



# Queen Mary Community School

230 West Keith Road, North Vancouver, B.C.  
V7M 1L8 Ph.(604)903-3720 Fax.(604)903-3721  
[www.nvsc44.bc.ca](http://www.nvsc44.bc.ca)

Newsletter Number 3

November 21, 2008

**MISSION:** In the Queen Mary community we seek to create a RESPECTFUL, SAFE, ENJOYABLE learning environment where adults and children are empowered to maximize their strengths in the PERSONAL, SOCIAL, and ACADEMIC areas..

## REMINDERS

### CALLBACK

Please call the school on our 24-hour call-back line at **604-903-3720** if your child will be late or absent from school.

### SCHOOL HOURS

Office Hours:  
8:30am-4:00pm

### Grades 1-7:

9:00 am - 2:45pm  
recess 10:30-10:45  
lunch 12:00-12:40  
Half-Day Kindergarten  
9:00 am - 11:30am  
Full-Day Kindergarten  
9:00 am - 2:45 p.m.  
lunch: 12:00 - 12:40

There is **NO** supervision before or after school. Please have your children arrive at the school about 8:45 am and leave the school grounds promptly when dismissed after school.

### Home of.....

**QM Preschool/ Daycare:**  
Karen Feaver 604-985-1214

**QM Out of School Care:**  
Karen Feaver 604-987-7073

### QM Community

**Services:**  
Doug Feaver,  
Executive Director  
604-987-7073

**QM Community  
Project Coordinator**  
Debbie Mahal  
604-987-7702

### PAC Executive:

Chair: Desiree Young  
Vice-Chair: Kim Skealth  
Treasurer: Annie Li  
Secretary: Colleen Frampton  
D-PAC Rep: Verna Dyck



Dear Parents,

Read this **IMPORTANT** notice regarding the traffic concerns at Queen Mary School. As many of you are aware, traffic problems around the school, during drop-off and pick-up times have reached the critical level.

With your help, we can ensure that the children arrive and depart safely. It is very important that all our community members assist us by following a number of simple guidelines and suggestions :

If at all possible, have your children **walk** to school.

If you need to drive, make every attempt to **car pool** with other parents.

If you must drive your children, **please drop off on Keith Rd.**



**PLEASE**, do not travel through, park in, or drop off in the School Board Office parking lot or the Queen Mary staff lot. For safety reasons we must ask parents and students to please to stay out of these areas.

**PLEASE, drive carefully, and have patience** with the volume of cars.

We must all take these guidelines **VERY** seriously, if we want to make the streets around Queen Mary School **COMPLETELY** safe for all our students. Please help us to make the areas **SAFE**. Thank you for your attention to this.

Bill Reid, Principal

Debora Rolandi, Vice Principal

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE. PLEASE HAVE IT TRANSLATED.**

這是重要通知，請找人翻譯。

Ceci est un avis important. Veuillez vous le faire traduire.

Dies ist eine wichtige Nachricht. Bitte lassen Sie sich die folgenden Seiten übersetzen.

これは重要なお知らせです。どなたかに翻訳してもらいましょう。

중요한 공지사항입니다. 이 내용을 번역해 주십시오.

این اطلاعیه مهمی است. لطفاً از کسی بخواهید این اطلاعیه را برای شما ترجمه کند.

Este aviso es muy importante. Pida que alguien se lo traduzca.

Ito ay mahalagang patalastas. Mangyaring ipasalin ito sa inyong wika.

Đây là thông báo quan trọng. Xin nhờ người phiên dịch.

## Foods & Drinks That Fit

Thursday, Nov. 27, 12:30-2:30 pm  
Leo Marshall Curriculum Centre  
810 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street, North Van  
Presentation by: Kathy Romses,  
Dietitian, Vancouver Coastal Health

A workshop designed to help parents, staff and students follow the provincial **Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools**.

This supports the NVSD policy to promote and follow the Guidelines whenever food and beverages are sold to students at school or school events.

- ☉ Hands on activities and resources to help plan lunches, sports concession stands, fundraisers and more
- ☉ Meet suppliers who offer products that comply with the Guidelines
- ☉ Sharing ideas of what is working well
- ☉ Sources for more information

RSVP: Dawn Lavender 604-904-6279

Hosted by the North Vancouver PAC



## QUEEN MARY CHRISTMAS DRIVE

This year, we will once again be collecting food for the Harvest Project in North Vancouver.

Each division will be building a gingerbread house, and students will get one ticket for every food item they bring in (dried goods, canned food, non perishables). The tickets go into the draw. The winners will be drawn on December 18<sup>th</sup> !

Last year, over 16 boxes of food items were collected, so let's all try and beat that total.



The first week of December will be gingerbread house building time, and boxes will go out for food collection. Further details will be shared with each class at that time as well.

## WHAT NOT TO BRING TO SCHOOLS

An incident on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008, involving a student at Carson Graham Secondary who brought a pellet gun to school reminds us of the gravity with which we treat prohibited activities and items in the North Vancouver School District. Although this incident was handled swiftly, appropriately and professionally, while ensuring that all students were safe, it was also treated as a serious matter and involved the RCMP.

Please know that the possession or presence of weapons on, or near, school grounds is prohibited. This includes toy or "replica" weapons of any kind. For more information, the School District's policy to support its safe and caring schools can be found at: [www.nvsd44.bc.ca](http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca) > Administration > Policies and Procedures > Series 300.

