



Seycove News

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE—by Karim Hachlaf

August 2009

It is hard to believe it is that time again. I hope everyone was able to enjoy a restful and enjoyable summer. As we prepare to begin a new school year, there are always many new things taking place; I encourage you to take the time to look through our August newsletter as you will find it contains useful information for both parents and students.

I would like to first welcome a number of new teaching staff to Seycove. Dennis Braam, formerly at Sherwood Park Elementary will be teaching Social Studies and Physical Education. Maureen Nicholson, who was formerly teaching at Continuing Education, will be teaching English and Social Studies. Margaret Ronsano is coming to us from Windsor Secondary and is joining our Modern Languages department teaching French, Beginning Spanish and Planning. There are still a few more teaching positions to be filled that will be announced shortly. One of those will include a temporary one-year posting for Suzanne Cook who is taking a medical leave.

In terms of our 2009-2010 timetable, the rotation of classes and class duration remains unchanged. However, the ten minute break will now take place after the second period of the day based on feedback received by students and staff. Last year, as expected, it took some time to adjust to the new timetable that included the fixed afternoon blocks. That said, students displayed their ability to quickly adapt and our teaching staff were able to use the longer classes to increase learning opportunities for our students.

Our enrolment at Seycove remains stable and our school is operating near capacity with few spaces available. Back in early Spring, we mailed home students' course requests to ensure accuracy as changes in September cannot be guaranteed due to space availability and timetable restrictions. If you have any questions regarding your child's timetable, please contact the appropriate counsellor. This year, Mark Fetterly will be responsible for Grades 8 and 9. It is a pleasure to welcome Shirley Lempriere to the Counselling department, who will be responsible for Grade 10 and International students. Finally, Nancy Roberts completes our counselling team and will be responsible for Grades 11 and 12.

After reflecting on my first half year as a principal here at Seycove, I have been impressed with many aspects, including the involvement of our parents. We as a staff will continue to develop strong parent partnerships based on two-way communication regarding the progress of our students. I am excited about beginning the school year and look forward to seeing you all in September.

CALENDAR

Sep. 08	School Begins (Homeroom only, no classes)
Sep. 11	Photo Day
Sep. 15	5:00pm - Gr.8/12 BBQ 7:30pm - PAC Meeting (Library)
Sep. 17	Gr. 8 CLASS Afternoon (Early dismissal Gr. 9-12)
Sep. 25	School-based Pro-D Day (no school)
Oct. 09	Seycove's 30th Birthday Celebration
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving (no school)
Oct. 13	7:30pm - PAC Meeting (Library)
Oct. 22	Interims mailed
Oct. 23	District-wide Pro-D Day (no school)
Oct. 28	Photo Retakes
Nov. 05	Parent-Teacher Interviews (Early dismissal)
Nov. 06	Early Dismissal
Nov. 10	7:30pm - PAC Meeting (Library)
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day (no school)
Nov. 17	Gr. 9 Immunization Clinic
Dec. 08	7:30pm - PAC Meeting (Library)
Dec. 16	Report Cards distributed
Dec. 18	7:00am - Santa's Breakfast School Closes for Winter Break

Please notify the school if your child has a MEDICALLY DIAGNOSED health condition/s, which may require emergency care at school. This includes: anaphylaxis, diabetes, severe asthma, seizure disorder, blood clotting disorders, serious heart conditions.

The Medical Alert Information sheet and Anaphylaxis Information Form for Parent and Physician can be found at www.seycove.ca.

Seycove's New Traffic Flow

This fall Seycove is implementing a new traffic flow pattern for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. Once entering Seycove property cars dropping off or picking up students should proceed down the hill and loop around in front of the cafeteria before proceeding back up the hill and off school property. There are ample spots along this route to pull over and drop off students without impeding the flow of traffic. It is hoped that this will alleviate the bottleneck in the Turtle roundabout that causes traffic to back up onto Strathcona and sometimes onto Deep Cove Road.

On September 8th and for the first few days of school we will have staff directing traffic before and after school.

As always, Seycove strongly encourages all students to walk, bike or bus to school whenever possible.



