs and police dogs are allowed under the control of their owners. Also, with prior approval, animals brought for specific purposes, such as classroom demonstrations or units of study in the class, may be brought to school. Some teachers may choose to keep small animals in a cage or aquarium for instructional purposes and will have received prior approval.
- We know that you share with us the desire to keep children safe on school grounds and in the buildings. **We are reminding everyone, please do not bring dogs or other animals onto school grounds when you drop off or pick up children; this includes all areas of school property.** Also, some children are allergic or fearful of these animals. Please assist us in keeping all animals off the school grounds. Additionally, this is also a reminder that animals cannot be left tethered and unattended according to city Bylaw No. 7586, 2013.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Please be reminded the parking lots at the front of the school are for staff parking only.

Student drop off:

We encourage, whenever possible, families to park their vehicle a short distance from the school and to walk their child(ren) to the site. There is parking available along Devoy Street.

To help with traffic flow, we ask families to access School Street from Devoy Street (*please avoid turning onto School Street off Richmond Street*) As noted, you can park along Devoy Street and walk your child to the building.

Drivers can also head down School Street and pull over to the curb to drop off and pick up students.

Using the lower roundabout (loop):

Family drivers will not be able to park and exit their vehicle in the lower roundabout – this is a quick drop off/pickup only! (if you need to park your vehicle to walk your child to line-up, as noted above, please park a short distance from the school and walk)

To use the roundabout please make a right turn into school lot (the roundabout that is closest to Richmond Street). Please pull to the first available space to drop your child off so that they can exit from your vehicle straight onto the sidewalk.

Once your child has safely exited your vehicle, please exit the round about by turning right onto School Street.

If we all work together to be mindful of these steps, we will be able to keep things flowing.

Finally, please note that the upper drop off loop is for parents who are bringing their children to the Daycare Centre (this Centre is for infants to age 5).



Community School Programs at Skwo:wech!

The Power of Drawing (Grades 1 - 5)

Young Rembrandts teaches drawing, the fundamental skill of all visual arts to children. Your child will develop drawing and art skills, expand their creativity, imagination and confidence.

Library

Mondays, 3:00 - 4:15pm

Date: Oct 7 - Nov 25 (6 sessions)

No class on Oct 14 & Nov 11

Registration Fee: \$100.50

To register, please visit: www.youngrembrandts.com/metrovancouver/

Release the Rhythm (Grades 3 - 5)

Students will have fun learning how to play percussion instruments from around the world in a physical and fun way together. They will be immersed in a creative, cultural experience, while learning new skills and building community with their class mates.

Gym

Tuesdays, 3:00 - 4:00pm

Date: Oct 29 - Dec 10 (6 sessions)

Registration Fee: \$25

To register, please visit: <https://app.univerusrec.com/sd4opub/>

Musical Theatre (Grades 3 - 5)

Sing, dance, and act, and expand your fundamental musical theatre skills. Includes basic singing, dancing, acting, and games. Increase your artistic skills, and end in a collaborative mini performance.

Music Room

Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:30pm

Date: Oct 2 - Nov 13 (6 sessions)

No class Oct 23

Registration Fee: \$87

To register, please visit:

[Skwo:wech Musical Theatre](#)

Curtains Up Theatre (Gr. 5)

Are you interested in a fun-filled theatre environment where you can step into the spotlight and learn all about performing? Students will explore improv, monologues, and so much more. Don't miss out on all the fun!

New Westminster Secondary School: Drama Room

Tuesdays, 3:45 - 4:45pm

Dates: Sept 24 - Oct 22

Registration Fee: Free

There are limited spaces available for this program across the district. To submit an application for the random draw, please follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/aHhMjNSgkX>

Submissions will be accepted until Thursday, September 19th.

Have questions?

Contact Community Schools

Phone: 604-517-6291

E-mail: communityschools@sd40.bc.ca

Skwo:wech Stream



September 13, 2024

Important Dates

Photo Day – Tuesday, Sept 24

- Individual and class photos. Kindergarten photos taken before lunch - you may want to send a set of play clothes for your child to change into after the photo is taken (they will still play outside at recess).
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- Whole school assembly

PAC Meeting – Thursday, Sept 26

- 7pm – In person

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- School closed for students

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Monday, Sept 30

- School closed

Updates

Absence and Late Form

- You can find this form on our school webpage under [Report a Student Absence](#) tab. *Our preference is for families to use this online form whenever possible for absences.*
- The form can be used for absences, lates as well as long-term absences and can be made any time in advance, or before 8:45 am on the day of the absence.

