

Hamilton Elementary School - Newsletter

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*We acknowledge and thank the First Peoples of the **hən'q'əmin'əm'** (hun-ki-meen-um) language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.*

June 27th, 2023

- **Principal's Message – Year-End Assembly**
- **Grade 7 Farewell Assembly**
- **Important upcoming dates**
- **Important Dates for next school year**

Dear Hamilton Families,

At our **Year-End Assembly tomorrow at 10:30** we will be saying goodbye to staff, students, families and four of our PAC members who have had a significant impact on our school community and have supported both teachers and students during their tenure. Join us as we show our appreciation.

Angie Liu (PAC Chair), Nicole Voglmaier (PAC Secretary), Nicole Okano (past PAC Chair and this year's Gr. 7 Committee Chair) and Mary Ann Balais (PAC volunteer extraordinaire) have been in their positions for several years now, even before my time at Hamilton. I have found them to be wonderful people to work with and dedicated to our school and supporting us in what we do. I think back to those challenging days during the pandemic, when we couldn't have events which brought staff and PAC together, and Angie arriving at the school on our Admin Day with treats and gifts for staff. We will miss these four parents as well as all our other departing parents as their children go on to high school or move to other schools.

We are also saying goodbye to **Ms. Mika Livingston, our Vice-Principal**, who will be Principal at McKay Elementary next year, **Mr. Lenz, our Grade 5/6 teacher** this year who has taken position at Whiteside next year, **Ms. Stephanie Johnson, who was a Helping/Relief Teacher** this year who is looking for new teaching experiences, and **Ms. Laura Elliott, our Band & Music Teacher** this year, who is being reassigned to other schools next year. Thank you to these amazing teachers for the professionalism they brought to Hamilton.

I would also like to recognize two of our outstanding departing **Education Assistants. Ms. Nicole Kime and Ms. Maria Rodriguez** who have been on temporary assignments at our school. We hope to have them back at Hamilton in the future.

The end of a school year always brings with it a bittersweet nature as we say goodbye to people who have become a part of the fabric of our Hamilton Family.

Mr. McCallum

NOTE: The class placement request process is now closed for the year. A reminder that these are just that, requests. We will do our best to accommodate them, but due to the complex nature of organizing a school, they are not guaranteed.

Grade 7 Farewell

Grade 7 Farewell, in the theme of “The Theatre” (as chosen by the students), went on seamlessly Friday with a touching ceremony, followed by family photos, luncheon and finally a dance/party to close the day! It was also the first time since 2019, that the Ceremony went on with the entire school in audience and with participation by other students and grades – it was so special to witness some emotional good-byes. On behalf of the Grade 7 Farewell Committee, I would like to thank our financial sponsors of **Vancity** and **Hamilton Community Association/Centre** for their generous donations towards our event. I would also like to acknowledge the help and multiple donations in the form of cookies, juice and swag bags & their time, from our Grade 7 parents and families who spent countless hours both leading up to and on the day of, to make this day so personalized for the students. It was a lot of work! Finally, a very special thank you to the Grade 7 Teachers, the Administration, and staff of Hamilton for their support and guidance throughout. A big event with fundraising, creating décor, games, lunch/food, gift bags, party, etc. cannot happen without the support of this community, and we came together to give our Grade 7s a big send-off to High School. Good luck to the Hamilton Class of 2023 (future Graduating Class of 2028) on your exciting new adventures ahead!

Nicole Okano
O/B Grade 7 Farewell Committee

Upcoming Dates

Year End Assembly 10:30	June 28
Last Day of Classes for students	June 29
Administrative Day	June 30
Last School Office closes for the summer	July 7
School office opens	August 28
First day back for students	September 5

Mark your Calendars - Important Dates for Next Year

First day of school – students attend for 1 hour	Tuesday, Sept. 5
Individual Photo Day	Monday, Sept. 18
Terry Fox Run	Thursday, Sept. 21
Professional Development Day	Friday, Sept. 22

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	Monday, Oct. 2
Thanksgiving Holiday	Monday, Oct. 9
Early (1:45) Dismissal for Conferences	Wednesday, Oct. 18
Early (1:45) Dismissal for Conferences	Thursday, Oct. 19
Professional Development Day	Friday, Oct. 20
Remembrance Day Assembly	Friday, Nov. 10
Remembrance Day Holiday	Monday, November 13
Professional Development Day *Please note correction	Monday, Nov. 20
Last school day before Winter Break	Friday, Dec. 22
First school day after Winter Break	Monday, Jan. 8
Professional Development Day	Monday, Jan. 29
Professional Development Day	Friday, Feb. 16
Family Day Holiday	Monday, Feb. 19
Early (12:00) Dismissal for Conferences	Wednesday, Feb. 28
Last school day before Spring Break	Thursday, Mar. 14
First school day after Spring Break/Easter	Tuesday, Apr. 2
Professional Development Day	Friday, May 17
Sports Day – 1:30pm dismissal	Friday, June 7
Last day students attend	Thursday, June 27