



Maquinna Elementary School  
 3881 Bruce Street  
 Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1J6  
 Phone: 250-724-0512 Fax: 250-724-0513



# Maquinna News

Welcome Back!!

September 2023

Welcome to a new school year for 2023 - 2024. We hope you have had a relaxing and restful summer. A special welcome to our new kindergarten students and their families and all families who are new to our school community. We look forward to working together with you this year, to ensure all students have a successful and rewarding year. If you have any comments, questions or a concern, please feel free to contact me, or our V.P. Mrs. Dawson, at any time.

Sincerely,  
 Mr. S. Petersen,  
 Principal



## Mark Your Calendar

Special points of interest:

- September 11 School Lunch Program Begins
- September 13 Kindergarten starts full days
- September 15 Terry Fox Run (bus leaves at 9:05)
- September 15 Forms Signed and Returned
- September 21 Backpack program starts
- September 25 School Planning Day – No School for students
- September 27 Open House – 5-6 pm
- October 2 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation – School Closed
- October 9 Thanksgiving Day – No School
- October 10 Individual Photo Day
- October 19 Great BC Shakeout at 10:19 a.m.
- October 20 Provincial Pro Day – No School for students
- October 25-26 Student Learning Conferences – Noon dismissal
- November 7 Individual photo re-takes
- November 13 Remembrance Day Holiday – School Closed
- November 20 Provincial Pro Day – No School for students

### Supervision

Please be reminded that we start morning supervision at **8:30 a.m.** We ask that you do not bring your student(s) to school before that time. Thank you in advance for your support.

### Forms, forms, forms!

Attached to this newsletter you will find the following forms that need to be completed each year. Please complete and return by **Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Protection of privacy-consent form – let us know where we can use pics!

Self Declaration form – please fill out if applicable.

Student emergency release form – please let us know of all adults allowed to pickup your student in the event of an emergency closure.

Student verification form – please make any necessary changes and **sign**

## School Lunch Program



An information letter is included on the back page of this newsletter. Envelopes for the program are available in the office, for pickup by students or parents. Signed envelopes should be returned to the office monthly. Each school is allocated a limited amount of lunches. Lunch Program starts Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Attendance

If you know of an upcoming absence for your child, please let the office (250-724-0512) or your child's teacher know. If your child is late to the school, please have them sign in at the office.

Maquinna PAC has a Facebook page that parents, staff, and administration use to update families on events and information about Maquinna School. We encourage you to join.

### The Terry Fox Run

September 15<sup>th</sup> students will be running the Kitsuksis Dyke. *Please join us and support this wonderful cause by donating to: <http://schools.terryfox.ca/32344> or Bring a Toonie for Terry!*  
*Together, we can all make a difference!*

## OPEN HOUSE – September 27<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:00 pm

Maquinna families are invited to join the staff of Maquinna Elementary for a hotdog barbeque and a visit to the class.

The barbeque is from 5:00-5:30.

The classes will be open for visits from 5:30-6:00.

We hope to see you there!

### School District Policies

Parents, please discuss the following school policies with your children:

- Parents are reminded government regulations ban smoking on all school grounds, including the playing fields.
- Student cell phones should be put away in school hours and may be used after school.

### Electronic Devices

We recommend that students do not bring electronic devices such as digital cameras, cell phones, music players and games to school. They are easily broken, misplaced or go missing. Students and parents should be aware that staff will not be responsible for these devices. Students will be asked to keep all electronic devices in their back packs during the school day.

### Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards

Students who ride bikes or scooters or skateboards to school must wear helmets for safety and legal reasons. Bikes should also be locked up at the bike rack. Students may not ride bikes, scooters or skateboards on the school grounds before school until 3:30 pm. Students should walk their bikes onto the school grounds to the bike racks.

### Phoning Home

Please let your student know that the office phone is to be used for *emergency use only*. The phone should not be used for forgotten homework, forgotten clothing or shoes, or for making arrangements for play-dates. Thank you for your cooperation.

### Traffic Safety Reminders

The RCMP will be enforcing all motor vehicle infractions within school zones, and would like to remind drivers of the following common concerns:

- Vehicles must not park within 6 meters of any traffic control device, cross walk or stop sign.
- Reminder to come to a complete stop at all stop signs.