School Cash Online

- 2024-25 Back to School Permissions & Emergency Release Forms are available on [SchoolCash Online](#)
- Deadline to complete the forms is September 27, 2024.

Website Update

- Please visit skwowechool.ca for updates and information throughout the school year! This is where you can find the Skwo:wech Stream, our school calendar, and other information!

FuelUp! School Lunch Program

- The Hot lunch program will resume Monday, Sept 16. Orders must be submitted at least 2 business days in advance. For example, the first day for lunches is Monday, Sept 16, so orders must be submitted by 10:00am on Thursday, Sept 12. Info: <https://newwestschools.ca/programs-services/fuel-up/overview/>
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Have questions?

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E-mail: communityschools@sd40.bc.ca

Skwo:wech Stream



September 20, 2024

We are excited for Mr. Darren Elves who will be Acting Principal at Glenbrook Middle and so pleased to have Mrs. Emily MacLeod as our Acting Vice Principal in the meantime.

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PAC Meeting – Thursday, Sept 26

- 7 pm – In person
- 6:30 pm school tour for new families

Non-Instructional Day – Friday, Sept 27

- School closed for students

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Monday, Sept 30

- School closed

Bike to School Week – Tuesday, October 1 – Friday, October 4

- Walk, roll, bike, or scooter to school to promote Active Transportation, physical activity, and reduce congestion around the school
- Don't forget your bike lock! You can park your bike in the front gravel area near the staff parking lot off School Street. Games and prizes will be available all week.

Updates

Scooters and Skateboards

- Scooters and skateboards can be brought to school, but students *must not ride the on the school grounds before and after school*. We have had some near misses. The sloped walkways make it fun but dangerous when there are many people around.

Student Verification Forms have been published on MyEd

- Please review your child(ren)'s information and if there are any changes to update, please send an email (skwoweche@sd40.bc.ca) to the office or you can print the Verification sheet and send to the office.

Pick up and Drop off

- A reminder that the upper roundabout (loop) is for daycare families only and not to be used for school pick up and drop off.
- Handicap parking is for people who have a hanging tag

Absence and Late Form

- Thank you for using the [Report a Student Absence](#) form to report absences and lates. *Our preference is for families to use this online form whenever possible for absences.*

School Cash Online

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Medical Changes, Custody/Legal Updates & Changes to Family Arrangements

- We know changes for medical conditions or family arrangements may come up at anytime throughout the year. When changes do arise, please contact the office to update information so our school is best able to support your child and family.
- **Medical Forms must be updated annually** as well as whenever there are changes to serious medical conditions or medications being administered at school. Please bring medical forms and medication to the office as soon as possible for the 2024/2025 school year. Please be advised we do not have full time medical professionals on site.
- If custody of your child(ren) is limited by a court order, please contact the office and provide a copy of any legal documents pertaining to your situation. Information about other family arrangements is also helpful.
- For more information, please contact Ms. Noda at 604-517-6090 or snoda@sd40.bc.ca

MyEd BC Family Portal

The MyEd BC Family Portal is set to open for families to login and view on the afternoon of September 25 at approximately 3:30pm. The portal allows parents/guardians to view:

- attendance information, contact information, student schedules, published reports (including report cards)
- parents/guardians who have a new portal account will receive an email from the MyEd BC email (sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca) which contains their username and temporary password when their account has been enabled. Parents/Guardians who have an existing portal account will not receive an email and should go to <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> to access the portal. If you forget your password, please click on the “I forgot my password” link to reset it.

- if you have a new portal account but do not receive an email by October 1st or if you are experiencing any difficulties logging into your account, please email the school office for assistance.
- For more detailed instructions, please use the following:  [Family Portal Instructions-for Parents.pdf](#)



**New
Westminster
Schools**

Community School Programs at Skwo:wech!

