



Griffin News

February 2021

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM ÉCOLE GLENBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
"TOGETHER WE SUCCEED — ENSEMBLE ON RÉUSSIT"

Dear Glenbrook families,

The following is an excerpt from the letter sent out by New Westminster Superintendent of Schools Karim Hachlaf on Thursday February 4th, 2021; it concerns new updates to the COVID-19 health and safety guidelines for K-12 schools. We are repeating the information in this newsletter to ensure that all families are aware of the updates as soon as possible, as the new guidelines have come into effect for New Westminster schools as of Monday, February 8th.

Enhanced mask guidelines (Effective in New Westminster Schools Monday, February 8th, 2021):

All K-12 staff and all middle and secondary students will be required to wear masks in all indoor areas – even within learning groups – except for when they are sitting or standing at their individual seat or workstation in a classroom, when there is a barrier in place, or when they are eating or drinking.

**Mask wearing at other times, or for students in Elementary settings, continues to be a personal choice that will be supported and respected.*

Additional guidelines for Physical Education and Music classes

- *High intensity physical activities are to be held outside, whenever possible.*
- *Shared equipment, such as weight machines or musical instruments (like drums or guitars) can only be used if they've been properly sanitized between each use.*
- *Students playing instruments must be spaced at a minimum of 2 meters apart, with masks required when singing.*

Introducing a new K-12 Health Check App

The Ministry of Education has worked with Public Health and the BCCDC to develop a website and mobile app (available for iPhone and Google Android users), as a voluntary alternative or additional tool for students and parents to use when completing their required daily health checks. This app does not track location and is not a tool meant to support the contact tracing process: it is only intended to support the daily health checks already in place, and offer guidance to those questioning whether or not a student should attend school. No personal information will be either collected or stored." This health check can be found at [this link](#).

If you have any questions about these new updates, please don't hesitate to get touch.

Mr. Chris Evans, Principal

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Phone: 604-517-5940

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Reminders and Other Important Info

Lost and Found

We strongly urge our students to stop by and check the Lost + Found regularly—they may be reunited with their missing belongings. We often have a diverse collection of clothing, water bottles, and school supplies that have been separated from their owners there!



If it is an item of higher value, such as a phone, headphones, glasses, or jewelry, they may also check with the office, as those often get turned in to the secretaries for safekeeping.

We are a Nut-Aware School!



This is a short but very important reminder to all parents and students that Glenbrook is a Nut Aware school! Please be advised that we have several students among us with severe allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. We ask that you please provide your child with peanut & nut-free alternatives for their snacks and lunches to help keep their classmates safe!

No Sharing Snacks

In keeping with our allergy reminder, we would also like to remind our families that under our COVID-19 health and safety protocols, our students are not permitted to share food with one another, and that we must ask parents not to send snacks/treats for the class for birthdays and other special events.

We sincerely apologize for any disappointment that this may cause, but we hope that everyone understands it is an important, hopefully temporary, measure that we must take to keep all of our staff and students healthy.

Please Remember Your Mask

All students, staff, and visitors must wear masks inside the school.

While we are able provide those who do not have masks with them upon arrival with disposable masks, **we strongly encourage our families to provide their own, ideally reusable, masks for their students on a daily basis.** If possible, it is a good idea for students to keep a spare clean mask in a baggie in their backpack at all times, and to replace it ASAP once it has been used.

...And Your Water Bottle Too!

Finally, we remind all students to please bring refillable water bottles with them to school! As part of this year's health & safety protocols the mouthpieces of our water fountains have been disabled, but the bottle filling portions still work.



In an effort to reduce plastic waste as well as keep our students hydrated, we strongly recommend that students bring a bottle they can keep with them throughout the day.

Reminders and Other Important Info cont'.

Please Be Scent-sensitive! New Westminster Schools are Scent-Free Zones

School District 40 and Ecole Glenbrook Middle School are committed to creating a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff.



In consideration of others who may have chemical sensitivities, reactions, or allergies, we request that all students, parents, staff, and visitors please refrain from wearing perfumes or fragrances, and from using strongly-scented personal products and detergents while inside the school.

We thank you for your cooperation!

We are a Closed Campus!

