



# Shaughnessy Elementary School

4250 Marguerite Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 4G3

Telephone: 604-713-5500 Fax: 604-713-5503 <http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca>

**Principal: Ms. Janet Souther**

**Vice Principal: Mr. Michael Singh**

**PAC Co-Chairs: Ms. Michelle Harrison & Ms. Julia Kim**

**Director of Instruction-Field Services: Mr. Aaron Davis (Acting)**

**September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

這是重要的通告, 希請人譯讀。  
Important information, please translate

Dear Shaughnessy Community,

Welcome back! We hope you and your children had a fun-filled summer and are eager and ready to start the new school year. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new students and their families – we are happy to have you join our Shaughnessy community.

This year we welcome back two of our former Shaughnessy staff members. Ms. Grenzberg has returned as our Area Counselor and Mr. Dirk will be here in a music prep and resource position. In addition, we are pleased to have Ms. Turkington here to cover for Ms. Stec's maternity leave. Mr. Ferris is still away on leave and we will have a temporary teacher in the Grade 4/5 class for the beginning of the year. Ms. Albrecht has taken a position close to her home in Delta and she leaves us, albeit reluctantly. Please see her note on the next page. As you may know, this year has been unprecedented in terms of changes to staffing throughout the province. We are working with HR as we continue to fill several positions for this year and we appreciate your patience as we work through this process. At this time we hope to have students in their permanent classes by early next week.

Beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we will be operating on our regular schedule from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. The warning bell rings at 8:55am daily and classes begin at 9:00am. Recess is from 10:40 – 11:00 am and lunchtime is from 12:10 – 12:57 pm.

Please watch for a package of forms that will be sent home with each student. It is most important that you review these forms very carefully and ensure that information is correct and up to date. In particular, please ensure that you have supplied the required contact numbers so that we can reach you in the event of an emergency.

**Newsletters** and **Mid-Month Memos** will be emailed to parents and posted on our school website each month. (Publication dates are noted in the Parent Calendar Handbook.) Please ensure that you have supplied the school with your **email address**. If you are not receiving newsletter and information please contact the school and we will check to see that your information is up to date. You may also wish to check your spam folder in case messages have inadvertently been sent there. Emails will usually arrive from our Office Administrator Assistant, Ms. Good. The emails will be sent from [Shaughnessy@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:Shaughnessy@vsb.bc.ca). As well, please refer to our school website at <http://shaughnessy.vsb.bc.ca>.

A new school year brings excitement, anticipation, and often a little anxiety for children - and parents! You can help by being encouraging and helping your child to approach new opportunities positively. With support from parents and school staff, children typically adjust very quickly and thrive in their new learning environment.

On behalf of the Shaughnessy staff, welcome to the 2017- 2018 school year! We look forward to seeing many of you at Meet the Staff Night on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. In addition, please feel free to stop by the office and introduce yourself.

Warm Regards,

Janet Souther

## Important Dates to Remember

Wednesday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>	First full day of school, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wednesday, September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten students start full day attendance
Thursday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-month Memo emailed to parents
Friday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten parent orientation, 9:30 am
Friday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	Terry Fox Run, 11:00 am
Monday, September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pro-D Day. No school for students.
Wednesday, September 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meet the Staff evening, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Friday, September 30 <sup>th</sup>	September newsletter – emailed and posted to website

## Reporting Student Absences & Student Sign Out Procedures

Dear Shaughnessy families,

I am writing to say goodbye and thank you all for a wonderful twelve year stretch at Shaughnessy Elementary. It has been a pleasure working in your community and I leave with a heart full of wonderful memories.

I am moving on with a new challenge in my career. I have accepted a Teacher Librarian position in Delta, which as you all know is where I live. I move from a long commute each morning to a four minute drive.

I will be in and out of the city during the winter months and look forward to bumping into you, and hearing all about how your school year is going.

With the warmest of wishes for you all.

Love,

Mrs. Albrecht

## NEW PROCEDURES! - Reporting Student Absences & Student Sign Out

### Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service by calling this VSB District number. **604-713-5159**

Parents will be prompted to provide the two-digit extension for their child's school to access the school's voice mailbox for reporting an absence. Shaughnessy's school code is **78**

Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence – Please call **604-713-5159** and use the Shaughnessy School Code **78**, prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence.

### Student Sign Out Procedure

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

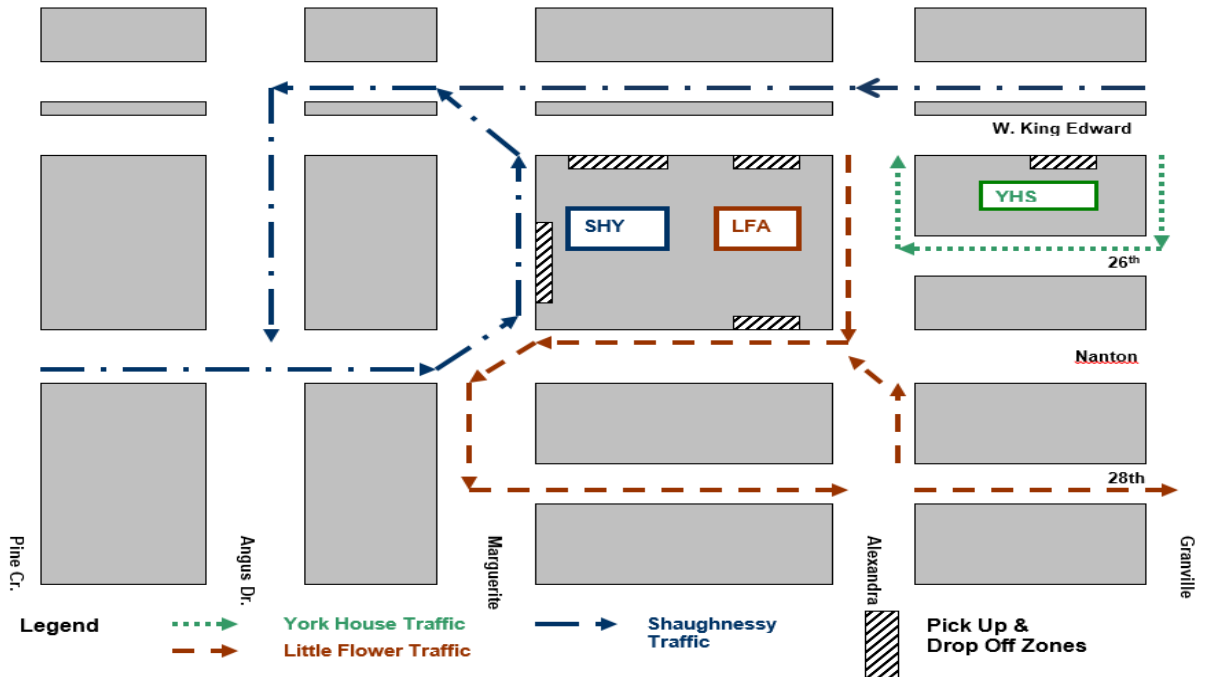
Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