**OPENING WEEK SCHEDULE
AT A GLANCE:**

Tuesday, September 8th

Grade 8 only: 9:45am assembly and homeroom, followed by dismissal

Grades 9 to 12: 10:30am – homeroom, followed by dismissal

Wednesday, September 9th

All Grades: 9:40 to 10:05am – homeroom, followed by remainder of Wednesday schedule

Thursday, September 10th

All Grades: 8:40 to 9:05am – homeroom, followed by grade assemblies and remainder of Thursday schedule

Friday, September 11th

All Grades: 8:40am - Regular Friday schedule

SCHOOL OPENING DETAILS—TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

Grade 8 – 9:45am

Grade 8 students should report to school at 9:45am on Tuesday, September 8th and meet at the front of the school to assemble before going into the gym for your official welcome. This will be your opportunity to meet the staff of Seycove.

Look for your name on the Homeroom List, which will be posted on the main doors at the front of the school. Those lists will indicate your homeroom number and homeroom teacher. You should report to that room immediately after the gym assembly.

Your homeroom teacher will provide you with information about your classes, fees, and lockers.

Grades 9 to 12 – 10:30am

Students should check the Homeroom List posted on the front doors of the school to find their Homeroom Number. Students report to their homeroom at 10:30am where they will receive a copy of their timetable and student fee invoice. Fees may be paid during homerooms scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. When fees are paid, students will receive access to a locker and lock, and a student agenda book. After Thursday, all fees must be paid at the main office.

Students with timetable errors should sign-up in Student Services for an appointment to see a counsellor.

**New Students: if you require help, teachers, counsellors, custodians, the office staff, 7/11 Program Students, and other students are available...just ask!*

Regular classes begin Wednesday after Homeroom!

Photo Day

Remember...Friday, September 11th is Photo Day!



FEES:

As per Board Policy 706, the Superintendent of Schools reviews annually the schedule of school fees for all schools, and provides this schedule to Trustees for information.

Specific information regarding school fees is available at www.seycove.ca and is printed on the back of every student invoice.

Fee Waiver: Should you wish to complete a fee waiver form, please contact the Principal, Karim Hachlaf.

ABSENCES & CONTACT INFO

Please make sure the school is aware of excused absences for your child by calling the Absence Call-back Line at **604-903-3673** leaving brief details of your child's absence as follows: (the student's first and last name, grade, date of absence, the times of the absence if it is not all day, and a short reason for the absence. e.g.. illness, dentist, excused, etc). Expect a call and email if your child has an unexcused absence or more than two lates from classes during the day. Students may not excuse themselves. If you would like more information about absence procedures, please visit www.seycove.ca.

Seycove also sends voicemail and email messages regarding overdue library books and other important school details/events. Please ensure the school has your current phone number and email address so you do not miss out on these messages. A demographics update form will be sent home with your student the first week of school. If there are any changes, please make them on this form and hand it in to Student Services as soon as possible..

Student Supplies

Students always want to buy their school supplies before classes begin; however, they should be aware that each subject teacher might require special supplies.

General supplies include:

- ✓ Binders
- ✓ Lined paper
- ✓ Pens/pencils/highlighters

All English students grades 8 - 12 should have access to a user-friendly dictionary and thesaurus at home and/or in their locker.

All French, German and Spanish language students are expected to purchase a French/English, German/English, or Spanish/English dictionary.

VACATIONS

Parents and students should expect that missing school time to go on holidays will have an impact on progress and achievement at school. Parents and students should make all reasonable efforts to avoid planning holidays that interfere with scheduled classes. Class time cannot be replicated and some activities and assignments may be impossible to do if students miss classes. Students and parents should be aware that teachers are not required to provide extra work or extra time to complete assignments missed for absences.

The school recognizes that there will be times when families will go on holidays during school time. Families and students must make every effort to minimize the impact of missing classes by informing the school and individual teachers as early as possible, by maintaining contact with the school as much as possible, (either electronically or through peers) in order to keep up with work, by working ahead in courses, and by spending extra time and effort catching up upon returning. Please fill out an excused absence form available in the main office, or at www.seycove.ca.

Missing of classes for any reason could have an impact on assessment and evaluation.



COUNSELLING NEWS—By Nancy Roberts

The Counselling Department welcomes you back to another year at Seycove. We look forward to working in partnership with families and staff as we support students in various capacities throughout the year. The beginning of the school year is an exciting and busy time and will require patience and understanding as we work together to ensure student placement in courses.

Students will be receiving their timetables on the first day of school. Please review that timetable with your student. You are looking first to make sure that they have received the "Required Courses" necessary for graduation. Secondly, look to see if your student has received a full compliment of courses: Grades 8 to 10 should have a minimum of 8 courses; Grades 11 and 12 should have a minimum of 7 courses.