Our students are sometimes tempted to take a walk over to the mall for a special treat during the school day. In the interest of safety and security, students are to remain on campus for the duration of the school day. Going to MacDonald's, Safeway, Subway, Starbucks, or other stores is not permitted unless a parent or guardian picks up their child and accompanies them. If a student forgot to bring a lunch to school, they must call home to get one, or their parent must pick them up to take them out for lunch.

Please understand that for liability reasons, we cannot send students alone to the store even if they have parent permission.

All students have been made aware of this policy; if they choose to leave campus on their own to purchase food from one of the local establishments, their parents will be contacted.

2020/2021 Glenbrook Yearbook



We've had a few inquiries about them recently, so this is just a quick reminder to our families that this year, all 2020/2021 yearbooks can be purchased directly through jostens.com, instead of on School Cash as in previous years.

Don't hesitate to pre-order one for your child today!



"I REGRET BUYING A YEARBOOK"
SAID NO ONE EVER

BUY A YEARBOOK



New Westminster Youth Services

New West Youth Services has two middle school-specific programs running this season and they are eager to get some youth involved! Both of these programs are running for the duration of the winter season.

Wednesdays- Our Leaders In Training (LIT)

Location: Zoom or Century House (620 Eighth St), Cost: \$1.00

Running every Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 pm, both online and in-person!

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to develop leadership skills, get involved with program/event development opportunities, and make new friends!

Fridays- Middle School Drop-in

Location: Century House (620 Eighth St), Cost \$1.00

Running every Friday 6:30-7:30 or 8:00-9:00

Participate in video games, table tennis, take-home art, and more!



Grade 8 Grad Committee

This is a quick reminder to our Glenbrook community that you can support the grade 8 grads by donating your beverage container return money at either the Sapperton (**use code 618**) or Queensborough (**use code 610**) Return-It depots!

As well, the Grade 8 Grad Committee would like to extend a big thank you to all the people that supported the Krispy Kreme donut sale. It was a successful event that will help the grade eight grads have a successful end of year grad party!

SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER

Important Dates:

- **Monday, February 15:** Family Day, school closed
- **Tuesday, February 16:** Non-Instructional Day, school closed for students
- **Thursday, March 11:** Second report card issued on MyEd BC portal
- **Monday, March 15 to Friday March 26:** **SPRING BREAK!**
- **Monday March 29:** School reopens after Spring Break
- **Friday April 2:** Good Friday statutory holiday, school closed



Glenbrook Parents Advisory Council

1. A big thank you to all parents who joined us for the January PAC meeting. There was a lot of discussion and many great questions were answered. If you were not able to attend, but wanted more information about the FSA presentation, you may click on the link below.

<http://nwdpac.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/FSA-Presentation-for-DPAC.pdf>

We welcome all parents to join us for the next meeting from the comfort of your own home.

Our next EGMS PAC meeting is: Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00pm.



Join the PAC Meeting Zoom Meeting by clicking the following link:

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/63142739397?pwd=Vk9YMdRoTHdmZ3dScWdpbUZOQldUdz09>

Meeting ID: 631 4273 9397

Passcode: B6m.qSk?

2. Easter is coming soon, and your EGMS PAC is here to help make chocolate happen! Log in to or create your Purdy's account to easily order online. Here are the details on how to do that:

1) Log in or create your account here: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/join.aspx>

2) Once you've logged in, click "join a group", enter our Customer Number **54568**, and join our 2021 EGMS Spring Chocolate Campaign!

Orders are now open and the deadline for Purdy's orders is Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021. Pick up on Friday, March 12th, 2021 from 2:45 to 3:15pm, exact location to be confirmed and COVID protocols will be in place.

Feel free to share with friends, family and neighbours! They can view an online catalogue in PDF form [here](#). For any questions or problems, please contact us at egmspac@gmail.com.

3. The December Holiday Raffle was SO popular that the PAC will now be offering a Spring Raffle! Watch for details coming soon.

4. Please watch for an email and School Cash Online soon for the opportunity to order a snack for your children. Details with dates, items and prices will be sent out soon!

5. The EGMS PAC is now on Instagram! You can easily keep up to date with their upcoming events and activities at the following link:

<https://www.instagram.com/ecoleglenbrookmiddleschoolpac>