## September Traffic Safety Reminders



Be sure to review traffic safety guidelines with your child this week. We recommend parking a couple of blocks away from the school and walking for fresh air and to avoid traffic congestion near out school. If you are driving, please drop students off quickly and safely on the **east side of Marguerite Street**.

Please keep our students safe by reviewing and adhering to our detailed traffic safety plan, below, as there are three busy schools in our neighbourhood.



## Shaughnessy's Code of Conduct

At Shaughnessy We: **Act Respectfully**  
**Act Responsibly**  
**Act Safely**

Shaughnessy's **Code of Conduct** aims for all individuals to show respect for, and consideration of others. A copy of our Code of Conduct is being sent home with your child this week. Please review it with your child. All teachers will be reviewing the same Code in classes this week. The Code of Conduct is included in the student agenda, and as well, posted on the Shaughnessy website and on the parent bulletin board.

## Shaughnessy Parent Calendar Handbook

Please look for our annual **Parent Calendar & Handbook** to be sent home to each family. This year, we have included additional material that has previously been sent home in the **Welcome Package** from the **Shaughnessy PAC**. Please review the contents carefully and hang it in a convenient place for easy reference throughout the year. Special events, PAC meetings, photo days, performances, hot lunch days, newsletters, professional days and report card conferences are all noted for the year.



## A message from the VSB - Voluntary Student Participation in School Events

The B.C. School Act states that all (public) schools and Provincial schools must be conducted on strictly secular and non-sectarian principles. The Vancouver School District plans its athletic events, field trips, assemblies, and other school events around Ministry required instruction days, statutory holidays, Pro D days, various other school events and the weather. We make every effort to accommodate schools' and district calendars to make these events as accessible as possible to all students. Given all other constraints we are not always able to plan our events around the various religious holidays that families may observe on their own. All extra-curricular sports activities and events are voluntary and not required by the school. By signing permission forms for school events you acknowledge that the District is not able to accommodate all religious holidays that students' and their families observe or celebrate and you agree to allow your student to participate in these events regardless of the day.

## Extra-curricular News



### Join Shaughnessy's Cross Country Running Team

At Shaughnessy we welcome *any* student who wants to join in and participate on the Cross Country Running Team. This is the only team that includes all students from Kindergarten to Grade 7. It is always wonderful to see the enthusiasm shown by the students. Each year we have from 200 - 250 students on the team so it is a big focus for our school community.

Practices for **Kindergarten to Grade 2** are held **during school time** as part of their Physical and health education program. These students **do not attend** morning practices. They will be able to participate in any after school **Mini-Meets and the District Final**. It is recommended that they attend a mini-meet.

For **Grades 3-7** we will have morning practices on Tuesday and Thursday mornings starting in the gym (dates to be announced). Students will be divided into a variety of groups and each group will run with adult coaches.

We encourage any student to participate on the team regardless of their running ability. At Shaughnessy, we encourage fitness and fun, as well as joining in with the school community. We have a wide range of students who eagerly participate, even though some end up walking, that's ok!! If your child is a faster runner then I recommend having them join the Olympic Athletic Club or Thunderbird Track Club for more in-depth cross country training as well as come to our school practices.

**Practices Start:** Thursday, Sept. 14 (Gr. 3 - 7 only) \***Practices:** Tues. and Thurs. mornings, starting in the gym...students must sign-in for attendance at 7:50 – 7:55 am sharp!! **Sunny or Raining!!!!** Bring your child to the gym....there are only 10 practices so if your child is keen then they can also run at home!

Check the bulletin board in the gym for further info. There may only be one Mini-Meet this year which will run after school from 3:30-4:45 pm at a local park (TBA). The District Finals are at Trout Lake from **1:00 to 3:00 pm on Oct. 19**. I will send more information regarding these events soon. Our Zone Schools will have a meeting ahead of the team sign up to organize one or possibly two dates for the Mini-Meets. A team sign up will happen soon.

**Important!!** If your child plans to run on the K-7 **Cross Country team in the Fall and/or the Gr. 4-7 Track and Field team in the Spring**, they must wear our black Shaughnessy Athletic t-shirt. We will sell SHY t-shirts early in September from 8:40 to 8:55 am and 3:00 to 3:15 pm in the front hallway outside the office or outside on the Marguerite St. side. Small sizes go fast!!

Thank you, Ms. Pace