### Earthquake Preparedness

Our School will be joining thousands of people who will Drop, Cover, and Hold On, October 19, at 10:19 a.m., during the *Great British Columbia ShakeOut!*



## Bus Schedule

<b>ROUTE 2 - Maquinna School AM</b>	
Argyle & 8th (Crosswalk)	8:22
4th & Athol	8:24
3rd & Mar	8:27
3rd & Montrose	8:28
3rd & Bruce	8:30
3rd & Neill	8:32
2146 Cameron Drive	8:35
Anderson & Ravenhill	8:37
Maquinna School	8:40
<b>ROUTE 3 - Maquinna School PM (M-T)</b>	
Leave Maquinna	2:45
Leaves EJ Dunn	2:52
Anderson & Ravenhill	2:59
Cameron Drive & Rita	3:02
3rd & Neill	3:03
3rd & Bruce	3:04
3rd & Montrose	3:06
3rd & Mar	3:07
6th & Bute	3:09
10 <sup>th</sup> ave/Russell Field	3:12
<b>ROUTE 3 - Maquinna School PM (F)</b>	
Leave Maquinna	2:50
Leaves EJ Dunn	2:55
Anderson & Ravenhill	3:02
Cameron Drive & Rita	3:05
3rd & Neill	3:06
3rd & Bruce	3:07
3rd & Montrose	3:08
3rd & Mar	3:09
6th & Bute	3:13
10 <sup>th</sup> ave/Russell Field	3:17

### SAFETY CONCERN

Please remind your children **NOT** to walk through the staff parking lot before or after school.

A reminder to all parents that the staff parking lot is **NOT** meant to be used as a pick up/drop off for children, before or after school. As the school population has increased, so has our staff and the parking lot is unable to accommodate any vehicles other than staff.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep all our students safe.

# School Hours



8:42	First Bell
8:47	School Start Time
10:30	Recess
10:45	Class Resumes
12:00	Lunch
12:35	Class Resumes
2:30	Dismissal

## BACKPACKS

Does your student need a new backpack?

Costco has generously donated quite a few backpacks!

Send your student to the office to pick one out!

## BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

The Backpack Food Program is available to assist families on weekends again this year. This program was created to help our students and their families who could benefit from a backpack of food each weekend that will contain the makings of a good healthy meal.

It is well known that a child can focus more on their learning and achieve their best in their studies if they are well fed. School breakfast and lunch programs support children's learning with meals during the week. Our program is meant to compliment these programs by providing our students and their families with food on weekends.



We are very fortunate to receive wonderful community support. As a result, we are often able to help with extras such as diapers, drinks, fresh produce and more. Our aim is to provide our families with good support.

Food will be delivered to Maquinna School in time for students to take the food home by bus or pickup on Thursday afternoons after school.

If you are interested in your family becoming a part of this program please ask the secretary at your school for a sign up sheet. Please fill it out and return it to the office.

Thank you.  
Backpack Coordinators

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Please return this form to: MAQUINNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Please Sign-Up to receive your Newsletter via e-mail!

If you would like to receive Newsletters from our school via e-mail, please sign up now! At times we will still send a paper copy home with each child, however many newsletters can be received by e-mail only.

Names of children attending Maquinna School \_\_\_\_\_

### **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_



### **SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAM 2023-24**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

School District 70 Pacific Rim is pleased that the Ministry of Education through the Community Links Program will continue to partially subsidize the School Meal Program in 2023/2024.

#### **What is the School Meal Program?**

The School Meal Program (SMP) ensures students are able to receive a nutritious lunch each school day. The meal program will start on **September 11, 2023** and continues through the school year. Parents will be asked to complete a SMP monthly consent envelope for each month their child participates in the program.

#### **Who Will Pay For The Lunch?**

Our cost for each School Meal Program lunch is currently **\$4.60/lunch** which works out to approximately **\$92/month**. We appreciate any and all contributions you are able to make. Partial payment is acceptable for parents who cannot afford the entire monthly fee. Please remit payment (cheques preferred) in the SMP Consent Envelope.

**The lunch program operates on the honour system.** The only record kept is a list of the total lunches served. No payment record is kept and all students participating in the program are treated equally.

The money received from parents complements funding received from the Ministry of Education's Community Links program and helps to make the program financially self-sufficient. Your understanding and cooperation are appreciated.

#### **How do I sign my child(ren) up for the program?**

Return the completed Consent Envelope provided by the school to the office by the specified date. These envelopes are sent out every month and must be completed and returned in order to remain on the program.

If you have any questions, please contact your Principal.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ross  
Secretary Treasurer