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Have questions?
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Phone: 604-517-6291 E-mail: communityschools@sd40.bc.ca

Hello from the Skwo:wech PAC



THE PURPOSE OF THE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

- Builds community at our school
- Advocates for our students and families
- Works with school staff to see where we can support
- Organizes fun events
- Runs fundraisers to raise money to do all of the above!



WHO CAN JOIN?

Every parent or legal guardian of a Skwo:wech student is a member of the PAC. You're welcome to attend our meetings and get involved in any way you like!



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Join us at our monthly meetings
- Attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Volunteer as a member of our Exec
- Volunteer for events or fundraisers
- Support our fundraisers
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram

CONNECT WITH US



SKWOWEHPAC



SKWOWEHPAC



SKWOWEHPAC@GMAIL.COM



WHY FUNDRAISE?

Fundraising helps to ensure there are adequate funds to support school goals and provide equal opportunity for our students. This includes helping to offset the costs of extra classroom supplies, extracurricular activities, and much more.



WHERE DOES THE \$ GO?



Skwo:wech Stream



September 27, 2024

Important Dates

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Monday, Sept 30

- School closed

Bike to School Week – Tuesday, Oct 1 – Friday, Oct 4

- Walk, roll, bike, or scooter to school to promote active transportation, physical activity, and reduce congestion around the school.
- Don't forget your bike lock! You can park your bike in the front gravel area near the staff parking lot off School Street.
- A bike challenge course will be set up before school on the front field for students to try.

PAC Pizza Fun Lunch – Friday, Oct 11

- Deadline to order is Thursday, Oct 3
- See poster with details at end of the Stream with QR code to order

Thanksgiving – Monday, Oct 14

- School closed

Family Reading – Friday, Oct 18

- Start of the morning

Updates

Permissions and Emergency Release Forms

- Please make sure you have completed your Permissions & Emergency Release Forms on [SchoolCash Online](#)
- Deadline to complete the forms is September 27, 2024 (bonus time – you have the whole weekend and Monday to do this)

New Crossing Guard to be Added

- New West Schools will be adding a temporary crossing guard for this school year to the intersection of Columbia and Sherbrooke streets.
- This will be re-evaluated for the following school year.
- Position to be posted for applications. Info at newwestschools.ca – Employment Opportunities.

Student Verification Forms on MyEd

- Please review your child(ren)s information and if there are any changes to update
- Send an email (skwoweck@sd40.bc.ca) to the office or you can print the Verification sheet and send to the office.

Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up

- Use the **lower roundabout (loop)** for a **quick drop-off or pick-up**. Respect the time limit of 10 minutes maximum. *We need to share this space.*
- Please avoid driving up School Street and **plan to drive DOWN School Street** because it is a narrow street and will get clogged with cars not being able to get past each other.
- The upper roundabout is only for day care use. Please do not pull into this space for drop-off or pick-up.
- If at all possible, please walk or bike to the school. Or park further away to avoid congestion closer to the school.
- Thank you to everyone following these rules.

MyEd BC Family Portal

- Portal allows parents/guardians to view attendance information, contact information, report cards.
- Parents/Guardians who have a new portal account will receive an email from the MyEd BC email (sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca) which contains their username and temporary password when their account has been enabled.
- Those who have an existing portal account will not receive an email and should go to <https://myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> to access the portal.
- Forget your password? Just click on the “I forgot my password” link to reset it.
- If you have a new portal account but do not receive an email by October 1st or if you are experiencing any difficulties logging into your account, please email the school office.
- For more detailed instructions, please use the following:  [Family Portal Instructions-for Parents.pdf](#)

PIZZA **FRIDAYY** **FUN LUNCH** **OCT 11**



DEADLINE TO ORDER:
OCT 3



All proceeds will go to the
Skwo:wech Parent Advisory Council

\$3.25 PIZZA SLICE
\$1 JUICE BOX
\$1 BAG OF COOKIES

FRESH SLICE PIZZA

Choice of: cheese, pepperoni, veggie,
ham & pineapple. Gluten-free cheese
and pepperoni also available.

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/skwowech>
Or scan the QR code above! Orders close October 3.

Hello from the Skwo:wech PAC



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