While we would ideally like to give students all of their top elective choices, this is not always possible. In some cases, school scheduling and balancing of classes require substitution of alternative elective choices. Alterations to timetables will be addressed in the following priority order in the first two weeks of September:

- Required courses for graduation
- Incomplete timetables

All students who require, or would like to request a change, must complete the Course Request form available in the Counselling Office and accommodation for changes will be addressed in the above priority order. There are no guarantees of change and it is important for attendance purposes that students follow their original timetable until they are informed of any changes. Questions or concerns regarding student timetables should be directed to the **grade level counsellor**.

A special reminder to grade 8 parents of the Grade 8 Parent Evening on Thursday, September 10th. The evening starts at 7:00pm and it is important that parents and students attend together. One goal of this meeting is to demystify the timetable. We hope you enjoyed your summer and we look forward to a positive school year.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING AT SEYCOVE

An apprenticeship is a training program for trades and technical careers that involves a combination of on the job training and classroom instruction. There are over 150 apprenticeship trades in British Columbia. The Industry Training Authority (ITA) is the provincial organization that oversees apprenticeship training. More information, including a list of apprenticeship trades, is available on the ITA website www.itabc.ca

Students are able to begin their apprenticeship training while in high school.

In order to qualify, a student must be:

- 15 years of age or older
- in a paid, part-time position in an apprenticeship trade
- under the supervision of an experienced worker
- registered with the ITA as a Secondary School Apprentice (SSA)

Once registered as a Secondary School Apprentice:

- On the job hours completed in high school will be applied to the total hours needed to complete an apprenticeship and job hours can be credited for work done in the previous 12 months including summer work.
- Four graduation credits will be given for every 120 hours of work completed to a maximum of 16 credits (8 Grade 11 credits, 8 Grade 12 credits)
- If the student completes a minimum of 480 hours while in high school, attains a C+ average in their Grade 12 year, and is still in an apprenticeship 6 months after graduation, they are eligible for a \$1000 tuition voucher to help cover the cost of technical training after graduation.

For more information, or to register as a Secondary School Apprentice, contact Mark Fetterly at Seycove. His phone number is 604-903-3643 and his email is mfetterly@nvds44.bc.ca

Counselling Contacts:

Being aware of your child's timetable is one way to stay connected with the school and with the education your children is receiving. Many studies indicate that secondary school students want parents to be involved in the education process. However, experience tells us that getting information out of teenagers can be problematic. A parent staying in touch with teachers is a direct route to accurate information and certainly, grade counsellors are available to assist at any time.

We welcome Shirley Lempriere to our counselling department. Shirley will be responsible for Grade 10 students and International students.

Counselling contacts for the 2009-2010 year are as follows:

Ms. Nancy Roberts: grades 11 and 12
email: nroberts@nvds44.bc.ca
phone 604-903-3634

Ms. Shirley Lempriere: grade 10 and International Students.
email: slempriere@nvds44.bc.ca
phone 604-903-3635

Mr. Mark Fetterly: grades 8 and 9
email: mfetterly@nvds44.bc.ca
phone 604-903-3643

Vancouver Coastal Health
Immunization Clinics at Seycove:



Who? Grade 9 Students

When? November 17, 2009; January 12th, 2010; and May 13th, 2010 (approx. 9:00-11:00 am)

What?

Adacel (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis vaccine) – 1 dose- booster due every 10 years
HPV (Human Papillomavirus vaccine) - 3 doses – girls only

Further information and consent forms will be brought home in the fall by all Grade 9 students. Seycove's Public Health Nurse, **Donna Coates**, may be contacted by phone at 604-983-6929 or by email: donna.coates@vch.ca.



The Athletic Department plans to offer the following sports during the 2009-2010 school year (see below). Students, parents and/or community members are invited to become involved in the athletic program. Contact me at pshtenko@nvsd44.bc.ca or 604-903-3666 if you are interested in coaching or managing a school team. Volunteers are always needed!

