



École Secondaire Handsworth Secondary School

1044 Edgewood Road
North Vancouver B.C. V7R 1Y7
Tel # 604-903-3600 Fax # 604-903-3601



Principal's Message

Welcome to Handsworth!! Although the start of the school year means the end of summer holidays, it is very much a new beginning. It is a beginning that I know the majority of students, staff and parents welcome. The start of school is all about providing new opportunities and challenges. September ushers in routines and structures that assist us in our quest for knowledge, skills and attitudes that are part of a life-long journey of learning and self-discovery.

Handsworth has an outstanding reputation as a place of learning. We pride ourselves on our strength in virtually every facet of a full comprehensive school consisting of a high level of excellence in areas of academics/scholarship, career planning, special education services, athletics, performing arts, fine arts, technical arts - all within a technically advanced, teaching and learning environment.

I am pleased to inform you of our continued high levels of academic achievement. Of the Grade 10 Provincial Exams which consist of Essentials of Mathematics 10, English 10, Principles of Mathematics 10, and Sciences Naturelles 10, Handsworth exceeded the average Final Marks of all schools in the "All Public" and "Provincial" categories. Of the Grade 11 Provincial Exams which consist of Sciences Humaines 11 and Social Studies 11, Handsworth exceeded the average Final Marks of all schools in the "All Public" and "Provincial" categories. Of the Grade 12 Provincial Exams which consist of Biology 12, Chemistry 12, English 12, BC First Nations Studies 12, French 12, Français Langue 12, Geography 12, History 12, English Literature 12, Principles of Mathematics 12, Physics 12 and Spanish 12, Handsworth exceeded the average Final Marks of all schools in all but three subjects in the "All Public" and "Provincial" categories.

Central to our vision is the acknowledgement that Handsworth is more than just a school-we are a community of learners. Over the past year we have taken great strides in defining Handsworth as a "learning and caring community". We are here to support you as you take on the challenges and unlimited opportunities of the next school year.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the parents and students who are new to Handsworth-in particular, our grade eight students and the parents. We anxiously await the arrival of the grade 8s and you can be assured that we are particularly sensitive to the significance of the transition from elementary school to the secondary school culture.

An enduring philosophy of our school is to continually look at what we do, how we do it and ask ourselves, "How might we improve upon what we do?" The commitment to **Continuous Improvement** has led to many initiatives and innovations unique to Handsworth.

Library

During the summer months, the Handsworth Library was fully automated. You will be interested to know that our Library Automation System is the same system utilized by the North Vancouver Public Library. Consequently, patrons of the North Vancouver Public Library will be very familiar with the new automation system installed at Handsworth and will no doubt find it to be an invaluable resource.

I believe that we, at Handsworth, reflect the aspirations and values of our parent community in saying that it is our intent to use the ever increasing threshold of expectations, performance and achievement from previous years as the benchmark for the future growth and development our students. In addition, we continue to look for ways in which we can improve the facilities and resources available for students and teachers that will directly impact the effectiveness of our teaching and learning environment. With over 75 teaching staff, 20 support staff and over 1500 students, we are committed every day to the professional and passionate delivery of a quality educational experience.

In closing, I know I speak for the entire staff when I convey to you that we are very excited and enthusiastic about the coming year and look forward to working in, and with, the Handsworth Learning Community.

Yours truly,

Peter Evens

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Absences

Parents are requested to contact the school prior to 8:30 am each day, at 604-903-3600, to inform us if their son or daughter will be late or absent from school. Please leave the following information:

- Your Child's name
- Grade
- Reason for Absence
- Length of absence i.e. morning, afternoon, all day

Students who are absent and not on the absentee list are considered to be unexcused (unless teachers have been notified of field trips or early dismissals).

Early Dismissal

Students needing to miss a class during the day for such things as doctors' appointments will need to have this absence verified in the Main Office by a parental phone call or a written note. The early dismissal will be noted in BCeSIS (Student information system). When students arrive back at school after leaving for appointments, they need to go directly to their class.

Students who have an early dismissal for athletic teams will have their names submitted by their coaches to the Main Office before 9:00 am on the day of the event and these early dismissals will appear on BCeSIS.

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

As you can imagine responding to the needs of a school community that serves over 1500 students is a demanding task. However, there are a number of protocols that if observed, enable us to respond efficiently and effectively to the myriad of inquiries that we deal with on a day-to-day basis.

General inquiries are best processed through the main office where you can speak with one of our knowledgeable office staff who will be able to respond directly or advise you accordingly.

Inquiries for specific teachers can be directed to them through the main office and forwarded to their voice-mail. As well, email is proving to be a very efficient means of communicating with any of our staff members, especially teachers. Every staff member at Handsworth has the same formula for their business email address – First Initial (of the first name) followed by Last Name, followed by “nvsd44.bc.ca.”

