



**November 17th, 2020**

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to thank our parent community for making it out to our Parent-Teacher Conferences in the first week of November. We had an amazing turn-out, both in person and virtually. Staff members report that parents followed our health and safety protocols diligently making it a safe endeavor for everyone. At Cherry Hill we highly value 'parents as partners'. An abundance of educational research indicates that student success can greatly increase when parents are active partners with schools. For this, we thank you for your continued efforts. If for any reason you were unable to make it your parent-teacher conference, I would encourage you to reach out to the classroom teacher for an alternative way to communicate about your son or daughter's progress.

On a completely different note, we still have several students in the school that are not dressing appropriately for our fall/winter weather. It has gotten quite cold recently (especially when it rains). Please make sure your son or daughter has a warm jacket with a hood on all days, and boots (especially for primary students) on rainy days. Although we stay inside when there is torrential rain and/or lightening, we do go outside for light to moderate rainy days.

We have a few important dates coming up:

**Nov 20<sup>th</sup>** Early Dismissal (Schedule A 11:00am/Schedule B 11:15am)

**Nov 27<sup>th</sup>** Month End Virtual Assembly (1:30pm)

**Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>** First Term Report Cards Go Home

**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** Not in Session, No school

**Dec 7-17** Holiday Food Drive

**Dec 14-18** Holiday Spirit Week

**Dec 21<sup>st</sup>** First Day of Winter Break

**Jan 5<sup>th</sup>** First Day of School after Winter Break

### Cherry Hill's Covid-19 School Safety Plan

With BC's Covid-19 case rate increasing to new highs in recent weeks, we thought it would be appropriate to address Cherry Hill's Covid-19 Safety Plan. First and foremost, please note that it is a working document which is reviewed frequently by our Health and Safety Committee. As changes are made, these are communicated to affected members of our community. A recent change we have made is splitting our Kindergarten Learning Group morning line-up between the main and south-west entrances to limit morning crowding. A recent Public Health Order has required all businesses (schools included) to review their safety plans with particular

emphasis on staff health checks and limiting crowding in high traffic areas. Please note that all school district staff complete an online health check each morning before beginning work. We would like to thank parents for completing morning health checks with their children at home and keeping them home when sick. Regarding staff crowding, all our common spaces (staff rooms, photocopier rooms, etc.) have occupancy limits posted on entrances. While staff have done an amazing job this year with Covid safety, we will be reviewing our safety plan with a fine tooth comb at our next Health and Safety Committee meeting to determine if improvements can be made.

### Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> Half Day

A final reminder of our half day on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Schedule A classrooms (8:30 start) will be dismissed at 11:00am while Schedule B classrooms (8:45 start) will be dismissed at 11:15am. The half day in place to give teachers a little extra time to complete assessment and write report cards.

### Term 1 Report Cards

Term 1 report cards will be handed out to students on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the end of the day. Cherry Hill will continue to use the same report card template we've used in previous years. We suggest parents review report cards with their children present, taking the time to read teacher comments (not just looking at the grade!). If students or parents have any questions or concerns, the first step of communication should be made directly with the classroom teacher. Parents, please don't forget to sign and return report card envelopes to classroom teachers. Returning these envelopes lets us know that you've had a chance to review the report while cutting down on paper as they are reused for subsequent report cards.

### New Cherry Hill PAC Executive

We would like to congratulate our new Cherry Hill PAC Executive members on their recent nominations. We would like to thank the entire team for their efforts in making Cherry Hill that much better! PAC meeting dates will be announced in the near future. Parents, please remember that if you have a child at Cherry Hill, you are already a member of PAC and are encouraged to attend monthly meetings. Please note that PAC meetings this year will be held virtually on Zoom. PAC bylaws have been amended so that voting can occur online. All parents have voting rights as long as they show up to the online meetings. This is a great way for parents to contribute to our school community.

**President** - Wendy Stewart

**VP** - Tera Lemire

**Secretary** - Krissy Bains

**Treasurer** - Bunny Cocar

**Fundraising Rep** - Jayme Dobson  
**DPAC** - Kara Erickson

**Parking on Best Ave & Side Streets**

We really appreciate parents that choose to park on Best and surrounding side streets to reduce traffic in our parking lot. We would like to remind parents that park on Best Ave. to leave ample room between their car and our main entrance when parking. This allows exiting cars to be able to see traffic along Best Ave when leaving the parking lot. In addition, a few cars on our side streets have been blocking residential driveways or parking on the opposite side of the road. Because many children walk home after school, parking safety is also extremely important on public roads surrounding the school. Please remember your convenience cannot come at the cost of student safety.

**Schoolwide Indigenous Ed. Art Project**

This year Ms. Osoup and Ms. Abbott are joining forces to spearhead another Indigenous Ed. inspired schoolwide art project. Mission Public Schools is focusing on the 7 Sacred Teaching of the Sabe (Sasquatch) and its lesson in honesty. Ms. Osoup and Ms. Abbott will be visiting every classroom at Cherry Hill this year to do lessons around the Sabe and Honesty. Following this, each student in the school will learn how to make their own Sabe sculpture. Once all students have created their own unique Sabe sculpture, we will hold a Covid-safe outdoor art show in the spring. We will update our school community on this exciting project in the coming months.

**Parents Entering the Building: Procedure Reminder & Request**

We would like to remind parents of the following procedure when entering the building:

- you must have an appointment (call the office)
- when entering sanitize hands using wall mounted unit to your left
- proceed to the reception table and complete health check
- if it's 'No' to all three questions please sign-in and proceed to the main office
- items will be taken by staff to your son or daughter by staff, or, your son or daughter will be brought to you by staff
- if you have a meeting with a staff member that staff member will come to you
- parents should not be wandering our hallways by themselves for any reason

In light of Dr. Henry's expectation that masks are worn in public settings (for those of us that can do so safely), we also request the same for parents when entering Cherry Hill. With all of that said, we would like to thank the vast majority of parents for respecting and continuing to follow our building entry procedure.

**Star Fish Backpack Program**

The Star Fish Backpack Program is a Rotary sponsored program that aims to provide food for families on weekends. Children in the program receive a backpack of food on Fridays

and are asked to return the empty backpack on Mondays. If you, or anyone you know could benefit from this program please contact the principal of Cherry Hill. We currently have open spaces in the program. If you would like to donate to the program, please visit <https://starfishpack.com/> for more information.

**Great Things At Cherry Hill**



Students in our Kindergarten Learning Group working on their Sabe sculptures



Beautiful Remembrance Day artwork from Division 5