## HALLOWEEN DANCE

SUCCESS ! A great time was had by all. Hundreds of costumed families turned out to dance the evening away ! It was a huge success by every measure, with close to 400 people paying our decorated gym a visit. A big thanks to our PAC planning committee led by Desiree Young and to Debbie Mahal, our Community Project Coordinator, for their leadership in organizing, setting up and decorating the gym, and all their helpers who pitched in their time with food and drink sales. And to Mr. Chan for his excellent handling of the DJ duties.

Congratulations to our 50/50 winner, Mohammed, in grade seven, who promptly turned around and donated his winnings to the grade seven year end fundraising efforts !



## STUDENT THREAT ASSESSMENT

Dear Parents: **RE: Student Threat Assessment**

Following this introduction, please find a summary of the North Vancouver School District's "Student Threat Assessment" protocol. While schools are generally safe environments, incidents of threat-making are on the rise across North America. Staff, students, parents and community members can all assist in preventing violence and keeping our schools safe.

Our efforts to discourage threatening behaviour follow current best practices in threat assessment and include ongoing training and support for our staff. In October, all of our principals, vice principals and school counsellors received training in threat assessment and intervention. This training is a standard, scheduled part of our Safe and Caring Schools program.

Student Threat Assessment strengthens the School District's work to ensure we are able to respond appropriately to threatening situations. The protocols also guide us in identifying students who may engage in threat-making behaviour and developing a plan to address the safety and well-being of all concerned.

Our procedures have been developed in consultation with the RCMP, Vancouver Coastal Health and the Ministry for Children and Family Development. Our community partners will continue to assist us in threat assessment processes and the planning and delivery of interventions for identified students. We appreciate their support and expertise.

In closing, I would like to reassure you that the incidence of threatening behaviours in our schools is very low. Still, we feel that being pro-active with information of this kind serves the expectations of our community. Thank you for reviewing this important information.

Sincerely,



Ken Neale, District Administrator, Safe and Caring Schools, NORTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### **FAIR NOTICE AND PROCESS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS:**

##### What behaviours Initiate a Student Threat Assessment?

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 threats to harm/kill others, Internet-based threats (Facebook, MSN) to harm/kill others, possession of weapons (including replicas), bomb threats and fire setting.

##### Duty to Report

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

##### What is a threat?

A threat is an expression of intent to do harm or act out violently against someone or something. Threats may be verbal, written, drawn, posted on the Internet or made by gesture. Threats must be taken seriously, investigated and responded to.

##### What is a Threat Assessment Team?

Each school has a Threat Assessment Team that is multi-disciplinary. The team includes the Principal or Vice-Principal, Counsellor, Police, and other school staff

##### What is the purpose of a Student Threat Assessment? The purposes of a Student Threat Assessment are:

To maximize the safety of students, staff, parents and others.

To ensure a full understanding of the context of the threat.

To begin to understand the factors which contribute to the threat makers' behaviour.

To be proactive in developing an intervention plan that addresses the emotional and physical safety of the threat maker.

To promote the emotional and physical safety of all.

##### What happens in a Student Threat Assessment?

The Process: All threat making behaviour(s) by a student(s) 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 developed and shared with parents, staff and students as required.

When a student is new to NVSD, it is expected that NVSD be informed of any previous threat assessment recommendations.

## **BASKETBALL**

Another season of hoops has come to a close. (update: 3 of our teams have finished – the gr. 7 girls have made the playoffs !)

Our grade six boys and girls, and our grade seven boys and girls displayed excellent sportsmanship as they played in a very tough division this year.

The effort put in by the students was a joy to watch, and their skills came a long way over the course of the season. Congratulations to all the team members for their hard work.



A thank you to the coaches and helpers this year: Mr. Beckmann, Mr. Chan, Ms. Bakker, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Sule

## **WHEN TO KEEP SICK CHILDREN HOME?**

Keep your child at home if he/she:

- Has a suspected or known communicable disease (has symptoms such as persistent cough or sore throat, a constant runny nose, vomiting or diarrhea, a rash of unknown origin, or a fever)
- Is too sick or lethargic to participate in normal school activities

Consider:

- The illness can spread to other children, their families and school staff
- Recovery can be delayed without adequate rest
- The school's inability to care for an ill child

For more information call: Public Health at 604-983-6700, your family Doctor or BC NurseLine 24 hours at 604-215-4700  
BC Health Guide/files online: [www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles](http://www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles)

## **REPORT CARDS**



Report cards are on their way ! Next Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first report cards of the year will be sent home. If you have completed a request for a parent/ teacher interview (forms sent home November 21), a confirmation of the date and time for the interview will be included in your child's report card.

Please sign the report card envelope and return it at your earliest convenience.

**The week following the distribution of the report cards is interview week, and students will be dismissed at 1:45 pm on Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **COMMUNITY EVENT**

Pandora's Vox and Espiritu Vocal Ensemble are presenting their annual Christmas Concert--"Gifted"

These two incredible vocal ensembles based on the North Shore have joined forces to present their annual Christmas extravaganza of festive song! This dazzling array of vocal gems is a must see for kicking off your season of comfort and joy.

Friday, December 12 Evening at 8:00 pm and Saturday , December 13th Matinee at 2:00 pm and Evening at 8:00 pm  
Kay Meek Center, 1700 Mathers Ave. West Vancouver

Tickets: Evening --\$29 adult / \$24 senior or student  
Matinee--\$24 adult / \$18 senior or student / \$12 (\$12 children under 12 at Matinee only)

Tickets can be purchased or reserved through the Kay Meek Box Office-Call 604-913-3643 or online@ [www.kaymeekcenter.com](http://www.kaymeekcenter.com)