For those occasions when you wish to speak with either an Administrator or Counsellor a very efficient way to make contact with them is through email:

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Peter Ewens- Principal

pewens@nvsd44.bc.ca

Dr. David Overgaard – Vice Principal (Grade 8 –A to J/ Grade 9 and 11)

dovergaard@nvsd44.bc.ca

Mr. Jeff Hasenauer – Vice Principal (Grade 8 – K to Z/ Grade 10 and 12)

jhasenauer@nvsd44.bc.ca

COUNSELLORS

Mr. Jay Prepchuk – Grade 12 jprepchuk@nvsd44.bc.ca
Mrs. Susan Jecks – Grade 11 sjecks@nvsd44.bc.ca
Mrs. Caryl Tervit – Grade 10 ctervit@nvsd44.bc.ca
Mr. Don Carlson – Grade 9 dcarlson@nvsd44.bc.ca
Mrs. Stacey Schwegler- Grade 8 sschwegler@nvsd44.bc.ca

STRACHAN HARTLEY 5 KM LEGACY RUN

Please see the enclosed flyer re: the Strachan Hartley Legacy Run. Last year was the first year of the run and it was a resounding success!

Handsworth is pleased to once again be the host sight of this very important event. Please join us in the Handsworth gym for registration prior to the 9:30am start on Sunday, October 19th. For the colourized flyer please visit the Handsworth web site and for more information about the event, visit www.strachanhartleyfoundation.com/run .

**Report from the HPAC/HSSA**

We hope to see you at our first meeting on Monday September 15, 2008 at 7 pm in the school library!

- All parents are welcome. This is the place to get informed about what is happening at Handsworth. Our Principal, Peter Ewens will provide a report and slide show too! Come and meet the 2008-2009 HPAC Executive:
Sheila Drummond HPAC/HSSA Co-Chair
Barb Vincent HPAC/HSSA Co-Chair
Ernie Filzweiser – Secretary
Jean Mill – Treasurer
Sandra Hancock- DPAC Representative
Diana Zargarpour – Member at large
Michael Wei – Member at large
Kim Moen – Member at large
Harriet Tracey – Member at large
Jo-Ann Bayley – SPC Representative
- Thursday September 18, 2008 will be the Grade 8 Parent Dinner and “Meet the Teacher Night” sponsored by HPAC. This is a fun and informative social evening for parents and a great opportunity for you to walk a day in the shoes of your Grade 8 child. Please find information included in this package.
- Again this year, the HPAC would like to communicate with parents via email. Included in this package is a form to complete and return to the school. You will receive updates and information from the HPAC throughout the school year.

Note - We have an executive meeting generally one week before the scheduled HPAC meeting and that is where we set our agenda. If you have any concerns, issues, ideas, etc. that you would like to discuss at a future HPAC meeting, it would be appreciated if you would please get in touch with one of our executive members so we may discuss it and put it on the agenda.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

Handsworth will undertake the successful Entertainment Book Fundraiser again in the fall of 2008. Last year our sales brought almost \$14,000 to many departments and areas of the school, including the Library, English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Physical Education, Foods, Heritage Festival, and school extra-curricular support. In addition, many students used the fundraiser to raise funds for themselves.

Details of the campaign are as follows:

- The Entertainment Book is a book of discount coupons. The price is \$46.00
- On the first day of school every student receives an Entertainment Book to take home and hopefully sell to parent/guardians, friends and/or relatives.
- Students simply need to return a cheque, cash or the book by the end of the sales campaign which ends on Thursday, October 23rd.
- Cheques are made payable to Handsworth Secondary School
- Students who sell more than one book will personally receive \$9.00 per book sold after the first one.
- Students return their cheque or book to their grade coordinator Thursday, October 23rd.

Here are your grade coordinators:

Grade 12: Rick Raible and Michelle Pye

Grade 11: Fernando Torres and Sal Audia

Grade 10: Lori Zuk and Judy Mould (in the Library)

Grade 9: Marianne Macario and Rachel Welbourn

Grade 8: Rick Turner and Randy Storey

(Outside/corporate sales for larger quantities, please contact John Tyler at 604-903-3664.

The organizers wish to thank the Handsworth community for its continued support of this valuable fundraising campaign.

Information Notice re: School Fees

During the 2007/2008 school year Handsworth undertook a very comprehensive review of all school fees. The review included extensive consultation with the staff, Department Heads and parent representatives through the Parent Advisory Council and School Planning Council. Every fee was analyzed to ensure clarity, consistency and compliance with the Provincial Legislation as per the B. C. School Act and District Policy. The outcome of this process has resulted in many significant changes to school fees.

