



Seycove Secondary Community School

1204 Caledonia Avenue, North Vancouver, B.C. V7G 2A6 • Telephone: (604) 903-3666 • Fax: (604) 903-3667
Callback Line: (604) 903-3673 • email: seycove@nvsd44.bc.ca • School Website: <http://www.seycove.ca/>

Friday, January 27, 2012

Dear Seycove Parent Community:

We have had a number of recent staffing changes due to a variety of reasons along with implementing new support opportunities for our students. I wanted to assure you that despite the timing of these changes every attempt has been made to both minimize the disruption to the learning environment and ensure a positive and smooth transition.

Choices

Seycove Secondary is the second implementation site for the District Choices Program with full implementation at all of our secondary schools by September 2012. This new level of intervention is intended to support our students who are finding challenges in school for a myriad of reasons.

Although this is a new model for North Vancouver schools, it is a model that successfully exists in the Metro Vancouver area and jurisdictions throughout North America. Through the consolidation and restructuring of our District alternate programs, Choices is designed to provide an enhanced level of support in a mainstream secondary setting. In other words, it gives the opportunity for Seycove staff to support Seycove students under our roof as opposed to considering a transfer to another school or program.

I am truly excited about Choices on a few levels. This new framework allows us to support our students in more flexible ways and represents a fundamental shift in our educational practice. The fact that we have begun our program mid-year is positive as it will allow a gradual transition for growth. Of course, another key component to the success of Choices is the staff and I am pleased to announce Ms. Shirley Lempriere as the Choices teacher and Ms. Brooke Fairley as the Youth Engagement Worker. Additionally, we will soon have a District Counsellor that will add another level of service for our Choices students and their parents. Together, they will be working closely with all staff supporting our students. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Choices Team, school counsellor or administration if you would like more information.

Counselling Department

With Ms. Shirley Lempriere now working full time in Choices, Ms. Margie Arnold has now transitioned into the Counselling department and assumed Ms. Lempriere's counselling load as the Grade 8 and International counsellor. I have also recently filled the temporary counselling position for Mr. Fetterly as he begins a temporary leave of absence that will commence February 1 until the end of the school year. I am pleased to announce Ms. Ruby Willems will take on the role as our Grade 10 and 11 counsellor. Ms. Willems has an extensive counselling background and has previously been working at the Lucas Centre in a similar capacity.

Modern Languages Department

Ms. Margaret Ronsano has returned from a recent medical leave but will currently be working on a part-time Day 1 basis. Ms. Maria McAllister has been temporarily filling in for Ms. Ronsano on a Day 2 basis. This position will need to go through the District posting process to seek a long term candidate and will close next week.

Fine Arts/Social Studies

With Ms. Arnold now in the counselling department, it is my pleasure to announce Ms. Jayne Chappell who is returning to Seycove and will be teaching Junior and Senior Art along with Mr. Fetterly's Socials 8 class.

English/Socials/Special Education

Ms. Alena Irvine has begun her maternity leave and I am pleased to announce that Mr. Michael Sheppard will pick up Ms. Irvine's Day 1 Social Studies 10 classes. Mr. Sheppard is already teaching English 9, 10 and 11 on Day 2 and will remain the teacher of those classes. Additionally, given the specialized nature of Ms. Irvine's English 9 Digital Immersion class, Ms. Petra Willemse will be teaching the class for the remainder of the year with Mr. Sheppard assuming Ms. Willemse's Period 5 English 11 class. Finally, we have Ms. Lisa Mclean temporarily filling in for Ms. Irvine's LAC and English 8 classes as we will also go through the District posting process to seek a permanent candidate which will conclude next week.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karim Hachlaf
Principal