

October 22, 2021



Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

We hope that this message finds you well and relatively dry (which is hard to do now that the rainy season has begun)! Please find some important reminders and updates listed below:

October Snapshot for Parents & Students: Please see the most recent link added to the front page of our Claremont Website that includes a focus on getting outside and being active to support mental health and well-being: [Get Outside and Get Moving for Well-Being](#)

SD 63 Strategic Planning: You may have already received an email from our Superintendent, Dave Eberwein. His email explains the process and importance of a Strategic Plan for the Saanich School District. At our PAC meeting this past week we talked about this initiative with parents and community members. The Board of Education in Saanich is committed to working with the community to develop the 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. First steps to this plan will be the collection of feedback. The following link is designed to collect feedback from parents/guardians, students, staff and community members. We value your input and welcome your feedback: [SD63 Strategic Plan LINK.](#)

Grad Photos: For all grads who were unable to book a time with the Lifetouch portable portrait studio in October, we are working with Lifetouch to offer another stretch of 3-4 days (likely in January) so that all grads have the opportunity to book a time for photos or retakes. Please stay tuned for more information!

Grade 12 Parent/Guardian Meeting: Grade 12 is a very important year for students. It marks the final year of public education and a reminder that high school is almost over. Saying this, it is very important for all parents/guardians to be well informed about this year or the next eight months. Therefore we will hold a special meeting for all Grad Parents on Thurs Oct 28th @ 7:00 pm in our Ridge Theatre. Claremont Administration and Counsellors will present on a range of topics to include, diploma verification, Literacy 12 Provincial Assessment, Scholarship information, Grad Executive, what will Grad look like in June, etc. This will be an in person presentation in Ridge for the first 175 guests (total capacity of the space is 350 guests) who register on this [FORM](#) (also on the website). Please ensure you wear a mask and are healthy for this presentation. We would kindly request that only one parent per family attend. If you are unable to attend, we will film this presentation then post it on our YouTube.

In addition the first Tuesday of every month will be dedicated to the Grad Parent Planning Committee, the first meeting is set for Tues. Nov. 2nd at 7:00 pm.

Photo Retake Day: For any students that missed the opportunity to have a school photo taken with Lifetouch, there is a one-time opportunity available to do so on Thurs Oct 28th in the morning only (Blocks 1 and 2). Students will be called down by grade (beginning with Gr 9's) starting at 9:00am. Students must bring the current photo package that they received along with their student card in order to be able to do retakes.

Literacy/Numeracy 10 and Literacy 12: These assessments will take place on November 2nd and 3rd. On these days, the daily schedule will run in a Copernican style with 2 long blocks per day. November 2nd will run with Blk 1 in the morning (9am-11:45am) and Blk 3 in the afternoon (12:30-3:10pm), while November 3rd will run with Blk 2 in the morning (9am-11:45am) and Blk 4 in the afternoon (12:30-3:10pm). This change will allow for the approximately 3 hours that we are required to provide for these assessments.

- Grade 12 students will be writing the Literacy 12 assessment (new this year)
- Grade 11 students who have not written the Literacy 10 and/or Numeracy 10 assessment(s) yet will also be writing on these days as well.

Description of the Literacy Assessment:

The Literacy Assessment is a provincial assessment that assesses student proficiency in literacy. Literacy 10 and 12 are graduation requirements. These assessments assess students' ability to use critical and reflective thinking and analysis to make meaning from a diverse array of texts. It also assesses the ability of students to communicate their ideas, or those found in the texts. For more information, please click on the following [LINK](#).

Description of the Numeracy Assessment:

The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment is a provincial assessment that assesses student proficiency in numeracy. It is a graduation requirement. This assessment focuses on the application of mathematical concepts learned across multiple subjects from kindergarten to Grade 10. It requires students to solve problems by using five numeracy processes: interpret, apply, solve, analyze and communicate. For more information, please click on the following [LINK](#).

***NOTE:** students have 3 opportunities to write each assessment, and there are 4 opportunities to write throughout the year in Nov, Jan, April, and June.

Athletics News: Volleyball, Cross Country, Rowing, Field Hockey, Rowing

Volleyball: Congratulations to the Sr Boys Volleyball Team who remain undefeated! Our Ranked Senior Girls team (6th) looks to continue their success in Vancouver this weekend.

Cross Country: For the first time since 1994, Claremont's Senior Girls are Island Cross Country Champions! Also, the Junior Boys team qualified for BC's! In total, Claremont has 16 runners qualified for BC's in Vancouver on November 6th!!!!

Rowing: The second rowing regatta of the season will be held this weekend at Elk Lake. It's a one-of-a-kind event that sees roughly 400 students from across Greater Victoria participating in speed based racing over 1000m.

Field Hockey: The girls team is competing in the Island Tournament on Tuesday, Oct. 26.

Parents as Education and Career Coaches: One of the most informative opportunities for parents/guardians to help guide their child through the world of possibilities after high school is this interactive information session. This virtual information session will highlight the different pathways, supports along the way, and overview of resources available to students. Please click on the following link and sign up in advance, the date is Monday November 15th from 7:00 - 8:30pm: [Registration Link](#)

Thank you for reading, we hope you have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Peter Westhaver
pwesthaver@saanichschools.ca

Meaghan O'Brien
mobrien@saanichschools.ca

Aaron Buckham
abuckham@saanichschools.ca