You will notice the structure of your fee invoice reflects the following:

Three main categories of fees: (1) Supplemental Fees, as noted in the course guide as provided in the Spring; (2) a

“General School Fee” which covers “goods and services”; and, (3) optional fees for things such as a Yearbook, Grad Fee, etc.

All fees charged are in accordance with North Vancouver School District Policy 706 - School Fees and are in compliance with both the recent court ruling (Young vs. British Columbia (Minister of Education)) and the B.C. School Act.

Supplemental Fees:

Supplemental Fees will only be charged for optional or supplemental activities and/or materials. The specific purpose of the fee is clearly identified by the teacher.

School supplies (e.g. pens, pencils, PE strip, duo tangs, etc.) remain the responsibility of the parents.

Course Materials:

Handsworth provides the materials needed to complete the basic projects required to meet the learning outcomes or assessment requirements for a course (e.g. fabric for Textiles, lumber for Woodworking, ingredients for Foods). Students have the option to bring additional or superior materials from home or, purchase additional or superior materials from the school if they wish to do a particular project that utilizes a different or better quality material. Materials purchased from the school are sold based upon a cost-recovery basis only.

General School Fee:

Under the B.C. School Act, a General School Fee is permissible where the fee provides for “goods and services” not essential to delivery of the student’s educational program.

The General School Fee provides for: Student Council governance and funding; leadership activities; Student Agenda Book; funding for clubs/athletics; awards/student recognition events; special assemblies; subsidy for hardships; motivational speakers; and paper, writing tools, calculators other than graphical calculators, exercise books, computer storage media and other school supplies and equipment for a student’s personal use. The school subsidizes a number of the expenses associated with funding in this category. These fees are not used for such things as locker repairs or setup, postage or cafeteria supplies.

Workbooks:

Where students are required to use a workbook (no alternative is provided) in order to meet the course/subject learning outcomes and/or for assessment, workbooks are provided at not cost to the student. Handsworth dedicates approximately \$23,000 of its District funding to support learning through the use of workbooks and related media.

Where use of the workbook is optional – it is the student/parent’s choice to write in the workbook for demonstration of learning, comprehension and mastery and that, alternatively, they may choose to complete the exercises using their consumable school supplies (e.g., notebook, paper, duo tang).

Where workbooks are suggested as an opportunity for optional, supplemental “practice” and the student’s work in the workbook is not marked as a part of student assessment, a fee is charged. Purchase of the workbook is completely optional as its use is not required for successful completion of the course’s learning outcomes. Students choosing not to purchase the workbook will not be negatively disadvantaged in their educational program.

Yearbook:

The Yearbook fee covers the cost of producing the yearbook.

Grad Fee:

The Grad fee covers all the expenses associated with the Graduation Ceremony ie. Rental of facility, gown rentals, decorations, etc. The school subsidizes some of the costs for this event.

Field Trips:

(Not included in September invoice – assessed as applicable throughout the school year)

If student participation in a field trip is necessary in order to successfully meet the learning outcomes of a course and/or is a component of student assessment, the field trip is mandatory and is provided free of charge.

All other field trips are optional, and fees are charged on a strictly cost-recovery basis. You can expect that Field Trip notices will identify all the costs that will be incurred for the field trip so as to provide a clear accounting of the basis of the fee amount.

Trips may be optional because an alternate, cost-free means of meeting the course learning outcomes exists and is available. Students or parents may elect for the student to remain behind and participate in an alternate activity as provided for by the sponsoring teacher(s). Expectations regarding student conduct and safety are clearly communicated for all field trips.

Trips may also be optional because they provide an enhanced or supplemental experience not necessary for meeting the course/subject learning outcomes. Students or parents may elect for the student to remain behind, in which case alternate instructional arrangements will be provided.

Lastly, trips may be optional because they are an extra-curricular activity (e.g., extra-curricular athletics, international trips, etc.).

Please note that the North Vancouver School District and Handsworth Secondary School recognizes the right of each student to access of education regardless of financial circumstances. Therefore, we have a Financial Hardship Policy for those families who are unable to pay fees. If you would like to discuss or apply for this option, please do not hesitate to contact your Grade Counsellor. Any request for fee deferral will be held in the strictest of confidence.

Peter Ewens
Principal

Handsworth School Cookbook

Hot off the press! Handsworth School Cookbook ready for sale in September 2008. Over 150 sumptuous recipes from the Handsworth community with all proceeds going to Project HANDS.org. (A charity involving local doctors who travel to Guatemala to provide free medical care.) Email your order(s) to handsworthschoolcookbook@gmail.com. Please include your name, address, and telephone number. Cost: \$15.00 each - cheque payable to Handsworth School. Limited printing - don't delay!

Shelley Stanhope/English Dept.