Team Sports (Fall)

Badminton	Open to all Boys & Girls
Cross-Country	Open to all Boys & Girls
Field Hockey	Open to all Girls
Rowing	Open to all Boys & Girls
Rugby	Boys only, Gr. 8 & 9
Soccer	Boys only, Sr. & Jr.
Swimming	Open to all Boys & Girls
Volleyball	Girls only, Gr. 8-12

Team Sports (Winter)

Basketball	Boys & Girls, Gr. 8-12
Gymnastics	Open to all Boys & Girls
Ski/Snowboard	Open to all Boys & Girls
Wrestling	Open to all Boys & Girls

Team Sports (Spring)

Golf	Open to all Boys & Girls
Mountain Biking	Open to all Boys & Girls
Rugby	Boys only, Sr. & Jr.
Soccer	Girls only, Sr. & Jr.
Tennis	Open to all Boys & Girls
Track & Field	Open to all Boys & Girls

SEYCOVE ATHLETICS—By Paul Shtenko

The 2008-2009 school year proved to be very successful for Seycove athletics. The school would like to build on those successes and make 2009-2010 an even more enjoyable year for our athletes, coaches and parents. The athletic council encourages parents to get involved with the athletic program at Seycove and we would appreciate any help that your time would allow. There are numerous ways to contribute, whether it is attending games and supporting our athletes, coaching or managing a team. The athletic department feels strongly that if students are participating in extra-curricular activities it can increase students' achievements in their academic studies. It teaches students important time management skills and responsibility. Athletics are a rewarding experience for students, one that will have a lasting impact on their lives.

The Athletic Council proposed a new Athletic PAC this year and it has been a huge success. We had a large turnout of parents that want to see the athletic program at our school flourish. We completed the year with a Spring Camp for our feeder schools which had over 50 students in attendance. Both parents and students found it to be a valuable experience as it highlighted the varied teams that are available at Seycove. We hope to build on this event to increase the visibility of our program in the community. If you would like to become a member of this exciting opportunity then please contact me at the school in September. There will be an informational session in the first few weeks of school opening; please refer to our website for dates and times of meetings. I look forward to meeting with you in September.

A full list of sports available for students is located on our website under Athletics. Please contact me if you have any further questions in regards to athletics at the school. I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, please take advantage of the last weeks of August as the busy fall season begins.

Once again the school would like to thank the community for all its hard work and support over the last year, we hope to have that support continue and thrive for 09/10.

Sincerely,

Paul Shtenko
Athletic Coordinator
Seycove Secondary
604-903-3666

SEYCOVE SUCCESSES 2008-2009

- Juvenile Girl's Provincial Basketball Champions 2009
- Provincial Ski Champions 2009
- 2nd Place Overall Gymnastic Provincials 2009

Find Your Inner Obama!

"According to most studies, people's number one fear is public speaking. Number two is death. This means to the average person, if you go to a funeral, you're better off in the casket than doing the eulogy," observes Jerry Seinfeld. However, if you are not like the average person Seinfeld famously mocked, and you would rather be speaking than dead, then you should join us in the Public Speaking Club (or perhaps if you are one of those who would rather be in the casket, you really should join us as well to overcome this irrational fear.) We will learn the essentials of effective speech writing and delivery. We will acquire the tools needed to present an argument and convince our audience to believe us. We will learn to love the power of language and marvel at our ability to use it. Most importantly, we will learn how not to put an audience to sleep. Our motto: It does not matter what you are saying if nobody is listening! Then in late April, as a test of our new skills, we will compete in a greater Vancouver public speaking contest, against over a hundred other students from throughout the region. Sound like fun? Pay attention to the announcements in the fall for updates. Or for more information, pester Ms. Madsen. (Open to all students grades 8-11 willing to do a little work.)

MUSIC UNIFORMS—By Frank Lee

Junior: The junior uniform for Grade 8 Concert Band, Grade 9 Concert Band, and Junior Jazz Band is as follows:

Men & Women:

- Black dress pants (please, no black jeans)
- Black socks and black dress shoes (no runners)
- Uniform t-shirt will be sized in September and given out at the fall concert (cost **\$15**)

Senior: The senior uniform for Senior Concert Band, Senior Choir, and Senior Jazz Band is as follows:

Men:

- Black dress shirt
- Black dress pants (please no black jeans)
- Black socks and black dress shoes (no runners)
- Blue cummerbund vest (to be rented)

Seycove Music Dates for 2009-2010:

- Sept. 16—Music Parents Meeting
- Dec. 9—Winter Concert
- Feb. 9—February Blues Concert
- May 29—Cabaret in the Cove
- June 1—Year End Music Concert

Women:

- Black long dress (sizing will be done in September)
- Black low-heeled dress shoes (please, no platform shoes)